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*YES! You can learn to Pronounce The Qur'aan Correctly

By: Sis. Amanda Smith . Pg. 12



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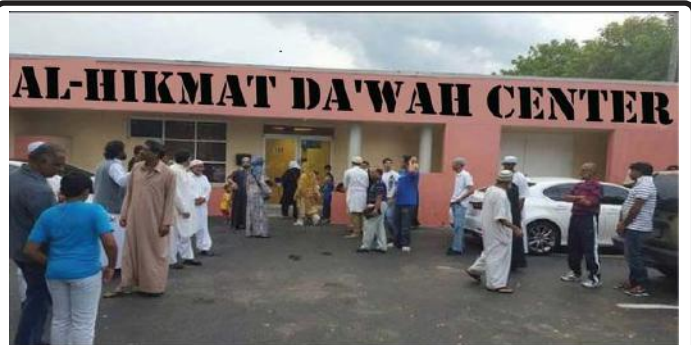
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SHAIKH SHAFAYAT'S MESSAGE*Summarized by Bro. Kaleem Ali / Trinidad W.I.*

YOU ARE BLESSED

DON'T MISS OUT ON ALLAAH (SWT) MERCY

Al-Qur'aan (2:185) - *The month of Ramadhan [is that] in which was revealed the Qur'an, a guidance for the people and clear proofs of guidance and criterion.*

Allah refers to the Qur'an as a guide for the entire mankind and makes things clear. It can guide us between right and wrong and give us a better judgement between right and wrong. In addition to the good deeds that we should be doing, we should also spend time in the Qur'an. Every chapter in the Qur'an besides surah Tauba begins with Bismillah. It means to begin in the name of Allah, the most gracious, the most merciful. Allah has 99 attributes, but he uses the same to begin every surah.

It is out of Allah's mercy that he forgives us and saves us from the fire of hell. Not our fasting, salaah and Hajj that gives us Jannah. One man can pray for 40 years and still sin so much that he gets nothing out of it. One man can ac-

cept islam and die instantly and be forgiven due to the mercy of Allah. Without praying a single salaah, he can go to Jannah. Allah's mercy is beyond our comprehension.

In his book, Allah reminds us constantly of his mercy. In the hadith, Rasool (s.a.w.) tells us how Allah says his mercy exceeds his anger. Every day, every minute and moment we receive the mercy of Allah. Let us not lose this opportunity. We constantly listen to surah Rahman.

The prophet (s.a.w.) says that out of Allah's mercy, only 1% has been dedicated to this world. 99% Allah has kept for the akhirah. We think we live in good homes and drive nice cars. This is not even a fraction of what Allah's mercy in this world.

If all the wealthy people in the world were to take all their money, put it together and give it in charity, it would still not make up 1% of Allah's mercy. It still

would not be able to give live. The life we live, the air we breathe, the sun, the moon, the fishes, the mountains, everything we have in this life, all the human kind and animal kingdom put together does not even equal 1% of Allah's mercy. Could you then imagine the mercy of Allah? We cannot perceive it.

We should not think that our charity is anything compared to the mercy of Allah. Allah says that when we give charity, we should not follow it with injury. Some people give charity and proceed to talk down, embarrass and insult the person receiving it. This is forbidden. Allah gives to even those who don't worship him without this.

Allah's mercy is beyond our imagination. Do not lose out on this! Use every opportunity to gain the mercy of Allah! We hear the kind of blessings we get for praying salaah in jamaah, we hear the blessings we get to pray in Saudi Arabia. Everything we can do, Qur'an, salaah, charity, ibaadah, let us take this opportunity before we are in desperate need of it.



Shaikh Shafayat
Founder

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Al-Hamdulillaah- Shaikh Shafayat was born, in Trinidad, West Indies, where he attended College etc.. Due to his multi-faith and cultural upbringing, he was awarded a scholarship to become a Christian Minister. In 1975 he went to India to study Islam and became the first student from the Caribbean and North America to have graduated as an Islamic scholar from Darul Uloom Deoband, which is the largest and oldest Islamic Institute in India. He is the Founder of Al-Hikmat Services and Darul Uloom Institute Pembroke Pines Florida USA. He is the first Muslim to become President of the Interfaith Council of South Florida in the year 2002 and was also the first Muslim to represent Islam at a Florida State Faith Summit, held at the Capitol Building with Gov. Jeb Bush in the year 2000. He has received many Interfaith Awards including the Peacemaker Award from St. Thomas University. Shaikh Shafayat is well known by Muslims and Non-Muslims as a Motivational Speaker. He lectures throughout the U.S.A. and worldwide on Islam and Terrorism, Interfaith Issues and Cultural Diversity etc. MaaShaa Allaah.



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PASTOR'S CORNER

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HARASSMENT & VIOLENCE



Pastor Keith A. Spencer

As a Lutheran pastor of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), one of the United States of America's Christian faiths, I wanted to share with you, over the course of several articles, the recently approved document "A Declaration of Inter-Religious Commitment: A policy statement of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America" and what it means for the over 9,000 ELCA congregations and their 3,000,000+ members in how they are being called to shape their relationships with people of other faiths, including Islam. The Declaration, the result of over three years of reflection, prayer, and dialogue, was passed at our triennial assembly with more than 97% of those in attendance voting in the affirmative. It was a historic moment.

The Declaration notes early on that "There are many ways individuals and communities can respond to religious difference. The most harmful responses are grounded in ignorance and fear, which can breed stereotypes. In the extreme, these responses can fuel incidents of religious bigotry, restrict religious freedoms, and arouse conflicts that are destructive of life, property, and the environment."

Further, that "We live in a context of ongoing anti-Muslim bigotry and anti-Semitism, as well as incidents of harassment and violence directed against these and other minority religious and ethnic communities. In some cases, the words and deeds of a few are used to discredit entire religious communities. Unfortunately, in every religion, Christianity included, some people distort, misuse, or abuse religion to incite violence and cause harm."

Having laid out the dangers, the Declaration warns Lutherans that "We ought not allow these voices to determine or influence our perception of our neighbors." "The ELCA," the Declaration demands, "must play an active role in dispelling fear of our neighbors, opposing religious bigotry, and standing with those who are the targets of fear, discrimination, hatred, and violence."

As your Lutheran neighbors and friends, we are not called to do nothing, but rather are called to action on your behalf and the behalf of all of our neighbors, regardless of their faith, to counter narratives of fear, hatred, and bigotry. ✨

MUHAMMAD (S.A.W) The Last Messenger of God

FACT: Muhammad (peace be upon him) is the Last Messenger of God, and the Seal of all Prophets. The Holy Quran is the "Word of God".

FACT: The Holy Quran is the Last Revelation from our Beloved Creator to mankind (sent via Angel Gabriel to Prophet Muhammad - peace be upon him). It mentions the former Revelations and about events in the past as lessons for us. It contains Divine Laws as ordained by Almighty God. It focuses on the Last Day, The Resurrection and the Day of Judgement. It states quite clearly about the Rewards for those who obey, and the Punishments for those who disobey. Satan, who was given respite (extended life) until the end of time vowed to mislead all of Adam's offspring (into wrongdoing) out of jealousy, because man was made "vicegerent" on earth, and not him. Satan disobeyed when he was commanded by God to bow down to Adam. He felt that he was created from something much superior than clay (water and dirt) and was puffed up with arrogant pride. For this he was cursed by God Almighty and cast down to earth along with Adam and Eve after the incident in which he caused our parents (Adam and Eve) to eat the forbidden fruit. But Almighty God forgave our parents and promised to send us Guidance in the form of Books through His Messengers (Prophets).

FACT: God's promise to Prophet Abraham – "I (God) will make thee (Abraham) an Imam to all the nations". God's Promise was made to Prophet Abraham after the attempted sacrifice of (his first-born and only son at that time) Ishmael. This Promise (of Imam to all nations) was not made to Ishmael nor Isaac but God's Favours would be extended to any of Prophet Abraham's progeny who would obey Him. Both Ishmael and Isaac were prophets and they obeyed God. But many among the Children of Israel became disobedient and knowingly changed the Scriptures. They killed some prophets and were cursed by God. The Jews (at that time) wrote that God's Promise was made to the Prophet Isaac. Soon will the pious Christians know the Truth.

FACT: Angel Gabriel, who is known as the "Spirit of Truth and Inspiration" in all Revelations, was appointed by the Creator to bring down Sacred Scriptures from time to time to all Prophets who were men from among their communities. They all agreed to testify to the coming of the "Unlettered Apostle" Muhammad (peace be upon him) who would be the Seal of all Prophets.

To be continued in the next issue, *InShaa Allaah*

CONGRATULATIONS CORNER

Congratulations
to
Ibrahim & Saffiyyah



Al-Hamdulillaah on August 14th, 2019 Ibrahim and Saffiyyah were blessed with a baby boy- Ismaeel Musa Ramjohn. Ismaeel was born at North Shore Medical Center, Miami Florida USA. Ismaeel has two older sisters, Sumayyah and Zaynab. May Allaah (S.W.T) bless him and make him amongst the righteous, InShaa Allaah Ameen - MaaShaa Allaah.

Ismaeel Musa Ramjohn

SISTER'S CORNER

By: Sis. Sylmarie Mustapha / Coral Springs, Florida

SOME MUSLIMS
are
RACIAL
in
AMERICA



Sister Sylmarie

Assalamu Alaikum: Dear sisters and brothers:
Allah Almighty says: “And among His signs is the creation of heavens and earth, and the variations in your languages, and your colors, verily in that are the signs for those who know” (Quran, 30:22).

In the sight of Allah, all men and women are equal and we should consider all Muslims as our brothers and sisters. No one is superior from another on the basis of language, color, profession, gender or wealth, except on Taqwa, piety, and righteousness. Anyone who is righteous and pious is honored in the eyes of Allah. Prophet (SAW) said: “The Muslims are like a single man. If the eye is afflicted, then the whole body is afflicted. If the head is afflicted, then the whole body is afflicted.”(Sahih Muslim) This means the believers should love for each other what they love for themselves. They avoid harming one another; they should be generous with one another, and should behave in the best manner with each other. Too often there are accounts from many sisters (young and old) of being treated unfairly by other sisters in their masjid. Sadly, this seems to be prevalent in a lot of the masajid. These accounts include sisters favoring one group or their own “clique”, while dismissing other sisters. There are sisters who believe that they alone can run the affairs of the Masjid because of their administrative position in their workplace, and so they use that authority in the Masjid by refusing to let others get involved in simple tasks at the Masjid. There are accounts of sisters who will speak kindly to some and harsh to others. They have one set of rules for family, friends and those they believe are major financial donors; while others they treat unfavorably. There are sisters who will loudly voice their judgement against those who may not be dressed appropriately (many of these instances they are sisters who want to convert or learn about this deen, and was not aware of the proper dress code) potentially, driving them away because of their impolite behavior. While the incidents mentioned above are troubling, these are just a few of many incidents that occur in various Masajid. Although, many of us are striving to do good deeds by obeying Allah’s commands, praying, fasting, reading Quran, being charitable, many of us have gone to Hajj and Umrah; yet we seem to display inequity and unfairness at the Masjid (a sacred place of worship, unity and brotherhood/sisterhood). We feel the need to “flex our muscles” and show bias, favoritism, insensitivity and superiority to other sisters.

Continued on Page 34, InShaa Allaah



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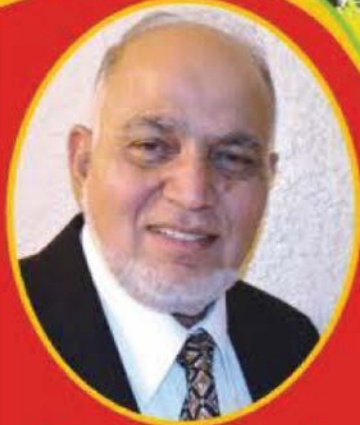


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IMPORTANCE OF AYATUL KURSI

Submitted by Bro. Farooq Shafi / Florida USA

Our holy prophet Muhammad SAW is amongst those who are given permission by Allaah SWT to intercede for his followers. The prophet SAW said, "On the Day of Resurrection the people will surge with each other like waves....Then I will ask for my Lord's

permission, and it will be given, and then He will inspire me to praise Him with such praises as I do not know now. So I will praise Him with those praises and will fall down, prostrate before Him. Then it will be said, 'O Muhammad, raise your head and speak, for you will be listened to; and ask, for your will be granted (your request); and intercede, for your intercession will be accepted.' I will say, 'O Lord, my followers! My followers!' Amongst the other great attributes of Allaah SWT in the Ayatul Kursi is that "He knows what is [presently] before them and what will be after them." In this, there is an indication about Allaah SWT's absolute knowledge, encompassing all past, present and future happenings. Nothing whatsoever can be unknown to Him for He "knows that which deceives the eyes and what the breasts conceal." (Ghafir: 19). And the Almighty "knows what is on the land and in the sea. Not a leaf falls but that He knows it. And no grain is there within the darkness of the earth and no moist or dry [thing] but that it is [written] in a clear record." (Al-Anaam: 59). Indeed Allaah SWT is ever, over all things an Observer, for He says, "not absent from Him is an atom's weight within the heavens or within the earth or [what is] smaller than that or greater, except that it is in a clear register." (Sabaa: 3). Knowing that, he is really successful who observes his Lord in his words and deeds. And congratulations to those who are sincere to Allaah SWT in all that they do. Another attribute of Allaah SWT that Ayatul Kursi mentions is His great Will. The Aya says "and they encompass not a thing of His knowledge except for what He wills." That is to say, none of His Creation can ever have access to any part of His knowledge unless He has given them permission to do so. The other attribute of Allaah SWT that is highlighted in Ayatul Kursi is Allaah's Ultimate Dominion and Divine Power. In spite of the supremacy of Allaah's dominion and the limitlessness of His Throne, He is ever protecting the heavens and the earth and all that is between them. The Almighty says, "and He restrains the sky from falling upon the earth, unless by His permission." He keeps them safe and in balance and "their preservation tires Him not." So, exalted is the Name of Allaah SWT Who is the only Lord worthy of worship. With this in mind, we pray to Allaah SWT, to make us amongst those who recite His Book and ponder over its meanings. O Allaah SWT, we implore You to guide us all to obey You and obey Your Messenger Muhammad SAW and obey those You have commanded us to obey in line with Your orders: "O you who have believed, obey Allaah and obey the Messenger and those in authority among you." (An-Nisaa: 59).

Continued on page 34, InShaa Allaah



Nine Reasons For a Muslim To Stay Positive

Written by Bro. Al Mustapha / Florida USA

My dear brothers and sisters, as you know, unfortunately negativity and pessimism is always lurking around many of us today. Starting your day with the newspaper at breakfast, headlines of murder, war, terrorism, domestic abuse, and automobile accidents vie for your attention. You end your day with the evening news flashing images of death, destruction, recession and crimes on the TV. Throughout the day, we are bombarded with anxieties, which may include: How long will I be able to keep my current job? Do I have enough money to pay my rent or mortgage this month? How can I save enough for a Hajj trip? How will I support my aging parents? Have I spent enough quality time with my children this week? How will I be able to find time and space to offer prayers with my hectic work schedule? Have I taken care of my personal health and fitness? All these anxieties and many others add up overtime and kill your optimism. It's easy to get stuck in the realities of this life, become depressed, and lose sight of the bigger picture.

Nine Reasons for a Muslim to Stay Positive

1. Allah God Almighty offers a futuristic vision

Throughout the Quran, Allah reminds people about the transient and temporary nature of this life and that the real goal should be fixed on the next life through sound belief and actions. The real success is in the hereafter. Regardless of how easy or difficult your situation is today, it won't last long; this too shall pass.

Through the grand depictions of paradise (Jannah) and hellfire (Jahannam), Allah SWT encourages you to focus on the bigger picture. Moreover, even when Allah describes the unfortunate end of the evil people in the hereafter, He often concludes those passages with the opportunity for believers to repent, to make Tawba, and to change their life so they can achieve salvation in the hereafter.

2. Allah God Almighty promises to always make a way out

If you bear the difficulties in life with patience and remain conscious of Allah, He promises a way out for you: "For indeed, with every hardship comes ease." Quran (94:5)

Moreover, when Allah addresses the issue of divorce, which is perhaps one of the most painful times one would ever have to face, in the chapter named at-Talaq (The Divorce), Allah offers words of comfort to the parties involved:

"...And whoever fears Allah - He will make for him a way out. And will provide for him from (ways) where he does not expect. And whoever relies upon Allah - then He is sufficient for him...." (65: 2-3)

Continued on Page 12, InShaa Allaah



Sis. Amanda Smith

Yes! You Can Learn To Pronounce The Quran Correctly!

By Sister Amanda Smith / Miami Florida

Sister Amanda has an ijaza in Quran recitation and is currently a graduate student in Communication Sciences and Disorders

لَمْ نَجْعَلْ لَهُ عَيْنَيْنِ (٨) وَلِسَانًا وَشَفَتَيْنِ (٩)

“Have We not made for him a pair of eyes? And a tongue and a pair of lips?” Surat Balad: 8-9

We are often reminded of the importance of keeping the words of the Quran distinctly pure, exactly as the Holy Prophet (s) recited them. Important as the task is, it is common for many students of the Quran to struggle with the most basic dimension of correct recitation, proper pronunciation. Many students will struggle for years trying to master the difficult sounds of Arabic and are unfortunately often met with abrupt reprimands for their mistakes. Furthermore, there are many who believe that the task is impossible for adults, or that only those who speak Arabic as their first language would have the ability to properly pronounce the Quran. However, the reality is that our creator has made us with a tongue, lips, and all the equipment we need to learn to recite the Quran correctly and, in sha Allah, with dedication, patience, and practice, it is possible for anyone.

One major struggle for Quran students is hearing the difference between two Arabic letters that may not exist in their native language, such as P and B. According to experts in speech and language development, babies are able to clearly perceive all sounds used in languages of the world, but as they grow their perception will narrow to only the sounds they hear spoken around them. However, this does not mean that older children or even adults cannot learn new sounds. Rather, by implementing strategies such as listening frequently, learning how to move your tongue, and working with a qualified Quran teacher can enable anyone of any age to correctly pronounce the Quran, regardless of their linguistic background.

Another common frustration both Quran students and teachers will experience is pronouncing a letter correctly once, but then incorrectly the next time they read it. For example, many students may be able to say *Ī* by itself but struggle to say it in a word or when they are reading an entire aya. This can lead many students to feel like learning to pronounce challenging letters is impossible, and many teachers may think that their students are simply not paying attention. However, according to speech scientists, intermittent accuracy when learning to produce a new sound is a normal part of the process.

Continued on Page 16, InShaa Allaah

Continued from page 11

By Bro. Al Mustapha

Nine Reasons For a Muslim To Stay Positive

3. Optimism is the attitude of a believer (Mumin)

The Prophet, peace be upon him, said, “Strange is the affair of the Mumin (the believer), verily all his affairs are good for him. If something pleasing befalls him he thanks (Allah) and it becomes better for him. And if something harmful befalls him he is patient (Sabir) and it becomes better for him. And this is only for the Mumin.” [Muslim]

4. Muslim’s reaction to every situation is gratitude

The Prophet, peace be upon him, encouraged you to thank Allah when you hear a pleasant news as well as when you witness a bad news.

When he received good news, he would say, “Al hamdu lillaahi al-adhee bi-nimatihee tatimmu as-saalihaat.” (All Praise is for Allah by whose favor good works are accomplished.)

When he received disturbing news, he said, “Al hamdu lillaahi alaa kulli haal.” (All Praise is for Allah in all circumstances.)

5. Positive thinking is the way of the Prophet

Prophet Muhammad’s personality was a fountain of optimism. Despite his own trying financial situation and the verbal insults hurled at him throughout the Makkah period of his prophethood, he remained extremely positive. He was constantly looking for ways to bring relief to the persecution of the first group of believers. As soon as he realized there was an opening, he asked his companions to migrate to Abyssinia (Ethiopia), where a just Christian ruler would offer them refuge. This marked freedom of religious expression for Muslims for the first time. A few years later, the Prophet wanted a more permanent solution for the Muslim community to live and grow in a positive and peaceful society. Thus, he directed his believing community to migrate to Madinah to establish the first peace sanctuary of Islam, ending over a decade of persecution and negativity. The Prophet SAW was optimistic about the state of even his worst enemies. He was constantly praying for their guidance and asked Allah to strengthen His Deen with the help of these influential leaders. As a result, Omar ibn al-Khattab RA, Khalid bin al-Waleed RA and others embraced Islam. Based on the Prophet’s futuristic outlook, we witness him proactively making alliances with various tribes across Arabia and with nations beyond Arabia. Prophet Muhammad’s optimism, peace and blessings be upon him, and trust in Allah SWT was highlighted during his dramatic journey to Madinah as he and Abu Bakr finally decided to migrate from Makkah. While the Prophet and Abu Bakr hid in a cave on the way to Madinah, their Makkah pursuers got to the mouth of the cave looking to capture them. At this point, Abu Bakr, turned to the Prophet in anxiety saying that they would be killed if the enemies peeked inside. The Prophet responded to his companion with calm and optimism, as recorded in the Quran, “Don’t worry. Verily Allah is with us.”

6. Prophet Muhammad urged us to spread good news

“Give glad tidings, and do not scare people away; make things easy, and do not make things difficult.” (Abu Dawud)

Continued on page 26, InShaa Allaah

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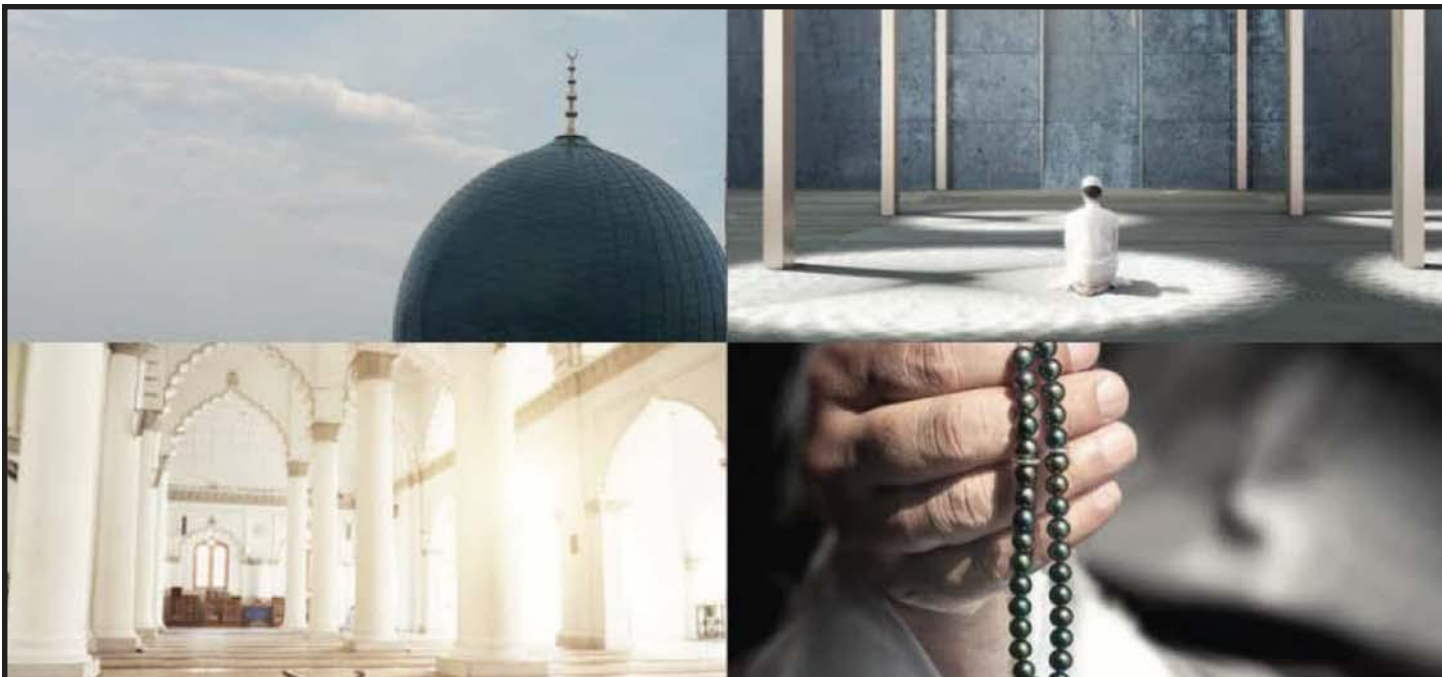
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Bro. Taj Siddiqui

The Hypocrisy of Muslims

“Righteousness is not that you turn your faces toward the east or the west, but true righteousness is in one who believes in Allah, the Day of Judgment, the Angels, the Book, and the Prophets and gives his wealth, in spite of love for it, to relatives, orphans, the needy, the traveler, those who ask for help, and for freeing slaves; and who establishes Prayer and gives Zakat; those who fulfill their promise and contracts when they are made; and those who are patient in tribulation and adversity and time of stress. Such are they who are sincere. Those are the ones who have been true, and it is those who are the righteous.” Quran (2-177). This Ayat mentions two kind of piety and righteousness, one that benefits only you and the other that benefits the people all around you. The tragedy of Islam today is that most of the Muslims place emphasis on the first kind and do not place much importance to the second kind. This is the difference between Muslims who are suffering everywhere and the non-believers, who are on top of the world. And even the first kind of good deeds are performed as they are rituals, and not ibadah. Every year over three million Muslims from all over the world perform Hajj. They exhaust their resources for this once in a lifetime experience. Many of them face hardships of travel, and others spent their life savings. They go back to their homes carrying Zum-Zum, dates, beads and Itar. Men will grow beards and women will start wearing hijab. After a few months, they will find themselves busy in the same routine life full of worldly deceptions. My question to you is what have these people accomplished? **Is there an impact of this colossal global gathering of Muslims at one specified place and on one specified time? Has the Muslim world changed for better after the Hajj?** What is the significance of Hajj? Circling Kaaba and stoning the devil? Few years ago, my dear

friend, a renowned physician at Memorial Hospital, went for pilgrimage. I congratulated him for performing Hajj. He said “Taj Bhai, what I just performed were few rituals. My real Hajj will begin now. How much can I improve my life, and the lives of others around me? Insha Allah.”

Every week, at the end of the Friday Sermon, we hear the following: “Recite what has been revealed to you of the book and establish Salah. **Indeed, Salah prevents from immoral sins and evil deeds.** It is the greatest act of praising Allah. Allah knows what you do.” (Quran 29-45). Off-course, the way we offer Salah, it is not going to prevent us from immoral sins and evil doings. Even our religious leaders and teachers are involved. I have just read a report about sexual harassment of Muslim women in the Kaaba during the Tawaf. The predators are Muslim men who are there performing Hajj. One of the largest brothels in the world is located in a Muslim country, where sewers are routinely clogged due to overwhelming number of condoms flushed in the toilets.

Salah is our direct contact with Allah. We do stand in His audience, thanking and praising Him. We focus our minds for this audience and avoid thinking about earthly items. “Indeed, Salah is an obligatory duty that should be performed at prescribed times by the believers.” (Quran 4-19). Salah teaches us punctuality. Salah creates a well-defined structure of a Muslim’s daily activities. A typical day is divided into four segments, morning, afternoon, evening and night. Each segment starts with performing a Salah. For each segment of the day, we present ourselves in-front of our creator. We obey, praise, and be grateful to the Almighty. After this obligation, we get busy into the scheduled worldly activities for this period of the day. Our activities for the entire day (and night) should be scheduled around the prescribed times for the five Salah. What I described above is the significance of Salah. Now let me tell you how I ex-

Compiled and submitted by Taj Siddiqui
ecute this extremely important duty of my religion. I am happy and satisfied with my Fajar Salah. However, the other four Salah are accomplished without any magnitude. To begin with, I do not understand what I am reading in my Namaz, as I don’t know the Arabic Language. I enact the prescribed physical movements and recite memorized verses from Quran. My brain is unable to focus as it is wandering all over the place. I fail to understand that I am standing in-front of my Lord, my Creator. I do forget whether it is the third rakat or the fourth. I treat my Salah as a part of my daily tasks without any importance. It just becomes a routine as I have to do it every day, five times a day. As soon as I finish the Salah, I am back into all ill-doings.

The Friday Prayer has become a formality. Over 50% will miss the obligatory Khutbah and will arrive just before the Faraz Namaz. The Imam is mentioning about events that happened centuries ago. He does not give any example of a living person. Muslims do not have a role model living today among us. Not a single example. We have to travel back for centuries to look for one. The Imam does not mention the conditions of Muslims around the world. During the past Hajj, the Saudi Imam refused to even make dua for Muslims in Indian Occupied Kashmir. The sermon never talks about the future. The audience are not paying any attention. They just want to fulfill this formality and depart immediately. I truly believe that if we were allowed to pray Jumma at home, then the attendance will be less than half. Is this the weekly assembly prescribed by our religion? Is this the obligation that is mentioned in the Quran? Whom are we kidding? Ourselves or our Lord? Shame on us.

Salah teaches us discipline and organization. To offer Salah in congregation, we form straight lines, and follow imam. However, this discipline is observed only during Faraz salah.

*Continued on page 21,
InShaa Allaah*

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INTERFAITH / COMMUNITY UPDATE

By: Salma Mohammed

PEMBROKE PINES CITY

CLERGY BREAKFAST MEETING



Photo above: Shaikh Shafayat with the Chief of Police.

Photo on left: Alhamdulillah on Thursday Oct. 31st 2019, the Mayor of Pembroke Pines held a Breakfast Meeting with Clergy Leaders and City Officials plus the Police and Fire Department

to discuss issues pertaining to residents of the City.

Peace Pole Dedication Ceremony



Left: Shaikh Shafayat & Mr. Kevin Grace (Right)

Photo above: Al-Hamdulillah on 9/11/2019, Miami Learning Experience held a Peace Pole Ceremony with teachers, students and politicians. Blessings and greetings were given by Rabbi Abraham, Rev. Warren and Shaikh Shafayat. The event was coordinated by Mr. Kevin Grace, the Executive Director MaaShaa Allaah.

Mahatma Gandhi 150 Years Celebration



Shaikh Shafayat with Ela Gandhi (the granddaughter of Mahatma Gandhi)

Photos left & right: On October 21st, 2019 Mahatma Gandhi 150 years Celebration held at Gandhi Square in Davie Florida. Shaikh Shafayat was invited to represent the Muslim Community at the Event, MaaShaa Allaah.



Shaikh Shafayat with Dr Swati (Consul General of India in Atlanta)

Sacred Journey Interfaith Seminary



Photo above: Al-Hamdulillah on Sunday November 3rd, 2019 at the Duncan Retreat Center in Delray Beach Florida, USA. SJIS Sacred Journey Interfaith Seminary ordained graduates as Interfaith Clergy Ministers. Shaikh Shafayat is a member of the Advosriy Board of the Sacred Journey Interfaith Seminary, MaaShaa Allaah.

Photo on right:

Al-Hamdulillah on Sat. Nov. 2019 there was a Spiritual Family Retreat at Markhan Park, Weston Florida USA. The event was coordinated by Bro. Asif Malik. There were Qur'aan recitation and Zhihr sessions by Sis. Zulaika, Sis. Halima, Bro. Hakim and Shaikh Shafayat. The event was a great success, MaaShaa Allaah.

Spiritual Family Retreat



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AL-HIKMAT DA'WAH UPDATE

London Da'wah Trip



Jumua Audience at Europe Islamic Center, Oldham United Kingdom



Qari Abdul Jaleel, Shaikh Shafayat and Hafiz Usman at EIC in Oldham

Photo above: Al-Hamdulillaah on October 11th, 2019 Shaikh Shafayat delivered the Jumua Khutbah at the EIC - Europe Islamic Center - one of the largest Islamic Center in the United Kingdom. Shaikh Shafayat delivered many lectures in Leicester, London, Oldham and many other cities. Programs and lectures were organized by Qari Abdul Jaleel and Maulana Imtiyaz Sidat, MaaShaa Allaah.

MADINATUL ULOOM FAMILY NIGHT



Photo above: Al-Hamdulillaah on Sat. Sept. 7th, 2019 Madinatul Uloom Institute, Florida USA held their Monthly Family Night and Hujjaaj Welcome Back Program. The Guest Speaker was Shaikh Shafayat. MaaShaa Allaah.

South Florida

14TH QUR'AAN COMPETITION

Photo on right:

Al-Hamdulillaah-on Saturday October 26th, 2019 South Florida Muslim Community held their 14th Annual Qur'aan Competition at Darul Uloom Institute. The MC of the program was Qari Shamikh and the program was coordinated by Hafiz Muhammad Khan.



Inter-Religious Commitment at Trinity Lutheran Church



Photo above from left: Reverend Meyer, Rabbi Silver, Pastor Keith, Shaikh Shafayat, and Mr. Tom Good (Pembroke Pines Commissioner)

Photo above: An interfaith service of Inter-Religious Commitment were held at Trinity Lutheran Church, Pembroke Pines Florida on Sunday October 27th, 2019. The guest speakers were Reverend Meyer, Shaikh Shafayat, Rabbi Silver and Mr. Tom Good. They all highlighted how religion beautify humanity.

Continued from page 12/ By Sister Amanda Smith
YES! YOU CAN LEARN TO PRONOUNCE The Quran Correctly!

When one is learning to produce a new sound, the mouth is learning to move in a new way. Just like learning to swim, it takes the body time and practice to be able to master the correct movements to produce these sounds. For example, the letter Ú is produced deep in the throat, using the pharynx. For students who speak English as their first language, the pharynx is normally used only when swallowing, therefore learning to say Ú requires them to use this part of their body in an entirely new way. Naturally, this will take time, practice, and many mistakes along the way. Furthermore, as one is learning it is natural to have less difficulty reading a letter one way, such as in the beginning of the word, and more difficulty reading that same letter in a different context, such as at then end of the word or within a complete aya. To all students of the Quran: remember that with the tafwiq of Allah, practice, and patience, it is possible to read the Quran with correct pronunciation. Recognize that your mind and body both need to adjust and show yourself enough patience to make mistakes without getting discouraged. ☆

Continued from page 15 / By Taj Siddiqui

The Hypocrisy of Muslims

An ex-defense minister of Israel once said that he is afraid of the day when Arabs will learn how to form and stand in lines. Time magazine once wrote about Muslims: no discipline and no organization; and no leadership and no unity. The chaotic scene at the Black Stone at Kaaba is the worst display of discipline in Muslims. Congregation provides us the means to get together five times a day and bond with other Muslims. The goal is to develop a Muslim community that can provide guidance and assistance, and address issues facing our families. We go to Masjid to offer our prayers in congregation only because the reward is 27 times than if we pray Salah at home. We care about our rewards and we do not care about the community. I am showing you a mirror. Please face yourself and try to improve. Try to attain the real goals and true purpose of the five pillars of Islam. May Allah help us and guide us. Aameen. ☆

FEEDBACK / VOICE OF OUR READERS

9/11

PEACE DEDICATION CEREMONY

Dear Imam Shaikh Shafayat

Thank you for participating in our Peace dedication ceremony on September 11th, 2019. I greatly appreciate your time and message. I have heard from many in attendance how they appreciated your message of how we all came from the same tree and share our roots. My hope is that this pole now permanently placed on our campus grounds and your words have a long lasting impact on everyone who was in attendance and everyone who visits our campus for many years to come. Some of our students wrote thank you cards that I have enclosed for you. I hope you enjoy them.

*May Peace Prevail on Earth,
Kevin Grace*

Executive Director / Miami Learning Experience School

Salaam brother,

Hope you are doing well. Al-Hamdulillaah, I enjoy watching ths videos by Shaikh Shafayat. Can you let me know where I can find full Islamic lectures by Shaikh Shafayat? I live in England and I hope to hear from you soon. May Allaah (AWT) give you and rest off the team a long and healthy life with more Noor. May Allaah answer all your Dua and bless your family Ameen.

Waseem Azam / England, United Kingdom

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Ethnic Background: Pakistan

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Ethnic Background: Pakistan

Age: 31 / Resides in Florida
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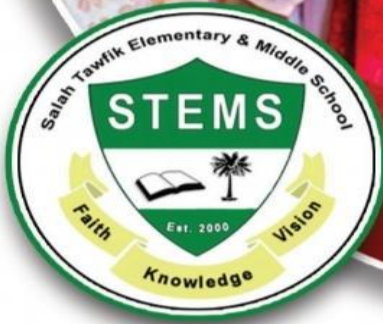
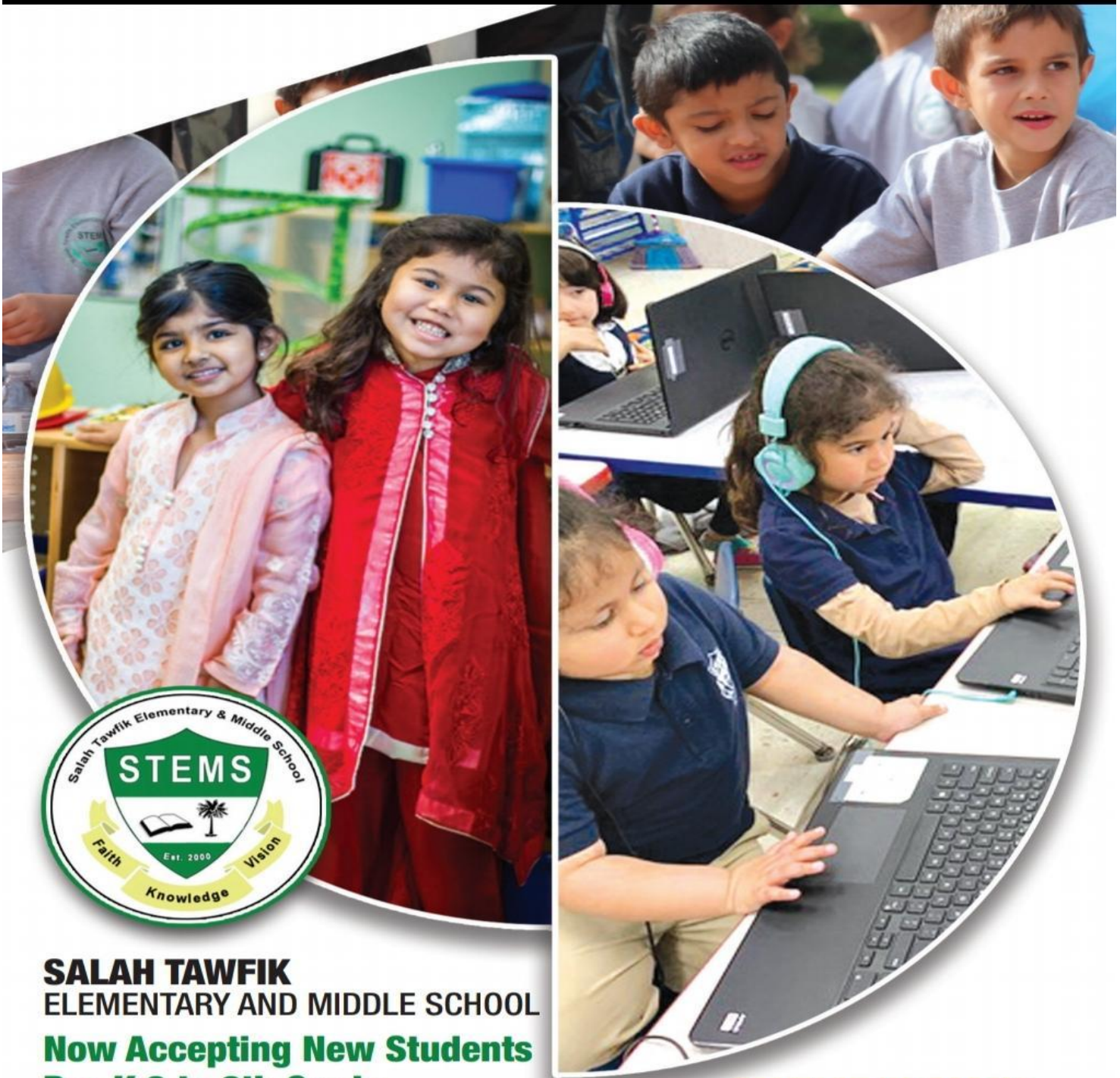
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Linda Kaplan, Esq.

IMMIGRATION CORNER

CHANGES IN ATTITUDES ABOUT IMMIGRANTS

By Linda Kaplan, Esq. / Florida USA

Having practiced immigration law for more than 25 years, I was interested in a recent study done by the Pew Research Institute.

When I first started handling immigration matters, immigration was, from my perspective, rarely discussed. But over the last few years, I have had people (citizens whose families had been in the U.S. for generations) come up to me in the grocery store or at meetings and thank me for the work that I am doing. This led me to wonder, is this just my perspective or have things changed. Clearly there exists a great deal of sometimes vicious anti-immigrant discourse but I have also seen a positive change in attitudes towards immigrants. The Pew Research study confirmed my observation that the U.S. has come to see more and more that Immigrants strengthen the U.S. While the article said that attitudes have changed little in recent years, I was more interested in seeing the comparison of attitudes between now and 1994, well after I started in immigration law. In recent years 62% of the American public say immigrants strengthen the country because of their hard work and talent. 28% think they are a burden because they take jobs, housing and health care. According to Pew Research, in 1994 “attitudes were nearly the reverse of what they are today: 63% of Americans said immigrants burdened the country and 31% said they strengthened it.” The study does show a sharp partisan divide in attitudes. Democrats/lean democrats overwhelmingly say immigrants are a strength (83%) vs. just 11% who say immigrants are a burden. Among Republicans/lean republicans, 38% say immigrants strengthen the country while 49% say they burden it. The study also highlights the generational differences in attitudes. It showed that 75% of millennials say immigrants strengthen the U.S. vs. 64% of Gen Xers, 52% of Baby Boomers and 44% in the Silent generation. In 1994, there was little difference in attitudes among Gen Xers, Boomer and silent generations who all expressed positive views of immigrants. Pew points out that a generational difference is evident in both parties but are especially evident among Republicans. 58% of Millennial Republicans say immigrants strengthen the country compared with just 36% of Gen Ex Republicans and even smaller positive attitudes among older Republican generations. Among Democrats, the study found only small differences among generations with no fewer than 70% of all generations having a positive view of immigration.

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Br. Hamzad

AIM FOR PEACE WITH ALL

By Br. Hamzad Mohammed

T.T.U.T.A.'s TEACHER OF THE YEAR 2013, TRINIDAD, WI

Assalamu Alaikum (peace be unto you)
TO LIVE in peace is what we all strongly desire. But does it come easily? No! I must

admit so without fear of being contradicted. That august body, the **United Nations**, is quite aware of the fact that our world is plagued with hostilities of one kind or the other. Hence the reason it had designated the **Year 2000** as the **International Year of Peace**, so that man can subordinate his evil desires to become a more peaceful being. If man lives in accordance with the teachings of his scriptures, the fragrance of peace will surely pervade the world. This I am very positive of, for all the major religions of the world, one being **Christianity**, advocate peace as a means of living in harmony. For example, the '**Book of Matthew**' in **Chapter 5** states: "**Blessed are the peace makers: for they shall be called the children of God**". The **religion of Islam** in this regard is **no exception**, for it stands uncompromisingly for the attainment of peace. The mere word "Islam" symbolises peace or submission to the will of Allah. Thus it should be clear to all that Muslims should be exemplars to the world as people who love and strive hard to achieve peace. As followers of Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W.), it would be very good for us to remember that the Rasul (S.A.W.) asked of us to work assiduously to promote peace among our Muslim brothers and sisters. Another significant point is that Rasul (messenger) said peace should not only be maintained with our fellow Muslims, but that a harmonious relationship should also be with the non-Muslims. How loving was our dear Prophet!

Let's now turn to Al-Qur'an and ponder on 'PARTS' of some of its verses:

"When those who believe in our signs come to you, say: Peace be upon You." – 6:54

"Peace be upon you." —7:46

"If your enemy inclines to peace; do incline towards peace also." —8:61

"Their greeting therein will be; Peace!" — 14:23 and

"Peace! A word of salutation from a Lord most merciful." – 36:58.

The onus is, therefore, on everyone to do whatever it takes to bring peace to this world so that we would live a life that's befitting of a human being.

I will conclude with a few poetic verses.

**If our world is to brightly glow,
Peace is the only way to go,
For it is to man a sure cure,
To avoid the beast called 'war'.**

POETRY COLUMN

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



Bro. Azad Ali

A SPECIAL WORD

What's in a word that SPECIAL WORD
 A word that binds forever on an unknown road,
 T'is the basis of ties and profound emotion
 That leads to eternal bliss and joyful redemption.....

This four lettered word the foundation of thought
 When divinely inspired cannot be bought,
 Many wars fought in the annals of history
 That WORD that SPECIAL WORD addictive to glory.....
 This common word but subtly uncommon
 A cause for concern from dusk to dawn,
 So many aspire to attain this goal
 Yet it is a word endowed within thy soul.....
 What then is that word that mankind seek ?
 It is a possession within the heart of the bold and meek,
 That WORD is that gift inspired from the ONE above
 That WORD that SPECIAL WORD from Him is
 "LOVE"

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Continued from page 12 Nine Reasons For a Muslim To Stay Positive

By Bro. Al Mustapha

7. **An optimist is an achiever**
 As Winston Churchill once aptly described, "A pessimist sees the difficulty in every opportunity; an optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty." Focus on solutions, not problems. Look for opportunities, not excuses. A results-driven, positive attitude is the mark of an achiever in this life and in the hereafter.

8. **An optimist is usually healthier**

Based on numerous scientific studies of optimists and pessimists, it is known that those who are positive about life, usually:

1. live longer
2. have less incidents of depression and anxiety
3. are more likely to be content and at peace
4. are less likely to experience blood pressure and cardiac problems
5. are more patient and persistent in difficult times

9. **An optimist is a people magnet**

If you are a positive person, people love to be around you. You are a good team player and you look for solutions. Employers, co-workers, neighbors, family members, friends, and volunteers will be attracted to your contagious optimism. People are naturally attracted to those who offer hope and practical advice. On the other hand, people are repelled by those who complain and whine about others and find fault in others.

What does it take to be an Optimist?

1. Focus on solutions, not problems
2. Keep your eye on the bigger picture
3. Develop creative thinking and innovative ways of doing things
4. Tawakkul (Trust in Allah for results)
5. Maintain a balancing act of fear & hope and optimism & reality
6. Start your day with Salaah/prayer and the empowering Duas (supplication) of the Prophet, peace be upon him
7. Keep company with positive, result-oriented people
8. Engage in physical exercise
9. Smile more!
10. Allow for less exposure to media and news!

May Allah SWT always strengthen our Iman and Taqwa, guide and protect us and the Ummah and make us always positive thinking and optimistic and of those who put our trust in Him SWT. Aameen.
 Part contribution: Taha/SoundVision

HUMOR

Husband & Wife

"A husband invited some people to dinner. At the table, the wife turned to their six-year-old daughter and said, "Would you like to say A PRAYER BEFORE MEAL?"

"I don't know what to say," the girl replied.

"Just say what you hear Mommy say," the wife answered.

The daughter bowed her head and said, "OH LORD, WHY DID MY HUSBAND INVITE ALL THESE PEOPLE FOR DINNER ?"



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**THE CONCEPT OF A STATE
IN THE
ISLAMIC SYSTEM**

The Concept of a State in an Islamic System is, that a commonwealth of all the Muslims living as one community under

the guidance and direction of a supreme executive head, the Imam or the Caliph. But when there is no de jure Imam there seems to be nothing in law which precludes the recognition of politically independent Muslim States. In case of Imam the responsibility of administration rests with him, but for the convenience of administration, he may delegate his powers to different persons. He may appoint Ministers for consultation or delegate them powers. He may appoint a Governor of a particular country and may confer such powers as may be necessary. He may delegate powers to officers, such as, command of army, administration of justice, revenue, police and the like. But the Imam has no legislative powers at all, though he may interpret the law if he happens to be a jurist, but his interpretation will have no special authority. He is bound by law and by order and decrees of the Court like other citizens, provided he submits himself to order. The Imam is merely a representative or delegate of the people from whom he derives his rights and privileges. This office is elective, being based of *Ijmaa*. But as it is not possible for all the Muslims to take part in elections, he may be elected by the nobility, the gentry and the learned. Once duly elected, the Imam acquires supreme control over the executive administration of the State. If he happens to be oppressive or violates Islamic injunctions he may be replaced. From this one can conclude that there have been efforts of law to adjust the true Islamic idea of an Imam as the representative of the people, pure and simple. It would be relevant to mention that the procedure for the selection of the Head of a State and the required qualifications for such an office have been specifically provided. As mentioned above, the selection of the Head of the State is to be affected Taqwa i.e. his obedience to Allah, his apostle. By the word Taqwa is meant unqualified submission of a person and his senses including his passions to the Will of God and His laws. The head of the State must possess

perfect knowledge besides his knowledge of Al-Quran and traditions of the Prophet (Pbuh) he must have the capacity and foresight to take a right decision at the right occasion. The Imam is also the custodian of such public property as rivers, public roads, waste lands and the like. He is the ultimate guardian of trusts and institutions intended for the benefit of the community and of persons such as minors, lunatics and idiots, etc. He has besides a general disciplinary power over the Muslims, so that he can enforce the chastisement and compel the people to observe religious injunctions and public decorum. He has not only powers, in the fiscal matters but also with regard to appointment of Qadis and otherwise providing the administration of justice. He may appoint a Non-Muslim Governor and may delegate to him the powers of appointing a Qadi. He is the trustee of public property and in no sense owner of it. Such public property consists of all revenues which when collected are to be deposited in Baitul Mal. From the above we conclude that the conception of a State in Islam is the commonwealth of Muslims headed by Imam or Caliph.

RECOGNITION CORNER

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Farooq currently holds the position of Executive Director – Claims & Litigation for University of Miami Health System. Prior to accepting this position, he served as the Claims Manager for Team Health. Farooq is a Diplomate of the American Board of Risk Management Professionals, a distinction bestowed upon very select professionals in the field of Risk Management. He has over 30 years’ experience in hospital administration, finance and risk & medical malpractice

claims management. Farooq obtained his under graduate and graduate degrees in business from Nova University. He is one of the founding members of Darul Uloom Institute and Islamic Training Center. Since joining University of Miami in August 2018, Farooq, along with the Chief Risk Officer, is in the process of reorganizing and improving the risk management and claims litigation management program for UHealth, an enterprise worth \$3 Billion. Farooq Shafi was an award recipient at Al-Hikmat Annual Award Ceremony on April 2019. He is also a regular donor and supporter of Al-Hikmat Da’wah and Community services.

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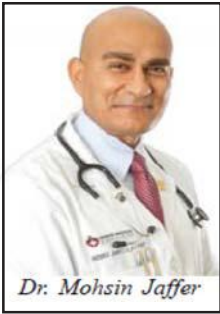
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By Dr. Mohsin Jaffer / President of Senior Medical Associates

IMMEDIATE RELIEF FROM EAR PAIN

Ear pain can be solved quickly at your doctor's office under 10 minutes.

Ear wax (also known as cerumen) performs an important job protecting the ear canal and ear drum from dryness and debris while regulating the temperature. Ear wax protects the skin of the ear from infection and water. Unfortunately, sometimes the body produces too much ear wax, or the wax becomes dry. This phenomenon can cause ear pain, ringing in the ears, ear blockage, and sometimes even temporary hearing loss. If left untreated, the condition can wear away at the fragile structure of the inner ear, harming the ear canal and ear drum. An ear lavage is a simple remedy that can be performed by a doctor. It is used to clean out the ears, providing immediate pain relief. An ear lavage can also be used to remove objects that have been trapped in the ears. In some cases, an ear lavage is the wrong answer. If the pain is actually coming from an ear infection or damaged ear drum, a lavage can be very damaging. If you have ear implants or an auto-immune disease, an ear lavage may have other complications. It is best to visit a doctor prior to attempting an ear lavage at home.

Symptoms Improved by Ear Lavage:

*Ear blockage *Ringing in ears *Ear discomfort *Earaches *Temporary hearing loss

As you age, eardrums get thicker affecting bones in the middle ear and auditory nerve. This results in a decline in hearing sharpness. An accumulation of ear wax is also a cause of trouble hearing. The First Visit - Firstly, excessive earwax can be identified during a routine doctor visit. This is often what happens when people do not realize they are living with excessive wax. The doctor will

examine your ear using an otoscope: a magnifying glass with a built-in flashlight. After you have visited a doctor and confirmed that the problem is either excess earwax, dry ear wax, or an object trapped inside the ear, the procedure can be done at your doctor's office. It is recommended to have a medical professional remove any large objects, as the procedure could damage the inner ear. Sometimes, an ear lavage must be done multiple times a day.

At the Doctor - You will be asked to either lie down or sit with your head angled to the side. The doctor will use an applicator, which looks like a cross between an eyedropper and a syringe, to flush out your ear with either warm water or a saline solution. You will be provided with a bowl to catch the water and ear wax. The procedure is not especially comfortable, but will be done within 10-15 minutes.

Like most good things, ear lavages can be overused. Even if excess ear wax is a reoccurring problem, it is recommended to restrict the procedure to 2-3 times a day for up to 4 days. This will minimize irritation to the ears, and provide time for recovery.

Alternative Solutions - When a lavage is not effective: prescription ear drops (trolamine, polypeptide oleate, cerumenex) or for dry ear wax: ear pick (don't push too far into ear). We recommend avoiding the use of cotton swabs as the tendency is to push the swab too far into the ear resulting in pushing more wax into the canal.

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QUESTION & ANSWER CORNER

By: Shaikh Shafayat Mohamed

Importance of Saying Assalaamu Alaikum in Islam

Question: How important is Assalaamu Alaikum in Islam?

Answer: Al-Hamdulillaah - ASSALAAMU ALAIKUM is very important according to the teachings of Islam. Allaah SWT says in the Qur'aan Ch: 4 V: 86, "And when you are greeted with a greeting, greet [in return] with one better than it or [at least] return it [in a like manner]. Indeed, Allaah is ever, over all things, an Accountant."

Hazrat Abu Hurairah (RA) reported: Messenger of Allah (SAW) said, "By Him in Whose Hand my soul is! You will not enter Jannah until you believe, and you shall not believe until you love one another. May I inform you of something, if you do, you love each other. Promote salam amongst you". Allaah (SWT) has commanded us to greet in return with something better than what we are greeted with, or to greet back with the same greeting.

Narrated 'Abdullah bin 'Amr: A man asked the Prophet (S.A.W), "What Islamic traits are the best?" The Prophet said, "Feed the people, and greet those whom you know and those whom you do not know." We do not have to know the people to greet them with salaam; rather we should give salaam to people we know and whom we do not know. Narrated Abu Huraira: Allah's Messenger (S.A.W) said, "The riding one should greet the walking one, and the walking one should greet the sitting one, and the small number of persons should greet the large number of persons."

Allaah Knows Best

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Inshaa, Allaah, Ameen - Maashaa, Allaah

Continued from page 11

By: Bro. Farooq Shafi / Florida USA

Continued from Page 8

Importance of Ayatul Kursi

O Allaah SWT, we implore You to guide us all to obey You and obey Your Messenger Muhammad SAW and obey those You have commanded us to obey in line with Your orders: "O you who have believed, obey Allaah and obey the Messenger and those in authority among you." (An-Nisaa: 59). May Allaah direct us all to the blessings of the Glorious Quran and the Sunna of His Messenger SAW. I say this and ask Allaah SWT for forgiveness for me and you, so invoke Him for forgiveness, for He is the Most Forgiving, the Most Merciful. Please be aware that the most important thing we should advise each other about is obeying Allaah SWT and read Ayatul Kursi and contemplate on its meanings. Indeed, reciting this Aya strengthens one's obedience to His Lord and fills the heart of its reader with faith and assurance. In light of its importance, some Prophetic Hadiths urged for reciting Ayatul Kursi at eight different times per day. In fact, those who are steadfast on reciting it after each obligatory prayer will be greatly rewarded by Allaah SWT and, by His grace, will be amongst the dwellers of Paradise. The Prophet SAW said, "Whoever recites Ayatul Kursi immediately after each prescribed prayer, there will be nothing standing between him and his entering Paradise except death." On another level, amongst the virtues of Ayatul Kursi is that Allaah SWT made in it a sufficient cure and a protection from the Shaiatan for those who read it in the morning and in the evening. So, whoever reads Ayatul Kursi before going to sleep, will remain, by Allaah SWT's favor, under His protection from the devil until the morning. Therefore, it is such a beautiful thing that we teach our children the merits of Ayatul Kursi and urge them to be diligent in reciting it. By so doing, they will be mindful of Allaah SWT all the time for He "knows [every] secret within the heavens and the earth." (Al-Furqan: 6). Ultimately, they will please their Lord, perfect their work and excel in their life. Truly, Ayatul Kursi is a cause for protecting the family, for its members will, by Allaah SWT's grace, cherish a stable

life, protected from the temptations of the Satan. Thus, you are invited to recite this Aya in the morning and evening as well as after each prayer. You are also urged to teach your children to be steadfast on reading it. That being said, please bear in mind that we are instructed to invoke peace and blessings on the Prophet SAW who said, "for everyone who invokes a blessing on me will receive ten blessings from Allaah SWT." O Allaah, we seek your grace to protect us in between our hands and from behind us and make us amongst those who are mindful to You as if they were seeing You. O Allaah, please help us to be obedient to Your ordains and bless us with the company of Your Prophet SAW on the Day of Judgment. O Allaah, please confer Your blessings and grant peace upon our Prophet Muhammad SAW, his family and all of the companions. O Allaah, may we ask You for all that is good, in this world and in the Hereafter and save us from the torment of hell fire. O Allaah, we seek Your grace to admit us, our parents, whoever has done a favor to us and all Muslims to Your Paradise. O Allaah, please forgive all of the Muslims, men and women, living and dead. O Lord, forgive and show mercy on our parents, relatives and whoever has done a favor to us. O Allaah, do not let anyone amongst us be deprived or desperate, In Sha Allaah, Ameen!

Allaah SWT Knows best!

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Inshaa Allaah, Ameen

SOME MUSLIMS ARE RACIAL IN AMERICA

By: Sis. Sylmarie Mustapha

What is our justification for these weaknesses? Is it that we feel that only a few select sisters are competent enough to have control and orderliness at the Masajid? Of course, we absolutely need some type of control and restrictions, but at what price? What message are we sending to our community, our sisters and brothers in humanity? We have failed our sisterhood, our children, our Imams, our future generation; by showing self-importance, entitlement and prejudice. Is this the behavior we want our children and future generations to inherit? More importantly, it is wrong, in the sight of Allah (SWT), who is the Judge of mankind, the Almighty, the Superior, the Most Powerful, the Just, the Merciful, the Kind, the Fair. As a Muslim, it is our duty to treat everyone well according to the rights for which they are entitled, whether they are family members or fellow human beings. We should promote sisterhood/brotherhood at all times and when necessary speak with kindness to those who may need some type of order. The feeling of sisterhood/brotherhood is mandatory for unity. May Allah continue to help us to establish the true spirit of sisterhood/brotherhood which is only possible if we act upon the teachings of the Holy Quran and Prophet Muhammad (SAW). Ameen Allah (SWT) said: "Do not ascribe purity to yourselves. Allah knows best who is righteous." (53:32).

"You will see the believers in their having mercy for one another, and in their love for one another, and in their kindness towards one another, like the human body: when one limb is ailing, the whole body feels it, one part calling out the other with sleeplessness and fever."

"You have not believed until you love for others that which you love for yourselves".

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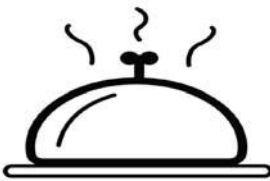


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