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By: Linda Kaplan/Page 12



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**FEATURE ARTICLES**



Answers For Our Worldly Issues.  
Page 8



Guarding Our Spiritual Health Online During The Pandemic  
Page 7



The Concept Of Battle Against Evil  
page 25



Parents Are A Good Opportunity for Blessings  
Page 12

**IN THIS ISSUE**

Being God Conscious Leads To Good Manners.....pg. 4  
 Guarding Our Spiritual Health Online During The Pandemic ..... pg. 7  
 Answers For Our Worldly Issues..... pg. 8  
 Prejudice In The Ummah ..... pg. 11  
 Parents Are A Good Opportunity for Blessings..... pg. 12  
 The Covenant Of The Prophets ..... pg. 15  
 The Concept Of Battle Against Evil ..... pg.25  
 Beneath The Crescent Moon ..... pg. 26  
 Healthy Foods For Blood Pressure ..... pg. 30

**CONTENTS**

Contents / Committee / Feature Articles.....pg. 3  
 Shaikh Shafayat Sermon Summary .....pg. 4  
 Pastor Corner .....pg. 7  
 Sister's / Congratulation Corner.....pg. 8  
 Immigration Corner.....pg.12  
 Recognition Corner.....pg. 29  
 Al-Hikmat / Community & Interfaith Update.....pg.16/21  
 Letters / Feedback / Matrimonial.....pg. 22  
 Humor / Poetry.....pg. 26  
 Health column.....pg. 30  
 Q & A .....pg. 33

*Inshaa Allaah Maashaa Allaah*



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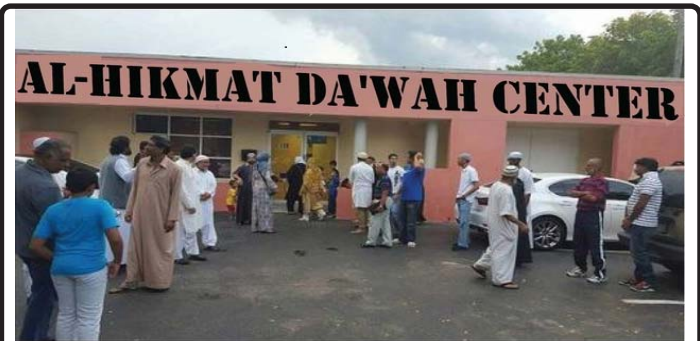
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### Being God Conscious Leads To Good Manners



Shaikh Shafayat

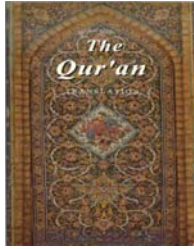
*Summarized by Bro. Kaleem  
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Let us remind ourselves that we should try to inculcate into ourselves, the good characteristics of the Rasool (s.a.w.). In Surah Ahzab Chapter 33 vs 21, Allah says: "There has certainly been for you in the Messenger of Allah an excellent pattern for anyone whose hope is in Allah and the Last Day and [who] remembers Allah often." If we believe that we are to return to Allah, we will avoid being abusive to each other and having bad manners as we will have to answer to Allah for these things. We tend to have a mindset of "These people don't benefit me so I don't care how I act around them". Those being conscious of Allah will not think like this. Allah will question us about not feeding the poor as mentioned in the hadith. Do we not think we will also be questioned about the people we abuse or oppress? When it comes to those who remember Allah, how does it relate to us having good characteristics? Those who remember Allah, not just by the tongue but in their hearts, if something were to happen, someone says or does something, automatically our reactions would be what Allah would want us to do. How can our hearts be beating for Allah but we break the hearts of others for our nafs and curse others? Our actions cannot be contrary to Allah. Whenever we become animalistic, it is because our heart is not remembering Allah. From the hadith we learn that when people commit sins, at the time of that sin their imaan leaves their hearts. Loving Allah connects to good behaviour. When we love someone, we would not want to hurt anyone close to that person. If someone close to them abuses you, you would not retaliate out of fear for hurting the person you love. What about Allah? The people in constant love with Allah would not do actions to bring his displeasure. We are the representatives of Allah on earth. People of other religions often say that humans were created in the "face of God". Islamically we do not take this literally. The face of Allah is the pleasure of Allah. When you say you are the face of a company, you

*Continued On Page 25*

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## Generosity And Love For Our Neighbors

By: Pastor Keith A. Spencer



Pastor Keith A. Spencer

There is a story in the Christian gospel about one of the miracles of Jesus, the feeding of the five thousand. In that story Jesus is grieving the death of John the Baptist and rows out onto the sea of Galilee to be alone. But the people follow Jesus by walking along the shore of the lake and meet him when his boat comes ashore. There are many people who are sick among them and Jesus has mercy upon them and heals them, taking his time to ensure that all in need are cared for until it is late in the day. His disciples suggest that he send them all away to find something to eat so that they can use their own money and buy what they needed for themselves and their families, each to their own. It's a pragmatic suggestion, but not one with which Jesus concurs. Jesus takes inventory and suggests that their meager supplies will prove more than adequate: Some bread, a little. Some fish, a few. And with a blessing upon the food, it proves more than enough. It becomes an abundance, an overabundance, with basketfuls left over. Bread for the journey. Where people see scarcity, Jesus sees abundance. Where people want to be released from responsibility for their neighbor, Jesus doubles down on the blessedness of community, the sacredness of the bond of love, each of us to the other. Later on in the Christian scriptures one discovers that hallmarks of the early church as we read in the Book of Acts is that same blessedness and sacredness manifesting as selfless love. To respond to our human inclination towards fear, selfishness, and self-centeredness with hope, selflessness, and love towards our neighbor. Love one another, Jesus commanded his disciples. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another. It is love for neighbor that binds us even with our differences, my Muslim friends. It is such love that offers a narrative of hope over fear, love over hate, brotherhood over isolation. "Serve

continued on page 26

### Bilingualism:



Sis. Amanda Smith

## Guarding Our Spiritual Health Online During The Pandemic

By Sister Amanda Smith / Miami Florida

"O you who believe! If a Fasiq (liar — evil person) comes to you with any news, verify it, lest you should harm people in ignorance, and afterwards you become regretful for what you have done."—Surat Hujurat, Aya 6 Worldwide, people are in fear. This new virus, covid-19, is sickening hundreds of thousands and causing many to pass away. Around the world, people are shut in their homes, unable to conduct business or spend time with other people. Many of us are now totally dependent on the internet for work, school or social interaction, and though the internet is a great tool, it can also be dangerous. The spread of misinformation on the internet has been a problem since its inception, however the surge of misinformation related to coronavirus calls for a reminder about how false information can harm others — both physically and spiritually. In light of the pandemic, a surge of misinformation regarding the virus has spread on the internet, such as easy cures for the virus or conspiracy theories about its origin. Absurd claims have been made, such as licking silver or inhaling hydrogen peroxide will cure the coronavirus. Many people have tried these so called cures to no effect, and some have even caused themselves serious harm. However, in addition to false claims of physical cures, fraudulent spiritual remedies have circulated as well. From Facebook posts to Whatsapp forwards, post after post has made claims about the virus from an "Islamic" perspective that in reality have no basis in the Quran or sunnah. Some have claimed that the aya, "Over it are nineteen," (surat Muzzammil, aya 30), is a prophesy about the pandemic simply because it mentions the number nineteen. Other posts have gone so far as to create a bidah, making false claims like it is wajib for all Muslims to recite surat Feel ten times to end the pandemic. Claims like these may seem harmless, however they can cause serious damage to our spiritual health. In times of crisis, people can feel anxious or desperate, making them more likely to accept any information that helps them better understand their situation or that offers an easy solution. However, Allah (swt) has instructed us to be wary of what information comes to us, warning us in surat Hujurat, aya 6: "O you who believe! If a Fasiq (liar — evil person) comes to you with any news, verify it, lest you should harm people in ignorance, and afterwards you become regretful for what you have done." Anyone can post anything online, and with that knowledge we should treat what we read with caution. Though a suspicious looking forward may not have come from someone who is known to be untruthful, the origin of many posts can be difficult to determine and should always be treated with skepticism. Some may ask what harm could come from following doubtful Islamic advice online. For example, they may say that even if a post falsely claims that there is a fatwa that all Muslims should

continued on page 25

**SISTER'S CORNER**

By: *Sis. Sylmarie Mustapha / Coral Springs, Florida*

**Answers For Our Worldly Issues**

by: *Sister Sylmerie*



*Sister Sylmerie*

My dear brothers and sisters: Over the past few months mankind has certainly been affected by some very troubling, upsetting and difficult times. Recent events have brought about a myriad of dire and tragic situations. The world has been devastated by the Covid 19 pandemic with all the alarming worldwide cases, the heartbreak of all the unexpected deaths, the sudden closing and lockdown of jobs, schools and services, the stay at home lockdown for families, unemployment and food shortages. In addition, protests for racial justice triggered massive and worldwide demonstrations and curfews. All these events are on the heels of massive fire in Australia and the Amazon, the tragic situation in Yemen and Syria, the oppression of Muslims in China, India and so many other countries, earthquakes and typhoons plane crashes, in addition to the turmoil of worldwide political issues. Right now, we are now coping with a spike in Covid 19 cases (the second wave). It has certainly been very overwhelming, challenging and traumatizing time for everyone around the world. How do we cope and respond to these challenging and tragic events. Our only coping strategy and the only way to find resilience is in following the Guidance from Allah (SWT) and the teachings of our beloved prophet Muhammad. **Reminder for you and me:** Final Sermon: After praising, and thanking God Almighty, the Prophet, may the mercy and blessings of Allah (SWT) be upon him, said "O People, lend me an attentive ear, for I know not whether after this year, I shall ever be amongst you again. Therefore, listen to what I am saying to you very carefully and take these words to those who could not be present here today. O People, just as you regard this month, this day, this city as Sacred, so regard the life and property of every Muslim as a sacred trust. Return the goods entrusted to you to their rightful owners. Hurt no one so that no one may hurt you. Remember that you will indeed meet your Lord, and that He will indeed reckon your deeds. Allah (SWT) has forbidden you to take usury (interest), therefore all interest obligation shall henceforth be waived. Your capital, however, is yours to keep. You will neither inflict nor suffer any inequity. Allah (SWT) has Judged that there shall be no interest, and that all the interest due to Al-Abbas ibn Abd'el Muttalib shall henceforth be waived...Beware of Satan, for the safety of your religion. He has lost all hope that he will ever be able to lead you astray in big things, so beware of following him in small things. O People, it is true that you have certain rights with regard to your women, but they also have rights over you. Remember that you have taken them as your wives only under a trust from Allah (SWT) and with His permission. If they abide by your right then to them belongs the right to be fed and clothed in kindness. Do treat your women well and be kind to them for they are your partners and committed helpers. And it is your right that they do not make friends with any one of whom you do not approve, as well as never to be unchaste. O People, listen to me in earnest, worship Allah (SWT), perform your five daily prayers, fast during the month of Ramadan, and offer Zakat. Perform Hajj if you have the means. All mankind is from Adam and Eve. An Arab has no superiority over a non-Arab, nor does a non-Arab have any superiority over an Arab; a white has no superiority over a black, nor does a black have any superiority over a white; [none have superiority over another] except by piety and good action. Learn that every Muslim is a brother to every Muslim and that the Muslims constitute one brotherhood. Nothing shall

*Continued on page 29, InShaa Allaah*

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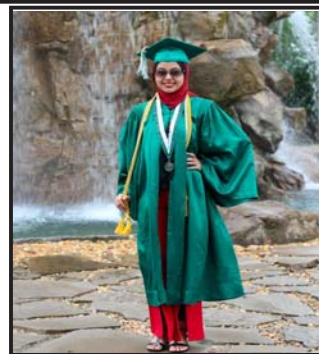
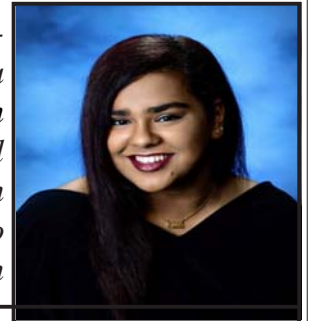
*Photo Above: Big Sister Sofia & Baby Aliya*

Congratulations to Farhan and Hira Kamal who were blessed with a baby girl Aliyah Noor Kamal on July 8, 2020. Alhamdulillah she weighed 6 pounds 4 ounces. Maashaa Allah

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*Al - H a m d u l l i l l a h - Congratulation to Reja Farooqi who graduated from Mc-Arthur high school Hollywood Florida USA on June 6th , 2020 and wants to be a radiologist. Inshaa Allah*



*Al - H a m d u l l i l l a h - Congratulation to Aliyah Seurattan who graduated on June 6th, 2020 from Charles W. Flanagan High School - Pembroke Pines Florida USA. Maashaa Allah*

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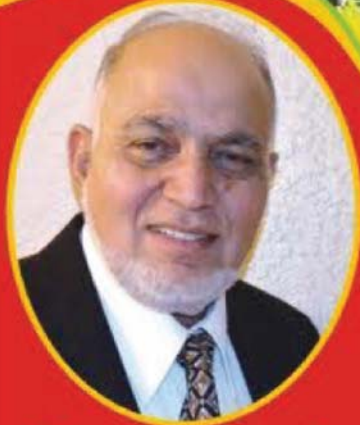


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Bro. Al Mustapha

## PREJUDICE IN THE UMMAH

By Bro. Al Mustapha / Florida USA

*The world today and indeed the USA, unfortunately still suffers from systemic racism, which exist on many different levels. What answers do our great way of life, Islam,*

*provide for us to solve this critical problem in the world? In the Qur'an Allah SWT has abolished racism in a clear-cut, simple and categorical manner. In chapter 49 verse 13: The Almighty Creator SWT says: "O mankind! We have created you from a single male and female and made you into nations and tribes so that you may know each other. The most honorable of you in the sight of Allah are the righteous of you." Allah SWT also says in the Qur'an: chapter 4 verse 1: "O mankind! Fear your Lord Who created you from a single soul and from it created its mate and dispersed from both, a multitude of men and women. And fear Allah, through whom you ask of one another, and towards the wombs (that bore you) indeed Allah is ever over you, an Observer." As we can see in these Qur'anic verses, Islam stresses absolute unity of the human race. Prophet PBUH also advised us in his Farewell Pilgrimage sermon: "O people! All mankind is from Adam and Eve. No Arab is to be preferred over a non-Arab or a non-Arab over an Arab, a white has no superiority over a black nor does a black have superiority over a white except by virtue of his piety and good actions." He also says, "Do not do injustice to yourselves. Remember, one day you will appear before Allah to answer for your deeds. So beware, do not stray from the path of righteousness after I'm gone." In another hadith, he PBUH said: "Allah does not look at your images or your colors but He looks at your hearts (intentions) and your deeds. Creatures are the dependents of Allah and the closest among them to Allah are indeed the most useful TO His creatures." Prophet Muhammad PBUH had among his closest companions Salman the Persian, Suhaib the Roman, and Bilal the Ethiopian. Two of the three Companions were ex-slaves who were liberated after embracing Islam, namely Salman and Bilal. Despite the very dark complexion of Bilal RA he was chosen by the Prophet as the first Muezzin to call others to*

*Continued on page 15, InShaa Allaah*



Bro. Farooq Shafi

*Bismillah Hir Rahmaanir Raheem*

## Prayers Of The Prophets

By Bro. Farooq Shafi/ Florida USA

We are often reminded about that powerful prayer, that amazing du'ah,

*"Hasbun Allaah, wa niyamal wakeel, niya'mal mawla wa niyamal naseer."*

*"Sufficient is Allaah for us, He is the best Guardian and the best Helper."*

These were the words of Ibraheem AS. This is what he said when his people threw him into the fire. These were also the words of Prophet Muhammad SAW, and his Companions, when they were warned that a huge army was gathering behind a mountain, ready to attack them and drive them and Islam into oblivion. Let's remember this wonderful du'ah, so that we, too, can benefit from it whenever we find ourselves in a really dangerous situation: *"Hasbun Allaah, waniyamal wakeel, niya'malmawlawaniyamalnaseer."* *"Sufficient is Allaah for us, He is the best Guardian and the best Helper."*

This is the theme of today's message. Let's remind ourselves of the many prayers, and supplications that we've learnt since childhood. We may never have reflected on the origins of these prayers. Perhaps we take them for granted. Our parents and our teachers told us to memorize them. That's it! But how many of us know the beautiful and inspiring back-story of these popular du'ahs? Each and every one of the prayers in the Holy Quran has an interesting story of its own. Most of them begin with "Rabbana" "O My Lord!" The word Rabbana appears 72 times in 64 verses in the Quran. There are 40 of the best known, best remembered du'ahs beginning with "Rabbana." Allaah SWT reminds us in the Holy Quran that: *"Every nation has been sent a Messenger,"* (Sura Nahl – The Bee 16.36). No nation has been overlooked... and Muhammad SAW is a guide to all the nations *"Walikulliqauminhaad..."* Sura Ra'd (13.7). *Allaah SWT sent us the greatest of teachers, these are the Anbiyyaah, the Prophets.* Let us take a few examples. We've heard the story of Yunus AS. He became so impatient with his people that he left them, but Allaah SWT guided them and reprimanded him for his impatience. When he was swallowed up by a fish, he repented to Allaah SWT, and made prayer, which we all repeat today. It is the Universal Prayer of Distress, recited for centuries, begging Allaah SWT's help: *"La ilahaila anta, soob'haanakinneekuntuminath-dhaalimeen!"* *"There is no God but You, Glory to You, I have become one of the wrongdoers."* Most of us know this prayer and we've recited it many times. But how many of us know who first

*Continue on page 26...*



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**IMMIGRATION CORNER**

Linda Kaplan, Esq.

## Don't Let The Virus Silence Your Voice How To Vote Carefully In The Time Of Covid-19

By Linda Kaplan, Esq. / Florida USA

**Register Or Verify your Voter's Registration and Sign up for Vote by Mail. Also Check your Signature so that your vote is counted and Track Your Ballot.** In June of 2018, I wrote a blog entitled "Voting is a right of U.S. Citizens as Well as a Responsibility". It can be found [here](#). I bring this up again because of the importance of voting in these unsettling times. We need to be prepared in the event we do not feel safe going in person to vote. **Voter Registration**: If you are a citizen and are not registered to vote yet please do this today. It takes about two minutes to register online. Please go to <https://registertovoteflorida.gov/home> and register today or update your registration. This may be done in English or Spanish. If you or someone you know is at least 16 years old, they may preregister. **Vote by Mail – preserve your option**: In writing this blog, I went online to review the process and to see how easy it was and to see how to request Vote by Mail Ballots. I could not find a link to this on the register to vote site mentioned about though I thought it should have been there. To request a Vote by Mail Ballot you will have to go to <https://dos.myflorida.com/elections/for-voters/voting/vote-by-mail>. Many people still refer the vote by mail ballot as an "absentee ballot" which was used when people did not think they would be in town to vote. Florida now allows anyone to vote by mail even if they are available to vote in person. In Florida, you can also vote during the early voting period which generally starts on the 10<sup>th</sup> day before the election and ends on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day before the election. I have always enjoyed voting early in person rather than on election day because there are few lines making it quick and easy. Some prefer the excitement of voting on Election Day. Whatever your preference for voting, I am urging you to request Vote by Mail Ballots for this year. We may well be impacted by Covid-19 for the primary election in August as well as the general election and it is especially important to vote this year. Even if you request a Vote by Mail ballot, you do not have to use it. If conditions are safe and you wish to vote in person, simply bring your Vote by Mail Ballot, give it to the poll worker and tell her that you wish to vote in person. **Check your signature – protect your vote**: A study by the chair of the political science department at the University of Florida indicates that about 1.2 % of all mail ballots were rejected and not

Continued on Page 34, InShaa Allaah



Br. Hamzad

## PARENTS ARE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR BLESSINGS


By : Bro Hamzad Mohammed,  
T.T.U.T.A. Teacher of the Year 2013,  
Trinidad, W.I.

In the last issue of the Al-Hiqmat magazine, I showed the iconic stature that parents have in Islam. However, though, I think that not much reverence is paid to them given their increasingly colossal role they play today to deal with children's growing obdurate behaviour. There is a saying by Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W.) that parents are either our **Jannah** Heaven or **Jahannam** (Hell). What this Islamic quotation simply means is that the way we treat or regard our parents will dictate whether we'll be guaranteed entry to the place of 'perpetual bliss' (Heaven) or the 'bottomless pit' (Hell). To truly understand the honourable position that parents hold in Islam and of the hinge we should have on them, the following Islamic guidelines need to be adhered to:

- Obey them even if they're non-Muslims
- Attend to them when they're sick.
- Meet their needs when they become old.
- Avoid abusing them physically and verbally.
- Forgive them when they do wrong.
- Say prayers for them while they're alive and even when they have died.
- Desist from hurting their feelings and
- Don't sever the bond of friendship with them for we'll be prevented from enjoying the fragrance of Heaven.

To further concretise the greatness of parents, I'll quote three sayings of our dear Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W.)

- Duty to parents is preferred to **Nafil** (optional) prayers.
- Disobedience to parents and polytheism are two major sins in Islam and Paradise lies at the feet of thy mother.

It's worth turning our attention to 'parts' of Quraanic verses that speak of parents e.g. **2:215**—"They ask thee what they should spend (in charity). Say: Whatever Ye spend that is good, is for parents ..."**31:14**—"And We have enjoined on man (to be good) to his parents ..."**46:15**—"We have enjoined on man kindness to his parents ..."  
Having read of the great status the religion of Islam has given to parents, we should never at any time shirk our responsibility in giving our parents their deserved **adab** (respect). This, because, we would be deprived of that deeply-yearned for sanctuary (Heaven) in the **akhirah** (Hereafter) if we are so inclined. In ending, I've penned apt **poetic verses**, as a short tribute to all parents (Muslims and non-Muslims). As the fresh and salt waters meet, and up Mt. Everest men eagerly go, Let in the brain be that drum beat, that honouring parents, makes us glow. 



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# THE COVENANT OF THE PROPHETS

*Continued From Last Issue,*

*By Bro Twalib Ali / Canada*

The word 'Be' which he bestowed upon Mary became 'flesh' as it was in the case of Adam. God never became flesh. It is a great misunderstanding by so many people throughout the world. And then Jesus who was given the gift or power to heal every kind of illness made as it were, the figure of a bird and it came to life by God's permission - scientifically impossible! Medically, there were no cures for any of those diseases that Jesus healed including casting out the evil spirits (Jinns). The leaders among his people were confused especially after he brought Lazarus back to life 'by God's permission' - medically and scientifically impossible. Many called him God and son of God, etc. but he never said such things. The Jews were the best doctors and men of science since they knew the Scriptures very well and were chosen by Almighty God "for His Message." They had been given so much knowledge that they viewed Jesus as an 'imposter,' and some called him a 'magician,' and a 'false prophet.' Jesus was not getting his Message of the Gospel through to the Jewish leaders, so they decided to confront him about healing on the Sabbath. They questioned him about his identity and status and his popularity upset them to the point where they wanted him dead. They slandered Mary and thought that she had an affair and gave birth to Jesus, and that his miracle birth was not real. When Jesus told them that God's Last Messenger whom he called 'Ahmad' in Aramaic (the language spoken by Jesus) would come from the seed of Ishmael and not Isaac, they decided to set up the Romans to have him

crucified. They knew from the Scriptures that crucifixion was a form of punishment for criminals but not for prophets. So they plotted to kill him in this fashion rather than stone him to death. They thought they killed him but Almighty God saved him from such a horrific death, even though the Jews were bragging that they killed Jesus, the son of Mary, the Apostle of God. Jesus was taken up (the Ascension) and must return to Earth towards the end of time to complete his life, at which time he must die like everyone else. Only Almighty God is Eternal and will never die. The mystery surrounding Jesus defies logic and reason which is why his mere existence has confounded Christians and Catholics whose Foundation and Belief System is hinged on the Trinity (father, son and Holy Ghost) concept. I did not ask if he was God since that question was too premature. Instead I went on to Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him). I asked, "What was the 'thing' that appealed to the Arabs during the time of Prophet Muhammad?" Since she was unaware. I mentioned that it was 'Poetry.' Here is a man who could not read nor write reciting verses that are so poetic, they were astonished - only to realize that it was Divine Revelation that contained a Message, and was not Poetry. The Arabs were amazed when the Jewish people in Mecca and Medina recognized the verses as Revelation from Almighty God, and eventually those verses were put in well-arranged stages and order - which we now refer to as the Holy Quran. Some Jews became Muslims while others refused to Believe. Then I asked, "Would you say that the Prophet Muhammad was God?" She replied, "No! He was a man." Then

*Continued On Page 30*

*Continued from page 11,*

# PREJUDICE IN THE UMMAH

*By Bro. Al Mustapha / FloridaUSA*

prayer, a grand position coveted by many! Other great companions like Abu Bakr and Umar RA used to call Bilal 'our master'. It was definitely not an easy task to wipe out racism in Islam, but every time it came to light the Prophet PBUH used to give the Muslims important lessons. Once when his Arab companion Abu Dharr RA called Bilal RA 'son of the black woman', the Prophet PBUH got angry and told him: 'You are a man who has ignorance in him.' Abu Dharr RA felt such a great remorse that he put his face/cheek on the ground and asked Bilal RA to step on his other cheek. Sadly, our noble Leader PBUH is not here with us but he certainly left his example for us to follow. But unfortunately, racism and discrimination is still present in this world, in this country and very sadly once again in this Ummah! Here and abroad, we unfortunately have many Indians, Arabs, Pakistanis, Trinidadians, Guyanese, Americans etc. who think and act like they are superior to each other because of their skin color or complexion, wealth or so-called nobility. I'm not sure who or what gives them those arrogant thoughts and feelings but it definitely comes from our enemy satan and his helpers and through customs, parents, grandparents as well as situations that occurred in the past, but it is most certainly very wrong! Whatever the reasons are, **RACISM IS ABSOLUTELY UNACCEPTABLE IN ISLAM!** Piety and righteousness from the heart as expressed thru thought and action are the only things that make us different from each other, and that can only be judged by our Creator Allah SWT. Allah SWT tells us in His Final Testament the Holy Quran, "The most honorable of you in the sight of Allah are the most righteous of you." Let us truly cleanse our hearts of all types of arrogance and racial discrimination. Prophet Muhammad SAW said: 'You have NOT believed until you love for your brother that which you love for yourself.' The Prophet (PBUH) used to stress the unity of the human race. In one hadith. The Prophet PBUH once said: 'Listen and obey even if your ruler is an Ethiopian slave.' This is how Islam stamped out racism in theory and practice in the past. It sets the best example for humanity to follow, but we must strive to do our part to totally wipe out this great evil. May Allah SWT guide, protect and forgive us all and help us to be better believers, better humans and better Muslims, Aameen!

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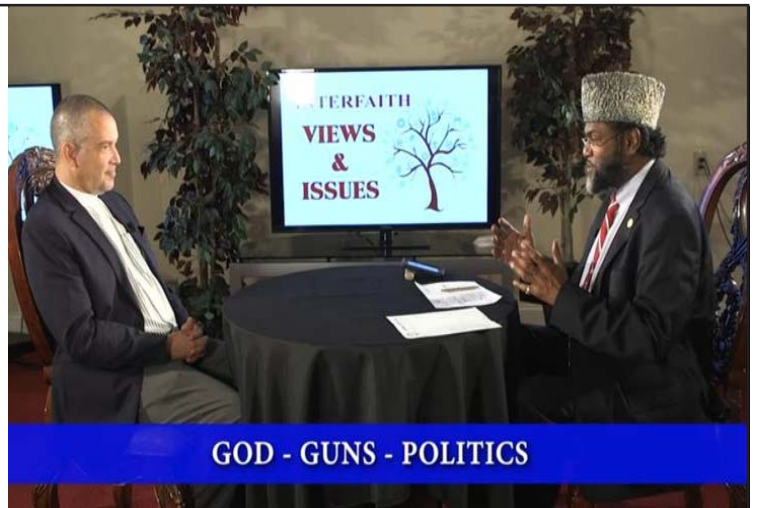
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*Photo On Right:*

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*With Father Johan and Shaikh Shafayat*



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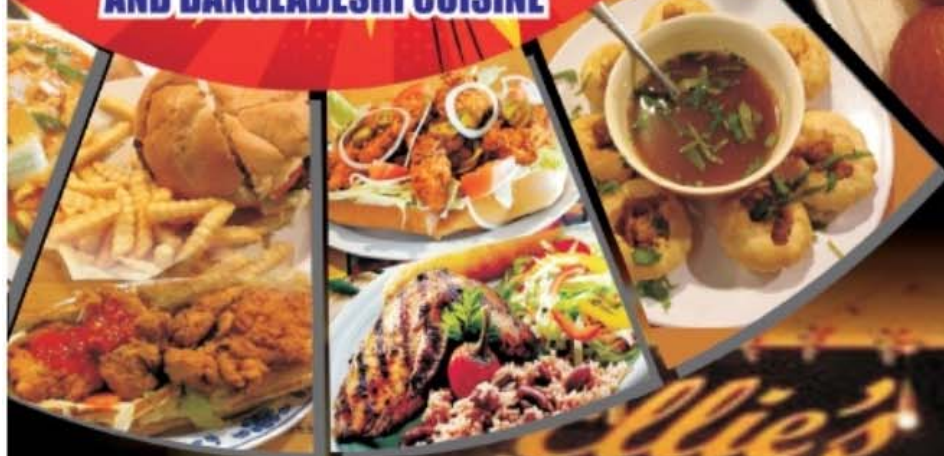
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# COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS

By: Faria Mohammed

## Islamic Center of Greater Miami (Miami Gardens) COVID - 19 Testing



**Photo Above:** Alhamdulillah on Friday June 19th 2020 Islamic Center of Greater Miami (Miami Gardens) had A Free Drive Thru COVID -19 Testing Maashaa Allaah.

## ICNA Relief

### Photo On The Right:

Alhamdulillah ICNA Relief at IFSF in Sunrise giving out Simply Fresh Free USDA Farmers Produce Boxes to Families on Sunday Aug. 16th 2020 MaaShaa Allaah



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*I Find Myself In Tears*

Asalaamualaykum so beautiful I find myself in tears, shukran for the reminder and may we strive to better our understanding for a good Akhirah Ameen. May the Almighty Allah'uta'Allah grant Sheikh to go from strength to strength to continue with this dawah. I could listen to you the whole day Alghamdulillah, such honesty to the point and current BarakAllah.

Kaashiefah / South Africa Cape Town

Al-Hamdulillah thank Allah for people like this spreading the Deen in a beautiful way.

Aroon Mohammad  
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Sheikh May Allah Bless you always to serve this UMMAH to do GOOD Deeds in the right direction.

Mauritius  
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**AL-QUR'AAN - Ch. 5 V. 67**

*"O Messenger, spread that which has been revealed to you from your Lord, and if you do not, then you have not conveyed His message. And Allaah will protect you from the people. Indeed, Allaah does not guide the disbelieving people."*

**AL-QUR'AAN - Ch. 16 V. 125**

*"Invite (all) to the Way of thy Lord with wisdom and beautiful preaching; and argue with them in ways that are best and most gracious."*

**AL-QUR'AAN - Ch. 41 V. 33**

*"And whose words are better than he who calls towards God, and does righteous deeds, and says, "Verily, I am of those who have surrendered to God."*

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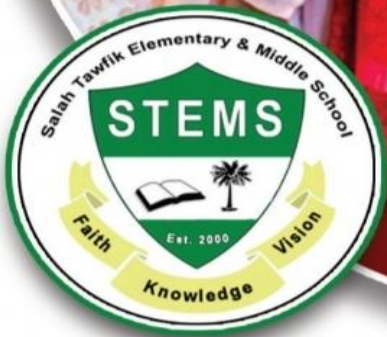
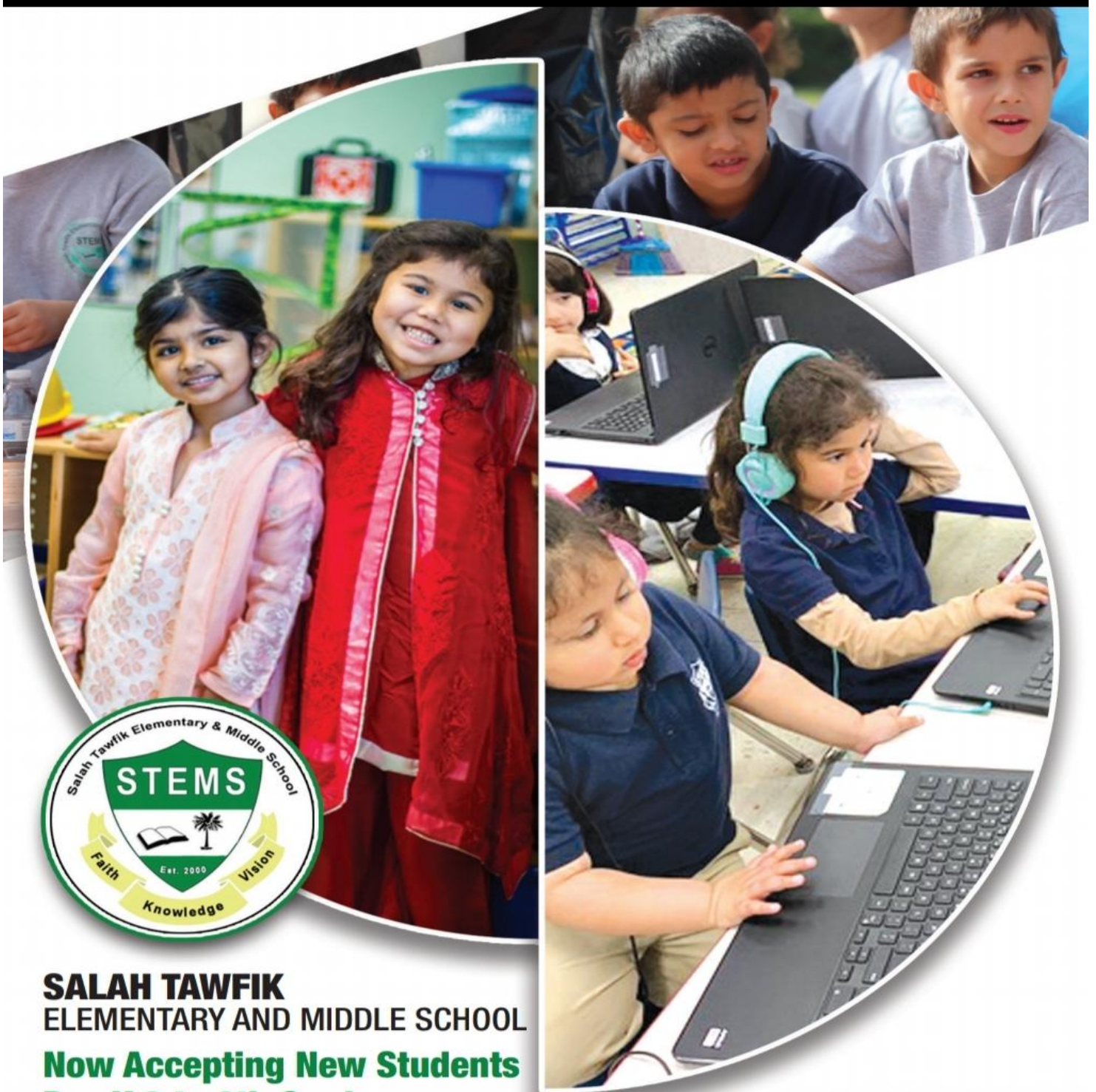
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Dr. Ghous Muhammad

## THE CONCEPT OF BATTLE AGAINST EVIL

By Ghous Muhammad

The battle against evil is waged sometimes as a spiritual struggle and sometimes as a physical war. Islam recommends the Jihad, or Holy War, to suppress evil and advance the cause of God. Roman Catholic tradition speaks of a Just War, which may be undertaken only as a last resort, when all the milder forms of persuasion and struggle have been exhausted. Buddhist and Hindu scriptures praise the struggle against enemies of the Dharma. On the other hand, many scriptures recognize that in a war against evil, the sacrifice of one's own blood, is far more precious than shedding the blood of an enemy on the battlefield. Thus Christianity defeated the might of the Roman Empire by the blood of its martyrs. Regardless, the struggle against tyranny demands that we expose ourselves to suffering and torment. In this sense it is said to be superior to a sheltered life of seclusion and contemplation. A righteous person does not go to war in search of glory or spoils. Neither does he fight from a spirit of vindictiveness, revenge, or to satisfy national honor. The only possible justification for such war is when confronted with manifest tyranny. Unfortunately, religious passions have often been exploited by those who would invoke the name of religion to promote wars for political or economic ends. Therefore, the decision to go to war, even when justified by such doctrines as Just War or Jihad, should be made with the greatest reluctance. It is always better to find peaceful means to reconcile disputes, and the religions of the world have the resources for such reconciliation in almost all cases, if people would only use them. The foundation for the struggle against tyranny begins with the victory of the individual soul—what in Islam is called the Greater Jihad. The individual struggles to reach the point of absolute faith where he or she has completely vanquished the body and its selfish desires and can purely and absolutely will what is good. And if God had not repelled some men by others, the earth would have been corrupted. Islam. Qur'an 2.251 He is the true hero who fights to protect the helpless; though cut limb from limb, flees not the field. Sikhism. Adi Granth, Shalok, Kabir, p. 1412 Do not think that I have come to bring peace on earth: I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. Christianity. Matthew 10.34 To come to the relief of the distressed and to help the oppressed, act as amends and expiation of many sins. Islam. Nahjul Balagha, Saying 22 Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ / Jesus. No soldier on service gets entangled in civilian pursuits, since his aim is to satisfy the "tie who enlisted him. Christianity. 2 Timothy 2.3-4 Whoever of you sees something of which God disapproves, then let him change it with his hand; and if he is not able to do so, then with his tongue; and if he is not able to do so, then with his heart; and that is faith of the weakest kind. Islam. Forty Hadith of an-Nawawi 34. The force of arms cannot do what peace does. If you can gain your desired end with sugar, why use poison? Jainism. Somadeva, Nitivakyamrita 344. The Prophet (P.B.U.H) Paragon House (St. Paul, Minnesota)

Continued on Page 25,

Continued from Page 7,

## Guarding Our Spiritual Health Online During The Pandemic

By Sister Amanda Smith / Miami Florida

recite surat Feel ten times, if someone does it then there is still blessing in reciting the Quran. This line of thinking is dangerous. Looking to the story of Nabi Adam (AS), it becomes clear why. In surat 'Araf, the Quran tells us the story of how Nabi Adam (AS) and his wife Hawa were tempted by Shaitan to eat the forbidden fruit. Aya 21 tells us: "And he (Shaitan) swore by Allah to them, 'Indeed, I am to you from among the sincere advisors.'" Shaitan swore by Allah (SWT) that he was giving them good advice when he told them to eat from the tree. Shaitan will try to misguide us under the guise of Islam. When we accept any online post about Islam as truthful, we take the risk that we may be acting on Shaytan's advice rather than the guidance of Allah (SWT). The coronavirus pandemic is a threat to our physical health, but it can be a threat to our spiritual health as well. While all of us, as members of the global community, should do our part to fight the virus, all of us, as members of the ummah, should do our part to fight the wave of misguidance that has come in response to it. Verify Islamic information you see online, or better yet, make sure that your Islamic learning comes only from legitimate, scholarly resources. Refrain from forwarding something without first knowing if it is accurate. These are simple steps to take, but in sha Allah, our community will come out of this crisis in better spiritual health than it was before.



Continued from Page 4

## Being God Conscious Leads To Good Manners

Summarized by Bro. Kaleem

do actions in accordance with that company. Human beings were created in the best of forms and have been given the best example in terms of conduct and manners. Our words and actions would be straight as our hearts that beat for Allah would be reflected in our actions. We hear what Allah wants us to hear, we see what he wants us to see and say what Allah wants us to say. Our hands, feet and tongues act in accordance to what Allah wants. If not, we should seek refuge in Allah from the Satan whispering into our hearts.



**POETRY COLUMN**

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



Bro. Azad Ali

**BENEATH  
THE  
CRESCENT MOON**

By. Azad Ali

*Under the light of the crescent moon  
Birds sing and the dawn shall appear soon,*

*Whisper a pray to the ONE above  
And share in that inner gift of love.....  
We were all created in many a shade  
So that the beauty of nature shall not fade,  
Our difference is but a wonder of the world  
Just like the wonder of our inner soul.....  
Gather then and show thy love  
To all mankind under that moon above,  
Live life, live free but live in PEACE  
And man's inhumanity shall forever cease..  
Let not your life today pass in vain  
Nor show any qualities of hurt or disdain,  
Let not your life be an empty dream  
Let life you live today be bright, just like  
the crescent beam!!!!*

Continued from page 7

**Generosity  
And Love For Our Neighbors**

By:Pastor Keith A. Spencer

God, and join not any partners with Him; and do good – to parents, kinsfolk, orphans, those in need, neighbors who are near, neighbors who are strangers, the companion by your side, the wayfarer (ye meet), and what your right hands possess.” [The Holy Qur’an, al-Nisaa 4:36] “One who spends the night with a full stomach while his neighbor is hungry, has not believed in me. One who spends the night clothed, while his neighbor has no clothes, has not believed in me.” [Mustadrak al-Wasa’il, v.2, pp.78-79] “But if anyone has the world’s goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God’s love abide in him? Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.” 1 John 3:17-18 (ESV) Eid Mubarak!

Continued from page 11

**Prayers  
Of The  
Prophets**

By Bro. Farooq Shafi/ Florida USA

Recited it, and under what conditions?” *Whenever we travel, by land, sea or air, let us remember the prayer of Nuh AS. as he set sail in the Ark during the Great Flood.* “*Rabbi anzilnee-munzilanm-ubarakan, wa anta khairun-munz-ileen.*” Sura Al Mu’minoona (23:21) **O My Lord, let me land at a blessed landing place, for You are the best of those Who provide safe landings.** “Ibrahim AS, taught us so many beautiful prayers. When he and his son, Isma’il AS laid the foundations of the Kaaba in Makkah, he prayed: “*Rabbanataqabb-almin-nainnakaantassamee’ulaleem.*” **Our Lord, accept this service from us, for You are the All-Seeing, All Hearing** .” Nabi Ibrahim taught us many prayers, and here are two more well known ones: **“Rabbi ja’alnimuque-emussalaatiwa- mindthur-riyyati Rabbanawataqabb-alduah”.** **My Lord, help me and my descendants to perfect our prayers, and please accept this prayer!** ”. **“Rabban-aghfirlee-waliw-aalidayya, walilmu’mineenayawmayaqoomulhisaab”.** **My Lord, please forgive me and my parents, and all Believers, until the Day of Judgement!** “Ibrahim AS is the great-grandfather of Tawhiid, belief in One God. The Jewish, Christian and Muslim faiths all have the same ancestor in Ibrahim AS. These are just a few of the du’ahs that Allaah SWT has taught us to recite every day. These prayers were graphically illustrated in the lives of the Prophets, the Great Teachers of mankind. I remind myself and you, to learn, to internalize and reflect these wonderful teachings in

Continued from page 34

**HUMOR**

**HONEY  
BEE WIFE**

A man invited his friend and his wife for dinner. During dinner the guest heard the host calling his wife HONEY BEE. The guest asked the host, why does he call his wife HONEY BEE rather than just HONEY. The host replied, " my wife looks sweet like HONEY when she dresses up, but when she opens her mouth to speak, her words sting like a bee, hence I call her HONEY BEE".



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**AL-HIKMAT RECOGNITION CORNER**

**Sister Naima Ghany  
Community Leader**

Naima Khan-Ghany was born in Trinidad and at 24 years of age migrated to Florida in 1988. She attended FIU where she obtained both her BA and MSW and has been married for 32 years. She has 3 children and 1 grandchild. Presently she is a teacher at McArthur High school and the Equity Liaison which promotes equity and diversity. She also serves on the Diversity Committee for the School Board and advocates for Muslim students across Broward. For the past 4 years she has taken students to perform for the School Board in commemora-

tion of American Muslim Heritage month. Naima has also promoted Iftar programs in the cities of Miramar and Cooper City and Broward County Commission. Naima has always been involved in Islamic work and activities and is passionate about giving back to the community. She is a Board member of Friends of Humanity International Inc. and also serves on the school board for STEMs. She coordinates activities for the elderly through Lifespan Holistic Health Network which was founded by her parents. Our senior citizens are treated to monthly health seminars and brunches where they engage in games and other activities. Naima is the founder of the Council of MSAs for Middle & High Schools. She has been very instrumental in advocating for the Eid to be recognized as a day off in the Broward school calendar. Alhamdulillah, May 13th 2021, will be recognized as a day off providing no testing on that day. The MSA provides mentorship and leadership training. Some of the activities which are promoted include feeding the homeless, providing hygiene and care packages, beach restoration and cleanup, adopt a street with the city of Miramar, fajr at the beach, food distributions etc. Naima works with all organizations for the pleasure of Allah.



Photo From Right :  
Sister Naima Ghany with  
Commissioner Yvette Colbourne

Continued from page 8,

**Answers For Our  
Worldly Issues**

By: Sis. Sylmarie Mustapha / Coral Springs, Florida

be legitimate to a Muslim which belongs to a fellow Muslim unless it was given freely and willingly. Do not, therefore, do injustice to yourselves. Remember, one day you will appear before Allah (SWT) and answer for your deeds. So beware, do not stray from the path of righteousness after I am gone. O People, no prophet or apostle will come after me, and no new faith will be born. Reason well, therefore, O people, and understand words which I convey to you. I leave behind me two things, the Quran and my example, the Sunnah, and if you follow these you will never go astray. those who listen to me shall pass on my words to others and those to others again; and it may be that the last ones understand my words better than those who listen to me directly. Be my witness, O Allah (SWT), that I have conveyed your message to your people." Thus the beloved Prophet completed his Final Sermon, and upon it, near the summit of Arafat, the revelation came down: "This day have I perfected your religion for you, completed My Grace upon you, and have.

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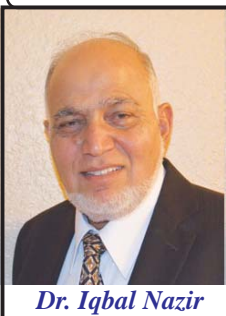
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**Beets:** A cup of beetroot juice will reduce the stiffness of artery walls and improve the endothelium that lines the inside of the blood vessels. Beets also have a lot of natural nitrates that greatly improve blood pressure.

**Garlic:** The more Garlic is in your diet, the better its effect on your hypertension. If you can't stand its taste, try aged garlic extract instead.

**Watermelon:** Improve blood pressure in several ways. It has an amino acid called L-Citrulline. Its potassium keeps salt levels under tight control. It also has strong antioxidant activity in the form of lycopene. Eating couple of slice per day will be very helpful.

**Pomegranates:** The juice of this fruit is not only good for the blood pressure of hypertensive people, it also lowers the risk of related atherosclerosis. Drink at least 3 oz of juice every day.

**Pistachios:** Among many nuts pick pistachios to help manage hypertension.

**Coconuts:** Coconut store water in their shells, Coconut water is not just refreshing to gulp down, it also greatly lowers systolic blood pressure and improve diastolic pressure.

**Flaxseed:** Flaxseed is considered one of the most effective natural anti-hypertensive's based on food. The fiber, lignans, and omega-3 fatty acids stored within just 30 g worth of flaxseeds are a boon to people with heart diseases.

**Natural Fiber:** Diets with high amounts of *natural fiber* have been shown to amend hypertension. Eating three portions of whole grains every day can also prevent coronary artery disease and strokes.

**Hibiscus tea:** Drinking two cups of hibiscus tea per day was shown to improve blood pressure. Take this instead of black tea, a cup of which will raise blood pressure.

**Fruits and vegetables:** These can support the health of blood vessels through photochemical and Potassium. Try to eat at least four servings each day.

**Cinnamon:** Two grams of Cinnamon or three grams of Cardamom can restore your blood Pressure to natural levels.

**Note:** Do not stop taking any B.P medications as prescribed by your medical doctor, monitor your blood pressure every day, uncontrolled blood pressure significantly affect the kidney functions.

*Continued From Page 15*

## THE COVENANT OF THE PROPHETS

*By Br. Twalib Ali / Canada*

After a brief pause, I asked her if her Geography Teacher was better than her Math or Science Teacher, or any other teacher. She replied, "No! They're all teachers, they're the same!" Then I remarked - Similarly, all Prophets who were teachers will be considered in the same fashion and that is why we have been reminded and instructed in the Quran "not to make distinctions among God's Messengers," even though they all had the same Message but played differed roles, and were given different gifts. Then I asked her if Moses was greater than David or Jesus or Muhammad or even Abraham who was saved by God from being burnt in a huge furnace after being thrown into it. She said, "No!" I asked, "Do you still believe that Jesus is God in the flesh?" She said, "After such an explanation, no man is God, and Jesus was a man who ate, and slept, and God does not require food and sleep." I told her just like the Baker does not look like the Bread, similarly the Creator does not look like anything He created. No one should make or fashion any image in the likeness of God who created "all things in pairs," since He Alone is One. He is unlike all of creation. He is Incomprehensible, Unseen, Indivisible, and has neither an equal nor any parallel. He is Eternal and Alone. After such an explanation which lasted no more than ten minutes, she requested a copy of the Quran and wanted to learn more about Jesus whose status as a Prophet of God is highlighted in the Quran. Almighty God is Great! - not 'greater' nor 'greatest' as many mistakenly say. Almighty God is "Incomparably Great" and "Incomprehensibly Great" and no one can imagine Him because to do such will be to create an image of Him and that violates the 2nd Commandment of the 10 Commandments. PS: The one who steals the praises of Almighty God for himself or herself is a bigger thief than one who steals jewelry and other things. That is why Muslims say: "Alhamdulillah Rabbil Alamin" - All Praise is due to Allah, Lord of the Worlds. 'Worship' is meant



Bismillaah Hir Rahmanir Raheem - Alhamdulillah



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**QUESTION & ANSWER CORNER**

By: Shaikh Shafayat Mohamed

# The Holy Prophet SAW Recommended The Use Of SURMA

## QUESTION: IS Using SURMA Sunnah?

**ANSWER:** Alhamdulillah, to apply Surma is a Sunnah of the the Holy Prophet Muhammad SAW. He would apply Surma to his eyes before going to sleep and when going for Jumua prayer. He said, “Apply surmah regularly, for it clears the sight, makes the eye lashes grow and is the best of things beautifying the eyes”.The application of Surma is Sunnah for both men and women to apply three times in each eye. Surma, not only enhances the beauty of the eyes, but it can aslo be used for medicinal benefits to strengthen the eyesight and to cure other eye ailments.

It was narrated from Ibn Abbas that the Messenger of Allaah said, “The best of your kohl (*surma*) is antimony, for it improves the eyesight and makes the hair (eyelashes) grow *Allah Knows Best*”

You can send Questions to [alhikmat@alhikmat.com](mailto:alhikmat@alhikmat.com).  
Your Questions will be answered in the order they were received.



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Continued from page 25

## THE CONCEPT OF BATTLE AGAINST EVIL

By:Ghous Muhammad

declared, "We have returned from the lesser holy war (al jihad al-asghar) to the greater holy war (al jihad al-akbar)." They asked, "O Prophet of God, which is the greater war?" He replied, "Struggle against the lower self." Islam. HadithO Prophet (P.B.U.H)! Exhort the believers to fight. If there be of you twenty steadfast they shall overcome two hundred, and if there be a hundred steadfast they shall overcome a thousand of those who disbelieve, because they are a people without intelligence. Islam. Qur'an 8.65 (WORLD SCRIPTURE A Comparative Anthology of Sacred Texts) **A PROJECT OF THE INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS FOUNDATION**

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Continued from page 12

## Don't Let The Virus Silence Your Voice How To Vote Carefully In The Time Of Covid-19

By: Linda Kaplan

counted. This amounted to 32,400 rejected ballots in 2018. This was more than enough to change the outcome of the election. Ballots are rejected if they arrived late even if they were postmarked on time. There is legislation pending to count all ballots received within 10 days of the election if they were postmarked on time. You might want to check out the Wyden-Klobuchar proposal. Ballots are also rejected because they were not signed so please be sure to follow the instructions and sign your ballot. Mismatched signatures were also a big problem, so I am urging you to check your signature. If you registered to vote online, they will use the signature on your driver's license. If you registered eons ago and do not know how you signed you may wish to update your signature. To do this, you must go to the county supervisor of elections. Instruction for this for Miami-Dade County can be found [here](#). For Monroe County, you would go [here](#). You will need to print the application, sign it, and mail it to the address provided. I would advise that you take a copy of the signature before you mail it so that when you go to sign your ballot you can refer to it. **How to track your ballot:** Ballots can be tracked on the Florida Division of Elections website [here](#) or

through the Supervisor of Elections offices [visa website here](#) or phone. Please ensure that you will be able to vote this year. Also, please send this blog to anyone you know that might be urged to register or request Vote by Mail ballots. If you are

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Continued from page 26

## Prayers Of The Prophets

By: Farooq Shafi

wonderful teachings in our day to day dealings with each other. These amazing human beings left us a rich legacy. Their legacy wasn't material wealth: gold, diamonds or great palaces and empires. Their legacy was much more important. They left us an easy to follow road map that guides us through life, avoiding all the detours, all the cul-de-sacs, and delivers us safely to Jannatul Firdaus. This road map is their life example. They relied totally on Allaah SWT and on no-one else. Their motto was: "Hasbun Allaah waniyamal wakeel." Allaah SWT was sufficient for them. Allaah SWT should therefore be sufficient for us also, in times of ease and in times of distress. Whether it was Nuh AS seeking a safe landing place from the stormy seas, or Ibrahim AS being flung into a raging fire, or Yunus

AS, alone inside the dark belly of a whale; or Ayyub AS who lost everything: health, wealth, family and friends, and yet patiently "Innallaahama'assabireen." Allaah SWT is with those who patiently persevere. Allaah SWT's great Prophets show us how to deal with calamities without giving up hope, without giving in to despair. *Finally, I'd like to remind myself and you all, about Allaah SWT's first and last Prophets: Adam AS and Muhammad SAW: The first and the last Great Teachers of humankind. They taught us many, many great lessons. I will relay at least 2 examples. Adam AS taught us a wonderful short prayer. When he and his wife followed Shaytaan, they committed the first Sin in the history of humankind. They were cast out of heaven and literally, sent down to earth. Filled with regret, Adam AS stood on a small hill called Jabal Rahma, the Mount of Mercy on Ara-fat, near Makkah. Here he made a passionate plea to Allaah SWT: "Rabbanadthalamna an fusanawa il-lam tagh fir lanaw-atarhamnalanakoonan-naminalkhasireen!" "O My Lord, we have truly wronged our own souls, and if you do not forgive us and if You do not have mercy on us, we will surely be among the lost ones."* Every year during the Hajj season, pilgrims must gather on Arafat on the day of *Wuquf*. It's the climax of the Hajj and Hajj is not complete until we gather there, to remember this prayer. We remember the first sin of disobedience to Allaah SWT, and we also remember that in the end, Allaah SWT is *Al-Ghafoorur Raheem*. Allaah SWT is the Most Forgiving, the Most Merciful of those who show mercy. No matter how gloomy things may be out there, Allaah SWT wants us always to be filled with hope and trust in His Mercy. Finally we come to the Seal of the Prophets, *khaatam an nabiyyeen*, Muhammad SAW. He was neither too worldly nor too other-worldly. He lived the most impeccably balanced.



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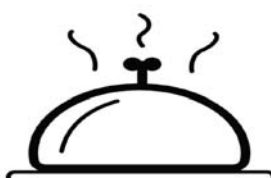


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