



# AL-HIKMAT INTERNATIONAL USLIM MAGAZINE

"Invite To The Way Of Thy Lord With Hikmat (Wisdom)" Ch40 V.32

NON-PROFIT- For Free Distribution- Distributed to Muslims & Non-Muslims Worldwide

Bismillaah Hir Rahmaanir Raheem

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upon

# The Holy Prophet Muhammad

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Revised by  
**Shaikh Shafayat Mohamed**

Inshaa Allaah Ameen

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**Sat. May 3<sup>th</sup>, 2014**  
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**Helping Each Other**

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● Cover Photo:  
**DAROOD & SALUTATIONS**  
 upon  
**THE HOLY PROPHET MUHAMMAD (S.A.W)**  
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\*NOTE: AVERAGE Time for Daily Salaah \*10 Minutes should be Added/Subtracted accordingly for precaution.

DATE	FAJR	SUNRISE	ZUHR	ASR	MAGHRIB	ISHA
MAR. 1-8	5:19	6:36	12:31	4:47	6:26	7:43
9-15	6:18	7:35	1:31	5:47	7:27	8:44
16-22	6:05	7:22	1:27	5:51	7:33	8:50
23-29	5:57	7:15	1:25	5:52	7:36	8:54
30-31	5:55	7:12	1:25	5:52	7:37	8:55

DATE	FAJR	SUNRISE	ZUHR	ASR	MAGHRIB	ISHA
APR. 1-6	5:48	7:06	1:23	5:53	7:40	8:58
7-12	5:41	7:00	1:21	5:54	7:43	9:02
13-18	5:34	6:54	1:20	5:55	7:46	9:06
19-24	5:27	6:49	1:19	5:56	7:49	9:10
25-30	5:21	6:44	1:18	5:57	7:52	9:15

One Hour Time Change: Sunday March 9th, 2014  
Global Islamic Calendar ~ 1435 - 2014

## UPCOMING ISLAMIC DATES & ISLAMIC OCCASIONS

1435 A.H - 2014

\*March 2nd, 2014 - 1st of Jammadi Ul Awwal

\*April 1st, 2014 - 1st of Jammadi Uth Thani

\*April 30th, 2014 - 1st of Rajab

Inshaa Allaah

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

April						
Jumada-II/Rajab						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
		JT 2	3	4	5	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			
27	28	29	RJ			

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**IN THIS ISSUE FEATURE ARTICLES**



Rabbi Jeffrey

**MUSLIMS  
&  
JEWS  
Helping Each Other**

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Sister Sylmerie

*Enjoy*  
**HEALTH  
before  
SICKNESS**

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Erin Katherine Knecht Munir

**Erin Katherine Knecht  
Conversion  
Story**

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The Voice of Al-Qur'aan

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

Al-Qur'aan Ch:16 V:125

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*Al-Qur'aan - Ph. 4 Q. 79*

"What good happens to you is from God, and what bad happens to you is from yourself."

*Hadith - Reported by Abu Hurairah (RA): Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W) said: "He whom Allaah intends good, He makes him to suffer from some affliction." ~Bukhari*

**99 Attributes of Allaah**

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**Words of Wisdom-**

"Character is made by many noble deeds, but it may be lost by a single bad act."

"He lives a long life who lives in the hearts of people."

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**SHAIKH SHAFAYAT'S MESSAGE**

By Sis. Karen Shah



Sis. Karen Shah

**THREE KNOTS of SATAN**

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

Here is a thought-provoking Hadith: "A time will come when Muslims will follow a people so much so, that if they were to go into a lizard's hole the Muslims will follow." When asked who the people are, the Prophet (PBUH) answered, "The Jews and Christians (lifestyle of today vs. lifestyle of Prophet Moses and Jesus Peace Be Upon Them)." Please do NOT misunderstand this as a criticism of Jews and Christians—it is not. It is a direct criticism of Muslims, meaning that "weak Muslims" who do not follow the Quran (God's laws) and Sunnah (examples from the life of Prophet Muhammad, (PBUH) will easily be led astray by the people of today. Prophet Muhammad

(PBUH) said, "If we hold onto the Quran and Sunnah we will not go astray." Look at our lifestyle. Do we have our day programmed around salat (prayer), or around society? We wake up, eat breakfast, take a shower, go to work, take the kids to school, etc. without a thought of God. Another Hadith says: "When a person goes to sleep, Satan ties 3 knots around his or her neck. When that person wakes up and remembers Allah right away (Al-Hamdulillah!), the 1<sup>st</sup> knot is loosened. When he goes to make Wudhu, the 2<sup>nd</sup> knot is loosened. And when he prays his salat, the 3<sup>rd</sup> knot is loosened." We are given energy and protection from Satan for the day. In yet another Hadith we are told that when we don't remember Allah 1<sup>st</sup> thing in the

morning, our day will be long, hard, depressing and stressful. We will have no energy. Satan keeps us tied up! Another Hadith says that when the day has begun and a person reads Surah Ya Sin (Chapter 36 of the Holy Quran, also known as the "heart of the Quran"), Allah will cause that person to accomplish whatever he needs to accomplish that day with ease. In 62:9 of the Qur'aan, God tells us to "hasten to the remembrance of Allah." Scholars say this refers to the "Khutbah" (sermon/reminder/Zhikr delivered before "Jumua Salat" which is the obligatory Friday congregational prayer.) How is our life built around Saturday and Sunday. Do we observe our Friday Sabbath day, or do we have our religious program on Saturday/Jewish Sabbath and Sunday/Christian Sabbath? Many of us come late to Jumua, and many don't come at all.

*Continued on Page 33, Inshaa Allaah*



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Serving the Muslim & Non-Muslim community for the past 30 years through the publishing and distribution of Islamic literature and Radio / TV programs plus Interfaith activities.

**Bio. of Founder:**

Al-Hamdulillaah- 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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**Hadith:** "Sadaqah appeases Allaah's anger and prevents an evil death." (Tirmidhi)

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**Hadith:** Hadhrat Abu Hurayrah (R.A) reported that Rasulullaah (S.A.W) said, "I hear the person who confers Durood upon me at my grave and Allaah appoints an angel to convey to me the Durood that is recited (from afar).

**Hadith:** Narrated by Ibn Abbas (R.A.): The mother of Sad bin 'Ubada died in his absence. He said, "O Allaah's Apostle! My mother died in my absence; will it be of any benefit for her if I give sadaqa on her behalf?" The Prophet said "Yes." Sad said, "I make you a witness that I gave my garden called Al Makhrif in charity on her behalf."

*Sahih Al-Bukhari Hadith*

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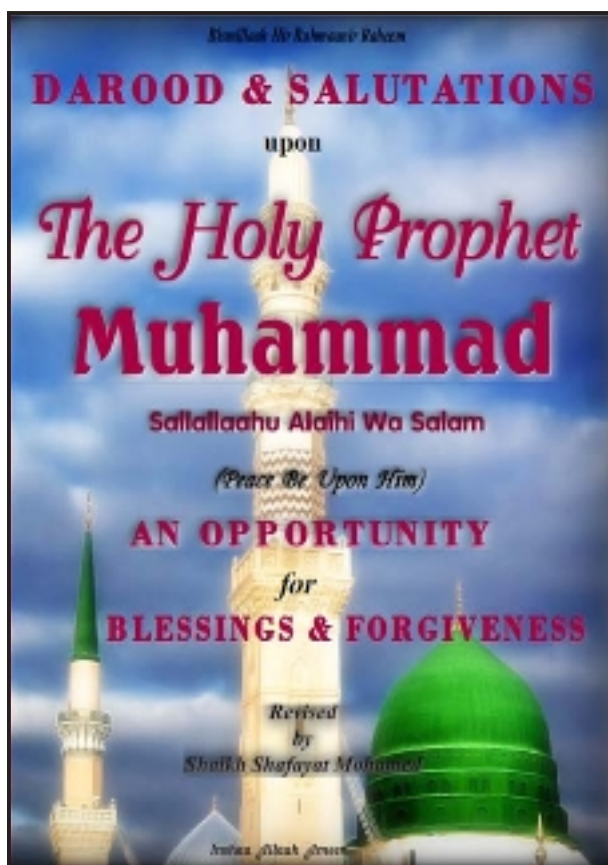
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Inshaa Allaah Ameen



**Hadith:** Anas bin Maalik (R.A) said: Verily the Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W) said: Whoever sends Salam upon me once Allah will send ten blessings upon him and remove ten of his sins and raise his rank by ten levels.

**Hadith:** Hadrat Hadrat Abu Huraira (R.A) reported Allah's Messenger (S.A.W) as saying, "Among the actions and good deeds for which a believer will continue to receive reward after his death are knowledge which he taught and spread, a good son whom he left behind, or a copy of the Qur'an which he left as a legacy, or a mosque he built, or a house which he built for the traveller, or a stream which he caused to flow, or a sadaqa which he gave from his property when he was alive and well, for which he will continue to receive reward after his death."

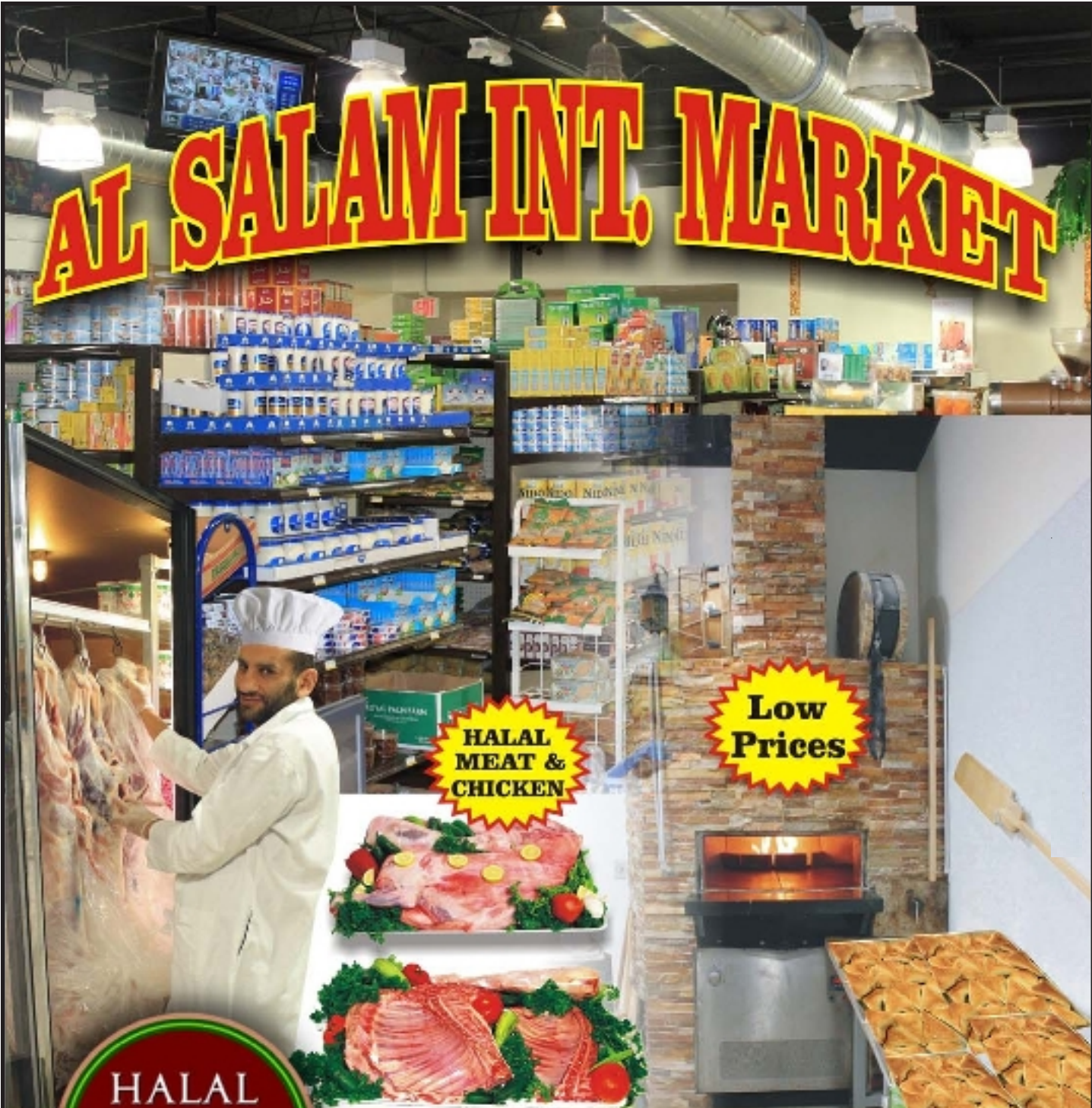
*"Verily Allaah and His angels send salutations upon the Rasool (S.A.W).*

*O you who believe! Send salutations upon him."*

*Qur'aan: Chapter 33 V:56*



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Rabbi Jeffrey

**RABBI'S CORNER**

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

**MUSLIMS & JEWS  
Helping Each Other**

*Imagine Jews taking up a collection to help a Muslim community center. Imagine Muslims taking up a collection to help a synagogue. Fantasy? No, reality. The news is filled with stories about hostility between*

religious and ethnic communities. The wonderful stories happen as well but they don't make the news. I would like to share two such stories with you. Last Spring the British publication of *The Huffington Post* ran a story about a synagogue in the English town of Bradford. That Jewish community has only thirty members left. The synagogue, built in 1880, has been in disrepair and the community is too small to be able to afford the repairs to their house of worship. The situation seemed dire and it looked like the synagogue was going to have to be closed. But the Bradford Council of Muslims came together to offer their support for the synagogue. One successful Muslim businessman in particular came forward with a generous donation to repair the synagogue which enabled it to remain open. A representative of the Muslim community declared that this act represented the true spirit of how Islam views other People of the Book. The leaders of the two communities have developed such a warm relationship that now when the leader of the Jewish community goes on vacation he gives the keys and the alarm code to the leader of the Muslim community to keep an eye on the synagogue.

*Continued on Page 30, Inshaa Allaah*



Dr. Ghous Muhammad

**ATTORNEY CORNER**

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

*Continued from Jan./Feb. 2014 Issue*

*Comparative study of Islamic & Western Jurisprudence*

**COMMANDMENTS**

IN THE

**QUR'AAN**

The Qur'an is in the form of addresses which were revealed by God on different occasions, starting from the time when the

Prophet (S.A.W) made his first call to the people to submit to the Religion of God, and continuing till the Prophet (S.A.W) completed his task in the form of a society fully organized, well integrated and patterned with all the basic institutions. Every address was suited to the occasion at which it was made. The Qur'an concentrated on the content during the Meccan period and on content and form both, during the Medinese period. For an institution to be workable and thoroughly practicable, it is necessary that it should be practically demonstrated. However detailed the description of an institution may be, it cannot be practicable unless it is practically demonstrated. Practical demonstration in laboratory is a must. The Anthropologists, on the basis of their study of different societies have observed that people do not think logically during their social behavior. They simply act in the manner of their predecessors. Logical thinking before action is possible only in case of the person who has got thorough knowledge of all the traits of his culture, interrelationship of the institutions and their objects and basic philosophies.

*Continued on Page 30, Inshaa Allaah*

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Submitted by: Faria Mohamed



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before  
**SICKNESS**

My dear Sisters: Allah (SWT) has blessed us with life, Islam, guidance, families, sustenance, health, protection, wisdom, and so much more. His bounties are surely overwhelming and we should always be grateful for all that He has blessed us with. Allah (SWT) gives us life every morning and allows us to open our eyes and get out of bed, which in itself is such a blessing we take for granted. There are many blessings that are not always apparent to us, and many blessings we take for granted. Our good health is such a great blessing that we sometimes assume it will always stay that way. "Every joint of every limb, every beat of the heart, every breath, is a favor from Allah (SWT). His blessings are too many to count, let alone repay (Quran 16:18)". Many of us are in good health (alhamdulillah) and we are at that stage where we do not have to worry about "old age" related ailments (arthritis, aches, pain, forgetfulness etc.); or other sicknesses and disabilities. However, many others struggle with these conditions. "Make the most of your life before death. Make the most of your health before your sickness. Make the most of your free time before you become busy. Make the most of your wealth, before you become poor. Make the most of your youth, before you become old. - (Prophet Muhammad (SAW) We may have, or know of family members, friends and others in our community, both young and old, who are sick, disabled, hospitalized, immobile, blind, diabetic, Alzheimer stricken, heart problems, strokes, etc.

Continued on Page 29, Inshaa Allaah

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**Congratulations to Hira Rehman & Adrees Jaat**



Hira Rehman & Adrees Jaat

Hira & Adrees were recently married on Thursday January 2nd, 2014. The Nikaah ceremony was held at Mehfil Restaurant, Florida USA.

May Allaah bless them with a prosperous married life, Inshaa Allaah Ameen.

**Congratulations to Hafiz Muhammad & Anam Khan**

Hafiz Muhammad and Anam were recently married on December 25th, 2013. The Nikaah and Walima both took place in Karachi, Pakistan. May Allaah bless them with a prosperous married life.

Inshaa Allaah Ameen



Anam & Hafiz Muhammad

**Congratulations to Mazhar & Erin Munir**



Mazhar Munir & Erin Knech

Mazhar & Erin were recently married on Friday November 29th, 2013. The Nikaah ceremony was held at Shezan Banquet Hall, Pembroke Pines, Florida USA. May Allaah bless them with a prosperous married life, Inshaa Allaah Ameen.

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Bro. Farooq Shafi

# BE THANKFUL TO ALLAAH

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

[Sahih Muslim: Book 4, Book Name Kitab Al-Salat, Number 0775] - Abu Huraira (RA) reported: The

Apostle of Allaah (SAW) said: If anyone observes prayer in which he does not recite Umm ul-Qur'an (Surah Fatiha), It is deficient [he said this three times] and not complete. Then, it was asked of Abu Huraira (RA): What are we to do at times when we are behind the Imam? He said: Recite it inwardly (quietly to yourself), for he had heard the Messenger of Allaah (SAW) declare that Allaah SWT had said: "I have divided the prayer into two halves between Me and My servant, and My servant will receive what he asks. When the servant says: Praise be to Allaah, the Lord of the universe, Allaah the Most High says: My servant has praised Me. And when he (the servant) says: The Most Compassionate, the Merciful, Allaah the Most High says: My servant has lauded Me. And when he (the servant) says: Master of the Day of Judgment, He re-

marks: My servant has glorified Me; and sometimes He would say: My servant entrusted (his affairs) to Me. And when he (the worshipper) says: Thee do we worship and of Thee do we ask for help, He (Allaah) says: This is between Me and My servant, and My servant will receive what he asks for. Then, when he (the worshipper) says: Guide us to the straight path, the path of those to whom Thou hast been Gracious not of those who have incurred Thy displeasure, nor of those who have gone astray, He (Allaah) says: This is for My servant, and My servant will receive what he asks for."

**A reminder to all of us:** And abandon open and secret sin; surely they who earn sin shall be recompensed with what they earned. (Surah Al-An'am : Ayah 120)

**Duaa (a prayer) -** My Lord! Grant me that I should be grateful for Your favor which You have bestowed on me and on my parents, and that I should do good such as You are pleased with, and make me enter, by Your mercy, into Your servants, the good ones. Ameen! ○

# DUAS (SUPPLICATION)

For Others (Part 1)

By Br. Hamzad Mohamed

ASJA Primary Teacher  
Trinidad W.I.

TEACHER OF THE YEAR  
2013 - 2014



Br. Hamzad

The first of two parts

on making duas for others will be dealt with in this article. In this world, we do not live in isolation but rather as a community, therefore it's imperative for Muslims that in making a closing dua, in addition to pleading to Allah for our own salvation, we should at least ask Allah to extend a helping hand to others of the Muslim ummah or community. Therefore, in order to illuminate our lives with the Noor of Allah, our closing dua should additionally reflect a supplication for all Muslim brothers and sisters, some examples of which, each one beginning with the words "YA ALLAH" are:

- Extricate my ummah from the moral quagmire they are immersed in.
- Remove any obstacles lying in my people's path that may impede their development.
- Remove the veils from their eyes so they may clearly see the Islamic road to travel.

Continued on Page 33, Inshaa Allaah




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**RAISING CHILDREN  
in an  
ALIEN CULTURE**

*By: Sis. Kiran Khan Paracha*

As we raise our children in a supposedly modern and alien culture, we have plenty of things to worry about. Should we allow them to go candy hunting on Halloween, is it okay to say "Merry Christmas" to a Christian acquaintance, should we go to masjid more often and what not. I have become more confused about what is right and what is not since I have had kids. Before I knew I was strong believer and even if I said "Merry Christmas" or had non-Muslim American friends, it did not really matter that much but once kids are involved, you become extra careful as to who you mingle with and what festivals you celebrate. This is where "Deen" really helps us out. I figured, in our hearts, we must know that we will never be too open as to allow all filth in without any sort of filter and also we shall never be so close-minded that nothing new or fresh would ever make its way into our minds. Once you decide that, the rest should not be really hard. Do not allow your mind to be like a defective door which is either always open or always close. I have seen people who are okay communicating with and hanging out with gays simply because they feel it's against rules of civil and humane treatment to shut them out. To those, I try to explain that it wouldn't be humane to hurt or harm them but it is exceptionally important that you keep your distance to show Allah you respect His decision on people with unnatural sexual preferences. Similarly while a Christmas tree in your living room might sound harmless to you, it sends a wrong message to your little child who might assume that if it's okay to bring in Christmas tree, it might also be okay to talk about Jesus' birth and how it relates to Christmas etc.

*Continued on Page 15, Inshaa Allaah*

**COMMUNITY UPDATE**

*By: Salma*

**Al-Amin Center of Florida Grand Milad-un-Nabi Program**

On Sunday January 5th, 2014 Al-Amin Center held a Grand Meelad-un-Nabi program at Pompey Park, Delray Beach Florida U.S.A. There were Qur'aanic recitations from Darul Uloom Hifz Students along with many beautiful Naats and Nasheeds from brothers in Miami Florida, U.S.A. Special guest were Al Haj Qaari Haafiz Allah Rakha from New York who also rendered beautiful Naats and Allaama Syed



*Allama Syed Muzaffar Shah*



*Hafiz Allah Rakha*

Muzaffar Shah from PTV, Pakistan. Al-Hamdulillaah, the program was a great success with an audience of 500 people. Bro. Shaukhat (President of Al-Amin Center) gave an update on the development of the new Masjid construction. Shaikh Shafayat was the Moderator of the program

**PROPHET MUHAMMAD (S.A.W)**

**RAHMATUL-LIL-AALAMEEN (MERCY TO THE WORLDS)**

Masjid U Mu'mineen, Homestead Florida USA, held a Rahmatul-lil-Aalameen (Mercy to the Worlds) program on Sunday January 19th, 2014. The guest speakers were Maulana Zakariya Badat, Imam from Masjid Noor, Miami, Maulana Azadi from Masjid U Mu'mineen and Bro. Ali Siddiqi, Principal of the Islamic School of Miami, Florida USA. Shaikh Shafayat was the moderator of the program. Al-Hamdulillaah, the program was a great success. Maashaa Allaah!



*Photo Above from Left: Maulana Zakariya, Shaikh Shafayat & Maulana Azadi*

**Darul Uloom Students & Al-HAYA Youths**

Darul Uloom students and Al-HAYA (Al-Hikmat Arm of Youth & Art) visited the (ICSWF) Islamic Community of South West Florida in an educational field trip on February 1st-2nd, 2014. The field trip was coordinated by Al-Hikmat Services. The youths participated in outdoor activities and Qur'aan recitations etc. The field trip was a great success with a warm welcome from the Imam of (ICSWF), Imam Azhar Subedar and his congregation members. Jazaak Allaah Khair to all those brothers and sisters who made this trip a success! Maashaa Allaah.



*Imam Azhar Subedar & Shaikh Shafayat*



*Photo above: Shaikh Shafayat lecturing to the students & youths at ICSWF (Islamic Center of South Florida)*

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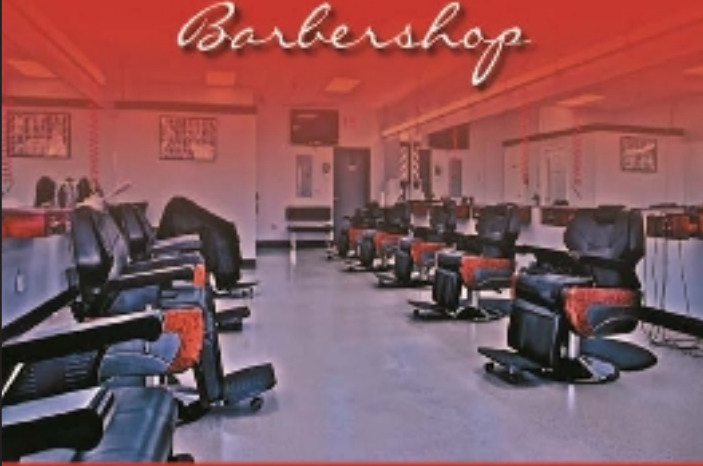

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Staci Brody

# A Veil to Guise

Poem written by: *Sis. Staci Brody*

A slave, a king, and a free man  
meet in a bar.

This is the joke which defines  
A menace, a proverbial civilization -

A mission and a ghost.

Silver earnings fall in a square  
jar and not round.

This is the war cry which stems from oppression, inherited,

This is my sword which enjoins five fleshy fingers.

A reflection of sorts, a beseeching -

My jihadist, swirl your contentment to illuminate:

A menace, a proverbial civilization -

Silver earnings fall in a square jar and not round.

This is the war cry which stems from oppression, inherited.

Thou shalt not wear a veil to guise.

Continued from Page 12 By:

Sis. Kiran Khan Paracha

## RAISING CHILDREN in an ALIEN CULTURE

You need to draw a line somewhere and that line must be very clear to you and your children. Let your child's teacher know it's okay to tell him about various festivals but when she is doing that, can she please also tell the other kids about Eid. And also can she please clarify to the children that not all people celebrate all festivals and some festivals are unique to some culture and religions? In most cases, teachers listen and they are very sensitive to such issues. If you bring this up, it would also show the teacher that you are truly invested in your child's upbringing, you care about what he learns in school and that if something wrong is ever taught, you will not take it lightly. Children are super adaptable to your lifestyle if you let them be. If you pray five times a day, it becomes

something normal and regular to them and so does staying away from certain things like eating non-halal chicken or forbidding certain candies. We worry that our children might become too close minded and hence allow them to get involved in things like egg hunting on Easter and so on but the truth is that children are very adaptable and understand their house rules easily once they are younger. That is the age when you start differentiating right and wrong for them so they are less likely to challenge them as they grow older. But if you let them do whatever they choose to do today, they might find it exceptionally hard to adopt a different lifestyle as they are older and when you want them to become better Muslims.



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Please see Page 22, Inshaa Allaah

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**HEALTH CORNER**

**DEHYDRATION  
IN THE  
ELDERLY**



Dr. Mohsin Jaffer

Dehydration is the most common fluid and electrolyte disturbance among the elderly population. Many unnecessary hospitalizations are associated with dehydration and the consequences can be detrimental. The elderly are especially at risk due to many physiological changes associated with age, medications such as diuretics, and other chronic diseases. Diarrhea, blood loss, and excessive sweating can also increase water loss. Staying hydrated, especially in Florida's hot summer weather where the temperatures can reach close to 100 degrees, is the key to prevention. The body is composed of 70% water. Dehydration, or negative water balance, occurs when more water is lost than is retained. Negative water balance results in a decrease in all secretions. This "drying out" of tissues and organs, including muscles and joints, may also lead to premature aging. Severe dehydration can cause decreased level of consciousness, weak/rapid pulse, low blood pressure, convulsions, and other symptoms. All of which can be life threatening.

**Causes of dehydration:**

The primary cause of dehydration in the older adult is inadequate water intake. As we age, our body becomes less aware of thirst. Our bodies feel thirst less keenly and our ability to be aware of thirst becomes blunted. This increases the chances of consuming less water and consequently suffering from dehydration. Another cause of dehydration in the elderly is decrease muscle mass. Muscle contains more water than fat and after age 60 our muscle/fat proportion decreases by 50%. Our kidney function also decreases as we age. This means the kidneys become less efficient in removing toxins, retaining water, and concentrating urine.

*Continued on Page 30,  
Inshaa Allaah*

**HUMOR**

**IMAAM  
ate the  
PEANUTS**

An Imaam went to visit an old woman from his Mosque who recently had an operation. As he was sitting talking with her, he noticed a bowl of peanuts on the stand next to her bed, so he began to eat them. When he got up to leave, he realized that he had eaten all of the sick old lady's peanuts. He felt very embarrassed and apologized by saying: "Sister 'I'm sorry I ate all of your peanuts.'" She replied "That's okay Imaam, I have already sucked off all the chocolate from the peanuts."



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**COMING  
TOGETHER**

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



Rev. Thomas Graf

In our Episcopal Church, as well as within many mainline Christian Churches, we are now in the Season of Epiphany. Our new church year began with Advent (4 weeks prior to Christmas) and we then celebrated Christmas, which lasted 12 days. On January 6th, we began the beautiful season of Epiphany, which will last until Ash Wednesday, when we begin the Season of Lent. The actual day of January 6th is known as Epiphany, or Three Kings. It celebrates the day that the three kings journeyed to and visited with the Christ Child. Epiphany is also known as Theophany, which literally translates as "Vision of God." While the three kings may have had their Epiphany, or vision of God, we too have hopefully had such moments in our lives. In contemporary language, we often use the word epiphany to refer to "a sudden realization," or a "leap of understanding." If you will, such epiphanies are those "AHA!" moments in our lives. Those times when the grace of God breaks through and touches us in such a way that we clearly know God exists. Such moments can lead us through those desperate moments of doubt and confusion...they are the light unto our paths. As I write this article, our nation has just celebrated the remembrance of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Here was a man who clearly had his "Epiphany moments" which touched the hearts of many, so that they too could open their hearts/souls to receive a Vision of God...a dream that would become reality and change the history of our nation. Such a dream spoke clearly of a vision of "ALL PEOPLES" coming together as ONE. I and many others in my church had a wonderful "Epiphany Moment" this past weekend. On Saturday, January 18th, we celebrated my Installation Ceremony as new Priest-in-Charge at St. James the Fisherman Episcopal Church in Islamorada, Florida. While there were many wonderful "moments to remember" during the celebration, I believe that all will for quite some time remember the presence and inspiring words of Sheik Shafayat Mohammad. Towards the end of our celebration, he shared a few words. In so doing, he stressed the importance of ALL OF US coming together. He spoke of how our world is crying out for better understanding of other people's cultures, beliefs, faith stances.

*Continued on Page 25, Inshaa Allaah*

# VOICE OF OUR READERS / LETTERS

## E-MAIL FEEDBACK

### \*USA

I am writing to thank you for the International Muslim Magazine, we so appreciate your donation. I can't help but ask if your organization could also donate Quran's for our Muslim inmates? Thank you again!

*Rosemary Laluz / Brooksville Florida*

### \*WEST INDIES

On behalf of the students, teachers and Principal of Five Rivers Islamia TIA we wish to say JazakAllah Khair to Al-Hikmat Services Inc. for responding so quickly to our request. We have received the Genealogy of the Prophets.

*Saleeka Mohammed-Ali / Trinidad*

### \*USA

Please send us some of the "Surah's & Zhikr to be Recited Daily" books, People will be benefitted by these books.

*Fawzi / Atlanta*

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## COVER to COVER

Dear Al-Hikmat,

I hope this brief message finds you in the very best of health and spirits, and may Allah, tabaraka wat'ala, bless you and help you. My Brother and confidant in struggle; I would ask that you assist me in my quest for a complimentary subscription to Al Hikmat magazine, by the mercy of Allah. A subscription will be read cover-to-cover, stored and often retrieved to be re-read as a nourishing pleasure with substance and appeal to one with a serious interest.

*Your Brother in Islam*

*David E. Hastings*

*Indiantown, Florida USA*

## NEW MUSLIM REQUEST

Assalaamu Alaikum W.B

I am an indigent inmate in a South Carolina prison. I would like to be subscribed to a subscription of the Al-Hikmat International Muslim magazine. Feel free to send me any other Islamic materials as well.

*Thank you,*

*Derek Brown*

*Pelzer, South Carolina USA*

Dear Al-Hikmat,

I'd like to have a free subscription to your Al-Hikmat Muslim Magazine. I'm a new Muslim convert and I'd love to receive your magazine every month. May Allaah bless and have mercy on you all.

*Jamar Mackey / Raiford, Florida U.S.A*

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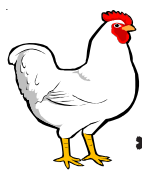
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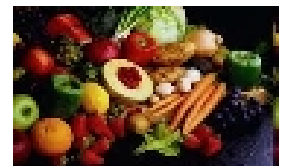
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Photo Above: Al-Amin Center Construction Development



Photo Above: Al-Amin Center Construction Development



Photo Above: Al-Amin Center Construction Development



Photo Above: Al-Amin Center Construction Development



Photo Above: Present view of Al-Amin Center



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Continued from Page 21

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**COMMUNITY UPDATE**

By: Salma

**COMING TOGETHER**

By Rev. Thomas Graf

His words seemed to echo back to the Qur'an: "Let there be no compulsion in religion. Truth stands out clear from error; whoever rejects evil and believes in God has grasped the most trustworthy handhold that never breaks, and God hears and knows all things. (The Qur'an, Al-Baqarah, 2:256) Many devout Christians left that church with an Epiphany moment...each having a sudden realization that Allah was the same God that they worship here in their Episcopal Church. However, the true test will come in how they continue to live out their faith concretely each and every day of their lives. As Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King shared, "Let no one give you the impression that the problem of racial/social injustice will work itself out. Let nobody give you the impression that only time will solve the problem." May Our Gracious God continue to give us Epiphanies...Theophanies...AHA Moments, that we may be instruments of compassion, love and change in our world.

**UNITING BROWARD**



Sheriff Israel invited a host of cultural, business, education and faith-based community leaders to attend his inaugural "Uniting Broward: Protecting Communities" conference-

on Tuesday February 25th, 2014 at Fort Lauderdale, Florida USA. The event was very successful.



*Sheriff Scott Israel*

**Better Understanding of Islam**

Photo on Right:

Students from Dr. David Masters World Religion Class at St. Thomas University, visited Darul Uloom, Pembroke Pines Florida, USA on Sunday February 16th, 2014- to learn more about Islam.



Photo above: Dr. David Masters with Shaikh Shafayat and some of the students of St. Thomas University students.

**NCJW GUEST SPEAKERS**



Photo above from left:  
Rabbi Barry Silver, Shaikh Shafayat and Father Joe Gallant

On Sunday January 26th, 2014 Rabbi Barry Silver (Jewish Faith), Father Joe Gallant (Christian Faith) and Shaikh Shafayat were invited by the NCJW (National Council of Jewish Women) to lecture on "Religion or No Religion." The program was held at Valencia Shores, Lake Worth Florida U.S.A. The event were coordinated by Francine Esterman, Vice President of NCJW.

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**REVERT CORNER**

Submitted by: *Faria*

**Erin Katherine Knecht Munir**

(Conversion Story)

I grew up in a medium-sized city located in the Mid-West, and I never imagined my life being where it is today. Although, what I always knew from an early age, I would end up marrying someone who was not from my hometown, but never imagined being with someone of a different faith background. My life changed dramatically last January when I traveled to Florida for the first time to meet my now husband for the first time. We maintained in the



*Erin Katherine Knecht Munir*

months prior a long distance friendship where he would openly talk about his faith, I would ask questions, and he would answer. He would continually use words in Arabic that often needed translation, and he would often read passages from the Koran to me over the phone. I became more and more curious to meet this man in S. Florida. During my first visit with him we would have many a discussions about Theology and Islam. Little did I know at the time he introduced me to a religion so beautiful, that the religion would help me heal. I converted at the end of February last year, and realized this would begin the lifelong journey of being Muslim. Upon taking my declaration of faith I knew from that moment forward my life would be challenged in many ways, but I also knew being a Muslim would bring out the best possible me. I have often been asked since my conversion if my husband was the reason why I became Muslim. Truth is, my husband introduced me to the religion, but he did not ultimately have say or influence as to whether or not I should convert. I made the decision ultimately to convert because it was and has been the only religion I have practiced that has helped me heal and be at peace with myself. Since my conversion my life has taken a new meaning and direction and I could not be more blessed!

**YOUTH CORNER**

Submitted by: *Khizr Mohamed AL-HAYA Youth*

**Youngest & 1st Hafiz  
Of Part Time / Weekend  
Hifz Program**



*Hafiz Feyaz Razack*

Al-Hamdulillaah-Hafiz Feyaz Razack, son of Bro. Shameer & Sis. Zaliena Razack, completed memorizing the Qur'aan on Sunday February 10th, 2014. Hafiz Feyaz attended Darul Uloom Weekend Hifz classes. He is 15 years old and currently attends Nova High School. However, in addition to attending High School, he still memorized the Qur'aan part time on weekends at Darul Uloom; and has now

become the first student to graduate in 4 1/2 years as a Hafiz in the part time Hifz program. May Allaah continue to bless him and guide him on the straight path, Inshaa Allaah Ameen.

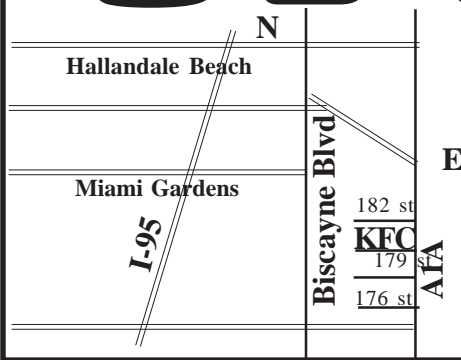
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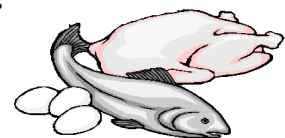
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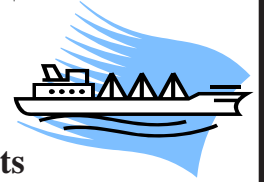
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*Dato' Haji Aziz*

Datuk Dr. Aziz Jamaludin Bin Hj Mhd Tahir serves as Independent Non-Executive Director of Datasonic Group Berhad since June 27, 2011. He graduated from Deoband University, India, in 1979 with a degree in Islamic Studies and later obtained Bachelor of Arts in Syariah Law from the Al Azhar University, Egypt, in 1983. He obtained a PhD from Universitas Islam Negeri Sultan Syarif Kasim, Indonesia, in 2012. He started his career in 1984 as a Federal Court Judge in the Syariah Court. In 1987, he joined the Prime Minister's Department as an Administration and Diplomatic Officer. He was the Consulate of the Malaysian Embassy in Saudi Arabia from 1991 to 1995 and Confidential Secretary to the Education Minister from 1995 to 1998. In 2008, he represented UMNO as a candidate for the national election for the Parliamentary seat for Titiwangsa district. In the same year, he was appointed as Treasurer for The Scouts Association of Malaysia. In 2009, he was appointed as the Chairman of Koperasi JASA (KOJASA). In 2010, he was appointed as the Deputy Chief of The Scouts Associations of Malaysia.

*Continued from Pg. 8*

*By: Sister Sylmerie*

**Enjoy HEALTH Before SICKNESS**

For many, these ailments are a life-altering event. Their normal daily activities and chores become challenging and strenuous. They now have to incorporate their ailments and disabilities into their daily routine. They are unable to fulfill plans they made for retirement and the future. Their perspective on life changes. These are real people, with real pain, suffering and disabilities. They are the brother who is bound in a wheelchair, or the sister who has lost her eyesight, or the sister who is in constant physical pain. They are all reminders to all of us how much we should appreciate our health and understand how precious it is, and how precious time is. When we see the aged sister struggling to recognize her own child, we need to appreciate our youth. Only when we fall ill, we realize our health is a great blessing from Allah (SWT). Only when we get old, we realize how much we could have done in our youth. The illness we face or the illnesses of others should be a constant re-

minder of just how precious and how short life is. We should always appreciate and be mindful of how important our health, youth and time is, and understand the relationship between them. For those of us who enjoy good health, youth and time, let us all be thankful to Allah (SWT) and use it wisely to do more good for His pleasure. We do not know when it will be taken away from us and the time for thanking Allah (SWT) may be gone and the time for doing actions that are pleasing to Allah (SWT) may also be gone, (and Allah's know best).

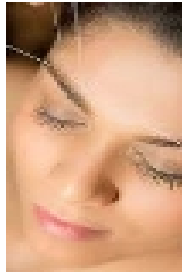
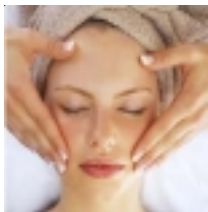
*"And if you would try to count the favors of Allah (SWT), you would never be able to count them. Truly Allah (SWT) is forgiving, most merciful."*

*Ch. 16 V: 18*

**From the bitterness of disease, man learns the sweetness of health. (A wise man)**

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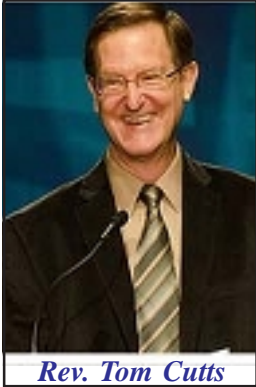
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**WHO'S WHO IN AMERICA**



*Rev. Tom Cutts*

**Rev. Tom Cutts**

Rev. Tom Cutts began his career in public service and ministry as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Malawi, Africa (1973-1975). Through his extensive travels to over 36 countries he gained a background in intercultural and interfaith relations. He joined the Unification Church in 1978, and has served in numerous missions. Rev. Cutts is a third generation pastor; his grandfather and great grandfather were Southern Baptist pastors. Prior to coming to Washington, D.C. with the ACLC, he oversaw the ministries of 12 congregations in six Southern states. Rev. Cutts earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics from Florida Presbyterian College (1971), his Master of Science degree in Statistics from Florida State University (1973), his Master of Divinity degree from the Unification Theological Seminary (1983), and received an Honorary Doctorate degree in Theology from the Technical Institute of Biblical Studies. Rev. Cutts is an Eagle Scout, as are two of his three sons. He and his wife, Angelika, have been married for 31 years and reside in Georgia. She is from Germany, and they have 3 sons and a daughter.

*Continued from page 7*

*By: Rabbi Jeffrey Kurtz-Lendner*

**MUSLIM & JEWS HELPING EACH OTHER**

Islam has the principle of *zakat*. Among the people eligible to receive *zakat* are non-Muslims who are sympathetic towards Islam. Judaism, too, has a principle of helping others. The word in Hebrew is *tzedakah*. The Talmud itself demands that Jews offer support to those who are not Jewish who are in need. This past October an Islamic community center in a suburb of London was burned in an arson attack. Leaders and members of the Muswell Hill Synagogue came forward not only to express words of solidarity and support but offered financial support to help the Islamic center recover and rebuild. When you read the stories of how much Muslims have animosity for Jews—you KNOW it is not true because you are Muslims and you know that you do not harbor these anti-Jewish feelings. When you read stories about how much Jews have animosity for Muslims—well, here is an example of a story of how that is not true either. Sure there are hostile members within each of our communities. But there are far more members of both of our communities who have respect for each other, taking concrete actions to bring peace to their communities, peace to all of us.

*Continued from page 7*

**COMMANDMENTS  
IN THE  
QUR'AAN**

Linton says: “One school of anthropologists has devoted much time and erudition to proving that uncivilized people do not think logically. This is essentially correct, the only error being that neither do civilized ones. Both apply logic when it is necessary for the attainment of particular ends, but neither civilized nor uncivilized apply it habitually, or under normal conditions, use it to test mutual consistency of the elements of culture to which they have been reared.”(Linton; Ralph: The Study of Man,p.362) If the Qur’an had itself described all the principles and details of Islamic society and culture, Islam would have not been practicable, at least for a common man. It would have been the concern of scholars alone and that, too, with practical limitations.

**Legislative Functions of the Qur’an** - Although as professor Fitzgerald says in his book titled as ‘Muhammadan Law: “The Qur’an is an eloquent appeal (to Muslim ears a miracle of eloquence) to mankind and to the Arabs in particular, to obey the law of God which, it is (in the main) implied, has already been revealed or capable of being discovered”. Yet, the Quran has influenced the creation of Islamic legal system in the following ways: (a)The Prophet (S.A.W) faced legal problems and so did his companions and the Qur’an provided guidance. It gave such texts which possess a definite legal element. There are about five hundred such texts. (B)Non-legal texts in the Qur’an, moral exhortations, and Divine Promises have been construed by reasoning to afford legal rules.

*Continued on Page 34,  
Inshaa Allaah*

*Continued from Page 21*

**DEHYDRATION  
IN THE ELDERLY**

*By: Dr. Jaffer*

Also, chronic conditions such as uncontrolled hypertension and diabetes cause damage to the kidneys. That is why it is so important to maintain diabetes and blood pressure control. Recognize the symptoms. It is important to recognize the symptoms of being dehydrated. Mild dehydration will cause dryness of the mouth, dry tongue, and thick saliva. You may be unable to urinate or have a small amount of urine. You may also have cramping of the limbs, headache, weakness, fatigue and irritability.

**Tips to staying hydrated:**

- Drink five 8 oz glasses of water per day (1 bottled water =16oz). A good formula you can use is to drink one-third your body weight. For example, a 150 lbs. person should drink about 50 oz of water a day (or about six 8 oz glasses).
- Have water by your side at all times.
- Don't wait until you're thirsty. The thirst sensation means the body is already dehydrated. Remember thirst gets blunted as we age!
- Sports drinks can be helpful for a quick replenishment of fluid and electrolytes, but be careful of the added sugars.
- Your urine should be close to clear. Dark concentrated urine can be a sign of dehydration.
- Severe dehydration requires medical attention. If you see signs or suspect severe dehydration, call your doctor.

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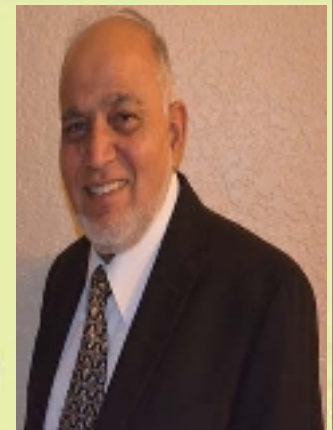
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**QUESTION & ANSWER CORNER**

By Shaikh Shafayat Mohamed

**WHAT DOES ISLAM SAY ABOUT ANGER?**

**Question:** What does Islam say about anger?

**Answer:** Anger is a natural instinct. However, it is required that man keeps it under control, which if he does so, he will save himself from many difficulties. If man does not control his anger he is prone to commit innumerable sins. Anger gives rise to arrogance; it gives root to jealousy; an angry man bears malice and is also hostile. When faced with anger, one should seek refuge in Allaah from satan. "I seek refuge in Allah from the rejected devil." The Holy Prophet SAW says, "If you feel the rage of anger in you then, if you are standing, sit down. If the feeling persists in that posture, then lie down." The Prophet SAW has also said, "When you become angry, remain silent." By remaining silent and calm, one will be in complete control of one's mind and senses thus allowing one to control his or her anger. Holding on to anger is like grasping a hot coal with the intent of throwing it at someone else; while in reality you are the one who get burnt." The following are some advice given by the Holy Prophet SAW pertaining to anger Inshaa Allaah: Abu Hurayrah, may Allaah be pleased with him, reported that a man said to the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him), "Advise me." He said, "Do not become angry." The man repeated his request several times, and each time the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) told him, "Do not become angry." In another Hadith the Holy Prophet SAW said, Do not become angry and Paradise will be yours. The Prophet SAW also said, "Whoever controls his anger at the time when he has the means to act upon it, Allaah will fill his heart with contentment on the Day of Resurrection." The Messenger of Allaah (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) also said: "The strong man is not the one who can overpower others (in wrestling); rather, the strong man is the one who controls himself when he gets angry."

*(By request, the names of the questioners are not published)*

Answers Online by: Shaikh Shafayat Mohamed

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Continued from Page 4

By: Sis. Karen Shah

Continued from Page 11

**THREE KNOTS of SATAN**

The Prophet (PBUH) said there is an hour on Fridays when whatever we ask for, Allah will accept and answer. We should come early to Jumua, to read Darood Shareef (asking God to send his peace and blessings onto the Holy Prophet Muhammad(S.A.W), and to read Qur'aan. And do not abandon Zhikr on Thursday night (which is the start of our Sabbath day). We have been promised special blessings for reading certain chapters of the Quran on Thursday night. What about marriage and children? The Sunnah is to marry for the pleasure of Allaah, and to have children. Today we marry for our own pleasure and choose not to have children. Instead of following the Sunnah of the Prophet (S.A.W), we follow the example of Pharaoh and Satan. We let society tell us when to get married, who we should marry, when to have children, and how many. We are afraid that too many children will cost too much, and keep us from wealth. That is wrong. Before a child is born, his sustenance is written. He comes into this world with his hand filled with mercy from God. In 33:21 of the Quran, Allah tells us: "In the Messenger of God you have the most beautiful example for everyone who looks forward to God and the Last Day, and remembers God unceasingly." In 3:31 of the Quran, we read "Say (O Prophet): If you love God, then follow me, and God will love you and forgive you your sins; for God is Much-Forgiving, Most Merciful." This means follow the Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W). A Muslim is not just an ordinary person. The Qur'aan says that a Muslim should display the best characteristics. In 2:143, we learn that God made Muslims so that our way of life could be an example to all mankind, just as the Prophet (S.A.W) is an example to us. But instead of being a good example for the world, we follow the world, the people of today.

Continued on Page 34, Inshaa Allaah

**DUAS (SUPPLICATION)**

**For Others (Part 1)**

- Lighten the burdens on their shoulders.
- Remove the cleavages in my ummah.
- Season the lives of my brothers and sisters with Islamic spices of friendship.
- As each day pales in the west, may You be satisfied with their day's cultivation of Islam.
- Sever the malicious tentacles of evil that wreak havoc with the body, spirit and mind of my people in the deen of Islam.
- Make my people feel Your presence in every artery and vein of theirs.
- Open the doors of optimism for my fellow Muslims.
- Navigate them safely through life's treacherous seas.
- Let the word 'Astaghfirullah' be a constant refrain throughout their lives.
- Make my Muslims brothers and sisters have Imaan or Faith in Allah from the length, breadth and depth of their heart.
- Ensure that every Muslim be a hinge on Islam's door to prevent it from falling down.
- Keep Shaitaan away from their corridors of success.
- Glue them on to the steering wheel of Islam so that they keep on the path of Sirat-ul-Mustaqim.
- In times of anger, let them take solace in You.
- If perchance my fellow Muslims descend deeply into the ocean of ignorance, may You be their sole Lifeguard to rescue them.
- Don't let gambling be that sponge to soak up their wealth.
- Don't bury them with mud of scorn when they err but rather forgive them.
- Always ensure that they keep their feet on the clutch of Islam for life is an uphill battle.

Continued on Page 34, Inshaa Allaah

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Continued from Page 30

Continued from Page 33

By: Sis. Karen Shah

## COMMANDMENTS IN THE QUR'AAN

“They ask thee concerning wine and gambling say- in both is sin and advantage for me (too), but the sin thereof is greater than the advantage,” have all pervading influence on the whole doctrine of contract. The lawfulness of contract and those unilateral acts (e.g. Kafala, Iqrar) which in Islamic Law resemble with contract, is mostly estimated in terms of their resemblance to sale and the unlawfulness in the terms of usury and gambling. Similarly, the texts proclaiming that God will not punish anyone save for one’s own sins (Surah Fateh Verse 18) have been applied to debts which a person leaves unpaid at his death with far-reaching results in the law of administration of assets. The text making lawful the permit of water hunting (Surah Al-Maida verse 96) has been restricted, by reasoning, to the fish only. (C) By pointing out that the previous revelations have been corrupted the Qur’an declared the legal material with the ‘People of the Book’ (Ahl-a-Kitab) unreliable. It

also called upon the people to abandon the customs of their ancestors in favour of the laws of God (Q.II:170;V:104). In any case it repealed the entire legal provisions available outside the sphere of the Book and the Sunnah. It adopted certain previous customs as well. For instance, it made the sale lawful. But the condemnation being general and adaptation being specific, the legal principle will be, that the customary practices shall be presumed to be prohibited unless expressly adopted by Islam. (Complication Magazines Muniraya volume III p.174) (D) The Qur’aan converted the heathen Arabs to the belief that law is the direct command of God. Since it is the cardinal tenet of Islam that God is One, the whole law must emerge from Him. The believers are bound to search for that whole, which can be found, in addition to the Qur’an from the social system built up by the Holy Prophet (S.A.W) the Sunnah.

Continued from Page 33

By: Bro. Hamzad Mohamed

## DUAS (SUPPLICATION) For Others (Part 1)

- Let them thaw chilly relationships with the exudation of love and warmth.
- Galvanise Your house in their hearts with sheets of Imaan or faith.
- Defuse any family crisis in my ummah by disconnecting the wires of hate and finally
- Let my fellowmen in deen (Religion) cultivate their spiri-

tual garden only with the seeds of Islam. Mentioned above are some of the duas or beseechings or supplications we can make to Allah on behalf of our Muslim brothers and sisters, and through these, I hope Allah can elevate the supplicants to higher plains of Islamic spirituality.



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## THREE KNOTS of SATAN

If today’s Jews and Christians really followed their own Books, they’d be living like Muslims are supposed to live. There is nothing in how Moses (A.S) and Jesus (A.S) lived that is contrary to what Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W) taught. Before the Prophet (S.A.W) received his 1<sup>st</sup> revelation, he lived like Moses and Jesus. And finally, we are told in 10:57: “O mankind! The Qur’aan has come to you as a cure for the diseases in your hearts, as a guide and a mercy.” As we say in our interfaith programs, our path is not to follow the Jews and Christians, but to have the

life of Moses & Jesus (Peace be upon them). Similarly, Muslims must follow the Qur’aan and lifestyle of Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W) vs. the lifestyle of Muslims today. Start tomorrow morning. Set your clocks! Loosen those knots that Satan ties around us when we sleep – wake up and say “Al-Hamdulillaah!” Make Wudu, and pray Fajr Salat! Make the time to read Surah Ya Seen in the morning and you are assured to get your work done with ease and Allaah’s blessings. Be the best of mankind!



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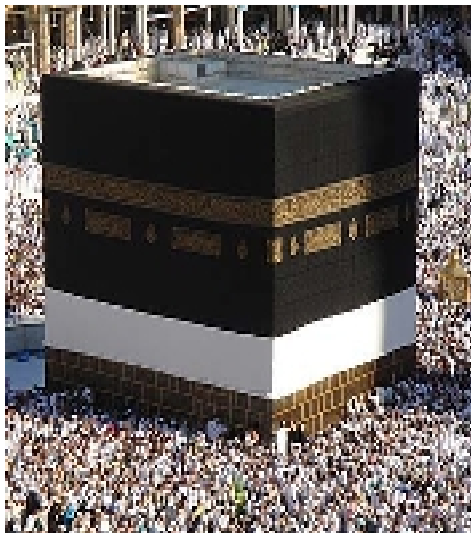
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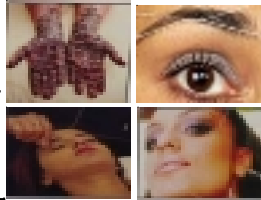
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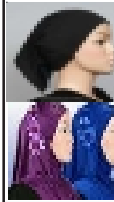
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