

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

MASAAJID



Djenné Grand Masjid (Mali) in Sub-Saharan Africa

PHILADELPHIA DIRECTORY

**2010 Pictorial Directory devoted exclusively to the Masaajid
located in the metropolitan area of Philadelphia**

Photographed and compiled by Da'ood Nasir
for the Islamic Information E-mail Network.
Designed by Rubin Bashir / First Impressions © 2010

Djenné Masjid(Mali)



Situated 354 km (220 miles) southwest of *Timbuktu* on the floodplains of the *Bani* and *Niger* rivers, *Old Djenne* is thought to be the oldest known city in *Sub-Saharan Africa*. Situated along the ancient trans-Saharan trading routes, by the 16th century Djenne had developed into an important settlement in the region and a centre for Islamic learning. Completed in 1907 to replace an earlier mosque, the famous *Djenne Mosque* (also known as the *Grand Mosque*) dominates the old town. Built in the Sudanic style and constructed from sun-baked mud-bricks, each year after the rainy season the entire town turn out to repair the structure at the Spring Festival. Wooden posts that adorn the structure enable workers to scale the walls during the restoration process. A traditional African market is located around the mosque's perimeter.

Cover Story

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MASJID

A mosque is a place of worship for followers of Islam, Muslims often refer to the “mosque” by its Arabic name “Masjid” which literally means a place of prostration. The word “mosque” in English refers to all types of buildings dedicated for Islamic worship although there is a distinction in Arabic between the smaller, masjids dedicated for daily five prayers and the larger masaajid* (commonly known as Jaami’ or Grand Masjid) where the daily five prayers and the Friday congregation sermons are held which is attended by more people and play more roles such as teaching Quran.

The masjid serves as a place where Muslims can come together for “Salat” (prayer) as well as a center for information, education, and dispute settlement. The Imam leads the prayer.

The masjid have developed significantly from the open-air spaces that were in the Quba Masjid in the 7th century. Many masaajid have elaborate domes, minarets, and prayer halls. Masjids originated on the Arabian Peninsula, but are now found in all inhabited continents. The best artisans and architects are employed to beautify all Masaajid seeking the pleasure of “Allah”.

* Masaajid is plural of Masjid

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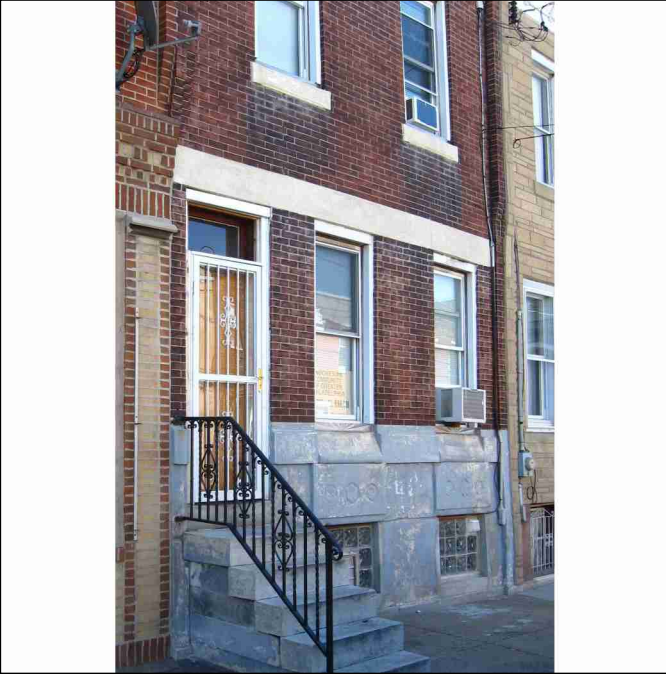


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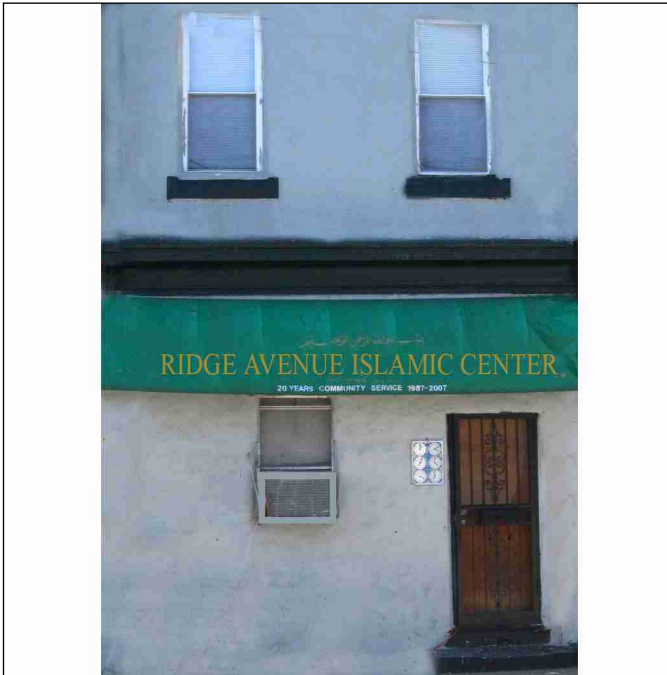


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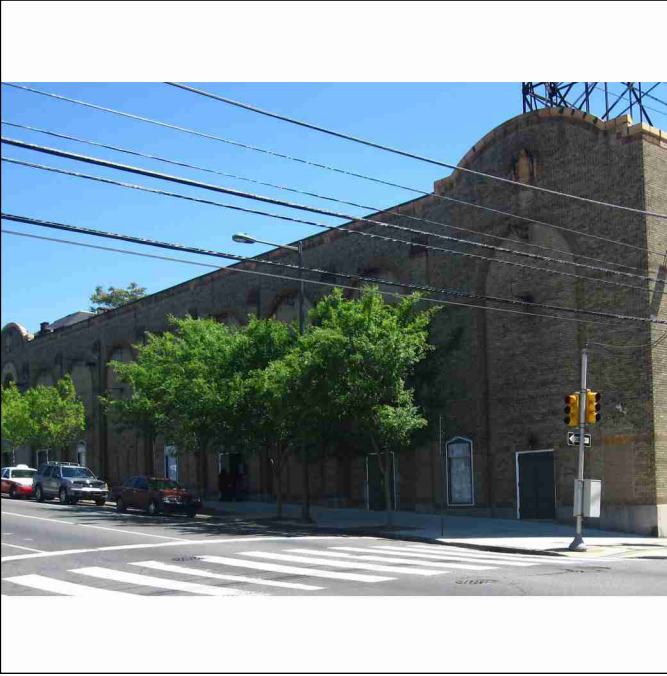


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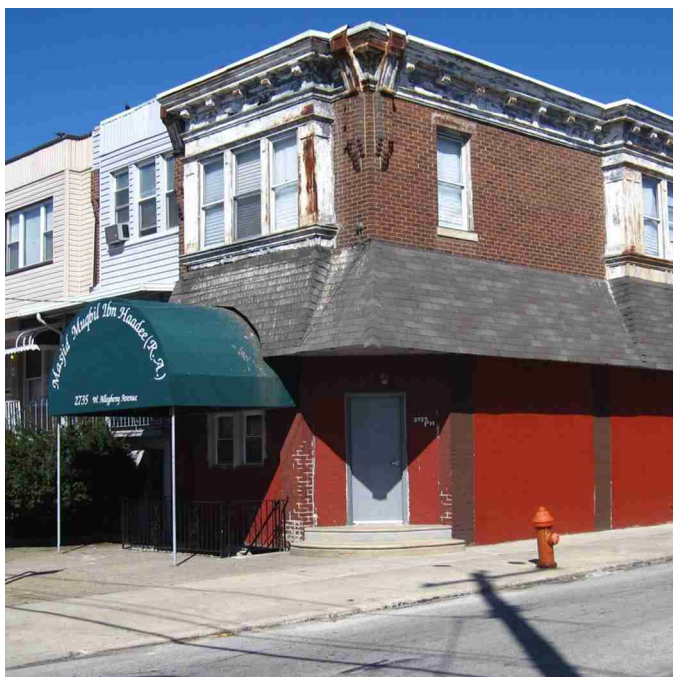


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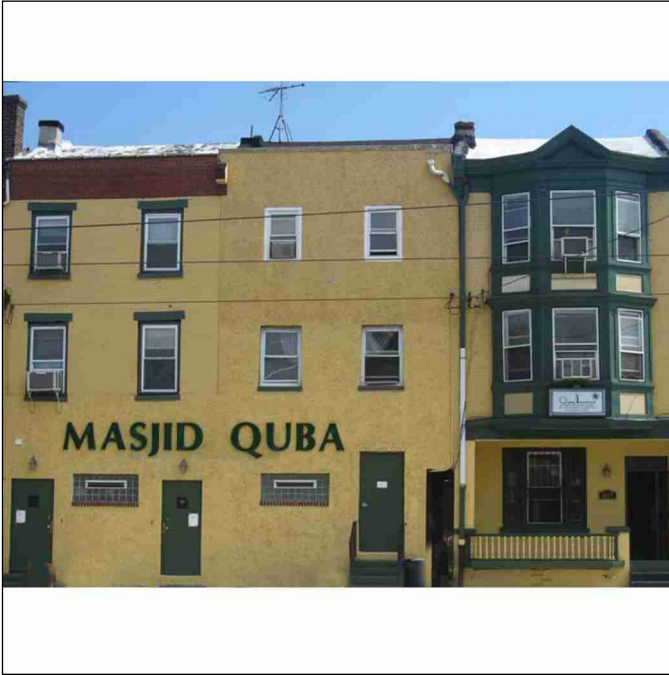


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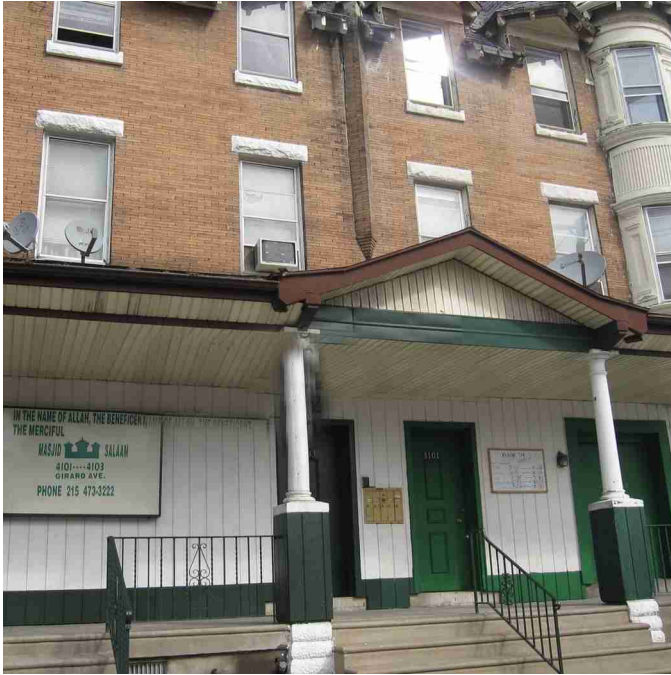
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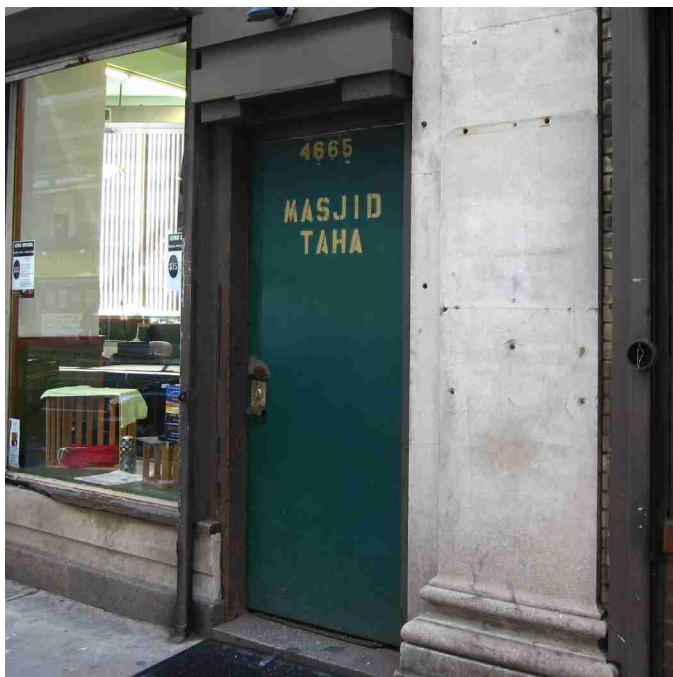


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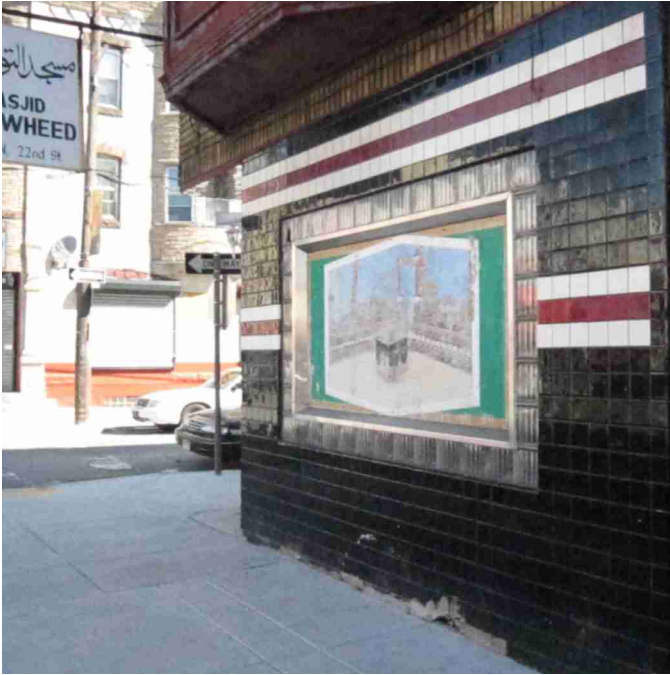
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NASR (Help)

When comes the Help of Allah, and Victory.
And thou dost see The People
enter Allah's Religion In crowds.
Celebrate the Praises
Of thy Lord, and pray
For His Forgiveness:
For He is Oft-Returning
In Grace and Mercy
Nasr , Sura 110



This photographic directory is provided to members of the "Islamic Information E-mail Network" free of any fee. We hope that you find it useful, and as we grow here in Philadelphia other masajid can be added in the future.

We would like to thank, as always, the many members of this network for their continued participation.

We may have different schools of thought, but we all come under the banner of the "Kalima".

Our prayers and hopes are that we put aside our differences and work together for the good of our entire community.

Da'ood Nasir



Participation in the "Islamic Information E-mail Network" send your name and e-mail address to: nasir@nasirkeyman.net