

I. Al-Faruqi Family

1. a. Ibrāhīm Adham al-Fārūqī married Raifeh M. For their son, see I. 2. a., below. Ibrāhīm Adham al-Fārūqī was a sharī‘ah court judge. An FBI report stated that Ibrāhīm Adham al-Fārūqī and his wife were both born in Beirut,¹ which might be why their son Ismā‘īl, though usually described as a Palestinian, is called a Lebanese in one document.² The al-Fārūqī family left Jaffa at its fall to the Zionists on 11 May 1948, moving to Amman, Jordan (then Transjordan).

2. a. Ismā‘īl Rājī Abul-Hudā al-Fārūqī (1 Jan. 1921-27 May 1986), son of Ibrāhīm Adham al-Fārūqī and Ra’ifeh M., born in Jaffa, Palestine, married Lois Rachel Ibsen (25 July 1926-27 May 1986) in Kalispell, Montana, on 2 Sept. 1951. Interestingly, the marriage was performed by a Lutheran minister, as shown by their wedding certificate. For their children, see I. 3. a.-e., below. The origin of the name Abul-Hudā in Ismā‘īl’s nomenclature is uncertain, as original documents relating to his life, such as his marriage certificate, clearly give his father’s name as Ibrāhīm Adham. However, as Abul-Hudā is a *kunyah*, it is possible that Ibrāhīm Adham also bore it, or that it is part of the family nomenclature going back further. It is also possible that the name was given to him as part of a compound personal name by his father in order to commemorate Shaykh Abū al-Hudā al-Ṣayyādī (1849-1909), the prominent Aleppine Sufi.

Born in Jaffa, Palestine, Ismā‘īl al-Fārūqī attended the French Dominican Collège des Frères de Jaffa (St. Joseph), a high school, until 1936, according to an FBI document.³ From 1936 to 1942, he resided in Beirut, Lebanon, where he attended the American University of Beirut, evidently graduating with a degree in philosophy in 1941. Sometime during this period he also attended Saint Joseph University of Beirut. From 1942, he started working for the British government of Palestine in Jerusalem and resided in Jerusalem until the end of British mandate of Palestine in 1948. He held the position of district governor, Galilee District, from Jan. 1944 to May 1948.⁴ At the end of the British mandate in May 1948, he moved to Damascus, Syria. As this took place in the midst of the Palestinian Nakbah, he is considered a Palestinian refugee.

Ismā‘īl applied at the US consulate in Damascus, Syria, for a student visa to the US, basing his application on his acceptance at Indiana University’s Graduate School. He then arrived in the US at Newark, New Jersey, airport on 19 September 1948. He seems to have met his future wife Lois Ibsen for the first time at Indiana University when both were graduate students there in 1948-1949, Ismā‘īl receiving his MA degree from there on 12 June 1949. He then took a further summer course there, so that he was still in Indiana on 30 August 1949, according to the FBI. The US Immigration and Naturalization Service gave him permission to transfer from the University of Minnesota, which he was unable to attend because of a lack of financing, to Harvard University on 30 Sept. 1949. This means that he had apparently tried to begin a Ph.D. program at the

¹ <https://archive.org/details/IsmailAl-Faruqi/1344723-0 - Part 8/page/n59/mode/2up> .

² <https://archive.org/details/IsmailAl-Faruqi/1344723-0 - Part 8/page/n15/mode/2up> .

³ <https://archive.org/details/IsmailAl-Faruqi/1344723-0 - Part 12/page/n13/mode/2up> .

⁴ <https://archive.org/details/IsmailAl-Faruqi/1344723-0 - Part 8/page/n19/mode/2up> .

University of Minnesota in the fall of 1949, where he is shown residing at addresses in Minneapolis on 23 September and 18 November 1949. But he transferred that same fall to the more prestigious Harvard University, where he is shown residing in Cambridge, Massachusetts on 18 Feb. 1950. Despite having reportedly lacked financing for the University of Minnesota, he is described as entirely self-funded at Harvard. He studied for his Ph.D. in philosophy at Harvard 1949-1951, obtaining a second MA degree along the way in March 1951 and passing his preliminary Ph.D. exams on 8 May 1950.

Meanwhile, on 18 August 1950, Ismā'īl is shown staying with the Ibsen family in Lakeside, Montana, where he spent part of the summer. Then on 2 September 1951, he married Lois in Kalispell, Montana, also in the summer, and after that she resided with him. The wedding was attended by his cousin Taysir Tagi (which might possibly be read more correctly Tājī, or perhaps Taqī) al-Fārūqī of Jaffa as well as Lois's sister Cecelia Larsen. The al-Fārūqīs' marriage lasted over 34 years until their deaths. On the marriage certificate, Ismā'īl's address is still given in Cambridge, Massachusetts, but reports about the al-Fārūqīs' wedding state that the couple were planning on going back to Indiana University together.

Thus, reportedly because Ismā'īl had not been allowed to continue in the Philosophy Department at Harvard after about June 1951 owing to alleged plagiarism of his thesis, he returned to Indiana University to continue his Ph.D. studies there on 15 September 1951. Thus, he completed his Ph.D. at Indiana University, not at Harvard as erroneously given in some reports, in September 1952, but his stay in the US was not renewed, despite his marriage to Lois, because he had overstayed his visa ending on 30 June 1952, and thus he left from New York for Naples, Italy, on the SS *Vulcania* on 29 November 1952, ending his first sojourn of four years in the United States. However, on 7 April 1953 the al-Fārūqīs arrived in Boston together on a PanAm flight from London, UK, and continued on to New York on 8 April,

In 1953, Ismā'īl was in Syria with his wife, but they moved to Egypt (1954-1958), where he pursued a second Ph.D. at al-Azhar University, which evidently he did not complete. On 1 April 1958, the al-Fārūqīs arrived on a TWA flight from Madrid, Spain, in New York, possibly indicating the date of their move back to North America. At that time, they gave their address as 3060 Green Hills Lane, Indianapolis, Indiana, and Ismā'īl's nationality is recorded as Jordanian. Ismā'īl and his son Muhammad S. Y. Faruqi, living at the same address in Indianapolis, are also recorded arriving in New York on a PanAm flight from Beirut on 10 June 1959. From 1958 to 1960, Ismā'īl was a visiting fellow at McGill University's Divinity School in Montréal, Québec, Canada, where he met the famous Pakistani scholar Fazlur Rahman (1919-1988), who arranged for him to have a two-year appointment at the Central Institute of Islamic Research in Karachi, Pakistan (1961-1963). After that, he returned to the US as a visiting professor at the University of Chicago Divinity School (1963-1964). From September 1964 to July 1968, he became a professor in the Religion Department of Syracuse University in New York, reaching the rank of associate professor during that period. In July 1968, he received his appointment in the Department of Religion at Temple University in Philadelphia, PA, where he continued to work until his death.

During his considerable career of almost 18 years at Temple, he strongly impressed his colleagues with his relentless activity, especially by recruiting large numbers of funded graduate students from the Muslim world. Indeed, he traveled

frequently to the Muslim world and had a role in the founding of International Islamic Universities in Islamabad, Pakistan, in 1980, and Petaling Jaya, Malaysia (later moved to Gombak), in 1983, as well as the International Institute of Islamic Thought (IIIT) in Herndon, VA, in 1981. He also performed the pilgrimage to Makkah in 1974 or 1975.

From 1968 Ismā'īl began to drop his previous emphasis on Arabness (*al-'urūbah*) as a principle under which to unite the Muslims and to espouse a more tradition-based Islam, to some extent focusing on the medieval Damascene scholar Ibn Taymiyyah (1263-1326), which marks his position as somewhat consonant with Salafism, even though he could never be considered a practicing Salafī. For example, he appears never to have grown his beard. Nevertheless, over the years he became much more of a practicing Muslim than he had been at first. In 1973, he received US citizenship.

When he was 65, Ismā'īl and his wife died murdered by knife attack in their home at 323 Bent Road in Wyncote, PA, which they had occupied since June 1969. Because of his being a Palestinian and an opponent of Zionism, many Muslims suspected that Zionists must have perpetrated his murder, but that view overlooked the fact that he was not really very active against Zionism and Israel, as that was not the central thrust of his work, which was mainly concerned with the Muslim world at large, so it is unlikely that any Zionists had anything to do with his murder, unlike the proven case of the murder of the Palestinian activist Alex Odeh (1944-1985) which had occurred the previous year. Indeed, it turned out that the al-Fārūqīs' murderer, Joseph Louis Young (1945/6- 28 Feb. 1996), aka Yusuf Ali, was an American convert to Islam whom the al-Fārūqīs had befriended. Sentenced to death for the murders, Young died in prison, apparently of natural causes, at age 50, less than ten years after the al-Fārūqīs' murder.



Ismā'īl in two undated photographs, on the left c. 1980, on the right during an interview

3. a. Muhammad Sakhr Y. al-Fārūqī (b. 20 March 1954), son of Ismā'īl and Lois al-Fārūqī, who evidently went by the name Sakhr. He arrived in New York on a PanAm flight from Beirut on 10 June 1959. That this is the al-Fārūqīs' son is shown by his address being given as 3060 Green Hills Lane, Indianapolis. He also arrived in New York on a BOAC flight from London on 18 June 1960. Here his name is given as Y. Mohammad Sakhr El Faruqi, with an address of 3050 Green Hills Lane, Indianapolis. He married Noha A. Nakib (b. November 1958) in Manhattan in New York City in 1989. Noha was naturalized as a US citizen in Minnesota in 1982; therefore, she was born abroad. Noha seems to have been married previously to a Fouad Kahale, whom she

married in Manhattan in 1985. For Sakhr's and Noha's probable children, see below I. 4. a.-b. Sakhr resided in Arlington, Virginia, at least in 1993-1997, and is still reported living there in 2024.

b. Hawazin al-Fārūqī (b. 2 May 1956), daughter of Ismā'īl and Lois al-Fārūqī, born in Indianapolis. She graduated from Cheltenham High School in 1973. She married Maroon Boulos Khoury (b. 1 April 1955) on 21 November 1983 in Durham, North Carolina, when both were residents of Orange County, NC, and thus possibly associated with the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. They were married by a magistrate and thus not in a religious ceremony. The witnesses were Basim Dubaybo and Lina M. Obeida. Hawazin's middle name is given only as NMN, which perhaps means "No Middle Name." For their possible children, see below I. 4. c.-d. Maroon is later listed as a doctor, a radiologist, and, as Hawazin belonged to a medical society in high school, perhaps she is a doctor as well. Although they seem to have resided in Gibsonia, PA, for a time, they appear mostly to have resided in Durham, NC.



Hawazin in 1973 Cheltenham High School yearbook

c. Anmar al-Fārūqī (b. 16 July 1958), daughter of Ismā'īl and Lois al-Fārūqī. She attended Cheltenham High School, where she was a senior in 1975, apparently graduating in that year and then going to Temple University. She evidently married Bachar Mohamed Elzein (b. 30 April 1956), at the latest by 1983. Born in Lebanon, Bachar was sometimes known as Mohamed Bachar Elzein, with a reversal of his first two names. He studied at Southwestern Louisiana Institute, later renamed the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, where he was a senior in 1979. The reason for thinking this Mohamed B. Elzein is the same as the Bachar Mohamed Elzein who married Anmar is that both are later shown living in Marietta, Georgia. Also, it would seem that he went by Mohamed as his first name earlier on, but then began to use Bachar later on. For their known children, see 4. e.-f. below.

Present at the attack that killed her parents, when she was 27, Anmar was severely wounded in it, but she survived and recovered.⁵ After that, she and her husband seem to have moved to Hudson, Ohio, where they are reported residing in 1988-1993. They were then reported living in Marietta, Georgia, in 1994-1995, and then Dayton, Ohio, in the period 1997-2020. She registered to vote on 18 Dec. 2019 in Centerville, Ohio, and her husband Bachar likewise registered there on 13 January 2020. According to Familytreenow.com, she later moved to New York City with her husband.

⁵ <https://www.latimes.com/archives/la-xpm-1986-05-28-mn-7921-story.html> .



Anmar al-Faruqi in 1975 Cheltenham High School yearbook as a senior (2 photos), then her husband Mohamed Bachar Elzein in Southwestern Louisiana Institute in 1977 & 1979

d. Muhammad Yarub Marwan al-Fārūqī, son of Ismā‘īl and Lois al-Fārūqī (1962/3-11 Nov. 1985). Strangely, records of him are almost completely lacking, mostly because he died so young. The one public record I have been able to discover, however, is his death certificate from Mexico, which reveals much vital information. He was born in Beirut, Lebanon. He was employed and was single. His address at the time of his death was Amsterdam, apparently Amsterdam Avenue in Cuauhtémoc District of Mexico City, but the house number is not given. The cause of his death is given as “asphyxia due to obstruction of the upper airway due to passage of gastric contents.” He died in his home. He was buried in San Lorenzo Tezonco in the district of Iztapalapa on the east side of Mexico City. His parents’ names are stated to be unknown. He was 22 years old, giving a birthdate of between 11 Nov. 1962 and 11 Nov. 1963.

There is no doubt that this death record is of the son of the al-Fārūqīs, because he is also mentioned by Ismā‘īl’s colleague at Temple University, Professor Leonard Swidler, who recalled the al-Fārūqīs had a son who was murdered in Mexico. According to another colleague, Lucy Bregman, the son was in the US Air Force and later disappeared in Mexico, and the al-Fārūqīs went down there to find out what had happened to him. But they only found out that he had been murdered mysteriously. While murder is not mentioned in the death certificate, it is certainly possible, and the cause of death given in the death certificate could also be consonant with murder. Because Yarub’s murder only happened months before the al-Fārūqīs’ own murders, members of the Religion Department at first thought the murders might be linked, but evidently they proved not to be.

e. Tayma al-Fārūqī (b. 7 Mar. 1965), daughter of Ismā‘īl and Lois al-Fārūqī. At the time 21 years old, she was the one who hid in the closet with her niece Rayya when the al-Fārūqīs were murdered. She was living in Pittsburgh in 1993. She is shown with her photograph as part of the housestaff in the Department of Radiology at the Medical College of Pennsylvania in 1996, but she is also listed as a resident of Beechwood, Ohio, in that year. She apparently married David Frank Lang (b. May 1962) not later than 2000 and later resided in New Albany, Ohio, where Familytreenow.com shows her living in 2024. For her children with Lang, see below 4. g.-h.



Tayma al-Fārūqī in 1996 Medical College of Pennsylvania yearbook

f. Maysam J. al-Fārūqī (b. 15 March 1958), niece of Ismā‘īl and Lois al-Fārūqī, evidently born in Lebanon. She was very close to Ismā‘īl and Lois and lived with them after she came from Lebanon to the US. She became a scholar of Islam and a professor at Georgetown University in the Department of Theology, where she was a visiting assistant professor in 2006 and where she taught apparently until 2015. Jonathan A. C. Brown embraced Islam through her teaching. She resided in Reston, Virginia, at least from 1995 to 2020. Sometimes she is mistakenly identified as the al-Fārūqīs’ daughter, but she is rather their niece.

4. a. Adam Faris Faruqi (b. September 1992), son of Sakhr Faruqi and Noha A. Nakib.
- b. Danny Jad Faruqi (b. June 1998), son of Sakhr Faruqi and Noha A. Nakib.
- c. Nisreen N. Khoury (b. Oct. 1986), apparently daughter of Maroon Boulos Khoury and Hawazin al-Faruqi.
- d. Mazin Rasheed Khoury (b. May 1990), apparently son of Maroon Boulos Khoury and Hawazin al-Faruqi.
- e. Rayya S. Elzein (b. Nov. 1984), daughter of Bachar Mohamad Elzein and Anmar al-Fārūqī, survived unharmed with her aunt Maysam al-Fārūqī by hiding in a closet at the time of her grandparents’ murder and her mother’s wounding. She was reported by the LA Times at the time of the murders as having been a son, but Familytreenow.com makes it clear that she is Rayya, who must be a daughter.
- f. Danya Lamyā Elzein (b. Dec. 1986), daughter of Bachar Mohamad Elzein and Anmar al-Fārūqī, born in Indiana or Ohio. Her mother was pregnant with her when she was attacked the night her parents were murdered.
- g. Deena May Lang (b. July 2001), daughter of David F. Lang and Tayma al-Fārūqī.
- h. Maya Alya Lang (b. May 2004), daughter of David F. Lang and Tayma al-Fārūqī.

II. Ibsen Family

1. a. Frederick Ibsen (27 May 1877-9 Aug. 1958), born in Hjørring Kommune, Nordjylland, Denmark, married Rachel Flaten (22 Nov. 1887-19 June 1986), born in Norway, at Plentywood, MT, 3 June 1915. For their four children, see below II. 2. a.-d. Fred died in Yellowstone Co., MT, at age 81, while Rachel died at Kalispell, Flathead Co., MT, at age 98.

The family are recorded living at Plentywood in the 1930 census, but by 1940, they have moved to Glasgow, Valley Co., MT, where the census also records them as already residing on 1 April 1935, thus dating their move from Plentywood to Glasgow to between 1930 and 1935.

2. a. August Frederick "Augie" Ibsen (28 June 1916-19 Nov. 1989), son of Frederick Ibsen and Rachel Flaten, born in Plentywood, MT, married Norma P. Onberg (b. 4 Nov. 1921), born at Wolf Point, MT, on 5 Feb. 1947 at Big Sandy in Chouteau Co., MT, and divorced from her on 14 Sept. 1966 in Missoula, MT.

Augie is shown residing with his parents in the 1930 and 1940 censuses. Augie died at Columbia Falls, Flathead Co., MT at age 73. He seems to be the only child who continued to live in Montana near his parents.

b. Esther Cecelia Ibsen (b. 13 Jan. 1918), daughter of Frederick Ibsen and Rachel Flaten, went by Cecelia, married Alfred N. Larsen (b. 1920) in Kalispell on 21 Mar. 1947 and was residing with her husband in Alderwood Manor, WA, in Sept. 1951, when she attended her sister Lois's wedding to Ismā'īl, and Seattle, WA, in 1958. She is found residing with her parents in the 1930 and 1940 censuses.

c. Helen Margaret Ibsen (b. 1920), daughter of Frederick Ibsen and Rachel Flaten, went by Margaret, married a Nielsen and resided in Fairbanks, AL. She is found residing with her parents in the 1930 census but not in 1940.

d. Lois Lamyā' Rachel Ibsen (25 July 1926-27 May 1986), daughter of Frederick Ibsen and Rachel Flaten, born in Plentywood, MT, married Ismā'īl Rājī al-Fārūqī (I. 2. a. above) on 2 Sept. 1951 in Kalispell, MT, a marriage that lasted 34 years. For more on her and her children, see above under her husband (I. 2. a.).

Lois is shown residing with her parents in the 1930 and 1940 censuses. She graduated from the Montana State University in Missoula in 1948 with a degree in music, then went on to do an MA in music at Indiana University in Indiana (1948-1949), where she met her husband Ismā'īl. However, she was a resident of Lakewood, MT, when she married in 1951. Later, she went on to earn her Ph.D. in music from Syracuse University, evidently in the period 1964-1968. She and her husband became professors at Temple University (1968-1986).

Lois was murdered with her husband at age 59.



Lois in 1948 Montana State U. yearbook & two later pictures