

## Biography

### Tallal Alie Turfe

Currently, Tallal is President/Chief Executive Officer of Premier Health Group L.L.C., an international firm providing short-range and long-range strategic solutions for healthcare clients in the Middle East and Africa.

Previously, for 10 years, Tallal was a Client Relationship Executive with Diamond Management and Technology Partners, a leading global management consultant firm headquartered in Chicago. His focus was on strategic use of technology to gain new market opportunities, competitive advantages, operational efficiencies, and cost reduction for Fortune 500 companies. In addition, Tallal spent over 40 years in the automotive industry (Ford Motor Company and General Motors Corporation). During that period, he held various positions in industrial relations, purchasing, production control, export-import, marketing, trade relations, business planning, product planning and development, competitive intelligence, decision-making and risk analysis, geo-demographic information systems, and corporate strategy. Tallal had interacted with heads of states in the Middle East and Africa while employed with General Motors Corporation, resulting in assembly operations in Egypt and Tunisia. He also generated hard currency for General Motors Corporation by countertrading products and services for third-world developing countries.

For over 30 years, Tallal has been a part-time professor at several universities such as the University of Michigan-Dearborn, Wayne State University, Eastern Michigan University, Central Michigan University, and the University of Windsor (Canada). On a part-time basis, he has taught graduate and undergraduate courses in the field of business administration with concentration primarily in the disciplines of marketing, management, and business policy. A prolific writer, he has published several marketing and finance articles in leading business journals as well as three books, (1) *Patience in Islam: Sabr*, written in Arabic, English, Farsi, French, and Indonesian, (2) *Unity in Islam: Reflections and Insights*, written in English, and (3) *Energy in Islam: A Scientific Approach to Preserving Our Health and the Environment*, written in Arabic and English.

Tallal has previously served on the board of directors of the Citizens Council for Michigan Public Universities, the Oakwood Healthcare System Foundation Strategic Board, and the American Red Cross. Currently, Tallal is a board member of the American Task Force for Lebanon, the Rehabilitation Institute of Michigan of the Detroit Medical Center, the Michigan Roundtable for Diversity and Inclusion, the Greater Detroit Interfaith Round Table of the National Conference for Community and Justice (former chairman), the Arab-American Chaldean Council (former chairman), Henry Ford Community College Foundation, the International Institute Foundation, and the Multicultural Dermatology Advisory Council of Henry Ford Health System. Tallal was also a member of former U.S. President Bill Clinton's *Call to Action: One America* race relations group. Dubai Television interviewed Tallal as one of the prominent and influential Arab Americans.

In August 2000, Tallal participated in the Millennium World Peace Summit of spiritual and political leaders at the United Nations in New York. Tallal was a member of this elite group of leaders that included 200 participants of the world's political leaders (heads of states) and religious leaders. The Summit focused on four objectives: (a) conflict transformation; (b) forgiveness and reconciliation; (c) elimination of poverty; and (d) environmental preservation and restoration. Tallal was one of the signatories of an historical joint peace document.

In May 2003, Tallal was a keynote speaker at a global conference held at the United Nations in New York. The topic presented by Tallal was *Islam's Perspective on Violence and Terrorism*. The purpose of the conference was to review and analyze the use of religion to incite for violence within the context of contemporary human rights and humanitarian laws. The conference took a major and essential step in filling the gap in international law and to restore peace, security, understanding and prosperity among the peoples of different faiths and cultures around the world.

Tallal has delivered three more presentations at the United Nations in New York: (1) *Education and Parenting for Peace and Global Ethics*; (2) *Business Partners for Peace, Global Ethics and Public Diplomacy*; and (3) *Protection of Religious Sites and Preventing the Use of Religion to Incite Terrorism/Violence*.

For over 50 years, Tallal has been instrumental in securing gainful employment for thousands of people, mostly Middle Eastern but also Europeans, Asians, and South Americans as well as African-Americans from the Detroit Metropolitan Area – and this was done without a fee! For this achievement, his community gave a testimonial dinner in his honor in February of 1974. Another testimonial dinner was given in his honor in October of 1995, as he was the first Muslim to be presented with the *Knight of Charity Award* by the Vatican's Pontifical Institute for Foreign Missions. He has also been honored at several other organizations. Tallal was also inducted into the International Heritage Hall of Fame for his global humanitarian efforts, and his picture is permanently displayed on the wall of the Cobo Hall Center in Detroit.

Tallal is married and has five children, two of which graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point, the first Muslims to achieve this distinction.