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Inshaa Allaah Maashaa Allaah



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We Should Not Mis-Represent Qur'aan & Sunnah



Shaikh Shafayat

Summarized by Bro. Kaleem
AL-HIKMAT Representative

Today I would like to remind all of us of the importance of becoming people of good conduct and characteristics. We hear a lot about ibaadah and Alhamdulillah we do them but how important are good characteristics in Islam? Many times, many people who look and pray like Muslims tend to have shortcomings in this area. Many times we behave better in the malls and supermarkets than we do in the masjids. We smile at the cashiers in the stores but obstruct people in the parking lots at the masjids. We go for Hajj and see people pushing while making tawaf. People fighting for the front lines in the masjid. The Prophet (s.a.w.) speaks about that person who gets up on a Friday, takes a shower, puts on his best clothing, goes to the masjid, finds a spot and sits calmly and peacefully. In hadith, it talks about not crossing other people or pushing people aside. The brother/sister we push aside or treat with scorn would get all the blessings. We should not cause inconvenience to rush even when trying to catch our salaah. How could we think it ok to inconvenience other people in the name of being pious? The salaah, Qur'an, fasting, etc are important but where are the good characteristics? This is a problem we see in the world even from Presidents, doctors, the wealthy, and the educated. Muslims are supposed to set a better example. "In the Qur'an Chapter 33 vs 21, Allah (s.w.t.) says: "There has certainly been for you in the Messenger of Allah an excellent pattern of conduct for anyone whose hope is in Allah and the Last Day and [who] remembers Allah often." We should remind ourselves that the ibadah we do is for the pleasure of Allah and that we should do things in the way that the Prophet (s.a.w.) taught us. It is us who gets the benefit and not Allah but it is important to do things for the love of Allah and not just for fear of Jahannam and not getting into Jannah. We dress like Muslims, representing the Prophet (s.a.w.) and we act the opposite when talking and interacting with people. We are misrepresenting the Qur'an and the sunnah. In the eyes of Allah, we would be exalted in good character. We must also try our very best to keep away from all sins especially the major and minor sins.

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LOVE FOR OUR NEIGHBORS



Pastor Keith A. Spencer

For many Christians, today is Good Friday, the second of the “Great Three Days” of the Triduum in what we call Holy Week, which concludes with sunrise Easter morning, the day we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. Normally our churches are filled with worshippers as we recount the final days of Jesus leading up to his death upon the cross, his arrest, sham trial, humiliation, and suffering. These services are solemn, moving, and meaningful. It reminds us of the cost of the grace that we have received and our full dependence upon God whose promises can trust completely. “After telling this story on Good Friday, the service of Tenebrae or “shadows,” which is a typical choice for Good Friday, concludes with the procession and adoration of the cross in which a large cross is carried in and then worshippers are invited to kneel before it and express their thanks and devotion to the one who hung upon it for their sakes and the sake of the world. It is not unusual to see people weep there, heads bowed. “This year due to CONVID 19 and the subsequent restrictions placed upon us for our safety, our Holy Week and Easter services, like worship services for our Muslim, Jewish, and other interfaith friends, will be different. There will be no gathering together in person, but live streaming. There will be no washing of feet on Maundy Thursday or adoration of the cross on Good Friday. Easter morning at sunrise, our garden will not be full of worshippers celebrating the resurrection of Jesus with candles and praise. On a day of the greatest joy for Christians, when we shout “Christ is risen, Alleluia,” people will be doing so from the safety of their own homes. “A handful of our singers and musicians along with myself will be in an empty sanctuary Easter morning in front of a video camera, streaming our service to people through Facebook and YouTube, to people throughout the world, just as our Jewish friends just recently had to do for Passover, and you, our Muslim friends now do each week, for your Jumu’ah prayers. In the joy of such worship, there is a tinge of sadness and loss as we adapt to our current circumstances and seek the opportunities that God offers us in this time. Last week, as our congregation helped provide groceries to hundreds of suffering families, we reached out to the Darul Uloom Institute to share from the bounty provided to us. My prayer for this time is that we would all continue to honor God by choosing to strengthen and enrich our interfaith ties and a living act of worship and devotion; to embody the love we have for God in our love for our neighbor. Tb n he blessings of God be upon you, always, friends!

Bilingualism:



Sis. Amanda Smith

A WAY TO COME TO KNOW OUR CREATOR

By Sister Amanda Smith / Miami Florida

Sister Amanda has an ijaza in Quran recitation and is currently a graduate student in Speech Language Pathology

In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful, the Creator of all mankind, the Fashioner of all our shapes and forms, I bear witness that there is no god but God, and Muhammad is his servant and messenger. In the Quran, Allah (SWT) often speaks of His creation. He describes the heavens and the earth, the plants and the animals, and even humankind. The Holy Quran describes how He fashioned the prophet Adam (as) from clay, and how every baby is fashioned in the womb of their mother. The Holy Quran not only describes creation but points out how creation itself is a sign of Allah (SWT). In Surat Room, aya 22, Allah (SWT) points out that the creation of heavens and the earth are among His signs. The stars, the planets, the oceans, and the earth beneath our feet is often thought of as miraculous, as subjects worthy of reflection. However, the aya points to two more of Allah’s (SWT) signs, two signs that sadly are often not met by mankind with as much awe as the heavens or the earth, yet described with the same level of reverence: our differences in languages and colors. Subhan Allah, the Ummah is incredibly diverse, reaching every country and every corner of the world. Muslims are of every color and speak a wide variety of languages. The Quran teaches that this diversity is not only a blessing but a sign of our Creator. However, a common myth exists that learning more than one language can be harmful to children. In countries where Muslims have migrated, it is common for parents to speak one language and children to learn the language of the new country. Many people think that parents should encourage their children to speak the dominant language of there area and that speaking their native tongue will harm their children’s ability to succeed in school and life. Alhamdulillah, this is false. Research shows that children who speak a language at home other than the one commonly spoken in their country will eventually learn the dominant language. Furthermore, knowing more than one language will not harm their ability to succeed in school. Though we may not realize it, exposure to language is everywhere. When children go to school, watch TV, play with others, or even go with their parents to the store, they are exposed to the dominant language of the country they live in. Learning to speak and understand the language of their parents will not stop that. A common reason why people think that it is harmful to children to learn more than one language is because of a phenomenon called “code-switching.” This is when someone who speaks two or more languages will switch between the languages, sometimes in the same sentence. For example, a child who speaks both English and Spanish my say something like: “I want agua” to mean “I want water.” Often, adults will fear that this means the child is confused, but this is not true. Code-switching can happen for many reasons, such as a word in one language is easier to say than the other, or they just haven’t learned that word in the other language yet. Even if a child does this, they do understand these are parts of two different languages and are not confused. Allowing our children to have the opportunity to learn more than one language allows them to have stronger connections to their families and communities. It also provides them with an important opportunity to explore one of the beautiful signs of Allah (SWT).“



Sister Sylmerie

SISTER'S CORNER

By: Sis. Sylmarie Mustapha / Coral Springs, Florida

**CORONA VIRUS
BROUGHT
FAMILY & FRIENDS
TOGETHER**

And We will surely test you with something of fear and hunger and a loss of wealth and lives and fruits, but give good tidings to the patient. Quran 2:155 "Assalamu Alaikum, My dear sisters, and brothers, over the past several weeks, we have all been faced with a serious worldwide health pandemic that has resulted in very tragic and devastating losses to many around the world. Many families have suffered the loss of family member(s), others were faced with the loss of their jobs, which also meant the loss of health insurance, possibly jeopardizing the loss of their home, increasing the risk of not being able to feed their families, or not being able to pay the electric bill or all the other payments that most of us are faced with every month. There has been a lot of fear, fear of the unknown. It is a normal human reaction to such an unforeseen crisis. Most of us have never experienced or thought we would ever experience a crisis like this. Our daily life came to a subdued and humbling halt. We were faced with a house full of "work at home" family members and "stay at home" school kids. All the worldly things that kept us busy and away from each other, were not available to consume our time. We were forced to go back to the days when families prayed together, ate dinner together, talked, and conversed with each other, bonded together, laughed together, helped each other. We made more phone calls to our families, relatives, friends, and associates, to check up on one another and to offer help if needed. Neighbors were offering to help the elderly, to help each other, offering to prepare meals and deliver food, groceries, or other services to those who needed help. Many of us dug deep in our pockets, in our overstocked pantries, or overstocked medicinal supplies and our overstuffed closets to aid those in our community and abroad who had suffered an unimaginable loss. Families bonded, local communities united, nationwide, people felt the sympathy and compassion for those whose lives were devastated by this tragedy and to help those in need. Humanity returned to the earth. Worldwide quarantine, isolation, and confinement parlayed into unity, generosity, and commonality. Worldwide panic and fear brought us all together, praying for the same healing help from Allah (SWT). We all felt vulnerable, defenseless and destitute, and so many more of us turned in sujud to Allah (SWT), the Giver of Life, the Protector, the Compassionate, the

Continued on page 29, InShaa Allaah

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***Congratulation To
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Al-Hamdulillaah- On Feburary 21th 2020 Danyal and Anum were blessed with their first baby girl, Laiba Ali habib.

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Ayaan & Izhaan Umair Ahmed

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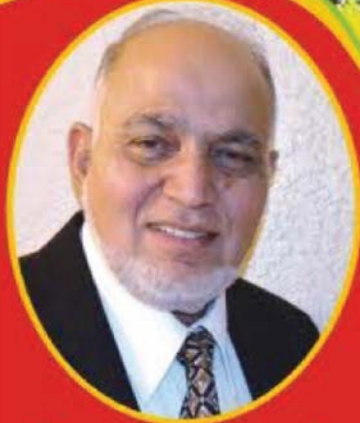


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AL-HIKMAT INTERNATIONAL MUSLIM MAGAZINE



Bro. Al Mustapha

CARING FOR OTHERS

By Bro. Al Mustapha / Florida USA

Allah SWT says in His Final Testament the Holy Quran (English meaning) in chapter 56: 4-12: "When the earth is shaken with a shock. And the mountains are crushed and crumbled. And they become scattered dust. And you become three classes. Those on the Right—what of those on the Right? And those on the Left—what of those on the Left? And the Forerunners, the Forerunners. Those are the nearest. In the Gardens of Bliss. My friends, please try to recite/read the rest of this beautiful chapter 56 with the description of what will happen on the Day of Judgement and how we will be placed into 3 different groups or classes by Allah SWT. May Allah make us all of those who are chosen to be in the 3rd group; the Forerunners or at least in the 1st group; those on the Right, Aameen! My friends, we will have to earn the esteem Mercy and Pleasure of our Creator SWT to get into group 3 or group 1. This would require us to truly pass the many tests of life such as fulfilling the 5 Pillars of Islam and the 6 Articles of Faith: "1. Believe and pray to our Creator Allah SWT alone, obey His commands, and follow the teachings of His Last Prophet Muhammad PBUH 2. Pray our five daily prayers 3. Pay our Zakat to the poor 4. Fast in Ramadhan 5. Make the Hajj Pilgrimage if we have the means to do so. We must also fulfill the Articles of our Faith: 1. Worship Allah (God Almighty) alone 2. Belief in His Angels 3. Belief in His original Books 4. Belief in His Messengers 5. Belief in the Last Day/Judgement/Heaven and Hell 6. Belief in the Divine Preordainment and Divine Decree (Qadr). "We should also have good character, be kind to our parents, help the poor and needy, live good with our neighbors and generally try to obey the commands of Allah SWT and follow the example of the noble Prophet Muhammed PBUH.

Continued on page 15, InShaa Allaah



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Bro. Farooq Shafi

Bismillah Hir Rahmanir Raheem

Know Yourself Know Allah SWT

By Bro. Farooq Shafi/ Florida USA

Do you know who you are? I mean, do you know who you REALLY are? This

might seem a rather silly question. Most people would reply by saying, "Of course, I know who I am!" And if they are asked to explain, they'd probably give you their full CV: name, address, date of birth, marital status, qualifications, hobbies and so forth. But that's only a biography. You and I and he and she are much more than a biography.

Holy Prophet SAW once said that "He who knows himself, will know his Lord." What did he mean by this? How can we know Allaah SWT by knowing ourselves better?

When someone asks you, who are you? How many of us are likely to say, "I am an eternal Soul, living inside a mortal body for a few short years; and when my body dies and returns to the earth where it came from, my Soul will fly like a celestial bird, through the heavenly spheres, beyond time and space, to return to its Maker. "This is the real meaning of "Inna lil laahi wa Inna ilayhir Raaji Oon;" "From Allaah SWT we've come, and to Allaah SWT we will return." (Quran 2:156)

We are essentially spiritual beings, not just physical bodies. Each one of us has an individual personality. By the way, a person, or personality derives from the Greek "Persona" which means an actor's mask. We wear different masks; a mask for the public, our public 'persona' and a private mask, our private persona. We may think we know who we are, but Allaah SWT alone knows what lies behind the mask!

We have a body which is physical, a mind or intellect which is rational (or sometimes irrational). We have a heart which is emotional, subject to constant changes, influenced by likes and dislikes. Then at the very core of our being, the innermost sanctuary of the heart, we have a Soul, a Ruuh.

The Quran tells us about the Ruuh, the Soul:

"They shall ask you about the Soul. Say, it is of the Command of your Lord (min 'amri Rabbi) and of knowledge you have been given only a little." (Quran 17:85)

What little we know about the Soul is that it is the "Breath of Allaah SWT" that was inspired into us before we were born. It is not of earthly substance, and it will not die when our bodies are laid to rest. The interesting thing is that the Soul has an imprint of Allaah SWT's Names, Asma ul Husna. Your Soul and my Soul, and the Soul of every human being that ever was and ever will be, was asked by Allaah SWT,

Continue on page 26...



IMMIGRATION CORNER

By Linda Kaplan, Esq. / Florida USA

**WE ARE ALL
IN THIS
TOGETHER**

We are all in this together, we always have been but the behavior of some has often not reflected this fact of life. Our current health care crisis has taught this lesson to some. Previously, few were concerned about whether or not food service workers were paid sick leave. We all know that if sick pay is not available, people will come to work sick, infecting other workers and the customers. Now many have now come to understand that paid sick leave for all workers protects everyone. If people do not have sick pay and do not have health care, we will all suffer.

In this time of crisis and social distancing, it is important to look at aspects of this as it relates to immigration.

PUBLIC CHARGE ANALYSIS

One of the new anti-immigrant policies which I have not had time to write about is the new "Pubic Charge Analysis" by which all but the most well off are denied U.S. residence despite having significant family ties in the U.S. It is a draconian measure, and everyone is struggling to understand how the Immigration service will apply this. A bit of good news on this is that USCIS announced on Friday that any immigrant who gets tested or treated will not be negatively impacted as part of a future public charge analysis.

ASYLUM DETAINEES

Noah Lanard, a reporter for Mother Jones wrote that "Last week, a Cuban asylum seeker called me from a for-profit jail in Louisiana to express the same fear shared by people across the world. The man, whom I'll call Alberto to protect him from potential retaliation, had more reason to worry about the coronavirus than most: He was detained in a crowded room alongside nearly 100 others at a jail run by LaSalle Corrections, a company with a long record of providing shoddy medical care. 'If coronavirus gets in here' he said, 'it's going to be a massacre.'" When reading this, I urge you to remember that we are all in this together – this is not just about those in ICE detention. Those detained may be infected by jail workers who bring it into the facility, and/or the jail workers may be infected by the detainees and bring it back to their families and communities.

Apart from the current crisis, ICE has been found by at least one federal Judge to be unnecessarily subjecting asylum seekers to mandatory detention. These people are not criminals,

Continued on Page 34, InShaa Allaah



Br. Hamzad

**FOLLOW
AL-QUR'AN
FOR REWARDS**

*By Br. Hamzad Mohammed
T.T.U.T.A.'S TEACHER OF THE YEAR 2013, TRINIDAD, WI*

Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W.) was given a beautiful gift, the Holy Qur'an. He left some invaluable **ahadith** (sayings) on it, a few of which are:

- The best among you is he who learns the Qur'an and teaches it.
- One who is well versed in Qur'an will be in the company of angels who are scribes, noble and righteous; and he who falters in reading it and has to exert hard for its learning, gets double the reward.
- **Hasad** (jealousy) is not permitted except in respect of two:
 - one who Allah blesses with recitation of Qur'an and remains engaged in it day and night and the other who is given a lot of wealth by Allah and spends it day and night.
- Allah exalts many people by means of the Holy Qur'an and He also degrades and disgraces others by means of the same.
- On the day of judgement, three things will be under the shade of the **arsh** (Allah's throne), one of which is the Qur'an.
- Whoever reads the Qur'an and learns it by heart and regards its lawful as such and its unlawful as forbidden, will be admitted to **Jannah** (Heaven) by Allah who will also accept his intercession in respect of such ten persons of his family who will have been doomed to **Jahannam** (Hell).
- He in whose heart there's no part of Qur'an is like unto a deserted house.
- On the day of judgement it will be said to the man of Qur'an, "Go on reciting the Qur'an and continue ascending the storeys of **paradise** and recite in measure what you had been reading in worldly life; your final abode will be where you reach at the time of the last **ayah** (verse) of your recitation."

Continued on Page 25,



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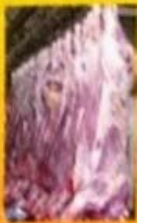
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THE COVENANT OF THE PROPHETS

Submitted by Br. Twalib Ali / Canada

Who were all men

Messengers of Almighty God with Muhammad (the Unlettered Prophet) as the Final Messenger

Holy Quran - Sura 3 vs. 81

When Allah (Almighty God) made His Covenant with His Prophets, He said, "Behold that which I have given you of the Scripture and knowledge; and afterwards there will come unto you a Messenger confirming that which ye possess. Ye shall believe in him and ye shall help him." He (Allah) said, "Do you agree and will ye take up My burden which I lay upon you in this matter?" They answered, "We agree." He (Allah) said, "Then bear ye witness. I will be a Witness with you."

Almighty God revealed that He sent a Prophet to every nation in their own language. (Holy Quran - Sura 4 vs. 14; Sura 16 vs. 36)

He also revealed in Sura 33 verse 40 of the Holy Quran, "Muhammad is not the father of any man among you, but he is the Messenger of Allah and the Seal of the Prophets; and Allah is aware of all things." No one can claim any link to this prophet-hood by virtue of blood-line relationship(s). Prophet-hood is not hereditary. Every Prophet (or Messenger) preached and taught to worship ONE God (the Creator of everyone and everything in the Heavens and on earth and all in between). They gave Good News to those who would believe and warned the unbelievers of the punishment of Hell-Fire. They were given Divine Revelations as Guidance in the form of Books and many Prophets were given gifts to assist them in convincing their people.

We are reminded throughout the Last Revelation (the Holy Quran) that as Believers, we are not to make any distinction amongst God's Messengers (Sura 2 vs. 285; Sura 3 vs. 84).

Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) is referred to as the "Unlettered Apostle" as mentioned in Sura 3 vs. 81, Sura 7 vs. 157 and 158, and a "Universal Messenger" to all Mankind - Sura 34 vs. 28.

Continued On Page 30

Continued from page 11,

by Bro. Al Mustapha / Florida USA

CARING FOR OTHERS

What do we expect the non-practicing and non-muslims to think when they see us? Let us not be a people who are arrogant, selfish and not kind to people. We must also try our very best to keep away from all sins especially the major and minor sins. **My friends, as we observe the blessed month of Ramadhan and benefit from the never-ending blessings of Allah that's being showered on us for our obedience of Allah the Almighty by praying, fasting, reciting our Quran and helping families and friends, let us take time to really absorb the beauty of these ways of worship by taking our time and focusing on our Salaah and our Quran reading and our dhikr with utmost khushoo and sincerity and ikhlas with intention to please our Creator and become better servants and better human beings with the best character.** Let us also do a lot of self-reflection and ask ourselves how often do we step up to help friends, relatives and others in need, those who ask and those who don't ask for help with food, a job, moving, a ride, paying rent, etc. do we run to them or away from them? Quite often we find ourselves searching for any excuse to not help instead of finding ways to help others. It might be a natural reaction but it might also be a swift kick from our biggest enemy Satan who will do anything and everything in his power to prevent us from gaining the pleasure of Allah by helping His creation. **The Messenger Muhammad SAW said:** Allah (Mighty and Sublime be He) will say on the Day of Resurrection: O son of Adam, I fell ill and you visited Me not. He will say: O Lord, and how should I visit You when You are the Lord of the worlds? He will say: Did you not know that My servant So-and-so had fallen ill and you visited him not? Did you not know that had you visited him you would have found Me with him? O son of Adam, I asked you for food and you fed Me not. He will say: O Lord, and how should I feed You when You are the Lord of the worlds?

He will say: Did you not know that My servant So-and-so asked you for food and you fed him not? Did you not know that had you fed him you would surely have found that (the reward for doing so) with Me?....Let us find ways to help others rather than find excuses to NOT help! My friends, when we care it shows, when we don't care it also shows! Let us care for one another as commanded by our Creator. We are currently facing very turbulent times especially since the start of 2020. The deadly fires, tornadoes and the Corona Virus and all the recent life changes are most definitely a wake-up call from our Creator! We need to care more about others and not be selfish but do more to help Allah's creation. We should all ask ourselves: who can we assist, inspire or motivate in this time of need and as a habit going forward? What are we doing to make ourselves better human beings? How are we making our families stronger? How are we helping our community? And most importantly, **WHAT AM I DOING TO STRENGTHEN MY RELATIONSHIP WITH MY CREATOR ALLAH SWT?** As a scholar recently asked; "What are you doing for yourselves to help others?". Let us also remember, helping our 'well to do' and 'rich' friends to impress them and others is definitely not the same as helping others who are really in need of our assistance. Remember, assistance is not always about giving money, you can give someone a call, food, good advice, knowledge, a ride to the store, help them my friends! We do it only for the pleasure of Allah SWT. The noble Prophet SAW said, "You have not truly believed until you love for others that which you love for yourself". May Allah SWT guide us and shower us with His mercy, forgiveness, guidance and protection and accept all our worship and our duas in and out of Ramadhan and make us and our families and the Ummah to be of the 'Forerunners' or of 'those on the Right' and grant us all the best in this world and the very best in the hereafter and give us Jannatul Firdaus without reckoning, Aameen!!!

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INTERFAITH / COMMUNITY UPDATE

By: Faria Mohammed

BROWARD SHERIFF RACISM & LAW ENFORCEMENT Meeting



PHOTO ABOVE: Alhamdulillah Friday June 5th 2020 @ 10.30 am- Broward Sherriff Gregory Tony held a special meeting at the Sheriff Office with Law Enforcement Officers and Broward Mayor Dale Holness on Racism and Law Enforcement - Community Leaders, a Rabbi, a Pastor and Shaikh Shafayat were also invited to share opinions and recommendations to the solution for racism in America. MaaShaa Allaah

RAMADHAAN 2020 AMID COVID-19



Photo above: Al-Hamdulillaah, DARUL ULOOM Institute Fl. USA. Isha / Taraweeh Prayer every night Social distancing/MashaaAlllah.

Al-Hamdulillaah Al-Hikmat Annual Award Ceremony Highlights

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37 Years Of Da'wah & Community Services



Bro. Syed Habib (Babar)
(Presenter)



Sis. Aliyah Seurattan
(Presenter)



Hafiz Muhammad Khan
(Presenter)

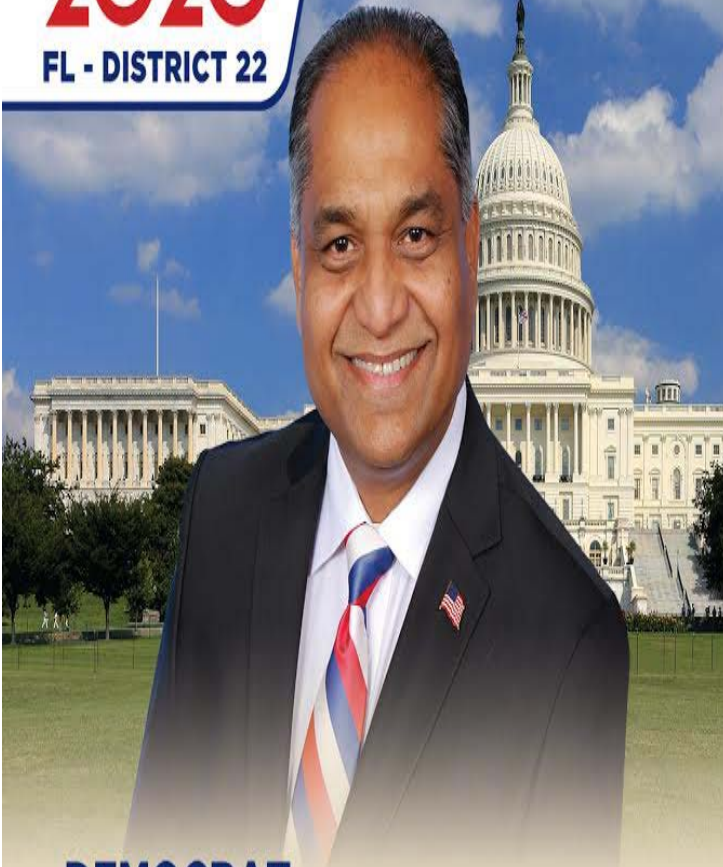


Bro. Azhar Hasan
(Presenter)



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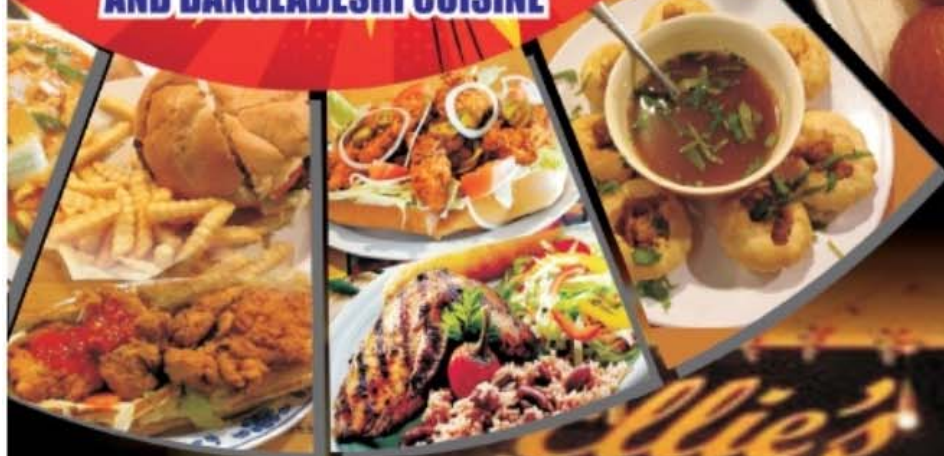


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COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS

By: Faria Mohammed

National Day Of Prayer



Photo above: Alhamdulillah on May 7th, 2020 National day of prayer from the Broward County Sheriff's Office Message by Shaikh Shafayat Inshaa Allaah.

Islamic Center Of Miami Gardens & Miami-Dade School District Team Up For Meal Distribution



Photo above: Supt. Carvalho and the generous donations of the Foundation for New Education Initiatives, Inc., 500 meals were distributed at the Islamic Center of Greater Miami-Masjid Miami Gardens. The Family Meals-on-the-Go program has provided more than 19,000 meals in the most impoverished areas of our county since its launch on March 25.

FHI FOOD DRIVE



Photo above: On Saturday May 16th Friends of Humanity South Florida Distributed 300+ Food boxes and face masks at Masjid Ansar in Liberty City of Miami, FL.

ICNA FOOD DRIVE



Photo above: ICNA Relief Emergency Food Distribution at Al-Amin Center of Florida in Boynton Beach on Saturday May 16th 2020. Serving around 350 families with food boxes and fruits and vegetables.

MSA Food/Hygiene Kits Distribution



Photo above: Delivering food for the elderly with Commissioner Yvette Colbourne with the City Of Miramar every Friday. McArthur high school students making hygiene kits for the homeless.

FEEDBACK / VOICE OF OUR READERS

South Africa

I am from South Africa and I listen to all your lectures and I learn a lot from them, you are an inspiration to many. May Allah SWT give you the strength to carry on your good work and grant you good health and long life. I am interested in sponsoring the prayer mats and would like to know how do I get these for my local masjids. Please provide me with some information

*Shukran
Mahmood Kader
Durban / South Africa*

United Kingdom

Aslamualikum I would like to say as a person from the United Kingdom I have been watching Shaikh shafayat and I would like to say I have learned a lot from him and gained knowledge from him please keep up the good work al Hikmat Kind Regards

*Saqib Anwa
United Kingdom*

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

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

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

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

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

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

AL-QUR'AAN - Ch. 3 V. 104

"Let there arise out of you a band of people inviting to all

HADITH: *Abu Sa'eed (R.A) narrates that Rasulullah (S. A. W) said, "Almighty Allaah says: "If anybody finds no time for remembrance and for begging favors of Me, because of his remaining busy with the Qur'aan, I shall give him more than what I give to all those who beg favors of Me. The superiority of the Word of Allaah over all the other words is like the superiority of Allaah over the entire creation." (Tirmidhi)*

HADITH: *Hadrat Uthman (R.A) narrates that Rasulullah (S.A.W) said: "The best amongst you is he who learns the Qur'aan and teaches it."*

The above verses and Hadiths emphasize the blessings and importance of spreading the Message of the Qur'aan however, due to the negative propaganda in the world today against the Qur'aan, it is even more important upon us to spread the message of the Qur'aan Inshaa Allaah.

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for your near and dear ones who have passed away. We would have your name and /or your deceased relatives names on the Qur'aan, Inshaa Allaah Ameen-Maashaa Allaah.

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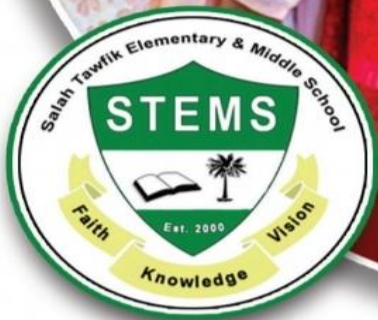
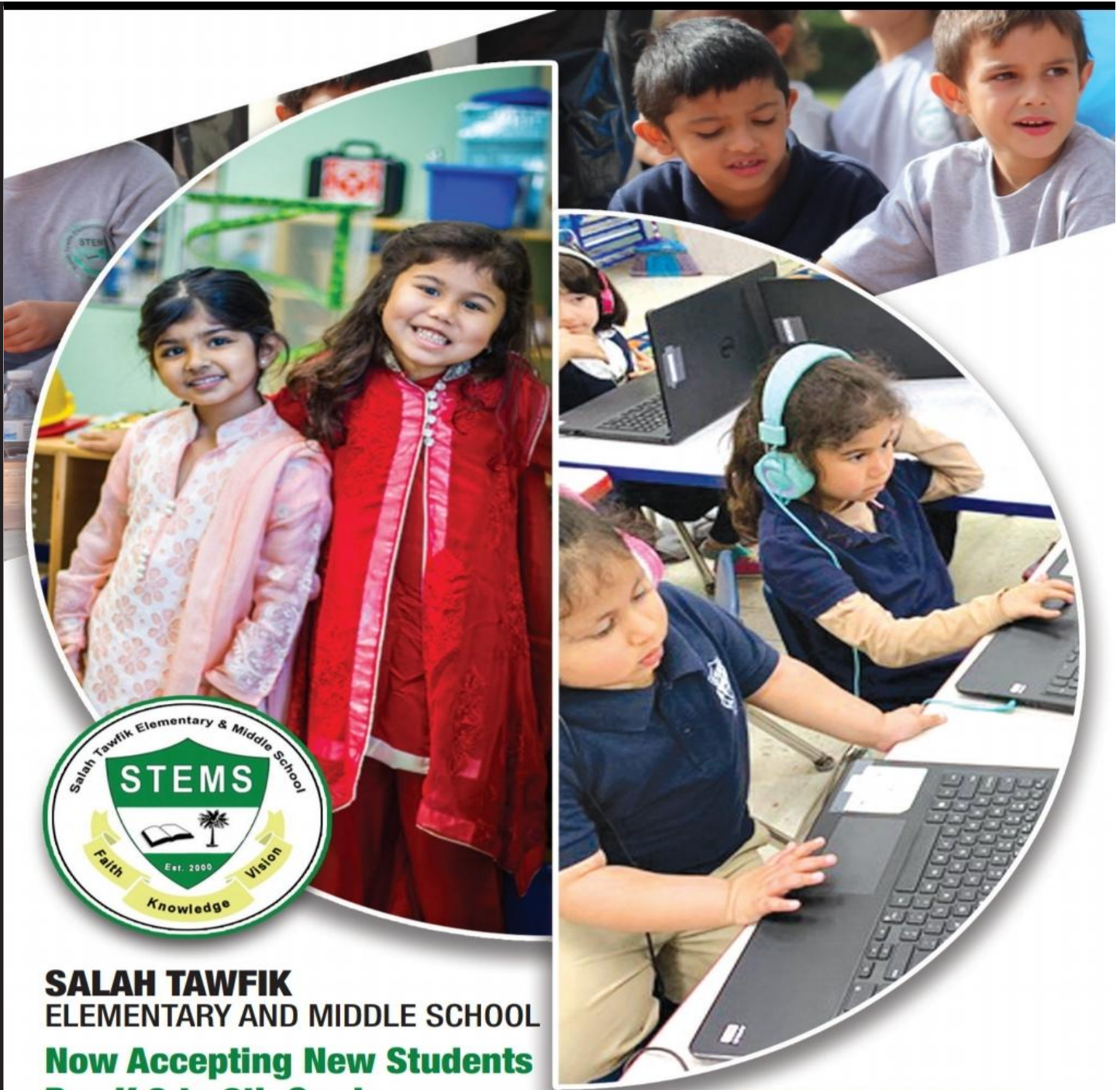
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OBEY COMMAND OF ALLAH

We, Muslims must honestly ask ourselves whether our difficulties and sufferings are not due to our greed and pursuit of our lower desires and to our indifference to God's commands:

“And if it had been Our Will, We should have raised him with Our Signs; But he was tempted (down) to the earth, and followed his own useless desires. So the similarity is that of a dog: if you attack him, he puts out his tongue (and pants), or if you leave him alone, he (still) hangs out his tongue (and pants). That is the similarity of those who reject Our Signs; so relate the stories; so that they may think. (7:176)”.

We have professed to dedicate ourselves to the creation of an Islamic society under the Sovereignty of God and to obeying His commands, and we must be faithful to our covenant:

“O you who believe! Who do you say that which you do not do?

Surely, it is most unpleasant, in Allah's sight that you say that which you do not do. (61:2-3)”.

We must search in ourselves, individually and collectively, for the causes of our difficulties:

“Because your (Mighty) Lord is (Like a Guardian) on a watch tower,

Now, as for man, when his Mighty Lord tries him (by) giving him honor and gifts then he (proudly) says, “My Mighty Lord has honored me.”

But when He tries him, (by) restricting his livelihood for him, then he says (in despair), “My Mighty Lord has put me to Shame!”

No, no! But you do not honor the orphans!

Nor do you encourage one another to feed the poor!-

And you (wrongly) consume inheritance – with all (the) greed,

And you love wealth with passion! (89:14-20)”.

The sickness in our souls and malaise in our body-politic will only be cured by remembrance of God:

“Those who believe and whose hearts find satisfaction in remembering Allah: Verily, in remembering Allah do hearts find (real) satisfaction (13:28)”.

Continued on Page 33

Continued from Page 12,

FOLLOW AL-QUR'AN FOR REWARDS

By Br. Hamzad Mohammed

·The heart gets rusted as does iron when water attacks it, so to make it shine again, frequent remembrance of death and recitation of Qur'an is necessary.

·Reciting the Qur'an out of memory carries one thousand degrees of **thawab** (spiritual rewards) while reading from it directly, increases the rewards up to two thousand degrees.

I do hope that Muslims pay some cognizance to the sayings on Al-Qur'an and act upon them to procure Allah's rewards.

Here's an apt conclusion:

**Like the waters of the River Nile,
Many barakat from Al-Quran flow,
Putting on all faces a sunset's smile,
That longed for and heartfelt's glow.**


N.B. Barakat means blessings.

Continued from Page 4

We Should Not Mis-Represent Qur'aan & Sunnah

In the Qur'an Chapter 33 vs 70-71 Allah (s.w.t.) says: O you who have believed, fear Allah and speak words of manners/discipline. He will [then] amend for you your deeds and forgive you your sins. And whoever obeys Allah and His Messenger has certainly attained a great attainment.

We hurt and insult each other in the name of ibadah but Allah tells us that if we speak nice to people, he will forgive our sins and amend our deeds. We don't have good mannerisms even among ourselves. We are supposed to lead the world in mannerisms. Let us not lose all the blessings we gain from our ibadah. Read the story of Hazrat Bilaal (RA). He had one of the best characters that the others didn't. It is why the Prophet (s.a.w.) loved him so much and vice versa. We lack love within ourselves. Hazrat Bilaal was beaten out of his love for Allah and his Rasool.

Do we really love Allah? We can't even follow the sunnah of the Rasool (s.a.w.). When we develop that love for Allah and his Rasool, it shows up in our characteristics. Let us try to get this inculcated into us inshaa Allah. 

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



Bro. Azad Ali

ODE TO THE ORPHANS

*I live in a country, 'tis a nation
of plenty
Extreme wealth and all that is
extraordinary,*

*Where the young fiddle with gadgets and tablets
And the old all live in enviable luxury...*

*What a contrast as I tread the marshes of Hinda
A country of rich traditions and ancient culture,
My heart aches, water filled eyes can see no more
Many hands outstretched , poverty surmount at every
door.....*

*Sunken eyes, patched lips and ragged hair
Barefooted urchins , uncharted odors with little to wear,
Yearning for love and a place to call home
All forgotten with no place to go and all alone....*

*Why are they not seen by a world of wealth?
As the rich play, hearts of stone and nothing felt,
All yearn for the warmth of a caring mother
The guiding and protective hand of a doting father.....*

*Siblings abandoned under creaky bridges
In crowded streets and rural ditches,
Little hands outstretched "please, something to eat"
My heart bleeds their voices so soft and so sweet.....*

*I offered some money to an angelic child name Rani
Her eyes aglow as if to say "I do not need your money"
"Give me a home and life with education"
Haunting words echoing within of that likely proposi-
tion.....*

*It is now nightfall and unable to sleep
I must act , act now, must be a shepherd not a sheep,
For Tomorrow will come and I will find a solution
Making a difference to some with a home and an edu-
cation.....*

Continued from page 11

Know yourself:

Know Allaah SWT

(Yes, indeed You are! We cannot say on the Day of Judgement that we weren't aware of this)." [Quran 7:172] So you see, our Soul already knows Allaah SWT. Allaah SWT's Beautiful Names are already imprinted on our Soul. We all love wisdom; Allaah SWT is Most Wise. We all love generosity, and you and I can be a little bit generous, but Allaah SWT is Al Ghanee, the Most Generous. You and I love to show mercy and compassion. Allaah SWT is Al Rahman, Al Raheem. The Most Merciful, the Ever Compassionate.

Hundreds of years ago, Jalaluddin Rumi wrote that we seekers are constantly knocking on the door, but we are knocking from the inside! What we seek is not out there! It's already here within our hearts, within the kernel. That's where our Ruuh is. But it's hidden away, covered with the rust of our forgetfulness, our distraction and our sinful behavior.

Allaah SWT warns us, (in Sura As-Shu'ara 26:88-89) that:

"None shall enter the Garden except those who come to Allaah with a sound heart,"

Within our spiritual heart there is a lifelong battle between the forces of heaven and earth. Our *nafs al ammarah bis sow*, the (lower Self that clings to the earth), and our *nafs al law-waamah*, (the self-blaming *nafs*). These demonic and angelic forces struggle to control our behavior.

Continued from page 34

HUMOR

DOCTOR & IMAAM

A doctor began attending Masjid for Friday prayer/sermon. The Imaam was most delighted, and it wasn't long before they were helping each other in their work - the Imaam referring people to the doctor with medical problems and the doctor referring people to the Imaam with spiritual problems. One day a patient from the doctor called at the Imaam's office with a note prescribing all the Imaam's sermons. The Imaam was very happy to know that people were interested in listening to his sermons over and over, so he called the doctor to thank him for prescribing his sermons to the patient. The doctor responded and said that the patient's problem was INSOMNIA.



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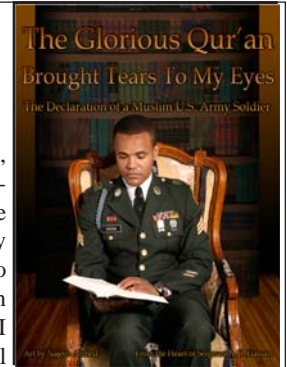
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RECOGNITION CORNER

**The Glorious Qur'an Brought Tears to My Eyes
The Declaration of a Muslim U.S. Army Soldier
From the Heart of Sergeant A.R. Hassan** by: Najeeb Ahmed




If God wills, let it be internationally known, that I love the U.S.A., that I am a veteran of African-American decent, a former U.S. Army soldier (Sergeant Ahmad Rashad Hassan). I have the prestige and privilege of receiving decorations, recommendations, and an honorable discharge after several years of loyal duty. I now cordially invite the American public and abroad, to the life altering story that I have experienced from exploring the Qur'an, prior to my enlistment. By the grace of Allah (God) Almighty, I was guided to the pure light of Al-Islam (the total submission to the will of God) in Detroit, Michigan, U.S.A., by a series of special events: An old friend of mine named Rahman Muhammad told me that there are spiritual forces that exist in nature called Angels and Jinn (supernatural spirits); I believed him with deep astonishment! Rahman's father used to tell me about Prophet Muhammad (the Universal Messenger of God sent as a Mercy to all Nations), celebrated as the Seal of the Prophets and foretold as the Unlettered Last Prophet (S). Aziz explained that this Prophet (S) left the world a noble heritage called the Holy Qur'an (The Divine Recitation), the Foremost and Final Revelation for all Nations. It was gradually given to Prophet Muhammad (S) over a span of 23 years by God Himself through the Angel Gabriel (A), many centuries ago. Yet, the Qur'an still remains perfectly preserved in its original presentation and is renowned as a timeless literary miracle! I never doubted what he taught me. I was fascinated. Aziz gave me a translation of the Qur'an by Marmaduke Pickthall and I used to read it haphazardly. I found myself captivated by significant stories about Moses (A), Jesus the son of Mary (A), Judgement Day, Paradise, Hellfire, etc. It changed my whole way of thinking forever. I was invited to a masjid by Rahman's family and heard the Athaan live for the very first time! I was moved to tears. I also prayed with the Muslims although I did not understand the prayer ritual, Salaat. I bought a tape on prayer; it was in English and Arabic. I heard the Qur'an being recited in Arabic for the first time on tape. I was again moved to tears; it was so beautiful. I went to another masjid to take the Shahada (The Testimony of Faith). I felt an energy that I have never perceived before. After that, I moved in with Rahman's family and Aziz gave me two books: The Forty Hadith and Hadith Qudsi I read them both completely. I was overwhelmed with awe and excitement. I was introduced in that home to another translation of the Qur'an by Yusuf Ali. One morning after the early morning prayer, I had the notion to read it at random. It opened to the story of Joseph (A). I read the entire story and I was overflowing with tears. Later, I was encouraged by a Muslim named Meekaaeel, to read the Qur'an from cover to cover translated by Yusuf Ali. I did it in that same year while fasting during the Blessed Month of Ramadan. A number of years later, Allah granted me the honor of performing the Hajj (Pilgrimage to Mecca). Allahu Akbar To this very day, there is nothing on earth more precious to me than The Creator Himself, Al-Islam, the Qur'an, the Archangel Gabriel (A), Prophet Muhammad (S) and all the previous Prophets (A), all their Companions (R), as well as all those who repent and strive to be rightly guided. Let it be established that the Glorious Qur'an absolutely condemns the evil of terrorism, tyranny, and all forms of corruption worldwide. Allah commands us to enjoin all that is good and forbid all that is evil. God warns all people to guard themselves against the inhumanity of Satan and the terrible confusion he causes. I strongly urge everyone globally, to unify with integrity and solidarity against those who practice and teach injustice.

Continued from page 8, InShaa Allaah

**CORONA VIRUS
BROUGHT FAMILY & FRIENDS
TOGETHER**

By: Sis. Sylmarie Mustapha / Coral Springs, Florida

Merciful, the Sustainer, the Creator, the One who heals. Most of humanity, whether rich or poor, upper class or not, black, white or brown, those in the highest positions to those in low-level positions, (but just as important); submitted to Allah (SWT) for forgiveness, for mercy, for protection and help. And so as we are again reminded that going forward, our goal in life is to always worship and submit ourselves to Allah (SWT), to always be kind, compassionate, charitable, be good to our family, relatives, friends and those in our community, to do good and stay away from bad and evil acts. We hope that worldly matters, become less important and following the way of life Allah has prescribed for us becomes our main priority. "Or think that you will enter Paradise without such (trials) as came to those who passed away before you? They were afflicted with severe poverty and ailments and were so shaken that even the Messenger and those who believed along with him said, "When (will come) the Help of Allah?" Yes! Certainly, the Help of Allah is near! Quran 2:214

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Movements in Salah:

Iqamah: Raising one's hands above the shoulder mobilizes the elbow and allows free movement of the head of the humerus because of a lubricant synovial fluid that is needed to get rid-off frozen shoulder. We perform this movement at least 5 times a day.

Rukh: Rukoo which is performed 10 times a day strengthens the hamstring muscles— located at the rear of upper legs, which flex the knee joints, extend the thigh to the backside of the body, helps in walking, running and many other physical activities. Rukh should be performed by locking your elbow joints and knee caps while maintaining a straight back. Your head should not be tilted upwards, rather it should be positioned downwards. The correctness of this position is important to avoid Cervical Spondylosis which causes stiffness of the neck muscles. When performed correctly this position strengthens lower back muscles thereby alleviating back pain. 10-15 seconds of the Rukoo position is the ideal time for maximizing pain relief.

Qiam: (Rising from Rukoo)-Performed 19 times per day. Your back should be straight. Do not put both shoulders down, keep elbow joint straight to maximize the blood flow in your fingers. Stay in this position for at least 10-15 seconds.

Sujood: Performed at least 30 times per day. Seven parts of the body have to touch the ground (hands, knee-caps, feet, head). Try to put the head on earth, tiles, concrete slab, this way body is "earthed" and all negative charges are diffused. Eyes should be toward the nose, upper eyeballs are getting more blood into the tiny veins around the eyeball improving the circulation, getting more lubrication into the lens, cleaning, getting rid-off cataracts. When the head is in sujood, the diaphragm in the body cavity pushes the lungs to expel carbon dioxide allowing more oxygen to be inhaled. More blood is going to oxygenate and nourish millions of neurons (brain cells). Pause between Sujood at least for 10 seconds.

Salam: Take your time by turning the face, on each side turn the face towards each shoulder for at least 5 seconds, with a pause in the middle. Neck muscles will be properly stretched thereby relieving neck pain.

EXTRA TIPS: After Salah. TOUCH your TOES with your both fingers and count to 10 daily and increase to 100. Back muscles and hamstrings will be strengthened back pain will be permanently relieved.

Caution: If you have an injury/disability DON'T do this exercise.

Continued From Page 15

THE COVENANT OF THE PROPHETS

Submitted by Br. Twalib Ali / Canada

The question arises - Did Allah ever mention that His Messenger of the Last Revelation (the Quran) was the 'greatest' of all His Prophets? Nowhere is this mentioned in the Quran. He was the 'Last' Messenger and 'Seal' of all Prophets. Prophet-hood is one brotherhood.

"Every Prophet who was sent to their own people would be likened to a paragraph in an Essay, and Allah's Seal of all Prophets (Muhammad -peace be upon him) would be the summary of that Essay. After a lecture on Prophet-hood, I was confronted by a very devout Christian woman who said that Jesus was greater than Muhammad because he brought the dead back to life, and if there was any proof that they were equal in the sight of God. Then, I replied that after my brief explanation, she would be able to answer her own question without a doubt. I mentioned that Almighty God gave special gifts to many of His Messengers to convince their people. For instance, during the time of Pharaoh, Almighty God gave the Prophet Moses 9 Signs. 'Magic' was the 'thing' of that era and Egypt's best magicians were mesmerized and put to shame when they lost to Moses (peace be upon him) in the presence of Pharaoh and his people. I asked her, "Is Moses God Almighty?" She replied, "Absolutely not!"

"Then I asked her what was the 'thing' that impressed people during the time of the Prophet David? She looked confused and then I said 'fighting' or 'engaging in battle' - the show of strength and power. And so David slew Goliath and not too long after he became King and ruler over his people. Then I asked if David was Almighty God to slay such a giant of a man. She replied, "No!" "Then I mentioned the Prophet Joseph who was in prison for 14 years for a crime he did not commit. I asked her, "What was the 'thing' that was impressive at that time?" I told her that it was interpreting dreams and Almighty God had blessed His Prophet Joseph with the gift and knowledge of interpreting 'dreams' which he did for the ruler of Egypt. Joseph was released from prison to explain the Pharaoh's dream. The Ruler was convinced at Joseph's interpretation and he made him one of the highest-ranking officials in Egypt. My question to her, "Was Joseph God?" She replied, "No!"

"Then I said I would go directly to Jesus and Muhammad (peace be upon them). I asked what appealed to the people during the time of Jesus. She was not sure and I told her that it was 'Medicine and Science,' and here is a man born without a father, and his mother was a virgin. The Jewish people refused to believe that since it was not scientifically and medically possible. The Christian woman remarked, "That would make him God in the flesh as most Christians believe."

"I asked her if Adam was God or the son of God since he had neither a father nor a mother. She replied, "No! He was created by God." I told her that the similitude of Jesus is like that of Adam and that Almighty God only has to say "Be!" and it is, just like when He said "Let there be light," and light came into existence.

Continued Next Issue

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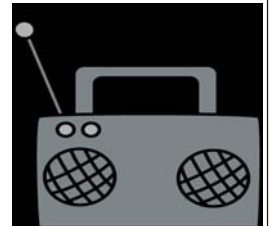
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QUESTION & ANSWER CORNER

By: Shaikh Shafayat Mohamed

**ISLAM IS THE SOLUTION
TO RACISM****QUESTION: WHAT DOES ISLAM SAY ABOUT RACISM?**

Answer: Al-Hamdulillaah Islam is the solution to racism. The Qur'aan teaches us that racism comes from satan.

Chapter:7 Verse: 12 satan says " I am better than him (Adam A.S.), Thou created me from fire and Thou created him from clay". Satan had a superior complex, for he thought that he was better than mankind, because of the fact he was created from fire and mankind was created from clay.

Chapter 49 Verse 13, Allaah says, "O people, We have created you male and female and made you into nations and tribes that you may know one another. Verily, the most noble of you to Allaah is the most righteous of you. Verily, Allaah is knowing and aware. This verse teaches us that our race does not make us better than anyone, rather it is our piety and righteousness. Allaah created us in different skin colors and languages as a sign of His creative power. Just as flowers come in many different colors, all as different divine signs in Allah's creation, so do human beings come in different colors.

Allaah says in chapter 30 verse 22 "Among His signs is the creation of the heavens and the earth and the diversity of your languages and your colors. Verily, in that are signs for people of knowledge".

Righteousness is the only quality that makes someone virtuous in the sight of Allaah, not race, or skin color, or lineage, or social status, or country of origin. This message against racism and tribalism was delivered by the Prophet S.A.W. during his farewell sermon, "O people, your Lord is one and your father Adam is one. There is no favor of an Arab over a non Arab, nor a non Arab over an Arab, and neither white skin over black skin, nor black skin over white skin, except by righteousness."

The Messenger of Allaah, peace and blessings be upon him, also said: "He is not one of us who calls to race / tribalism. He is not one of us who fights for the sake of race/tribalism. He is not one of us who dies following the way of race/tribalism. Therefore, Islam is the solution to the race problem in the world. Many people who were racial, gave up their racial attitude and lifestyle after studying Islam. Hence, Muslims and non-Muslims with the satanic disease of racism, should study the Qur'aan and Sunnah of the Prophet S.A.W. to eradicate racism from within them.

Allaah Knows Best

You can send Questions to alhikmat@alhikmat.com.

Your Questions will be answered in the order they were

received.

Continued from page 33

OBEY COMMAND OF ALLAH

In a world where unbelief, hypocrisy, hedonism, cynicism, nihilism, materialism and secularism are rampant, the Muslim community has a mission which it must fearlessly proclaim: "Therefore explain openly what you are commanded, and turn away from those idolaters (who join false gods with Allah)(15:94)". "The assistance of God will come He has promised it to us if only we for our part follow and obey His commands: "Those who have been expelled from their homes (unjustly) in defiance of right- (For no reason) except that they say, "Our Lord is Allah." Did Allah not stop one set of people using another, for sure, there have been destroyed, monasteries, churches, synagogues, and mosques, where the Name of Allah is praised most often. Allah will surely help those who support (His) cause- Because truly, Allah is Full of Strength, exalted in Might. "Those (are the believers who, if We establish them (in power) in the land, they establish regular prayer and give regular charity, enjoin the right and forbid wrong: And with Allah rests the end of (all) affairs. (22:40-41)". "And at all times, personally and collectively, in our jurisprudence and law and all the other branches of learning, in our thoughts and our actions, we must be suffused with an awareness of the uncompromising unity of God; our utter dependence on Him and the utter dependence of everything, person, institution, and idea; His indivisibility; and His incomparable uniqueness: ""Say: "He is Allah, The One (and Only One).""Allah the Eternal (the Ever Enduring), the Absolute (and Alone);""He begets not (has no descendants, no children, none), nor was He (ever) begotten;""And there is none like (or comparable) unto Him (112:1-4)". "And the final words are: All praise is for the One and Only God, the Creator, Who alone is worthy of devotion, complete submission, and worship, and I declare that Muhammad (P.B.U.H) is His Final Messenger.

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WE ARE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER

by: Linda Kaplan

they are seeking safety in this country. According to Mother Jones, between 2011 and 2013, five of ICE's field offices approved 92% of asylum seekers requests to be released on parole. In the first months of the Trump administration, that rate dropped to 4 percent. Now, ICE is not just subjecting asylum seekers to unnecessary detention, ICE is subjecting them to a possible "massacre" Time Magazine also recently published as story about CoVid-19 and immigration detention which included a quote from a immigration attorney in Washington State pointing out that "I think this is a little different from outbreaks that they have handled in the past," Adam Boyd, an immigration attorney with clients detained at the NWDC, tells TIME. "If [COVID-19] is in there, I'm imagining that it's going to spread very quickly." Previous outbreaks — of mumps and chicken pox, for example — mostly pose a threat to those who have never been inoculated to protect against those diseases, he adds. "This, because it can infect everybody in there, I don't imagine that they're well prepared to deal with it."

If the virus infects those in detention (and it will) it will certainly spread to the community through jail workers. And how will the jails handle the facilities with a significant portion of their staff infected? Many are calling for significant releases of detainees. Marc Stern, who served as the health services director for Washington state's Department of Corrections explained that reducing detainee popu-

lations would slow the spread by creating more distance between people and called for release of detainees on their own recognizance or other alternatives such as ankle brackets. At the very least, those who are most at risk including older people and those with pre-existing conditions should be released. ICE should also consider releasing all who are not a flight risk or a risk to public safety before they (ICE) make this crisis worse for everyone.

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Know yourself: Know Allaah SWT

by: Farooq Shafi

When our demons win, we give in to our anger, our greed, our selfishness, arrogance and lust. When our higher Self prevails, we are kind, generous, forgiving and patient.

We can control these demons in our lower Self by treating them like wild animals that need to be tamed. Do not deny them. Acknowledge them, but be a good zoo-keeper. Keep your wild beasts under control. Always refer to your Higher Self. Refer to your Soul, your *Ruuh*, the 'breath of Allaah SWT' within you. The *Ruuh* never changes, but the spiritual heart, the *Qalb*, is always susceptible to change. And that's where we have the greatest challenge: to keep our spiritual heart pure and focused on the beautiful Names of Allaah SWT imprinted on our *Ruuh*.

We can't do this on our own. We need Allaah SWT's help. We beg Allaah SWT to keep our hearts filled with careful awareness.

Holy Prophet SAW often recited this duaa:

"Ya Muqallibul quloob, thabbit qalbee ala deenik!"

"O Turner of the hearts, please turn my heart towards your Religion!"

It's a very short duaa, but it's so powerful, and it says so much! I pray that Allaah SWT will accept this duah from all of us. Through our Salaah and our Dhikr and all our good works, I pray that Allaah SWT will turn our hearts constantly towards his beautiful way of life, towards constant remembrance of Allaah SWT in our thoughts, our words and our deeds. Why does Allaah SWT say that the first thing that you and I will be questioned about on the Day of Judgement is our Salaah, our Prayers? We try to do our prayers properly, according to the Sunnah. We try to pray on time. We try to follow the right procedure. But is that all? What's the most important part that is sometimes missing from our prayers? It's mindfulness; it's concentration, focus. Quite often we've done Wudu properly and followed the correct physical motions in prayer, but our hearts and minds are somewhere else. We start thinking about what we still have to do, and we lose focus on the prayers. Our voices recite beautifully, but we're now flying on auto-pilot. No wonder our prayers are not answered! To make our salaah effective, we must become completely oblivious to everything except Allaah SWT's Presence. We must imagine that we are standing in the grand audience hall of the Creator of the Universe; Allaah SWT is waiting to hear every whisper of prayer. In our Salaah, every limb faces Makkah. Our hearts and minds must be focused likewise. We should empty ourselves of all silly thoughts and focus our entire being: our body, mind, heart and soul on Allaah SWT's presence. It's not easy, and it will take lots of time, concentration, practice and patience. But the reward is truly worthwhile. We will definitely have our prayers answered!

I pray that Allaah SWT will help you and me to purify our hearts, and to perfect our prayers, and likewise, the prayers of all our generations to come In Sha Allaah, Ameen.

Allaah SWT Knows Best!

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