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See page 26 InShaa Allaah

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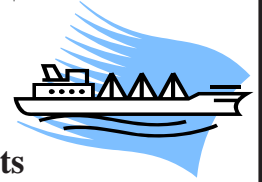
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IN THIS ISSUE FEATURE ARTICLES



Sis. R. Mohammed

YURSA (EASE) vs. USRA (DIFFICULTY)

Page 4



Linda M. Kaplan

THE GRAND MOSQUE OF PARIS

Page 7



Sister Sylmerie

HAPPINESS - HOPEFULNESS and OPTIMISM

Page 8

Al-Qur'aan - Ch. 16 V. # 87

And (remember) the Day on which the Trumpet will be blown and all who are in the heavens and all who are on the earth, will be terrified except him whom Allah will (exempt). And all shall come to Him humbled.

Hadith: Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W) said: *“Love Allah for what He nourishes you with of His Blessings, love me due to the love of Allah, and love the people of my house due to love of me.”* Tirmidhi

99 Names of Allaah-

AL-MUQADDIM - One Who Causes Advancement

Words of Wisdom-

“Love what you have. Need what you want. Accept what you receive. Give what you can. Always remember, what goes around, comes around!”

“The tongue is a small thing, but what enormous damage it can do.”

“Good things come to those who wait.”

IN THIS ISSUE

Yusra (Ease) Vs. Usra (Difficulty).....pg. 4
 The Grand Mosque of Paris.....pg. 7
 From America to Inside the Kabah.....pg. 7
 Happiness - Hopefulness & Optimism.....pg. 8
 A Death-Dealing Journey for a Better Life.....pg. 11
 More Degrees less Common Sense.....pg. 11
 Strive to Strengthen our Faith & Taqwa.....pg. 12
 Don't Judge Islam by the Actions of Muslims.....pg. 12
 The King & the Priest.....pg. 15
 Further Knowing the Man Hazrat Ali (R.A.).....pg. 21

CONTENTS

Contents / Committee / Feature Articles.....pg. 3
 Shaikh Shafayat Message.....pg. 4
 Q & A / Whos' Who.....pg. 29
 Attorney Column.....pg. 7
 Sister's / Congratulation Column.....pg. 8
 Recognition Column.....pg. 25
 Al-Hikmat / Community & Interfaith Update.....pg.16/17
 Letters / Feedback / Matrimonial.....pg. 18
 Health Column.....pg. 21
 Humor / Poetry.....pg. 22

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InShaa Allaah Ameen - MaaShaa Allaah

SHAIKH SHAFAYAT'S MESSAGE

Summarized by Sis. R. Mohammed, Florida USA



Sis. R. Mohammed

**YURSA (EASE)
VS.
USRA (DIFFICULTY)**

Brothers and sisters, everyone wants a life free of hardship and difficulties. But this is never the reality, is it? Life itself is a concept of duality: yursa (ease) and ursa (difficulty). Both are part and parcel of human life! It is

important as Muslims who believe in the Qur'aan and follow the Sunnah of Prophet Mohammed (SAW) to live a life with belief and faith in Allaah (SWT). Allaah (SWT) is the one who makes yursa (ease) for us and has promised to make every ursa (difficulty) followed by ease, prosperity and success. And Allaah (SWT) tells us in the Qur'aan, Chapter 94, Surah Al-Inshirah – "Fa inna ma'al usri yusra Inna ma'al 'usri yusra": "that certainly with every difficulty comes ease". Allaah (SWT) is telling us in Chapter 94, if we can endure the hardships and stand firm against the miseries we are faced with, then with patience and Imaan, he will always provide a solution, a way out, a relief, a way that leads to ease and happiness. There is always going to be some challenging situation, something that tries to discourage us and break our faith in Allaah (SWT). But we must remain firm in our faith and believe that Allaah will take care of us! We can take a look at two examples in history.

1. First, is that of Prophet Mohammed (SAW). The prophet always had a positive demeanor and greeted everyone with "Alhamdulillah 'alaa kuli haal" translated as "all praise and thanks are only for Allaah (SWT) in all circumstances". He never depicted himself as depressed, worried or angry. Yet despite his positive demeanor, his Imaan was tested when his two young sons died and people began ridiculing him, stating his God was displeased with him and he had no heir to continue legacy. But Allaah (SWT) revealed to him in Chapter 108, Surah Al Kauthar, verses 1-2: "Innaa a'taina kal kauthar, Fa salli li rabbika wanhar", translated as "surely Mohammed (SAW), we have given you an abundance of goodness, therefore turn to your lord with prayer and sacrifice." Mohammed (SAW) was told not to worry about the two sons he had lost (ursa). But rather look at the abundance or "kauthar" Allaah(SWT) had given him (yursa), that is, the millions of followers in the world to continue the legacy and fellowship of Islam.

2. The second example is that of Adam and Hawwa (Eve). When Allaah (SWT) created Adam, he gave him paradise. Then Allaah (SWT) created a wife for him, Hawwa, because he was lonely and needed tranquility and a companion in his life. Allaah (SWT) gave them permission to everything in paradise, the only exception being the 'tree'. They were forbidden to eat from the tree. Satan saw an opportunity to exploit Adam and Hawwa's weaknesses. And what did Satan do? And what did Satan do? He began creating doubts in Adam and Hawwa minds' and they begin asking themselves: 'why is Allaah (SWT) forbidding us from going to that tree?'

Continued on page 30, InShaa Allaah



Shaikh Shafayat
Founder

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Al-Hamdulillaah- Shaikh Shafayat was born, in Trinidad, West Indies, where he attended College etc.. Due to his multi-faith and cultural upbringing, he was awarded a scholarship to become a Christian Minister. In 1975

he went to India to study Islam and became the first student from the Caribbean and North America to have graduated as an Islamic scholar from Darul Uloom Deoband, which is the largest and oldest Islamic Institute in India. He is the Founder of AlHikmat Services and Darul Uloom Institute Pembroke Pines Florida USA. He is the first Muslim to become President of the Interfaith Council of South Florida in the year 2002 and was also the first Muslim to represent Islam at a Florida State Faith Summit, held at the Capitol Building with Gov. Jeb Bush in the year 2000. He has received many Interfaith Awards including the Peacemaker Award from St. Thomas University. Shaikh Shafayat is well known by Muslims and Non-Muslims as a Motivational Speaker. He lectures throughout the U.S.A. and worldwide on Islam and Terrorism, Interfaith Issues and Cultural Diversity etc. MaaShaa Allaah.

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Dr. Shanaz A Sawyer

Dr. Shanaz Sawyer, LMHC

About me - I am a first generation from London, England with parents from the beautiful Caribbean nation of Trinidad and Tobago and ancestral roots from India. I have been a resident of Florida for many years and grateful to celebrate so many wonderful influences that have enriched my life experiences and, my work.

My philosophy - In our working partnership I aim to facilitate awareness and change in your life that is in keeping with your goals. You can expect compassion, empathy and respect as well as an approach that is non judgmental yet appropriately challenging. I will be engaged in our work, keeping you accountable for the work you must do outside our sessions while offering the tools and support that will assist you in making the changes you desire. All

ethnicities, races, nationalities, sexual orientations, religious and spiritual orientations/affiliations are welcome in my practice. While I am grounded in a cognitive behavioral (CBT) approach to therapy i integrate the narrative of your life story into our work so that all of you, the whole person, is being honored. I also use a variety of other approaches to form an eclectic orientation to therapy that is tailored to the individual. My holistic approach to your mental wellness will support your own work in progress, your own evolution to the next better version of you.

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Linda M. Kaplan

ATTORNEY CORNER

**THE GRAND MOSQUE OF PARIS
A Story of How Muslims Rescued Jews
During the Holocaust and Free Men**

By Linda Kaplan, Esq. / Florida USA

I recently came across a children’s book “The Grand Mosque of Paris” written by Karen Gray Ruelle and Deborah Durlan DeSaiz and the movie “Free Men” which is a fictional story inspired by the events described in the book. Free Men was co-written and directed by Ismael Ferroukhi. Jewish Book World Magazine rated the Grand Mosque of Paris, 5 out of 5 stars. It is suggested for children from age 8- 11 but is likely to be of interest to young adults as well as not so young adults. The story told in the book will be of interest to all ages. The book is remarkable not just for the story but also for the beautiful double page oil paintings which convey the desperation and the danger of the Nazi occupation of Paris. Some of the painting also convey hope as do the words of the book which includes a glossary and an extensive bibliography. It includes the message - “Save one life, and it is as if you’ve saved all of humanity” which is both an Islamic Hadith (saying of the Prophet Muhammad) and a Jewish Proverb. The Grand Mosque of Paris tells the story of how Muslims at the Paris Mosque rescued Jews during the Nazi occupation. The Mosque was built in 1926 when Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia were under French rule and many Muslims had come to Paris from those countries. The land for the Mosque was a gift from the French government to thank the half- million Muslims who fought for France during WW 1. It included a community center, library, steam baths, gardens, clinic, restaurant and apartments for those who worked there. Some of the people who worked and lived there had children which allowed them to hide North African Jewish children among their own. Below the subbasement of the mosque were tunnels, damp rooms (in which the adults were harbored) and hundreds of miles of dark passageways in which one could easily be lost or, if you knew the way, make your way to an escape on the Seine river. The book explains that the people of North Africa, Jews and Muslim lived as neighbors, shared similar cultures, referred to each other as brothers and looked very much alike. This is why Salim, a gay Jewish man from Algeria was able to safely live in the Mosque and pretend to be Muslim. Others who could not pass as North African Muslims were hidden for a few days at the Mosque until they could escape via a barge from the Mosque to a central wine market on the banks of the Seine River. Two of the people who escaped via the barge were Albert Assouline, a Jew and Yassa Rahal, a Muslim who were friends from North Africa. After they escaped from a prisoner of war camp in Germany they managed to get to Paris, sheltered at the Mosque for a few days until they could be smuggled onto the barge and hidden among the wine barrels for their escape from Paris.

Continued on Page 26, InShaa Allaah

From America to Inside The Kaaba

By: Mohamed Sala’huddin Pazhoor - Founder & CTO of Divine Connect USA

Mohamed Sala’huddin Pazhoor, President & CTO of Divine Connect USA was honored with an invitation to participate in the washing of the inside of the holy Kaaba during Muharaam 1438 (2016) by the General Presidency of Haramain - Masjid Al Haram. The two holy mosques Masjid Al Haram & Masjid Al Nabawi are governed by the Custodian of the two holy mosques His Highness King Salman bin Abdul Aziz from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.



Al-Hamdulillaah- Muslims from around the world dream of visiting Makkah to perform Hajj and Umrah and yearn to catch a glimpse of the Holy Kaaba. Many are moved to tears upon first sight and drop in prostration. In the middle of September 2016, I was honored with a rare and unprecedented opportunity of a lifetime, an invitation to participate in the washing of the inside of the holy Kaaba. This opportunity was one that people could only ever dream of and provided me with an invaluable experience that goes beyond words. There was an elation of emotion that went through my mind as I received the invitation from the General Presidency of Haramain – Masjid Al Haram. I was shocked, surprised and overjoyed at the thought of being inside the blessed Kaaba, which had once been graced with the presence of our beloved Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him). I could not believe my ears when I received the official call and I had to pinch myself to make sure that I was not dreaming. Was I really being given this once in a lifetime opportunity? It took me about 20 minutes to compose myself as I came to the realization that I had indeed, received the official invitation from Haramain – Masjid Al Haram and was about to embark on a spiritual and blessed experience that one could never envisage. I began my journey to Saudi Arabia via Dubai, where our company, Divine Connect LLC, had won the prestigious Innovation4Impact Competition at the Global Islamic Economy Summit 2016. My journey to the holy city of Makkah was one that was filled with a number of emotions from anxiety, enthusiasm, excitement and an enhanced and elevated spiritual connection which I had never experienced before, not even on my prior trips for Hajj and Umrah. When the plane touched down at the airport in Jeddah my adrenalin, heart rate and breathing was at its peak. I was one step closer to the doors of the holy Kaaba. As I step foot on the soil of Arabia, each footstep took my breath away as I envisaged what the inside of the Kaaba would be like and how I would feel once I am actually inside. I arrived at Masjid Al Haram and performed Umrah first and gave my gratitude to Allah. Walking into Masjid Al Haram gave me goosebumps, especially when I saw the, majestic holy Kaaba standing tall before my eyes.

Continued on Page 16, InShaa Allaah



Sister Sylmerie

SISTER'S CORNER

By: Sis. Sylmerie Mustapha / Coral Springs, Florida

**HAPPINESS - HOPEFULNESS
and
OPTIMISM**

My dear sisters and brothers:

We have again been blessed with a New Year 2017 /1438 Islamic Year. As we transition from last year and into a New Year, most of

us undoubtedly, reflect on the events of the past year. The past year for some, may have been positive and overall a successful and blessed year. For others it may have included both good and sad events. When we do reflect on our individual experiences, let us remember the many inspirational and uplifting reminders Allah (SWT) prescribed for us, to keep us on the track of happiness, hopefulness and optimism.

Ch. 40:60 "Allah says: "Call upon Me; I will answer your prayers."

{Ch. 7:186} "My Mercy embraces all things"

{Ch. 2 Verse 152} "So remember me and I will remember you"

Ch. 2, Verse 153: "Oh you who believe! Seek help with patient perseverance and prayer, for God is with those who patiently persevere".

{Quran 57:4} "And He is with you wherever you are"

{Ch. 94:4} "So, Verily, With Every Difficulty, There is Relief"

{Ch. 3:17} "Sufficient for us is Allah, and He is the Best Disposer of affair".

{Ch. 11:06} "And there is no creature on earth but that upon Allah is its provision, and He knows its place of dwelling and place of storage. All is in a Clear Register"

{Ch. 110:03} "Celebrate the praises of your Lord, and pray for His Forgiveness. Indeed! He is ever ready to show Mercy"

{Ch. 73:20} "And whatever good you send forth for your souls, you will find it with Allah, better and greater in reward".

"And We send not the messengers except as bearers of good tidings and warners".

{Ch. 06:48} So those who believe and perform righteous deeds: upon them shall come no fear, nor shall they grieve."

{Ch. 26:62} "Indeed! My Lord is with me. He will guide me."

{Ch. 08:70} "If Allah finds any good in your heart, He will give you something better than what has been taken from you."

{Ch. 55:10-13} And He has created the earth for you. Therein are fruit and date-palms, and husked grain, and scented herbs. Which is it, of the favors of your Lord that ye deny?"

{Ch. 02:152} "So remember Me; and I will remember you. And be grateful to Me; and do not deny Me."

{Ch. 11:88} "And my success cannot come from any source besides God. I have put my trust in Him."

These are just a few reminders that Allah (SWT) has ordained for us to always place our trust in Him and know He will always be there for us. May Allah (SWT) continue to bless us all with His mercy, sustenance, protection and bless us with His bounties. Please pray for all those who are suffering in this world, in war torn and war ravaged countries. 

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TO

ALISHA ALI & KADIR JABAR

Al-Hamdulillaah - On August 10th, 2016 Alisha and Kadir from West Palm Beach, Florida were blessed with a baby boy - Noah Jabar. Noah was born at St. Mary's Hospital, West Palm Beach, Florida USA. May Allaah bless him and make him amongst the righteous, Inshaa Allaah - Ameen - MaaShaa Allaah.



Noah Jabar

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TO

TASLEEMA & RICHARD SIMBOO

Al-Hamdulillaah - On September 21st, 2016 Tasleema and Richard from Pembroke Pines, Florida were blessed with a baby boy - Tahir Simboo. Tahir was born at Memorial Hospital, Florida USA. May Allaah bless him and make him amongst the righteous, Inshaa Allaah - Ameen - MaaShaa Allaah.



Tahir Simboo

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Dr. Harun Yahya

A Death-Dealing Journey For A Better Life

By: Dr. Harun Yahya / Ankara, Turkey
Submitted by: Sis. Ebru / Turkey

Fear... Have you ever wondered how it feels like to live life in a constant state of fear? First you probably have to experience extreme difficulty in order to understand the magnitude of the danger that the Rohingyas are in.

However since that will likely not be possible, you can never truly understand or feel how a Rohingya residing in the Rakhine State lives with threat for his or her life. They live through this persistent fear and continue their lives in very harsh conditions in several registered or mostly unregistered camps. The world first heard their names when violent clashes between the Buddhists and Muslims arose in 2012 in Rakhine State and hundreds have been killed since then. According to the Human Rights Watch, thousands of houses were burnt in Rohingya villages in Arakan. Even when these poor people did not appear in the news headlines, they were still exposed to unabated maltreatment and oppression. Therefore, HRW categorized them as the world's most persecuted people. The clashes in Rakhine re-escalated when nine police officers were killed on October 9 by armed assaulters whose identities are still unknown and in response to this attack Myanmar soldiers spilled onto border of Myanmar and Bangladesh looting villages, shooting men, and raping women. This sudden increase in violence urged a great many Rohingyas to flee the country. These last forty days are considered to be the bloodiest since the 2012 clashes; more than 100 people have been killed and nearly 500 houses were burnt in these recent attacks. In addition to all these, the region suffers nearly a complete lockdown on humanitarian aid and media access as UN official Yanghee Lee complained, "It is not acceptable that for six weeks there has been a complete lockdown, with no [humanitarian] access to the affected area." Due to the lack of humanitarian aid, 3,000 children suffering with severe acute malnutrition in the area are at the risk of dying and 150,000 people are suspended from receiving food and medications. Amid all these sufferings, Myanmar's de facto leader San Suu Kyi is being seriously criticized due to her silence and denying all the accusations against these ongoing crimes. When she came to power about a year ago, people hoped she would make some improvements and bring change in terms of human rights issues since she was considered a democracy icon and was herself a Nobel Peace Prize laureate. Even, the US administration eased the sanctions against Myanmar hoping that, among other achievements, the new government will focus on bringing "respect for human rights to its people." However, things exacerbated since she came to power and she didn't take any steps to stop this persecution. Against all odds, these persecuted people flee their homelands with the hope of a better life.

*To be continued in April / May / June 2017 Issue,
InShaa Allaah*



Bro. Farooq Shafi

MORE DEGREES LESS COMMON SENSE

Submitted by Bro. Farooq Shafi / Sunrise, Florida U.S.A

1. Today, we have bigger houses; but smaller families
2. More conveniences; but less time
3. We have more degrees; but less common sense
4. More knowledge; but less judgment
5. We have more experts, but more problems; more medicine but less wellness
6. We spend too recklessly, laugh too little and drive too fast
7. We get angry too quickly, stay up too late and get up too tired
8. We read too little, watch TV too often; but pray too seldom
9. We have multiplied our worldly possessions; but reduced our values
10. We talk too much, love too little and lie too often
11. We have learned how to make a living; but not a life
12. We have added years to life; but not life to years
13. We have taller buildings; but shorter tempers
14. Wider freeways; but narrow view points
15. We spend more but have less; we buy more but enjoy it less
16. We have been all the way to the moon and back; but have trouble crossing the street to meet the new neighbor
17. We have conquered our space; but not inner space
18. We have split the atom; but not our prejudices
19. We write more but learn less; plan more but accomplish less
20. We have learned to rush; but not to wait
21. We have higher incomes; but lower morals
22. We build more computers to hold more information, to produce more copies; but we have less communication
23. We are long on quantity; but far short on quality
24. These are the times of fast foods and slow digestion, tall men and short characters; steep profits and shallow relationships
25. More leisure and less fun; more kinds of food but less nutrition
26. Two incomes but more divorces; fancier houses but broken homes
27. THIS IS THE PARADOX OF OUR TIMES TODAY
28. So.....Let's not keep anything for a special occasion, because every day that we live is a special occasion from The Almighty.
29. Search for knowledge, read more; sit on your front/back porch and admire the view without paying attention to your needs
30. Spend more time with your family and friends, eat your favorite foods (in moderation) and visit the places you love
31. Life is a chain of moments of enjoyment; not only about survival
32. Use your crystal goblets, your valued china; do not save your best perfume and use it every time you want it.

Continued on Page 30, InShaa Allaah



Bro. Al Mustapha

STRIVE TO STRENGTHEN OUR FAITH & TAQWA

By Bro. Al Mustapha / Florida USA

My friends, Al-Hamdulillaah, we recently entered the new year of 2017 and a few months ago we started the Islamic year 1438. Allah SWT God Almighty tells us in His Quran, 59:18-19 "O you who believe, fear Allah and let every soul look to what (provision) it has sent forth for tomorrow. Yes, fear Allah, for Allah is well acquainted with what you do. And be not like those who forgot Allah, so He made them forget themselves. Such are the rebellious transgressors!" At times like these and others, we should be reflecting on how we lived our life in the past years and see what we have sent forth for tomorrow; the next life which is forever. How much time we spent daily praying, how often we read the holy Quran, how often we helped those in need, visited the sick, volunteered at the Mosque or helped to feed and clothe the poor for the sole pleasure of Allah God Almighty. My friends, all these different acts of worship and goodness we do is based on the strength of our faith and Taqwa (God consciousness) and our relationship with our Creator. He will bring us even closer to Him if we consistently worship Him and strive to perform more duties that are pleasing to Him. Umar RA said we should take an account of ourselves before we have to give an account for ourselves. Have we done that? Why not do a self-evaluation of our performance in life in preparation to meet with Allah SWT. This will greatly assist us in our life performance review which will be done by Allah SWT and will determine if we get paid well or not for the job we did in this life in serving Him. My friends, the Day of Evaluation will be the real moment of truth, the Day of Judgment; we will either get rewarded for all our hard work, sacrifice and strong performance in this life thru Allah's mercy and thus earn His Paradise, or we will be punished for our lazy performance and may be thrown into the fire of Hell. (May Allah protect us all from the fire of Hell, ameen) and Allah knows best. Many of us fall short and must strive harder to get closer to our Lord. Let us identify our faults and shortcomings in the obedience of God's commands and in following the teachings and character of our role model Prophet Muhammad PBUH. Let us make the sincere intention to learn more about what is required of us to better serve our Lord. Let us follow up by making the necessary adjustments in our lives by making every effort to perform better this year than last year, better this month than last month, better this week than last week. Let us strive to strengthen our faith and our Taqwa by trying to pray to our Lord 5 times daily, reading and understanding the Quran and by making the sacrifice to increase our knowledge of Islam and by seeking the patience to stay the course and overcome all the obstacles and tests that may come our way.

Continued on Page 22 , InShaa Allaah



Bro. Adel Asouti

DON'T JUDGE ISLAM BY THE ACTIONS OF MUSLIMS

Submitted by Bro. Adel / Homestead, Florida USA

Allah in (Arabic Alphabets; Aleph, Lam, Lam, and Haa), (Hebrew; Aleph, Lamed, and Hey [Eloh(im)added for respect] -), (English; God). Allah is the name used for God not just by Muslims, but also by 20 million Arabic speaking, Christian and Jews. It has the same alphabets in Arabic as in Hebrew (Aramaic Jesus' mother tongue). This unique word cannot be made plural (as in gods), and/or given a gender (masculine /feminine). When Allah created the universe, Al-mighty established a system to run it, which includes living on earth. Divine laws and regulations ("religion" how to live life) were set and clearly defined to govern our way of life. Allah created us (to worship only Him, and Him alone), and created everything (for our existence and sustains). Evidently, it would be illogic to have one Allah, one human creation, and have different religions, one for each nation. Will it be fair on judgment's day to judge each nation according to their own religion, even though the Divine laws are one? It is only rational for us to have one universal faith, Allah wanted to guide not to confuse us. "Indeed this, your religion, is one religion, and I am your Lord, so worship Me." {Quran Al-Anbya (The prophets)92}. People say, true it is one religion, with diverse interpretation, how "I am God, no others beside me, associate me with non." has different meanings. You do not have to believe in what I say; I am only presenting the facts based on my research. We all know the saying "When in doubt throw it out", but I say, "When in doubt Read it out". Also they say; "Do not judge the book by its cover." Islam is perfect, Muslims are not. "Do not judge Islam by the actions of Muslims, but judge Muslims according to Islam." The first command Allah Al-Mighty gave in the Quran, the first word in the first revealed verse is Read: "Read, in the name of your Lord who has created (all that exists), has created man out of a clot, Read! And your Lord is the Most Generous. Who has taught (the writing) by the pen, has taught man that which he knew not." {Quran Al- Alaq1-5}. Not "Do not ask, just have faith and Believe." (in Church's teaching and/or in altered gospels written by uncertain authors). Not "Listen to what others are saying." (priests, leaders, friends and family). Not "Watch the media spreading biased views.", but Read. This is exactly what I did, and I encourage you to do your own research, and Read.

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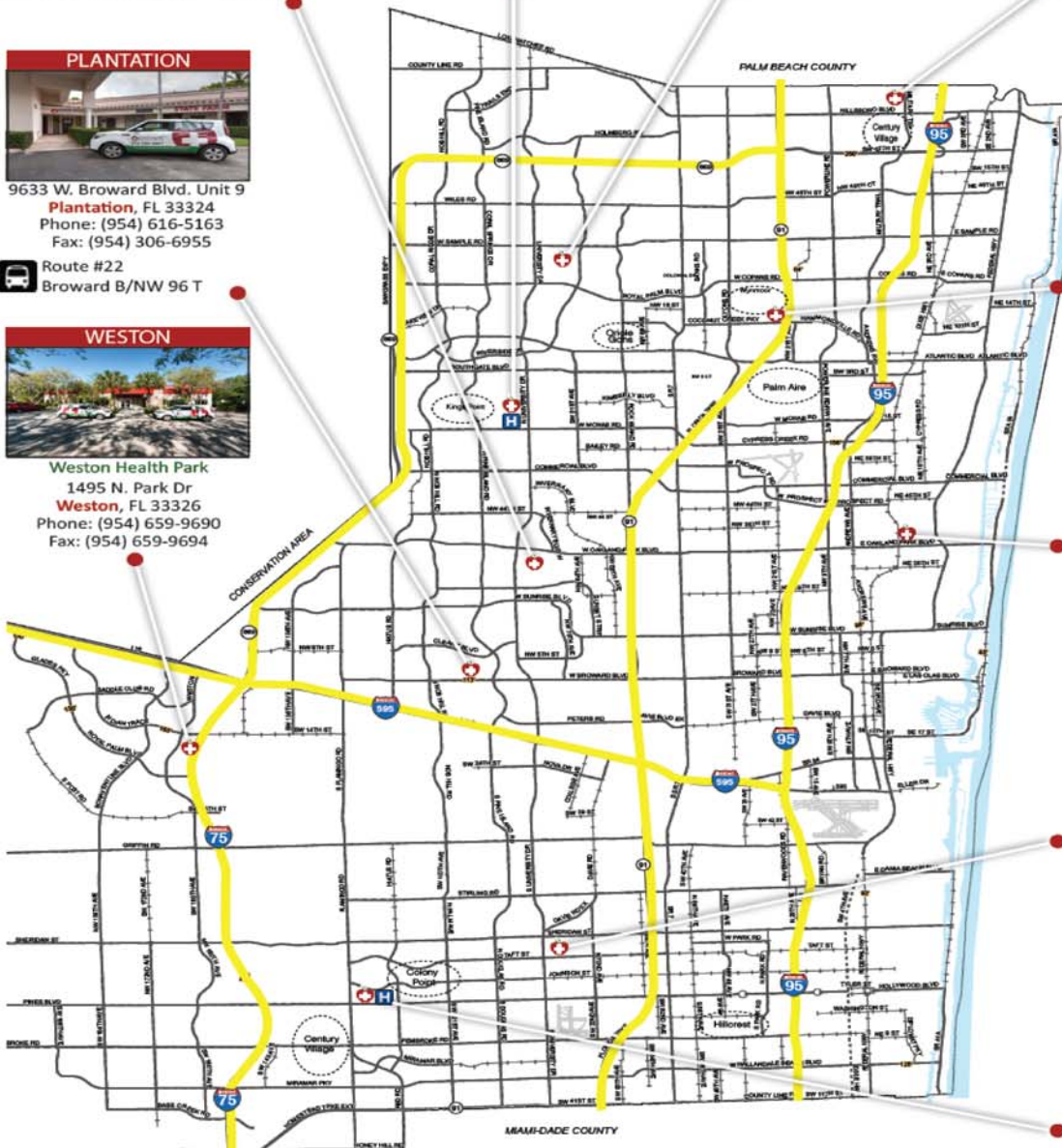
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Bro. Taj Siddiqui

THE KING & THE PRIEST

Submitted by Bro. Taj Siddiqui / Florida USA

There was a king, the god king. He has huge palaces with army of servants, lushes gardens spread over several miles, haram full of beautiful women, and a superior mighty army with no match. He ruled the country with pride and ego, with a fist of terror and evil. The people in his country were very poor. They were living in an environment of poverty, terror, and injustice. Eventually, people started dying of hunger, and reached to the point that they turned to eating rats. And one day, they said enough is enough, and went to the palace to see the King. They were in a large procession, and were shouting, screaming and demanding food. The King didn't meet them because he doesn't want to face them. His soldiers started beating the protesters and disperse the crowd. But the King knew that they will be back. Now that the revolution has started, how long he can keep them under his thumb. He was sitting in his garden worried and has no idea how to deal with this crisis. That is when his Chief Priest walked in. The King explained the situation to the Priest and asked for his suggestion. The Priest started laughing and told the King to relax. He said "Don't worry at all. I will handle it myself. You don't have to even talk to them." The King was very pleased and they invited the crowd to gather in the Palace compound the next day. This time the crowd was even larger and was very upset. The Priest appeared in the

balcony to address the crowd. When the people saw the "heavenly" face of the Priest, they stopped shouting and became very respectful. They explained to the Priest that they are hungry and have nothing to eat. Their children have no milk, and they are all drinking the same water into which they dispose their wastes. "Please help us, please help us". The Priest told them to have patience and not to lose hope. He told them that they are asking someone to help them, who himself needs help. The King is not the sustainer; God is the sustainer. When the King needs help, he bows to God and ask Him to guide the King. When the King needs food, he prays to God for food. The King is himself a receiver and the almighty God is the one and only giver. God is our sustainer and He always will take care of us. We are all His children and God loves us. Please pray to the almighty God to give you food, and all the help you need. He has promised to listen to you and me. God is great. People started dispersing and planning to pray in large congregations. The Priest offer them to provide local priests who will organize and lead their congregations. However, some folks were not happy and have more complaints. They told the Priest that the King's soldiers take their live stocks, destroy their homes and kidnap their daughters. There is no justice and no one listens to us. The Priest told them again to have patient and not to lose hope. They will be rewarded per their deeds and you will be rewarded for what you have done. He is watching each and every- one of us.

This hard time is a test for you from God. If you are successful in this test, then you will be rewarded with a place in heaven in the hereafter. This a very short life, a few years. The life in the hereafter is eternal. Just take the hunger and the cruelty and the injustice with a smile. Do not complaint. Your destiny will be a high place in the heaven. Now people have a clear answer and left the Palace compound peacefully. They were still very hungry and were collapsing on their way back due to starvation and sickness. After a while, the people of this country realize what the game the King and the Priest were playing with them. How they were distorting their religion and the name of God to promote their self-rule. So, one day they again marched to the palace, armed with sticks and stones. Waves and waves of poor and hungry citizens destroyed the royal gardens and ransack the palaces. They pulled the King and the Royals into the streets and butchered them. They unlocked the warehouses full of food and distributed it to the needy public. They took over the government and established democracy, for the people and by the people. The Chief Priest escaped and was hiding in the elegant and great church that the King has built for him. The people did not kill the Priest as they still respect him. For them he was the "face" of God. However, they confined him to the four walls of the church. They told him that from this day onwards you have absolutely no authority outside the church. We will commit all kind of sins right under your watch, but you cannot stop us. We will declare gay-marriage, abortion, adul-

tery and nudity as acceptable routines and norms of our society, and you cannot raise a finger to criticize us. You can preach inside these walls, but you cannot interfere with our daily lives outside the church. You will have no participation in our government or in our laws. We are declaring separation of Church and State. The country started progressing and the citizens became prosperous. There was tolerance, social justice, freedom of speech, and human rights. They established institutions, promote higher education, and welfare system for the needy. They were following all the steps that their religion has originally taught them. There were inventions and great contributions to the society and to the life of a common man. Many countries try to copy them, however very few succeeded. Today most of the countries in this world are still being ruled by the "King" and by the "Priest". Today, yes today, hunger kills more people each year than AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis combined. Every 10 seconds, a child dies from hunger. And they are still telling us not to complaint. Be patient. You will be rewarded with a high place in heaven. They are still using our religion and distorting God's name to benefit their desires and to promote their self-rule. The president of the country is a billionaire and is on the Forbes list, where as his citizens are drinking the same water that they dispose their wastes into. May God help us.

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Continued from Page 7

From America to Inside The Kaaba

It was like a dream seeing the black kiswa, which is the black embroidered cloth that covers the Kaaba and contains beautifully crafted gold threads of Arabic inscriptions from the Holy Qur'an. For anyone who has the opportunity to see it up close, it is a magnificent sight and moved me to tears. A few days later, the moment I was waiting for so anxiously arrived. I was invited to the office of the Haramain. From there I was led by the security escort to meet the Al-Shaibi family who are entrusted with the responsibility of holding the keys to the holy Kaaba. This blessed family has the unique honor and distinction of having been selected as the custodians of the keys to the golden doors of the holy Kaaba by the Prophet (peace be upon him) till the day of resurrection, as guided by Allah the exalted, in verse 58 of Surah An-Nisa. I was firstly introduced to a group of highly respected individuals and scholars who were present. Shortly afterwards, army and police security escorted us to the Kaaba and my heart was racing in anticipation. It was a tremendous moment in my life, walking side by side along with the Al-Shaibi family members to the holy Kaaba. I was extremely humbled by this honor and felt that this was truly a gift from Allah. As I walked towards the Kaaba with tears building up in my eyes, I remembered my loving parents, may Allah have mercy on them, who passed away a decade ago. The thought of my mother, who was a very humble and pious woman, came into my mind as I held back the tears. I always remember my mother spending most of her time on the prayer rug and making duas for her eight children and all of the underprivileged worldwide. My mother was very active in charity work and helped many people despite the fact that we ourselves were from a middle class background from a village in Kerala, South India. I could have never imagined that I would be in this position today, being invited inside the Kaaba and I know that my parents would have been extremely happy if they had been alive today.

*To be Continued on
April / May / June 2017
Magazine Issue, InShaa Allaah*

AL-HIKMAT INTERFAITH UPDATE

Send photos of your Events to Alhikmat@alhikmat.com

Interfaith Dialogue on Religion



Rabbi Barry Silver, Mr. Bob Israel & Shaikh Shafayat

Photo below from left: Oct. 25th, 2016- Rabbi Silver, Mr. Bob Israel and Shaikh Shafayat at a Dialogue on Religion at the Unitarian Church in Boca Raton Florida.

Thanksgiving Interfaith Program



Photo above: Nov. 23rd, 2016- Trinity Lutheran Church, Pembroke Pines invited Shaikh Shafayat and members from Darul Uloom to attend a Thanksgiving Interfaith program on Wed. Nov. 23rd, 2016. Guest speakers spoke on the importance of being thankful to God. The program was coordinated by Pastor Keith Spencer.

Sacred Journey Interfaith Seminary



Photo above: Nov. 20th, 2016 - Ten students were graduated and ordained as Interfaith Ministers from Sacred Journey Interfaith Seminary. The ceremony was held at the Duncan Retreat Center in Delray Beach Florida USA. Shaikh Shafayat was among the Clergy members invited to give their blessings to the newly Ordained Interfaith Ministers.

Celebration of Lights



Dr. Mark speaking to the audience at Lynn University

Photo above: Dec. 8th 2016 -

Lynn University in Boca Raton Florida held a Celebration of Lights program. Rabbi Boruch, Rev. Renwick and Shaikh Shafayat read and shared reflections from the Torah, Bible and Qur'aan. The event was coordinated by Dr. Mark of Lyn University. MaaShaa Allaah!

Interfaith Dialogue at Vizcaya



Photo above: Nov. 21st, 2016-

Al-Hamdulillaah on Nov. Monday 21st 2016 an Interfaith Dialogue was held at Vizcaya Clubhouse in Delray Beach Florida. The moderator was Mr. Steve West and the panelists were representatives from various faiths. Buddhist, Baha'i/ Ted, Christian/Pastor Warren, Hindu / Pundit Baldath, Jewish/ Rabbi Silver and Islam/Shaikh Shafayat. MaaShaa Allaah

President Trump & Muslims in America



Photo above: Muslim and Non Muslim students with Shaikh Shafayat at FIU.

Al-Hamdulillaah- On Tuesday Nov. 22nd, 2016 MSA of Florida International University in Biscayne Drive, Miami invited Shaikh Shafayat to speak on President Trump and Muslims in America.

SEND PHOTOS OF YOUR EVENTS
TO ALHIKMAT@ALHIKMAT.COM

DA'WAH / COMMUNITY UPDATE

By: *Salma Mohammed*

**HEALING THE DIVIDE:
INTERFAITH DIALOGUE**



Photo above: Nov. 16th, 2016 - Shaikh Shafayat along with other religious leaders were invited by Dr. Mark Luttio from Lynn University to have an Interfaith Dialogue on celebration of Religious Diversity. The event was a great success with lectures on standing together to create a world where our religious differences are not simply tolerated but celebrated!

Al-Hikmat Take Away BBQ

Photos below: Dec. 3rd, 2016-

Al-Hamdulillaah- On Sat. Dec. 3rd, 2016 Al-Hikmat Services held a Take Away Bar-B-Que at Al-Hikmat Da'wah Center. The event was a great success! Jazaak Allaah Khair to all our donors, coordinators, supporters, volunteers and helpers for assisting and supporting the event. MaaShaa Allaah!



Photo above: Brothers / Volunteers preparing the BBQ



Photo above: Guests eating at the BBQ



Photo above: Brothers & Sisters at the BBQ

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InShaa Allaah Ameen

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Age 42 / Resides in Trinidad
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Ethnic Background: Trinidad

Age 28 / Resides in Florida
Profession: M.S Clinical Psychology
Ethnic Background: Middle Eastern

Age - 59 / Resides in Georgia USA
Profession: Housewife
Ethnic Background: Native Augustan
BROTHERS SEEKING A SPOUSE

Age: 32 / Resides in Miami, Florida
Profession: Software Engineer
Ethnic Background: Pakistan

Age 28 / Resides in Florida
Profession: Recreation Therapist
Teenage Substance Abuse Counselor
Ethnic Background: Trinidad

Age 69 / Resides in Delaware
Profession: Professor of Florida State Uni.
Ethnic Background: Bangladesh

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Dear Brothers and Sisters

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Michael Herchi / Arcadia, Florida USA

REQUESTING STUDY MATERIAL

Assalaamu Alaikum

My name is John Clark, Muslim name Kareem Siddiq. I am requesting any study material you may have and I am looking to subscribe to the Magazine. I decided to walk the path in serving Allah. Jazaak Allah. May Allaah reward you!

JohnClark / Indiantown, Florida USA

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Dear Shaikh Shafayat,

I wish to extend to you my heartfelt thanks and gratitude for your participation in our first ever "Interfaith Dialogue" at Lynn University, Florida USA held on Wednesday November 16th, 2016. The response from our students, staff, faculty and guests was so positive and appreciative. The time you gave, in the midst of your busy schedules, has made a difference on our campus, and by extension, in the world we live in. I look forward to more to come! Thank you again for participating today in the Interfaith Panel. I truly appreciated your perspective and the thoughtful comments you made during the dialogue.

Peace be upon you,

*Mark David Luttio, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Religion
College of Arts and Sciences
and Council Administrator of
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**FURTHER KNOWING
THE MAN HAZRAT ALI (R.A.)**

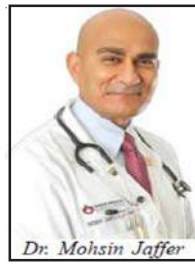
*By Br. Hamzad Mohammed
T.T.U.T.A.'s Teacher of the Year 2013, Trinidad, WI*

A few months ago, I gave a little insight into the life of that distinguished soldier - first youth to accept Islam – Hazrat Ali. Coming from the Banu Hashim, Quraish’s most respectable family, Hazrat Ali (R.A.) lived up to expectations by setting high standards of the virtues of humanity which had a strong Islamic flavour. The son of Fatimah bint ibn Hashim, Asad, Hazrat Ali (R.A.) was also known as ‘Abul Hasan’ and ‘Abu Turab’, in addition to having illustrious titles which are Asadullah, Haydar and Murtarda. His wife was Hazrat Fatimah (R.A.), daughter of the beloved Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W.), and she bore Hazrat Ali (R.A.) two famous sons, Hazrat Hasan and Husain. Many people are noted for their bravery in battles, but Hazrat Ali (R.A.) will go down in history as one who truly demonstrated gallantry at its highest level – a trait that won him accolades from man in his time. Armed with wisdom, an all-conquering spirit and love for Islam, Hazrat Ali secured victories which Alhamdulillah (All praise is due to Allah) brought a glow to the world. A few of his successful battles were those of Uhud, Badr the Trench and Khaibar. Besides being a warrior of great repute, Hazrat Ali (R.A.) was a man of scholarship. Prophet Muhammad once said: “I am the city of knowledge and Ali is its gate.” Ali (R.A.) was a qadi (judge) of great eminence and also well known for his polished deliveries of Arabic both in writing and speech. Thousands of people have left a legacy rich with quotations of a philosophical nature that have benefitted many. Those sayings make good reading for anyone who has a strong intellectual thirst. One person who bequeathed to us such meaningful and philosophical quotes was Hazrat Ali (R.A.), some of the examples being:

- ‘Intelligence disappears in the dazzlement of greed.’
- ‘Knowledge elevates the lowest to the highest position and ignorance drops the highest to the lowest position.’
- ‘A foolish person is always dependent on others while an intelligent person is always independent of others.’
- ‘Experience is knowledge gained.’
- ‘Ignorance harms a man more than cancer in his body.’
- ‘A worldwide reputation can be undone by an hour’s degradation.’
- ‘Beware of backbiting, for it sows the seeds of bitterness and separates you from Allah and man.’
- ‘Never speak when it is not the time for speech.’
- ‘A sign of Imaan (faith) is that even if you fear harm by speaking the truth, you should still speak the truth.’
- ‘One who thinks himself the best is the worst.’
- ‘Better be alone than with bad company.’
- ‘Every breath of man is a step nearer to death.’

What more can I ask of a man having such a wonderful calibre? Hazrat Ali was truly a colossus on the world’s stage for he shaped the minds of people in his time and still continues to impact on Muslims and others today. Therefore, we should all be thankful for the last caliph’s input in history and hope that Almighty Allah grant him Jannatul Firadus (very high position in Jannah or Paradise).

Continued on Page 30, InShaa Allaah



Dr. Mohsin Jaffer

HEALTH

By Dr. Mohsin Jaffer / President of Senior Medical Associates

**HOW A REGULAR PHYSICAL FITNESS PLAN
Can Benefit Seniors**

It’s no myth that exercise helps increase our body’s ability to live a longer life. Many people believe that in order to


receive all of the benefits of exercise you need to start at a young age. While it’s to your benefit to begin exercising while young, there is no denying the importance and impact of exercise on a persons well being at any age, especially for seniors. It is common for seniors to believe there is no purpose in beginning or continuing to exercise as they age. I am here to tell you, there is a great purpose. Let me help clarify some of the myths associated with exercise and senior citizens, as well as give you some insight on the advantages physical activity can have on your body. I have too many hurdles to overcome. Consistent physical activity allows your body to decrease, or in some cases even eliminate, the risk of health conditions and illness’ which may lead to increased medication intake and frequent hospitalizations. While there are inevitable physical aspects that will occur beyond your control, there are things that you can improve such as your posture and weight. It’s too late for me. It is never too late to improve your health. Science has proven that elders who have taken up exercise in their later years show greater physical and mental improvements over the younger generation. What if I fall? The positive factors associated with physical fitness and seniors include the improvement of flexibility, endurance, strength and balance. As you build up your bones, your balance becomes increasingly more stable, which lessens your chances of falls and other injuries that unfortunately may occur often. You’re too tired to exercise? Exercise actually improves your ability to sleep and can provide you with more energy. There’s just too much for me to do. You may notice you are able to manage daily stress a lot better too. To your advantage, many of the diseases associated with aging may be prevented simply from exercising. Start off with body weight bearing exercises and slowly increase resistance to ease your body. Walk a block and increase your distance and gradually your speed each day. Consistency is key. Everything hurts, I can’t exercise. If you suffer from wounds, it has been noted that with exercise, the wound-healing process speeds up. Consult with your doctor who can help you develop a personalized exercise plan that will fit your needs. Your doctor will most likely perform a physical examination on you and review your medications to be certain exercise has no effect on the medications you are taking. There is no excuse or boundary to physical fitness. Think of physical fitness as not just adding years to your life but adding life to your years. It is a good way to keep you motivated and ready to get moving.



Continued from Page 12

By Bro. Al Mustapha

STRIVE TO STRENGTHEN OUR FAITH & TAQWA

Let us beg Allah SWT daily to make it easy and to protect us and our children from the many dangers and deceptions of our sworn enemy satan. Some of us work longer hours striving for more money but we foolishly spend only a few minutes if any at all in our daily salat praying to Allah, the One who truly provides the sustenance, health, wealth protection and contentment for us to live in peace. Our Lord is the one who wakes us up after being dead in our sleep. He gives us the health, motivation and courage to go out to work, without His mercy and blessings we can't even get out of bed. My friends, if we spend more time pleasing the One who provides for us, then we won't have to work as hard as we do; if we work smarter, maybe we won't have to work harder. We may not have to put in extra hours as Allah will provide more for us and He will give us the salary increases and promotions for being loyal to Him. He will give us what we need to get ahead in life as He loves us more and is pleased with our efforts to connect to Him 5 times a day thru our prayers, and to love Him the way He wants us to show our love for Him, and to pray to Him the way He wants us to pray to Him. We must make the effort to live a balanced life, make the effort daily to please our Lord and get closer to him and to earn an honest living, without all the fraud, deceit and corruption, and without trying to beat the system etc. We cannot let our jobs or quest for money or other material gains or our hobbies take us away from the remembrance of our Lord Allah SWT. Just a few minutes in sincere focus and love and remembrance of our Lord is worth more than this entire world and everything in it, just imagine. Let us consult with our heart, we know what's right from wrong and we know of Allah's laws and commands but we tend to choose the love of this life and blatantly disobey the commands of our Lord, which if obeyed, will lead to good in this life and more importantly good in the hereafter. Also, when you feel the urge to do a good deed, do it without any hesitation. Don't be deceived by the devil who will tell you to do it tomorrow for we may never get there. May Allah SWT guide all mankind and bless us, our children and the ummah with the best Iman and Taqwa and give us the motivation and best health to serve Him alone constantly and selflessly in all aspects of our lives with our wealth and possessions only for His pleasure, and may He grant us all the best tomorrow with Jannatul Firdaus and without reckoning. Ameen. 

HUMOR

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A young woman was expounding on her idea of the perfect husband to some of her friends."The man I marry must be a shining light among other men. He must be musical - tell jokes - sing and stay home at night!" An old lady overheard and said, "Young lady, if that's all you want in a husband, then get a TV or a PHONE!"

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Bro. Azad Ali

A GOLDEN ISLE

*Written by: Bro. Azad Ali
Chairman of Darul Uloom
Institute, Florida USA*

The sparkling white foam ebbs to shore
It's continuous motion a dictum of divine

law,

Encroaching upon the glitter of the golden sand
In harmonious rhythm kissing this beautiful land.....
The cooing brown doves flutter beneath the palms
The eastern wind blows so gently, so warm and calm,
It's undulating hills carpeted in lush greenery
This land divinely picturesque, a land of unequal beauty.
Blessed is this island beneath a blue sky
Smiling faces brightened by the sun up high,
The sound of steel drums echoes around
Multi-colored maidens sway to the rhythm of the sound....
Oh island blessed by a generous golden sun
Long may your beauty thrill all those who come
Seeking peace, love and inner tranquility
In thy warm bosom resting in ethereal harmony.....

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Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Gregg M. Caggianelli, a 2016 Al-Hikmat Award Recipient is currently the Mobilization Assistant to the Command Chaplain, US SOUTHCOM in Miami, FL. In that capacity he serves as a special projects officer for advising on religious and moral matters in the US SOUTHCOM area of operations. Chaplain Caggianelli was commissioned in 1990 as a line officer, serving with the Air Force Research Laboratory, Wright-Patterson AFB, OH. Leaving active duty in 1996, he entered the Air

Force Reserves, and after completing seminary at St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary in Boynton Beach, FL, was ordained as a Roman Catholic Priest in 2002 and reappointed as a Chaplain in 2003. His previous assignment was as the Senior Reservist for the Wing Chapel at Travis AFB, CA. In his civilian position, Chaplain Caggianelli currently serves as the Dean of Pastoral Formation and assistant professor at St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary in Boynton Beach FL. Previously he has served as associate pastor, diocesan vocation director and parish administrator in the Diocese of Venice in Florida.

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Ch. 5 V. 99-

"The Messenger's duty is but to spread (the message of Al-Qur'aan). Allaah knoweth all that ye reveal and ye conceal."

Ch. 3 Verse 20 - *So if they dispute with you, say: "I have submitted My whole self to Allaah and so have those who follow me." And say to the People of the Book and to those who are unlettered: "Do ye (also) submit yourselves?" If they do, they are in right guidance, but if they turn back, your duty is to spread the Message (of Al-Qur'aan); and in Allaah's sight are (all) His ser*

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Ch. 5 Verse 67 -

"Oh Messenger! Spread the message (of Al-Qur'aan) which has been sent to you from your Lord. If you do not- then you did not spread Allaah's message (The Qur'aan)."

Ch. 33 V. 39-

"Those who spread the message of Allaah (Al-Qur'aan) and fear Allaah, and fear none but Allaah. Sufficient is Allaah who keeps account (of Mankind)

Ch. 36 Verse 17 -

"And our duty is but to spread the message (of the Qur'aan)."

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Front Cover Photo *Al-Hamdulillaah*

Continued from page 7

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THE GRAND MOSQUE OF PARIS

A Story of How Muslims Rescued Jews During the Holocaust & Free Men

Ahmed Somia, a Muslim doctor from Tunisia worked to protect Jewish children at risk of arrest by fabricating illnesses and sending them to clinics away from Paris. They provided some with false identity papers showing them to be Muslim or Christian. At the Muslim hospital where he worked, he and the other doctors hid Allied pilots and parachutists by day and treated them at night. Some of the patients treated had come to France as spies and some were shot down by Nazis. After they were treated they were transported to shelter at the Mosque. The book quotes a letter that was found in the papers of a Tunisian owned Paris café. In July of 1942 almost thirteen thousand Jews were arrested in Paris. The letter is believed to have been written during the summer of 1942. It was translated from Kabyle, a language from the Atlas Mountains of Algeria: "Yesterday at dawn, the Jews of Paris were arrested. The elderly, the women and the children. In exile like ourselves, workers like ourselves. They are our brothers. Their children are like our own children. Anyone who encounters one of his children must give that child shelter and protection for as long as misfortune- or sorrow- lasts. Oh man of my country, your heart is generous." The book speculates whether the letter was read out in the café or circulated among the Kabyle workers of Paris or the boarding houses where the men lived but states that this letter seems to be a call to action and proof of the strong bond between the North African Muslims and Jews. The movie, Free Men, which was inspired by the story in The Grand Mosque of Paris, premiered at the 2011 Cannes Film Festival. The film weaves fictional characters into the story alongside real characters. Algerian-born Jewish historian Benjamin Stora has acted as an adviser on Free Men. Younes, a fictional character, is a young Muslim man from Algeria who sell cigarettes, eggs and whatever else he can sell on the black market. He is caught by the French Immigration police who recruit him to spy on the Mosque which is suspected of aiding Jews. In his efforts to spy for the police he meets the rector of the Mosque, Si Kaddour Benghabrit and Salim Halali who were both real people. Si Kaddour Benghabrit was considered to be the most influential Muslim in France and Salim was a young Berber Jew from Algeria, a celebrated singer, pretending to be Muslim. After being mentored by the rector, Younes begins to assist the rector and Salim in assisting in the escape of the Jews in Paris, some of whom were sheltered in the Mosque. Younes becomes interested in Leila, a beautiful Jewish woman living in the Mosque (as a Muslim) and working to help other Jews, including her brother, escape. Salim had been provided a Certificate of Conversion to show that his grandfather had converted to Islam. When the Nazis began suspecting that the Mosque was providing false Muslim birth certificates and fake conversion certificates to Jews, the rector arranged to have an unmarked tombstone in the Muslim cemetery engraved with Salim's family name which saved his life when he was picked up by the Nazis.

Continued on Page 30, InShaa Allaah

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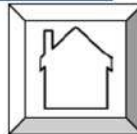
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QUESTION & ANSWER CORNER

By: Shaikh Shafayat Mohamed

Supplicating at the most Opportune Times & Locations

Question: How and when is the best time to make Dua?

Answer: These are, for instance, the day of ‘Arafah, month of Ramadan, Friday, the last part of the night, at dawn, during prostration, at the time of rainfall, between the adhan and iqamah, at the time of encounter of armies, at times of panic, and when one’s heart is soft and tender. Abu Umamah reported, “The Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W), was asked, ‘What supplication finds the greatest acceptance?’ He answered: ‘A prayer offered in the middle of the latter part of the night and after the prescribed Prayers.’ (Reported by Tirmidhi with a sound chain of authorities) Abu Hurairah reported, the Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W) said, “The servant is nearest to his Lord when he is prostrating to Him, so make supplication in this state.” (Muslim) There are very many hadith found in various books on this subject. Starting the Supplication with Allah’s Praise and Blessings on His Prophet. Fudalah b. ‘Ubaid reported that the Prophet (S.A.W), heard a man supplicating during prayer. He did not glorify Allah, nor did he invoke blessings on the Prophet. The Prophet, peace be upon him, said, “He has been hasty.” Then he called the man and said either to him, or to someone else, “When any one of you prays, he should begin by glorifying and praising his Lord and then he should invoke blessings on the Prophet, peace be upon him, and after that he should supplicate Allah for anything he wishes.”

(By request, the names of the questioners are not published)
 Answers Online by: Shaikh Shafayat Mohamed
WWW.ALLEXPERTS.COM
 (Go to Religion/Spirituality, then go to Islam, then Click on **Islamic Scholar**). You can also send Questions to alhikmat@hotmail.com. Your Questions will be answered in the order they were received.

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Bro. Shabeer Shekha

SHABEER SHEKHA

Shabeer Shekha is college graduate major in accounting & business laws from overseas. South Florida resident for 25 years and an entrepreneur over 20 years in SFL. A father of 3 beautiful kids and working hard to raise them as a true ambassadors of Islam. Currently striving with mission to make

our community ribba free and helping community to achieve the American dream of owning a home without compromising our faith and not to deal with interest (ribba). Guidance has helped thousands of American Muslims become homeowners in a manner that is consistent with Islamic financial transaction laws. The company has provided over \$3.3 billion in home financing to Muslims residing in 23 states including Florida.

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Continued from page 4 By Sis. R. Mohammed, Florida USA

YURSA (EASE) VS. USRA (DIFFICULTY)

If we go to that tree, will we become powerful? And what happened? Adam and Hawwa became preoccupied with the forbidden tree and forgot all the great positive bounties or yursas Allaah (SWT) had bestowed on them. That was the beginning of Adam and Hawwa’s demise. Remember, anytime you have doubt in your Imaan, in Allaah (SWT), you create a niche for Satan’s work to prosper and grow! This is why it is so important to remain steadfast in your belief. When things are bad, ask Allaah (SWT) to correct it and remove it from your life. And be firm! For example, consider the tarika or methodology of making dua to Allaah (SWT): when you ask Allaah (SWT) for something, do not ask with doubt, for example: maybe Allaah (SWT) will grant me my desire. When you ask Allaah (SWT) for something, it’s not about if, when, could, should. When you ask Allaah (SWT) for something, you should know, without a doubt, you are asking Allaah (SWT) the most high, the greatest, who can give you whatever he wants: “kun fia kun”- “be and it shall be”. That is type of Imaan you should have. This is because Allaah (SWT) is the greatest, most powerful and his mercy is unlimited. and sisters, don’t live your life preoccupied with the negative aspects of daily living. Focus on positive aspects of your life, on what Allaah (SWT) has given you, has blessed you with: whether it be your health, family, wealth, job, education and so forth. We have much to be grateful for! Do not be discouraged or disheartened about the one two impediments in your life! Be patient and steadfast in your Imaan. Remember Allaah (SWT) has promised that there will be ease after the difficulty, that there is more abundance to come, more success to come, more peace to come, whether it be in this dunya or the hereafter. That is Allaah’s (SWT) promise to you! ❀

Continued from page 26 By Linda Kaplan, Esq. / Florida USA

THE GRAND MOSQUE OF PARIS

A Story of How Muslims Rescued Jews During the Holocaust & Free Men The movie was selected as Film Movement’s DVD of the month for new, award-winning independent and foreign film. In giving their reasons for this selection they said, in part: Free Men.... does not tell a story we have already heard a million times, but rather brings to light a very little known chapter of French history – a surprising and powerful story of camaraderie, tolerance and humanity between religions that is as relevant today as it was in Vichy Paris. Moreover, the film does not merely rely on its fascinating background but develops complex characters, builds suspense, pays incredible attention to detail in its set design, costumes and lighting and features stellar performances from some of the biggest names in French cinema today including the veterans Michael Lonsdale and the young César Award winner Tahar Rahim.” Both the book and the DVD available on Amazon and the film is also available on Amazon Prime. Hopefully this book and the movie will add depth to our understanding of “humanity between religions.” ❀



Continued from page 11

Submitted by Bro. Farooq Shafi

MORE DEGREES LESS COMMON SENSE

- 33. Remove from your vocabulary phrases like “one of these days” and “someday”; let’s write that letter we thought writing “one of these days”
- 34. Let’s tell our families and friends how much we love them
- 35. Do not delay anything that adds laughter and joy to our lives
- 36. Every day, every hour and every minute is special; so pray to God and ask for forgiveness for yourself and your loved ones. ❀

Continued from page 21

FURTHER KNOWING THE MAN HAZRAT ALI (R.A.)

By Br. Hamzad Mohammed

Lastly, some poetic lines for Hazrat Ali would give some more justice to his life. Man of courage, strength and dignity, Full of love, respect, utmost piety; Glittered like gold, history can attest, Tenderness of heart, the Caliph at best.

“No matter where life leads you, treat those who’ve crossed your path nicely. The Almighty has placed them there for a reason. He knows”.

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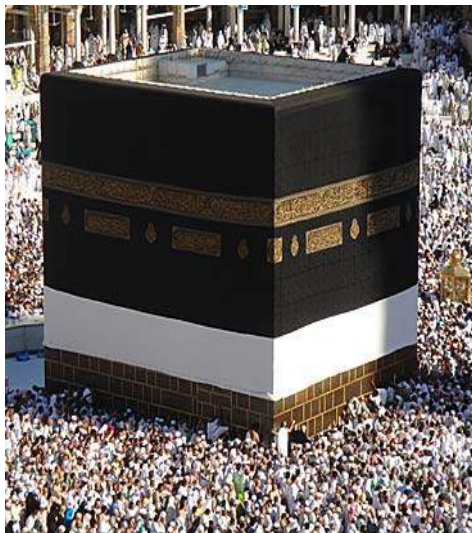
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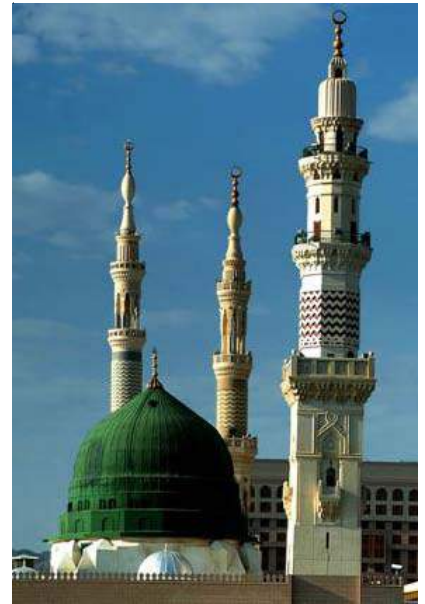
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