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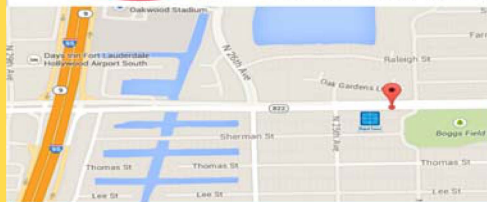
### MAKKAH - MADINA -TURKEY

FOR MORE DETAILS SEE PAGE 5

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# 2014 SOUTH FLORIDA SALAAH TIME SCHEDULE

\*NOTE: AVERAGE Time for Daily Salaah \*10 Minutes should be Added/Subtracted accordingly for precaution.

DATE	FAJR	SUNRISE	ZUHR	ASR	MAGHRIB	ISHA
Nov. 1	6:12	7:30	1:04	5:01	6:37	7:56
2-12	5:15	6:34	12:04	3:58	5:34	6:53
13-18	5:20	6:39	12:05	3:55	5:31	6:51
19-24	5:23	6:44	12:07	3:53	5:29	6:50
25-30	5:27	6:48	12:08	3:52	5:28	6:49

DATE	FAJR	SUNRISE	ZUHR	ASR	MAGHRIB	ISHA
Dec. 1-6	5:33	6:55	12:12	3:53	5:29	6:51
7-12	5:36	6:59	12:15	3:54	5:30	6:52
13-18	5:40	7:02	12:17	3:56	5:33	6:55
19-24	5:43	7:05	12:20	3:59	5:36	6:58
25-31	5:46	7:08	12:24	4:04	5:40	7:02

Global Islamic Calendar - 1436 A.H - 2014

UPCOMING ISLAMIC DATES

&

ISLAMIC OCCASIONS

1436 A.H - 2014

\*1st of Safar - November 23rd, 2014

\*1st of Rabbi-ul-Awwal - December 23rd, 2014

\*12th of Rabbi-ul-Awwal - January 3rd, 2015

(Subject to change due to Moonsighting)

November						
Muharram/Safar						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1 8
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						
8						

December						
Safar/Rabi-I						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	9	10	11	12	13	14
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
29	30	RA	2	3	4	5
28	29	30	31			
6	7	8	9			

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**School:** University of Florida  
**Year Graduated:** 2008  
**Degree Types:** PhD, MS  
**Degree Areas:** Counselor Education, Psychology  
**Credentials:** LMHC  
**License# and State:** MH7822, FL  
**Professional Affiliations:** ACA

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**AL-HIKMAT INTERNATIONAL MUSLIM MAGAZINE**

The Voice of Al-Qur'aan

"Invite To The Way Of Thy Lord With Hikmat (Wisdom)".

Al-Qur'aan Ch:16 V:125

**Founder:**

Shaikh Shafayat Mohamed

**Mission Statement:**

Serving the Muslim community and Non-Muslim Community by establishing tolerance and better understanding among different faiths and cultures.

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Send photos of your Events- so

we can Publish them in Al-

Hikmat Int'l Magazine or

Website, Inshaa Allaah.

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**What is sin anyway?**

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**SHAIKH SHAFAYAT'S MESSAGE** *By Sis. Karen Shah*

Sis. Karen Shah

# “Humaza & Lumaza”

## Do Not Speak Bad of People

*Summary of Khutbah written by Sis. Karen Shah  
Program Vice President of Broward Interfaith Council, Florida*

Let's look at the Holy Quran to see what Allah says about gossiping, slander, and backbiting. In Chapter 104 Verse 1, Allah tells us: “Woe to every slanderer and fault-finder/backbiter!” In Chapter 49 Verse 6, we learn that we must verify news before we regret that we have hurt people: “O you who believe! If a wicked person comes to you with any news, ascertain the truth, lest ye harm people unwittingly, and afterwards become full of repentance for what ye have done.” And then in Verses 11-12, Allah teaches that we should not laugh or scoff at others' problems, for

they may be better than you. We should not use derogatory nicknames. Avoid suspicion of people, and do not speak badly of others behind their backs. “O ye who believe! Let not some men among you laugh at others: it may be that the latter are better than the former. Nor let some women laugh at others: it may be that the latter are better than the former. Nor defame nor be sarcastic to each other, nor call each other by (offensive) nicknames: ill-seeming is a name connoting wickedness, (to be used of one) after he has believed: and those who do not desist are (indeed) doing wrong. O ye who believe! Avoid suspicion as much (as

possible): for suspicion in some cases is a sin. And spy not on each other, nor speak ill of each other behind their backs. Would any of you like to eat the flesh of his dead brother? Nay, ye would abhor it...But fear Allah: for Allah is Oft-Returning, Most Merciful.” And finally, in Chapter 24 Verse 19, God tells us “Verily, as for those who like foul slander spread against those who believe – grievous suffering awaits them in this world and in the life to come: for God knows (the full truth), whereas you know (it) not.” So what does Allah say about those who love to spread scandal? They will be punished here and in the hereafter. ●

*Al-Qur'aan - Ch. 62 V. #23*  
“Surely those who accuse chaste believing women, unaware (of the evil), are cursed in this world and the hereafter, and they shall have a grievous chastisement.”

*Hadith:* Abu Hurairah (RA) said: Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W) said, “A Muslim, male or female, continues to remain under trial in respect of his life, property and offspring until he faces Allah, the Exalted, with no sin record.” (Tirmidhi)

### 99 Names of Allaah- AL-MAJID

**The All Excellent & The One  
With Veneration**

### Words of Wisdom-

\*“Try not to hate the haters, smile knowing they're thinking about you.”

\*“What comes easy, won't always last and what will last, won't always come easy.”



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**Bio. of Founder:** Al-Hamdulillah- Shaikh Shafayat was born, in Trinidad, West Indies, where he attended college etc.. Due to his multi-faith and multi-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 enrolled in Darul Uloom Deoband, which is the largest and oldest Islamic Institute in India. In addition to graduating as a Qaari and Islamic Scholar, he also did a course in Journalism and established the Al Hikmat Muslim Magazine. He has also produced many television and radio programs in Trinidad and Florida USA. In 1983 he founded the National Muslim Sports League of Trinidad and Tobago, which established the Islamic Home for Children. He is the Founder/Principal of Darul Uloom Institute in Pembroke Pines and the first Muslim to become President of the Interfaith Council of South Florida in the year 2002. He is the pioneer of many Christian / Muslim / Jewish Dialogues in Churches, Synagogues and Islamic Centers in the U.S.A. Shaikh Shafayat was 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 is a recipient of the Silver Medallion Award from NCCJ (a national interfaith organization) and a recipient of the Peacemaker Award from St. Thomas University in Miami. For many years he has been lecturing on Islam and terrorism to college and university students plus to Pembroke Pines Police of South Florida and other Law Enforcement Officers. He lectures throughout the U.S.A. and worldwide on Interfaith Issues and Cultural Diversity.



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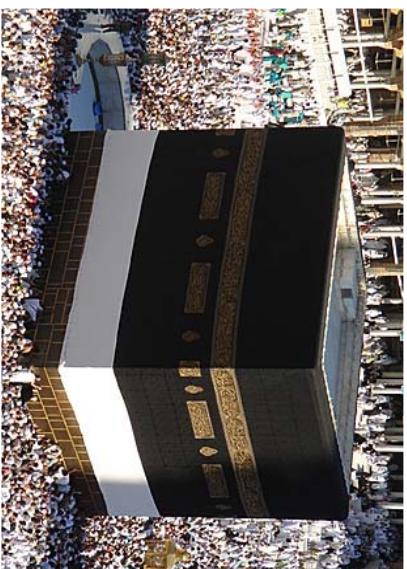
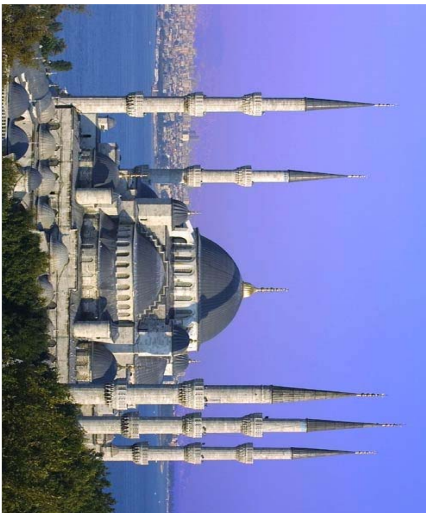


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**HADITH:** *It was narrated that Abu Hurairah (RA) said: Allaah's Messenger (PBUH) said, "From one Umrah to another (Umrah) is expiation for (sins) that come in between ( the two Umrahs), and 'Hajj Al-Mabur' brings no reward less than Paradise."*

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*Insha' Allaah Ameen - Maashaa Allaah*



**February 14th - 28th, 2015**

*Insha' Allaah Ameen*

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**Group led by: SHAIKH SHAFIYAT MOHAMMED**

Ameer of Darul Uloom Institute, Florida & Director of Al-Hikmat Services, Insha' Allaah Ameen - Maashaa Allaah

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By: Rabbi Jeffrey Kurtz-Lendner / Temple Solel, Hollywood Florida

# Coming Together for PEACE

The news clearly does an inadequate job publicizing the stories of cooperation between communities. Take, for example, a paradigm of cooperation in England. In August the London-based Board of Deputies of British Jews, along with the Muslim Council of Britain, issued a joint statement calling for peace in the Middle East and an increase in constructive dialogue between British Jews and Muslims. There is no reason why the political-based hostilities in certain parts of the world need to divide communities everywhere. The statement issued by these British organizations condemned all forms of anti-Semitism, Islamophobia and racism. It demanded an end to the targeting of innocent civilians in places of conflict. And it called for members of these communities to work hard at getting to know each other better to increase understanding. In the Jewish community we just concluded our major Jewish holidays, Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. During my sermon this year I spoke about the fact that often people are motivated by fear instead of love. While certainly there are many conflicts in the world fueled by hostility and hatred, sometimes those conflicts are fueled by fear. One side attacks first before the other side attacks, when, in fact, perhaps neither side was going to attack. One side imposes its values on another community before that other community imposes its values when, in fact, perhaps neither side had any intention of imposing its values on each other. One side demonizes and portrays as completely evil those with whom they have a conflict before the other side has a chance to do so. And yet, maybe neither side wants to attack the other, impose its values on another or demonize another. It's just that they are afraid that the other side might do it first. And that fear of what might happen ends up causing the very violence everyone was afraid might happen. If we could move past fear and towards love, then maybe the initiatives of the good people within Britain can pervade how we address conflicts in the world. Then, perhaps, we could move from hostility to understanding, from violence to peace, from conflict to cooperation, and from fear to love.

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Dr. Ghous Muhammad

**ATTORNEY CORNER**

By: Justice © Dr. Ghous Muhammad / Karachi, Pakistan

Continued from Sept./Oct. 2014 Issue

# THINK before YOU ACT

These habits can be changed, as when an individual comes to live in a new society and is gradually incorporated into it, but it is almost impossible to change them unless the new society offers patterns of behaviour which the newcomer can learn directly and objectively. When the new society lacks such patterns, each individual must stop and think each time before he acts. Moreover, what one individual decides to be proper, with relation to the basic ideas and values of the new society may not agree with what another individual thinks is proper. The result is endless confusion and involuntary interference, and the people who are attempting to develop the new society soon fall back into their old habits. This tendency can be observed again and again in the history of religious sects. Such sects usually have a well-defined group of ideas and values in common and a strong *'esprit de corps* Lacking patterns for the expression of these in concrete predictable behaviour, they nearly always end by reverting to the behaviour patterns of the society from which the bulk of the converts have been drawn. These patterns may be reinterpreted and rationalized in terms of the new beliefs but the patterns themselves undergo only minor changes in the process. The only cases in which new forms of society have been established successfully have been those in which the plan for the new society has included a large body of concrete rules of behaviour. Sects in which the founder and his immediate successors exercise autocratic control will acquire such a body of rules. Situations can be brought to the Prophet as they arise, and the behaviour which he prescribes in each case becomes a precedent for action in similar cases. Eventually the precedents become numerous enough to **provide for** ordinary exigencies of group living and converts can learn the new ways objectively and substitute them for the old." The above discussion shows that to reform a society successfully and to establish it on new patterns, three things are required: (i) the behaviour patterns should be given in concrete form; (ii) the fundamental and general ideas are not sufficient. Detailed rules should also be provided; (iii) All the social behaviour should be perceptible by senses.

*To be continued in Jan./Feb. 2015 Issue, Inshaa Allaah*



Sister Sylmarie

**SISTER'S CORNER**

By: Sis. Sylmarie Mustapha / Coral Springs, Florida

## TRANQUILITY IN ALLAAH'S REMEMBRANCE

***“Allah, there is no God save Him, the Ever-living, the Eternal. Neither drowsiness nor sleep overtakes Him. To Him belongs all that is in the Heavens and on earth. Who can intercede with Him save by His leave. He knows what lies before humans and what is after them, and they encompass nothing of His knowledge save what He wills. His throne comprises both the heavens and the earth, and He is never weary of preserving them. He is the Sublime, the Tremendous. (2:255)***

Assalamu Alaikum, My dear sisters: Throughout the day, we must try to consistently think about Allah (SWT) and praise Him (Subhanallah..Glory be to Allah, Alhamdulillah...All Praise is for Allah, AllahuAkbar...Allah is The Greatest). Allah is truly “The Majestic”, “The Mighty”, “The Creator”. He has created the masterpiece of this universe, however, His true masterpiece is in the Heavens. In the universe, from the birds to the flowers to the skies, the mountains and the beautiful seas; they are all but a small sampling of Allah’s exquisite art. These creations do not know of its own beauty and significance, but we (humans) are the beneficiaries of these creations. We are the only ones (as far as we know), who are capable of perceiving beauty, appreciating it and expressing our wonder of Allah’s creations. Every tree serves a purpose, as does every drop of rain, every ray of sunshine, as does the darkness of the night. Allah (SWT) has created the sun, moon and stars for our benefit and we are all subservient to Him. Allah’s (SWT) greatness is reflected in humans, because He has given life to billions of people on this earth, and He has created for each one, specific and unique features and personality, so that no one is exactly the same (Alhamdulillah). Imagine a world without color, without beauty, without trees, flowers, mountains, birds and without blue skies!! Allah’s (SWT) magnificence shows in the colors and beauty of the earth that He has created. Every breath of air we breathe, every time we blink, every movement of our limbs, every heartbeat, every second we are able to see, hear, speak, think, taste, are all blessings from Allah (SWT), that we should not take for granted. Allah (SWT) is truly amazing and He alone is responsible for all these blessings. “Which of the favors of your Lord do you deny?” At the sight and thought of Allah’s creations and craftsmanship, we should be moved to praise Him. Let us consistently make the time to truly appreciate and acknowledge all of Allah’s (SWT) greatness and His many favors, and every time we see one of Allah’s (SWT) creations, and marvel at its beauty and power; let us instantly praise Allah (SWT) and know that all this is for us to appreciate and enjoy.

***Continued on Page, 30 Inshaa Allaah***

**CONGRATULATION CORNER**

## Congratulations to Shaina & Ifaz

*Shaina & Ifaz from Florida USA, were recently married on August 27th & 28th, 2014. The Nikaah was held at Mehfil Restaurant & Banquet and the Reception was held at Shezan Banquet Hall, next to Darul Uloom Institute, Florida USA. May Allaah (S.A.W) bless them with a prosperous married life, Inshaa Allaah Ameen.*



Ifaz &amp; Shaina

**Congratulations**

To

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- 2nd - Ibrahim Abdool
- 3rd - Nahinoon Razzaque

**Recitation # 2 - Juz 26 / 27 for 16 - 24 Years**

- 1st - Fatimah Ibrahim
- 2nd - Rashaad Azeez

**Memorization # 1 - Ad-Duha to An-Naas for 8 Years and Under**

- 1st - Muhammad Piprawala
- 2nd - Osman Mohammad
- 3rd - Ruqayah Piprawala

**Memorization # 2 - An-Naba to Al-Layl for 8 - 12 Years**

- 1st - Refia Alkishawi
- 2nd - Simra Azhar
- 3rd - Ammar Ather

**Memorization # 3 - Al-Muzammil to Al-Mursalat for 12 - 16 Years**

- 1st - Abdul Kareem Jackson
- 2nd - Mohamed Ibrahim
- 3rd - Neehal Hussain

**Memorization # 4 - Al-Mulk to Al-Jinn for 16 - 24 Years**

- 1st - Isra Ibrahim
- 2nd - Nidal Almasri
- 3rd - Hisham Mohammad

**Memorization # 5 - Entire Quran for Any Age**

- 1st - Hafiz Ayyan Shekha
- 2nd - Hafiz Ibne-Moaz Hossain
- 3rd - Hafiz Muhammad Zain Azhar

*South Florida Muslim Community held it's 9th Annual Qur'aan Competition on Sunday November 23rd, 2014 at Darul Uloom Institute. The event was a great success with over 77 competitors from the city of Homestead to City of Palm Beach, Florida USA. Trophies and certificates were given to all the students who participated. The event was viewed LIVE on Al-Hikmat TV, hosted by Bro. Basit Hasan and coordinated by Hafiz Muhammad. Maashaa Allaah!*



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Bro. Farooq Shafi

## “IQRA”

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

Before migrating to Madinah, the Holy Prophet SAW went to the Kaabah and asked the custodian to open the door for him. He frowned upon this request and refused to open the door and asked the Holy Prophet SAW to leave the premises. The Holy Prophet said to him, “One day soon, the key to the Kaabah will be in my hands and I will give it to whomever I please”. The custodian laughed and said, “It can only happen if all the chieftains of the Quraish are dead”. The Holy Prophet replied, “The chiefs will be present that day”. The custodian had not accepted Islam as of yet, so he did not pay too much attention to this proclamation. On the day Makkah was conquered, the Holy Prophet cleaned out the Kaabah personally from all the idols and then came out. He was holding the key to the Kaabah in his hand. All great companions and others were standing, waiting anxiously to see who was going to receive the honor of keeping the key and be the custodian of the Kaabah. Usman Ibn Talha, the ex-custodian was standing there with his head down. The Holy Prophet SAW addressed Usman Ibn Talha of the Bani Shaiba tribe and asked, “O Usman; Had I not told you that one day I will hold this key and will bestow it at my discretion”? Usman Ibn Talha started crying and said, “No doubt you had said that. You are the true messenger of Allaah”. The whole crowd was in a pin drop silence. The Holy Prophet SAW said, “Take this key Ibn Talha. You (and your family) will keep this key until the Day of Judgment. It will not be taken from you and whosoever will try to take it from you, will be an atrocious & ruthless tormentor”. From that day till now, each and every person, be a king or emperor, requires the permission of Ibn Talha’s family. Until recent times, the Kaabah was open to all. However, due to the ever increasing crowd, it would be open twice a week. These days, it is opened only for a few dignitaries. The Kaabah was the most sacred place even before Islam. It is said that the Kaabah is the first ever worship place built on earth. Ibrahim AS reconstructed it after Gibraeel AS pointed out the current location. The black shroud of the Kaabah takes almost a whole year to complete. It is estimated that along with 150 kilos Gold, about 50 kilos of Silver is also used to embroider the verses of the Holy Qur’an on it. The cost is estimated at 17 million Saudi Riyals, equivalent to around 6.3 Million US dollars. This writer pondered that what if a simple shroud is used to cover the Kaabah and this money used to start a college/university so the graduating students would have a better understanding of “Tawheed” and the future generations will reap the benefits? Do we suppose that by using 150 kilos of gold and 50 kilos of silver, we somehow enhance the eminence of the Kaabah? Don’t we see that the life, liberty and honor of the Muslim ummah are at stake? Don’t we know that the biggest reason for that is the ignorance and lack of proper Islamic education?

Continued on page 21, Inshaa Allaah

## MUSLIMS LOVE EACH OTHER

for

## ALLAAH

By: Dr. Harun Yahya / Ankara, Turkey

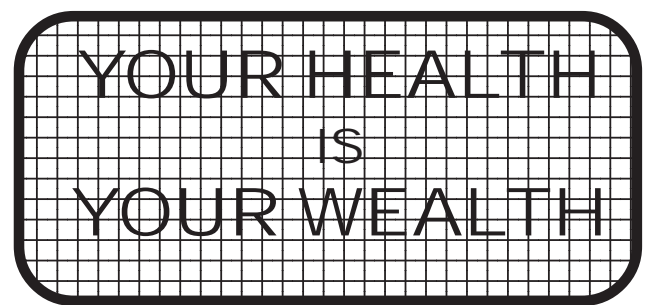
Submitted by: Sis. Ebru / Turkey

Why do Muslims love one another? What is the measure by which Muslims love one another? One of the main characteristics of Muslims is that they have a great love of Allah, Allah’s messengers and prophets and for all Muslims who seek Allah’s approval. This bond of love and friendship between believers is revealed as follows in the Qur’an: “Your friend is only Allah and His Messenger and those who have iman: Those who establish prayer and pay alms, and bow.” (Qur’an, 5:55) The true source of Muslims’ love for one another is their profound love of Allah. Believers whose aim in the life of this world is to earn the approval and mercy of Allah and paradise spend their whole lives for Allah. As revealed in the Qur’an in the verse “Say: ‘My prayer and my rites, my living and my dying, are for Allah alone, the Lord of all the worlds,’” (Qur’an, 6:162), they seek to earn Allah’s approval in all they do and in all their behavior. The love of believers who dedicate all they have to earning Allah’s approval is also for Allah alone. The love of a believer who knows Allah, who witnesses His might and greatness at every moment and who feels His love, affection and mercy throughout his life, is incomparable stronger than any other love. His love for other believers will similarly be powerful and profound since it is based on love of Allah.

Continued on page 26, Inshaa Allaah



Dr. Harun Yahya



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Bro. Mikayl Yahya Ibn Kefa

**FROM EAST AND WEST:  
PROPHECIES OF ISLAM IN THE NEW TESTAMENT**

*Bro. Mikayl Yahya Ibn Kefa / United Kingdom*

It is a lamentable thing, I think, that Jews, Christians and Muslims are often unaware of many of the commonalities which exist between the three faiths. When we do ponder over them, we so often tend to focus on the obvious similarities: For example, we all worship the same God. We all recognise – with one or two obvious exceptions – the same Prophets of Allah. Jews and Muslims are also very close in their understanding of the oneness of God, whilst Christians and Muslims believe in the same Messiah. We all recognise the scriptural validity of the Tourah as it was originally given to Prophet Musa (AS) also, and although the Christian scriptures in the New Testament have been subjected to considerable change since they were

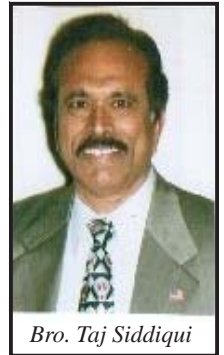
first penned, and are not connected to the original *Injeel* given by Allah to Prophet Eesa (AS), they still contain much of value. These commonalities are appreciated by many Jews, Christians and Muslims. However, one which is often neglected is the study of the prophetic passages in the New Testament which specifically relate to Islam. Why is this important? Well, Christianity is a religion which sprung forth from what most people refer to as Judaism, but unlike Judaism in Christianity there is no “prophetic tradition” in the conventional sense. Although Christians recognise the authority of the prophets in the Tourah, the only prophet with a direct historical link to that faith is Eesa (AS), or Jesus, as the Christians call him. Christians believe that Eesa (AS) was the last of the prophets.

*Continued on Page 29,  
Inshaa Allaah*

**THE HOLY QUR’AAN**

*Submitted by Bro. Taj Siddique / Florida USA*

*The following was written some 35 years ago by the ninth President of India, Dr. Pandit Shanker Dayal Sharma.*



Bro. Taj Siddique

It was a command for action.  
You turned it into a book of prayer.

It was a Book to understand.  
You read it without understanding.

It was a code for the living.  
You turned it into a manifesto of the dead.

That which was a book of knowledge;  
You abdicated to the ignoramus.

It came to give knowledge of Creation.  
You abandoned it to the madrassah.

It came to give life to dead nations.  
You used it for seeking mercy for the dead.

O’ Muslims! What have you done?

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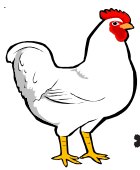
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(Left) Chaplain Colonel Michael Lembke  
&  
Shaikh Shafayat (Right)

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**COMMUNITY UPDATE** *By: Salma Mohammed*



Col. Michael Lembke & Shaikh Shafayat

**South US Command  
Col. Michael Lembke**

Col. Michael Lembke from South USCOMMAND Miami Florida, officially visited Shaikh Shafayat at Darul Uloom Institute on Wednesday October 15th, 2014. After the meeting they went for lunch at Shahi Restaurant, Pembroke Pines Florida USA accompanied by Bro. Fahad and Bro. Niamath. Shaikh Shafayat also interviewed Col Michael on Al-Hikmat TV, where they discussed “Commonalities among Faiths and the importance of different cultures working together for better understanding and unity.”

**HIJAB**

**As an  
identity, but  
not a  
protection to  
be stolen.**



Kiran Khan Paracha

*By: Sis. Kiran  
Pembroke Pines FL.*

As much as I love Hijab, I cannot bring myself to appreciate the arguments given in favor of Hijab especially by men. So many men would say it’s done because woman is a treasure that must be protected; and our sisters, without thinking deeply and reflecting on this argument, would agree. This is an essentially flawed argument. Nowhere in Quran does it say that Hijab is mandatory because woman is a treasure like jewels or money. If anything, this argument is patronizing and sounds really oppressive. Quran clearly states those women are asked to cover their heads and chest so they can be saved from catcalls and negative attention from men. A woman definitely looks more modest when she is covered but please let modesty not be our reason either; because surely there will be plenty of people out there who would say that a woman in pants and top without Hijab looks modest enough too. So what should be our reason and our argument in favor of Hijab? This is where I say “to each one his own” but if you have none, Quran is there to guide you always. When I started Hijab, my reason was my own. It had nothing to do with modesty or catcalls. I didn’t think I was being harassed without Hijab and neither did I think I looked any less modest. I wanted Hijab because it established my religious identity without announce of doubt. People from all walks of life come up to me and say “Asalam o Alaikum” if I am wearing Hijab. There is simply no mistaking my identity and my religion. I love it this way. For others, it can be some other reason.

*Continued on page 25, Inshaa Allaah*

**ICB Family Night  
&  
Hujjaj Welcome Program**



Photos above: Pictures taken at Islamic Center of Broward, Florida USA

The Islamic Center of Broward (ICB) recently held their Family Night & Hujjaj Welcome Program on Saturday November 8th, 2014. The program consisted of presentations from the students of ICB and the keynote lecture by Shaikh Shafayat on good manners / conduct in Islam. The program was a great success with an audience of over 350 people. The event was coordinated by Mufti Rashid. Maashaa Allaah!

**ICNA President  
Bro. Naeem Baig**



Bro. Naeem Baig, President of ICNA

On Friday October 31st, 2014, Bro. Naeem Baig delivered the Jumua Khutba at Darul Uloom Institute, Pembroke Pines Florida USA.

**MUSLIM COMMUNITY OF PALM BEACH COUNTY**  
*Purdy Lane, West Palm Beach Florida USA*

The Muslim Community of Palm Beach held their monthly family night on Friday October 10th, 2014. Shaikh Shafayat was invited to lecture on Prophet Ibrahim (A.S) and the sacrificing of his son, Prophet Ismail (A.S). The program was coordinated by Imam Abdul Hakeem and Bro. Sircar Antarul. Students and parents of Darul Uloom and Al-Hikmat staff members also attended this event. Maashaa Allaah!





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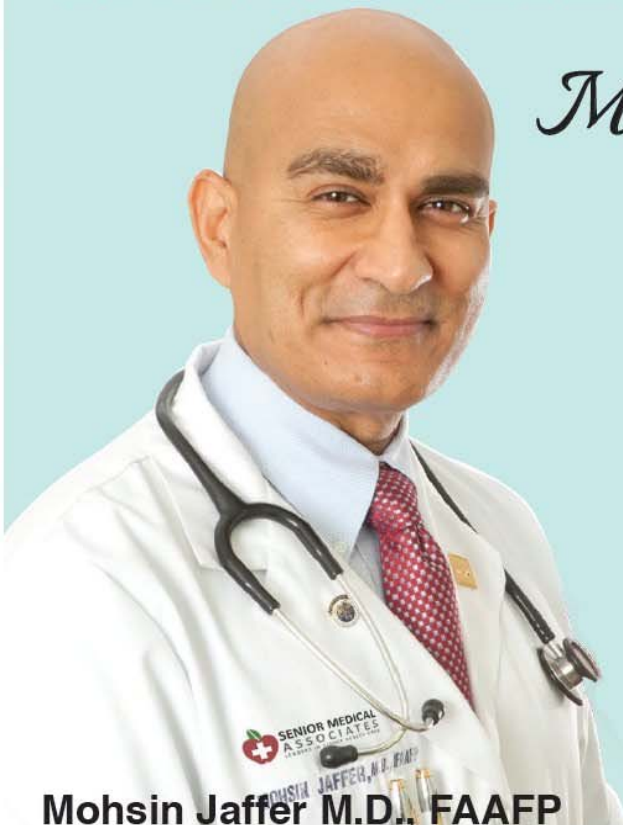
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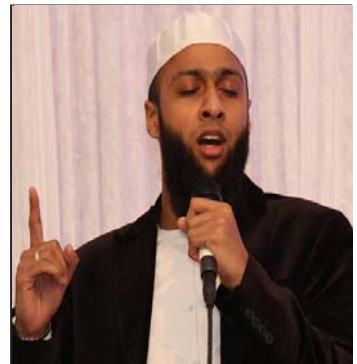
# NAAT MEHFIL / CONCERT & BAZAAR



Audience at the Naat Mehfil



Qari Abdul Jaleel (India)



Maulana Imtiaz (London)

Al-Hamdulillaah- Al-HAYA (Al-Hikmat Arm of Youths & Art) held a Naat Mehfil / Concert & Bazaar on Saturday November 15th, 2014 at Shezan Banquet Hall next to Darul Uloom Institute, Pembroke Pines Florida USA. Special guest appearance were Qari Abdul Jaleel from India and Maulana Imtiaz Seedat from London. Al-Hikmat TV was very instrumental in broadcasting Qari Ziyaad Patel LIVE from South Africa at the event. There were also songs rendered by local singers from South Florida, USA. The program was indeed a great success with an audience of over 500 from all over South Florida.

The Bazaar consisted with many businesses and professionals. It was an evening full of Halaal entertainment hosted by Al-Haya Coodinator, Bro. Fahad Mirza and co-host, Bro. Basit Hasan. Maashaa Allaah!!!



Qari Ziyaal Patel (SA)

Continued from page 11

Shouldn't we put all the emphasis on developing and nurturing the future generation after meeting the basic necessities? Aren't the Muslims at each other's throat these days? Isn't that the reason for us to go astray? Did we forget what the Holy Prophet SAW said in his last sermon, "O people! Listen to me attentively. I don't know whether I shall even meet you again in this place after this year. O people! Your blood and property are sacrosanct until you meet your Lord, just as this day, month and place

are sacred". The Muslim ummah is cutting each other's throat. It is the reason for our collective collapse. We are a sorry example for other nations. Aren't we a true example of what the Holy Prophet SAW told his companions, "Soon a time will come when the Christians and Jews will trample the Muslims". The companions were astonished to hear this and asked, "Ya Rasool SAW, will we be in such small numbers?". The Holy Prophet SAW replied, "No, in fact Mus-

## "IQRA"

lims will be present everywhere in the world like the ocean foam. But they will be so drowned in the worldly affairs, that they will forget their deen". Do we truly understand our deen? Aren't we far behind many nations in several aspects? From 1632 to 1653 AD, on the command of the Emperor, hundreds of workers constructed the wonder of Taj Mahal, costing about 20 Million Rupees, which is just a building and nothing but a mausoleum. In those

days, ONE Rupee equaled 30 Dutch Stuivers and 0.15 British Pound. In 1640 AD, 32 Million Rupees were equal to 4.8 Million British Pounds. If we were to figure an inflation rate of 14.1% as of today, we are talking about more than 678.8 Million British Pound; hence more than 1,000 Million UD Dollars or \$1 Billion. Now, according to Wikipedia, Harvard University, which is sprawled over 256 acres, was built at an estimated cost of \$567.6 Million.

Continued on page 34,  
Inshaa Allaah



# VOICE OF OUR READERS / LETTERS

Send your Letters to: [alhikmat@alhikmat.com](mailto:alhikmat@alhikmat.com) or post to Al-Hikmat Services: P.O Box 816277 Hollywood FL. 33081

## E-MAIL FEEDBACK

### Please Help

our

### Brother in Prison

Assalaamu Alaikum. To whom it may concern at (Al Hikmat Services, Inc), I am currently imprisoned until (2016) and as Secretary of The Islamic Community, I truly would appreciate if you would please send me some (Islamic Literature and Materials from books/magazines/ newsletter/ Prayer rugs/ Kufis etc. I write this letter also to seek a (sponsor) for our community of (30) Muslim brothers who here at this facility. I've been here almost four months, and never seen an (outside Sponsor) come to this facility. We are truly in need of a Sponsor and Islamic materials, Please help! And it would mean a lot. If you all can send any and all information. That will and can help all Muslims Brothers return to their community before release from Prison, to re- entry society; Insha Allah.

David Ruffin,  
Moore Haven / Florida USA

#### \*AUSTRALIA

I love Al-Hikmat TV and the programs. Keep up the good work.

Yunus

#### \*WEST AFRICA

I am a Muslim brother from Ghana. I would like to receive your monthly magazine. I wish to join your mailing list. Thanks!

Osman Awini / Ghana

#### \*UNITED KINGDOM

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Assalaamu Alaikum W.B.

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Bro. Muhammad / Trinidad

Assalaamu Alaikum W.B from Gaza.

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*Inshaa Allaah*



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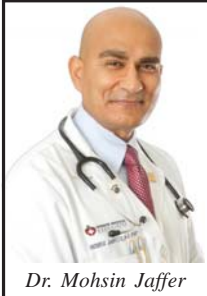
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Dr. Mohsin Jaffer

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studies have shown that vitamin D may have other multiple health roles including normalizing blood pressure, helping with adequate glucose control, protecting against cancer, and other important physiological roles. Studies have shown that people who are deficient in vitamin D may be at risk for osteoporosis, muscle aches/weakness, psuedofractures, and other nonspecific musculoskeletal pain. Vitamin D comes from food such as fatty fish and foods fortified with vitamin D as well as sunlight. Unfortunately, many individuals are deficient as a result of a diet high in processed foods, limited sun exposure, darker skin, obesity, and drug interactions. Older adults are especially at risk for vitamin D deficiency, because as they age skin cannot synthesize vitamin D efficiently. Seniors are also likely to spend more time indoors, have inadequate intake of vitamin D, or are on drugs that may interact with vitamin D absorption. Recommended daily allowances for vitamin D range from 600-800 IU per day. Only your doctor can determine whether or not your vitamin D levels are adequate enough to maintain your body's homeostasis.

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- Helps prevent and treat type 2 diabetes.
- Vitamin D helps keep your immune system strong. It also helps elicit and amplify your body's ability to fight infection.
- Blood pressure control. Vitamin D may help with renin production, an important chemical in your body that contributes to blood pressure control. ○

## HUMOR

## PRAY FOR IMAAN

TO FORGET

### The Person You Love

**Young man:** Ya Shaikh! I have repented Al-Hamdulillaah, but I can't forget the woman I love.

**Shaikh:** Pray to Allaah using various supplications for you to forget her.

**Young man:** Please tell me some prayers that I may use.

**Shaikh:** Oh Allaah! Put IMAAN (Faith) in my heart, put IMAAN in my hearing, put IMAAN in my sight, put IMAAN in my path...

*The young man interrupted and said, "Ya Shaikh, the woman that I love her name is IMAAN!"*

*Continued from page 16*

## HIJAB

*As an identity, but not a protection to be stolen.*

*By: Sis. Kiran / Pembroke Pines FL.*

The best reason of course is just because Allah wants me to. But honestly while that argument is desirable and acceptable to someone who is a Muslim, a non Muslim would want to know more. And sometimes despite clear instructions from Allah, there is this nagging voice inside that pushes us to seek an argument, find a reason, for why Hijab is important. To shut that voice up for once and all, find a reason and let your reason be your very own. It can be as simple as I feel more satisfied, happier, and just content with Hijab or I feel Allah is protecting me all the time when I have Hijab on. It can be anything but it has to be based on your own logic which is secondary to Allah's reason but would help you stay on the right path when nagging voices want to throw you off the track. May Allah keep us steadfast in our decision to wear Hijab and may we gain true knowledge of Islam. Ameen



Rev. Thomas Graf

## What is sin anyway?

*By Rev. Thomas Graf  
Professor at BC College, Florida*

I remember years ago hearing a wonderful joke about confession. It was about these little fourth grade boys who were in line to have the priest hear their confessions. In essence, what possible "sinfulness" could such young children possess? In any event, the first boy entered and after reciting a list of things, he paused and then very seriously said, "And I threw peanuts in the water." The priest did not give this last statement much thought, and the little boy received his penance and went on his way. The next boy entered and after his list, he too spoke about throwing peanuts in the water. Now the priest's ears began to perk up. Boy after boy entered and boy after boy ended with throwing peanuts in the water. Finally, one boy entered, went through his list but mentioned nothing about peanuts. The priest now paused...and asked the young boy, "Didn't you throw peanuts in the water?" The boy answered, "No father, I am Peanuts!" Cute, huh? In essence though, perhaps this last mention during each confession was possibly the only true sinfulness committed. And...isn't it interesting that this sinfulness was corporate...it affected others! Most religious/spiritual traditions make reference to sin and sinfulness. They may use different names and have different ways in which they deal with sinfulness, individually and as a group, but nonetheless the reality of this concept is present. Our Jewish brothers and sisters just completed one of their holiest days of the year: Yom Kippur. Also known as the Day of Atonement, devout Jews involve themselves in strict fasting and ceremonial repentance. Actually, from the time of Rosh Hashanah until Yom Kippur (10 days) devout Jews are called to look within and "make things right" with their brothers and sisters. Only in doing so, can their names be written in the Book of Life on the feast of Yom Kippur. The imagery is WONDERFUL, because if one indeed "makes amends" they can move forward, or if you will, "turn the page."

*Continued on page 26, Inshaa Allaah*



Continued from Page 11 **Muslims Love Each Other for Allaah**

Dr. Harun Yahya / Ankara, Turkey

The fact that he knows that the friendship he enjoys with other believers will last for all time in the hereafter is another reason for that being very strong and permanent. Allah cites the moral values of the Prophet Yahya (peace be upon him) in the Qur'an as an example of the love of believers: "[After the child had been born and grown We said], 'John, take hold of the Book with vigor.' We gave him judgment while still a child, and tenderness and purity from Us — he had piety." (Qur'an, 19:12-13) Our Prophet (peace be upon him) also reveals in the Hadiths that believers' love for one another is for Allah's approval. Abu Zarr relates: "Rasulullah (peace be upon him) said: "The most virtuous of deeds is to love for Allah's sake and to hate for Allah's sake." (Kutub-i-Sitte, Vol. 10, p. 140; Abu Davud, Sunnet 3, 4599) "The strongest bonds of faith are friendship for Allah, enmity for Allah and love for Allah." (Kutub-i-Sitte, Vol. 10, p. 141) Believers with a great love and fear of Allah and who honestly strive for His approval of them, are auspicious people who bring beauty to the world. Because of these superior virtues they also love Allah's creations, feel affection and compassion for them, and wish to protect them and do them good. Allah has revealed that in return for this fine love and their sincere devotion to

our Lord that stem from the faith in believers' hearts and their fear of Him, they will be rewarded with paradise, the place of the best love and devotion. The Qur'an is the Basis of Love Our Lord does not only command His servants to love in the Qur'an. He also describes in detail what form the foundation of love will take. For example, He reveals that at the basis of a person's love for someone else will lie patience, loyalty, generosity, care, truthfulness, courage, protectiveness and loving other more than one loves oneself. Allah refers to this love as follows in the Qur'an: "Those who were already settled in the abode, and in faith, before they came, love those who have made pilgrimage to them and do not find in their hearts any need for what they have been given and prefer them to themselves even if they themselves are needy. It is the people who are safe-guarded from the avarice of their own selves who are successful." (Qur'an, 59:9) As revealed in this verse, characteristics such as consideration, loyalty and fortitude are the most significant indicators of love. People who are egotistical and selfish, and not patient and forgiving, are totally devoid of true love.

Continued on Page 33, Inshaa Allaah

Continued from page 25 **What is sin anyway?**

By Rev. Thomas Graf

In essence, what is truly being celebrated then is HEALING and FORGIVENESS. These are other familiar concepts within religious/spiritual traditions, and are the fruit of truly understanding our "sinfulness," its effect upon ourselves, our relationships with God, with others, and our willingness to reconnect and move forward. There indeed could be much discussion/study of these concepts and their places within different traditions. In Judeo-Christian Tradition, sin flows from human beings desiring to be "like God." Thus, to some degree, sin in these traditions has its roots in idolatry: the attempt to put something/someone in the place of the Creator. If you will, to allow something/someone to control us. This understanding of CONTROL seems to touch home in a special way, as our Church of St. James the Fisherman is presently contemplating an outreach to addicts and their families/loved ones. (12-Steppers!) I say this, because perhaps the best definition of addiction that I have heard is that you know you are addicted when "it controls you, and you cannot control it." Our outreach will be in the form of a monthly (One evening during the week.) 12-2step Service at our church.

Continued on Page 34, Inshaa Allaah

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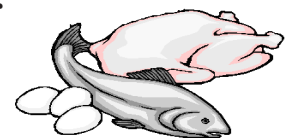
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**Khurrum Wahid** has handled hundreds of white collar crimes, violent felony, misdemeanor, and juvenile cases, including murder, money laundering, armed robbery, sex crimes, drug trafficking, and DUI. Additionally Khurrum has represented scores of individuals detained by the government since September 11, 2001. In the days and months immediately following 9/11, Khurrum worked in conjunction with civil rights organizations to represent hundreds of people detained on material witness warrants and immigration holds. He also has defended individuals charged with allegedly committing or conspiring to commit acts of terrorism, including three medical students falsely accused of terrorism in Florida on the anniversary of the tragic events of 9/11 and many individuals charged with conspiring to commit acts of domestic terrorism. In all of these cases, Khurrum has sought to vindicate the con-

stitutional rights of his clients. A devoted advocate for human and civil rights, Khurrum has fought tirelessly to protect civil liberties from unwarranted government encroachment and to educate the public about the importance of safeguarding our constitutional protections, especially in times that try our nation's conscience. Khurrum has been a leader in educating the public about the details of the domestic and foreign policy that infringes on the rights of the individual. He has commented on policies that have damaged America's ability to combat terrorism under the guise of national security. He has appeared as a guest commentator on CNN, MSNBC, Fox News, National Public Radio, and various other television and radio shows across the nation. Khurrum has testified on civil rights issues several times before various government organizations, including twice before the United States Commission on Civil Rights. He is frequently invited to speak at conferences, community meetings, and professional forums. Before entering private practice, Khurrum served

several years as a Senior Trial Attorney at the Neighborhood Defender Service of Harlem. Prior to working at NDS, Khurrum gained extensive trial experience as an Assistant Public Defender in Miami, Florida. Khurrum received his B.A. from the University of Toronto and his J.D. from Thomas Jefferson School of Law in San Diego, California. Khurrum is admitted to practice law in Florida, New York, and various Federal Courts. He is also a member of professional organizations such as the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, the Florida Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, and the Florida Muslim Bar Association. He is actively licensed in Florida, New York, Federal trial and appeals courts. Khurrum is a founding member and current Vice-Chair of EMERGE USA, a national non-profit civic engagement organization with chapters in Florida and Texas. He also serves on the board of the Miami Coalition of Christians and Jews, MCCJ, the Miami Council for International Visitors, and Voices for Children Broward County.

*Continued from page 12*

*Bro. Mikayl Yahya Ibn Kefa / United Kingdom*

## FROM EAST AND WEST: PROPHECIES OF ISLAM IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

Paul of Tarsus, the prime architect of Christian doctrine and theology, did institute a prophetic tradition within the newly-formed Christian church, but these "Christian prophets" were not prophets in the same sense as those in the Tourah and Christians do not claim them to be. With Islam the position is different. Muslims believe in the prophets of the Tourah and also in the prophethood of Eesa (AS). And, of course, they acknowledge the prophethood of Mohammed (SAW). So, Islam is the only one of these three major faiths which recognises a seamless

prophetic transition; from the advent of the earliest prophet of Allah Adm - to the advent of Rasoolallah. Perhaps more than the other Ahl al-Kittab or "People of the Book", then, Muslims would expect to see threads of prophecy relating to Islam as we know it today in the scriptures of the earlier sharias held dear by both Jews and Christians. Much has been made – understandably – of passages within these scriptures which seem to prophesy the coming of Prophet Mohammed (SAW). However, what is often overlooked are passages which clearly point to Islam as we now know

it. Today, Jewish scholars openly acknowledge – to their credit – that the nation of Israel did not cleave to the will of God as best it might, and that as a punishment they were eventually scattered amongst the unbelieving nations. During the ministry of Prophet Eesa (AS), however, they were still dwelling in Judaea. They were under the rule of the Roman Empire, but the nation at least had recognised geographical boundaries and a small degree of autonomy. Their removal from the land would not take place until a later time.

*To be continued in Jan./Feb. 2015 Issue,  
Inshaa Allaah*



**WHO'S WHO IN AMERICA**

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**MR. NAEEM BAIG  
PRESIDENT  
of  
(ICNA)**

*The Islamic Circle of North America*

Mr. Naeem Baig has been elected as president of The Islamic Circle of North America (ICNA) for the 2013-2014 term. Mr. Baig succeeds Dr. Zahid Bukhari, who served as

*Mr. Naeem Baig*

President for two terms from 2009-2012. The President of ICNA is elected through secret ballot from among members of the ICNA General Assembly (MGAs) and can hold the office for a maximum of two consecutive terms. The president is entrusted with the responsibility of guiding ICNA and making decisions with input from the Majlis Ash-Shura (Central Consultative Council) and members of the General Assembly. Mr. Baig previously served as Secretary General of ICNA for three terms and on the Majlis Ash-Shura from 2010-2012. He is currently the ICNA Vice President for Public Affairs and the Executive Director of the ICNA Council for Social Justice. He is also the Chairman of the National Coalition to Protect Civil Freedoms (NCPFC) and the American Muslim Taskforce (AMT), an umbrella body of 10 national American Muslim organizations. He currently serves on the board of Interfaith Workers Justice and co-chairs the National Muslim-Christian Initiative. He is also a member of the Taskforce on Global Initiative on Faith, Health and Development. He additionally worked as a consultant on the "Study on Christian-Muslim Relations," sponsored by the Department of Interfaith Relations of the Presbyterian Church (USA). A graduate of Veterinary Sciences, Mr. Baig lives in Northern Virginia with his wife, son and three daughters.

*The Islamic Circle of North America is a leading American Muslim organization dedicated to the betterment of society through the application of Islamic values. Since 1968, ICNA has worked to build relations between communities by devoting itself to education, outreach, social services and relief efforts.*



*Shabeer Shekha  
Account Executive*

Fort Lauderdale, FL – Guidance Residential, the nation's leading provider of Sharia-compliant home financing hosted a successful Muslim American leadership dinner in Fort Lauderdale, Florida on October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2014. Over 40 Imams and community leaders from across the tri-county area of Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach attended the dinner which was held at a popular local restaurant.



*Imams and community leaders from across the tri-county area of Miami-Dade, Broward & Palm Beach*

The event served as a great forum for South Florida's Muslim leaders to discuss the current financial needs that plague their local community members. The event also focused on building greater awareness around the positive impact Islamic finance has had on the Muslim American community as whole and more specifically in South Florida. "We sincerely appreciate the feedback and the support provided to us by our local leaders here in South Florida", said Shabeer Shekha, Account Executive for Guidance Residential in South Florida. He added, "the event was well attended and the engagement level of our leaders was very high." Nationwide, 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. Submitted by Bro. Shabeer Shekha / Florida USA

*Continued from page 8*

**TRANQUILITY IN ALLAAH'S REMEMBRANCE**

*By: Sis. Sylmarie*

However, we need to work hard and do more good deeds to gain Allah's (SWT) pleasure in order to receive His true masterpiece of Jannah (Heaven). When we pray our salaah, we need to focus on Allah (SWT) as if He is standing in front of us. When we do dhikr, we need to focus and properly pronounce each

word and think of the meaning....Subhanallah:glory be to Allah, Alhamdulillah: praise be to Allah, AllahuAkbar:Allah is great. Let us remember, quality is better than quantity. When we pray to Allah, we have to contemplate His majesty and truly thank Him for all his favors and blessings. We have

programmed ourselves to say "thank you" to others and to commend others on their good work, their appearance, their good personality, their kindness, and so many other things; but we do not spend enough time praising the One who has created man and enabled him to do good and blessed him with countless

bounties. We need to make a concerted effort to remember Allah (SWT) more often. Here is some advice for life, for us all, "without doubt, in the remembrance of Allah do hearts find satisfaction". "For those who believe and work righteousness, is every blessedness and a beautiful place of return." *Ch: 13 V. 28 & 29*

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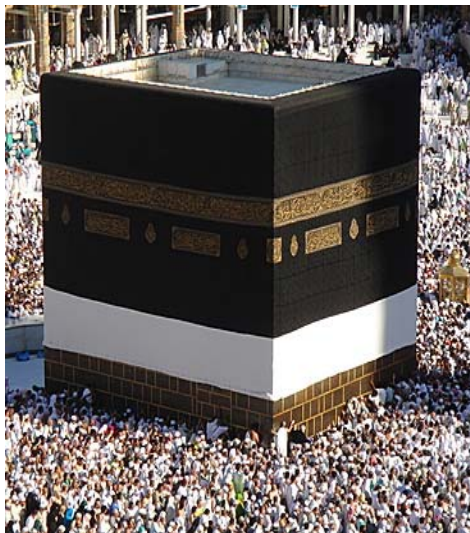
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**QUESTION & ANSWER CORNER**

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, peace be upon him, 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  
al hikmat@hotmail.com.

Your Questions will be answered in  
the order they were received.

*Continued from page 26*

**MUSLIMS LOVE EACH OTHER FOR ALLAAH**

Our Lord, who of course has a flawless knowledge of the behavior and attitudes of the servants He creates, their psychology in other words, describes the features of people who are loveless and do not behave in accordance with the moral values of the Qur'an in detail in that book, and thus makes it easier for Muslims to identify those characteristics. Allah reveals in the Qur'an that hard work and care and attention are necessary for love. He notes that loves needs to be tended, just like a flower. Some people who do not know the true love that Allah describes in the Qur'an imagine that love is dependent on physical appearance and that people can only be loved if they are attractive. Yet people's anatomical structures consist of flesh, fat, bone and blood; therefore, were it not for the skin, the work of Allah's matchless creation, there would be very little about people to like. People who turn their love toward matter do not in fact love that appearance. It is at this point that the basis of the true love that believers feel for one another emerges. This is because believers love people, not just for their external appearance, but for the moral virtues they embody in their souls. And it is believers who live by the moral values of the Qur'an and seek the approval of Allah who possesses these moral qualities. For that reason, Muslims love other Muslims. And among Muslims, they most love those they regard as having the most piety and being the most sincere because according to the Qur'an, love is dependent on piety, and Muslims most love the person they regard as having most of Allah's approval.

*Continued on Pg. 34,  
Inshaa Allaah*

**Shaping the Muslim Youth**

*Br. Hamzad*

*Written By: Br. Hamzad  
ASJA Primary  
Teacher Trinidad W.I.*

*TEACHER OF THE  
YEAR 2013 - 2014*

Youths from all races and religions are precious gems. They need to be

polished to withstand the rigours of time. This invaluable resource is needed for a brighter tomorrow; and so the youths need illumination, now! Our own Muslim youths need to take stock of themselves and prepare for a challenging world ahead of them. Failing to grasp available opportunities will inevitably result in them confronting unwelcomed adversaries – poverty, crime, drugs and other damaging influences. For the realization of a secured future, our young Muslim brothers and sisters need to be equipped with the necessary infrastructure to brave the winds of an unpredictable future. According to Maslow an American psychologist, social needs of people must be met if they are to be motivated. Our Muslim youths should be gregarious by finding themselves in youths groups, camps and maktabs or madrassas to satisfy their social desires that will place them in good stead for the future. To face an uncertain future, our young Muslim brothers and sisters should develop their spirituality. This can be done in a variety of ways, one of which is the acquisition of Islamic knowledge that is Fard Ain on all Muslims. Any neglect by Muslim youths in imbibing Islamic education will render them vulnerable to the evils of the day and dire consequences may ensue. Where can my young Muslim brothers and sisters acquire Islamic knowledge to spruce up their lives spiritually? Locally it can be sourced at many different institutions one of which is the Darul Uloom Institute at Pembroke Pines, Florida. Beside local centres of Islamic learning, others are available in countries such as India, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, and Malaysia where they can seek further higher learning.

*Continued on Pg. 34,  
Inshaa Allaah*



Continued from page 26

By Rev. Thomas Graf

## What is sin anyway?

This would include all individuals suffering with addiction and their loved ones. I personally was raised in an alcoholic family. My father suffered from this addiction and each and every one of our family members were affected by this reality. I personally attended Al-ANON and ACOA (Adult Children of Alcoholics) and through these involvements, through counseling and through good sponsors and friends, I have hopefully achieved better understanding of this disease and its ramifications that disconnect individuals, relationships, families and communities. In some ways, I have come to see that addiction, of any kind and form, can be related to sinfulness and must be treated with proper measures of introspection, processes of seeking and receiving forgiveness, so that healing can occur. I remember another situation concerning 4th graders. This was as a priest and I was hearing their confessions. One little boy entered, went through his "list" and then there was a pause. For some reason I asked, "Is there anything else on your heart?" This poor little child of God, began to cry and said, "Fr. Tom, my daddy was drunk and hit my mommy last night." After another pause...I said, "Really, you know my daddy did that once too." Well, I wish you could have seen this precious little child change expression. There seemed to come some form of relief...not in his mother being abused, but in the reality that he/they were not alone in this situation. One of the things that most spiritual/religious traditions teach is that we are not alone. More so, if we work together we can indeed re-connect. (That is the

definition of RELIGION—RELIGIO) However, if such reconnection is to occur, it must be authentic and it must involve individuals, others and God. As I heard at a Friday Khutbah, "The prophet-PBUH was the most forgiving person. He was even ready to forgive his enemies As human beings we are responsible but also make mistakes and we are constantly in need of forgiveness. Islam speaks about two aspects of forgiveness: a) Allah's forgiveness; b) Human forgiveness. We need both, because we do wrong in our relation to Allah as well as our relations to each other." ●

Continued from page 33

## Shaping The Muslim Youth

Written By: Br. Hamzad

One major avenue for the Muslim youths to develop themselves, is the area of sports. To some Muslims, sports is detestable. However, Science has proven that the pursuit of sports is a healthy one. Our beloved Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W.) found time to engage in physical activities such as running, swimming, wrestling and other physical pursuits. Drugs are a scourge upon the youths debilitating their mental and physical capacities. What a sad onslaught! When our young Muslim brothers and sisters are lured to sports, the tendency for them to engage in drugs and other un-Islamic deeds is greatly diminished. The ample expenditure of energy in sports will therefore inevitable generate copious gains for our Muslim youths when immersed in physical pursuits – thus enhancing their future. In confronting the fu-

ture of our young brothers and sisters in Islam should seek academic education to avert catastrophic situations in their lives. Our Holy Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W.) said that secular education is Fard Kefayah, and so our Muslim youths will be held accountable to Allah for not producing the doctors, carpenters and other types of workers needed to develop a Muslim society. Don't let others on the other side of the fence steal the thunder from us by churning out a wonderful cadre of professionals. Muslims are leaders not followers so let us be in the forefront of economic development. Preparation of the Muslim youths for the future should not be left to them alone. Be you to the child's parents, siblings, peers or other family members; the onus also lies on you to take up the gauntlet and chart a course for a secured future for the youths. Failing to impregnate those virgin minds of our young Muslim ones; may result in unimaginable repercussions which we don't want. So, all Muslims, please step up to the plate and play your part in the moulding of the lives of the young Muslims. Let's hope and pray that our Muslim youths engage in rewarding and constructive pursuits to pave the road for a bright future for themselves and in the process keep the flag of Islam flying high.

Continued from page 33

### MUSLIMS LOVE EACH OTHER FOR ALLAAH

This is revealed as follows in a verse: "Some people set up equals to Allah, loving them as they should love Allah. But those who have faith have greater love for Allah. If only you could see those who do wrong at the time when they see the punishment, and that truly all strength belongs to Allah, and that Allah is severe in punishment." (Qur'an, 2:165) ●

Continued from page 21

## "IQRA"

By: Bro. Farooq Shafi

This means that the money spent to build the Taj Mahal could have been used to erect TWO Harvards. In present time, about 3 Million Muslims perform Hajj per year. If one person spends about \$3,000 (a very conservative estimate), it comes to about \$9 Billion (if the calculations is correct). Let's presume that about 10% are those who have performed Hajj more than once. Instead of going for Hajj every year, can you believe that we can build a Harvard every year from this savings? If I am asked, I would say that in order to bring back the lost respect and dignity of the Muslim Ummah, we need to eradicate the prevailing ignorance among us. The journey of this Ummah started from the Cave of Hira with the command of "Iqra" (read) and it should be re-started. It is the power of knowledge that the angels bowed down to man. And, if we want to re-claim that esteemed status, we need to re-ignite the light of divine knowledge delivered to us by the Holy Qur'an and the teachings of the Holy Prophet SAW. We will need to employ all available resources. The Imaam of Kaabah raises his hands to pray every year for the Muslim Ummah to re-energize Islam in their souls. Do we suppose he can also announce to those present that if one makes intention to perform hajj once again, s/he should donate that money to a fund that will be used to teach and educate the Muslim Ummah to re-ignite Islam in their hearts and may Allaah SWT bless that person with the rewards of performing Hajj? Allaah knows best! ●



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