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People of Muhammad ﷺ, the People of Allah

You must have already used or heard this cliché "Friends, you can choose, but not your Family!"

Understandably the blood-bond between family members- fathers, mothers, sons, daughters, brothers, sisters, cousins, aunts, uncles, nephews, nieces, grandparents, grandchildren, great-grandparents and great-grandchildren will always be prioritized as our primary social responsibility. From here, families, tribes, clans, even nations begin.

Every model that alludes to civilization, religious guidance, or legal consideration on permissibility and legitimacy starts with this at the core. From here dynasties, hierarchies, and legacies prevail, in almost infinite chapters, recounting the Story of Man.

Divine Will! Divine Plan! Divine Work?

Some Islamic references places "breaking of family ties" as one of the unforgivable sins and puts the culprit outside the shade of Allah's mercy.

Consider then this Quranic verse... "When thy Lord drew forth from the Children of Adam—From their loins—Their descendants, and made them testify concerning themselves, (saying): "Am I not your Lord?"—They said: "Yea! We do testify! - lest Ye should say on the Day Of Judgment: "Of this we were never mindful":

So yes, indeed, you can't choose your family, because Allah does the choosing there!

But you have a say in whose companionship or friendship you seek. Good friends, carefully chosen, who are mutually

inclined towards earning Allah's pleasure collectively make the best groups, and ultimately the best nations.

Friendship can be sought amongst fellow-worshippers in the masjid, students at the same school, from neighbours, or even from family members.

Allah has no family, but Allah has friends!

"Be aware, emphatically, the friends of Allah are never overcome by fear, nor aggrieved with regret.(Quraan)"

And the Holy Prophet ﷺ, the highest in rank of those beloved to Allah, also himself, had friends. Friends like Abu Bakr ؓ his lifelong, trusted, and loyal companion who reached the rank of 'siddeeq', the highest level of friendship with Allah that is reached by one not appointed as a messenger of God. Umar ibn Khattaab ؓ was another faithful friend of distinction, whose destiny, like As-Siddeeq, unites them once more as companions of the Grave.

For sure the friends of Muhammad ﷺ would be the accepted friends of Allah. Friendship with God's beloved then, could hardly be achieved by not being in approval of those he himself loved (friends or family)!

May Allah grant prayer, greetings, and blessings upon Muhammad, and upon his family and companions, and honour his nation with excellence over all others!

**BIRTH OF THE NEW MOON FOR
SAFAR-UL-MUZAFFAR 1436
SAT 22 NOVEMBER 2014 @ 14:32**

THE INCIDENT OF KARBALA

Bravery of Imam Hussain ؑ

In 56 Hijri Amir Muawiyah ؑ appointed his son Yazid heir-apparent. After the demise of Amir Muawiyah ؑ in 60 Hijri, Yazid ordered the Amir of Madinah to immediately take the oath of allegiance from these three i.e. Imam Hussain, Abdullah bin Umr, Abdullah bin Zubair ؑ refused. Numerous letters were sent from Iraq stating a desire to take the pledge of allegiance at the hands of Hussain ؑ. He sent Muslim bin Aqeel ؑ to Kufa to find out about the 18,000 apparently ready to take the pledge of allegiance.

Meanwhile, Yazid found out that the people of Kufa had taken the pledge of allegiance of Imam Hussain ؑ, through Muslim bin Aqeel ؑ. Yazid sent the Amir of Basra, Ibn Ziyaad, to Kufa and the situation reached a stage where Muslim bin Aqeel ؑ was martyred. Imam Hussain ؑ found out about Muslim bin Aqeel ؑ' s murder. Aqeel ؑ' s brother went to Kufa to exact revenge. During this time Imam Hussain ؑ saw the Holy Prophet ﷺ in a vision, who provided him with some instructions. He interpreted this dream to mean that whatever may happen to him now, there was no turning back. He gave everyone in his group the choice to return. The general public dispersed and only the Ahle Ba'ait and a few Companions remained – there were in total approximately 72 people in Imam Hussain ؑ' s camp. In the meantime, Yazid brought an army of 1000, and wanted to detain Imam Hussain ؑ' s group and take them to Kufa. Hussain ؑ stated plainly. He showed Hurbain Qais the letter from Kufa. Hurbain replied; "We have not written this letter, and we have instructions from the Amir to send you to Kufa".

The option of returning was no longer possible. The Divine Will had determined. Imam Hussain ؑ suddenly woke from his sleep. He said "InnaLillah" (surely to ALLAH we belong, and to Him we shall return) and then "Alhumdulillah" (all praise belongs to ALLAH), and said "in my dream a traveller stated that the nation is moving towards its death". His son Zain ul Abideen ؑ said, "what does it matter if death comes on the path to the truth?". On the 3rd day of the month of Muharram, Ibn Sa'ad arrived with an army of 4000. He read out the directive of Ibn Ziyaad, "Hussain should come to Kufa and pledge allegiance to Yazid". (Ibn Kathir) On the 7th of Muharram they turned off the water source to Hussain(ra) and his family. His family started becoming extremely distressed due to this. The 10th of Muharram was the last night of the esteemed delegation of Imam Hussain ؑ.

Finally, on the morning of Ashura (the 10th of Muharram), arrived. There were only 72 people with Imam Hussain against 4000 soldiers. The flag of the Imam Hussain ؑ camp was in the hands of Abbas ؑ. Before entering the field of battle Imam Hussain

ؑ placed the Qur'an in front of himself, raised his hands and prayed: "Lord, You are the One I rely on in every affliction, and You are the reliever of every difficulty; You have always been my protector and I have always submitted before You alone. You alone are the Master of all goodness." Once again he demanded safe passage to a peaceful place from the enemy, however they insisted he pledge allegiance to Yazid first. Imam Hussain ؑ performed the Zuhr (noon) prayers in this atmosphere of danger. Heavy fighting then ensued. The famous warrior Hanafi ؑ stood in front of Hussain ؑ and gave his life protecting him. After this Zahir bin Qais ؑ was martyred. One by one the others came forward until finally all the companions were killed fighting. After the martyrdom of all these loyal people it was now the turn of the Ahle Ba'ait (family of the Holy Prophet ﷺ). The young Ali Akbar ؑ stepped onto the field of battle and said; "I am the son of Hussain, son of Ali. I swear by ALLAH, I am the Companion of the Holy Prophet". He sacrificed his life fighting with great bravery, in battle. His paternal Aunt, Zainab ؑ, was unable to hold herself back. Thus, Imam Hussain(ra) sent her back to the camp. Subsequently Abdullah ؑ son of Muslim bin Aqeel ؑ and grandson of Jaafar Tayyar ؑ, Addi ؑ, rushed into battle and were killed. Abdul Rahman ؑ son of Aqeel ؑ, and Qasim ؑ son of Hassan ؑ, next attained martyrdom.

Witnessing this on the beckoning of Abbas, Abdullah, Jaafar and Uthman ؑ – three brothers, formed a wall-like barrier in front of Imam Hussain ؑ. They too were martyred. Abbas ؑ was the last remaining person with Imam Hussain ؑ. He also was killed and thus attained martyrdom. 20 members of the family of the Holy Prophet ﷺ had been killed in the field of Karbala. Imam Hussain ؑ was now left alone. He went towards the river to quench his thirst, when an arrow fired at him hit him on his face, causing blood to spurt out like a fountain. Yet, he fought valiantly until his last breath. After this the people of Kufa started looting the Muslim camp. They even began taking off the headscarves from the women. Umar bin Sa'ad then exclaimed; "Who amongst the horse riders will trample over Hussain ؑ?" 10 horse riders answered this call and trampled over Hadhrat Imam Hussain's body, to the extent that his chest and back were completely disfigured. Imam Hussain ؑ had been hit 45 times by arrows, 33 times by spears and over 40 times by sword blows. In an act of excessive cruelty, Hadhrat Hussain's head was severed and sent to Kufa, where the governor had it displayed for public view.

In short this was a tragic day in Islamic history, when the blood of the noble people of ALLAH was shed in this merciless slaughter. However, Imam Hussain ؑ had given his life to uphold the truth, of this there can be no doubt.

ISRAEL'S FALSE PEACE

BY IQBAL JASSAT

What is it about proclamations of "peace" that allows injustice to continue unhindered?

It's a question applicable to governments, security institutions, media columnists and pro-Israel lobbies who regularly espouse a passion for "peace in the Holy Land".

While on the surface it appears to be a perfectly normal and laudable aspiration, in the experience of Palestine it is unfortunately riddled with inconsistencies making it alarmingly dishonest.

"Peace" as espoused by Israel's leaders is no more than a fig leaf for it seeks to conceal the regime's unremitting repression of Palestinian rights.

Though "peace" is a concept embodying humane values associated with calm and serenity, for Palestinians it has had a devastating opposite effect. Their daily experience whether as refugees awaiting return home or as a collective of Occupied people, points to a life of subjugation which has for decades been exploited by successive governments in Israel.

While the deception inherent in Israel's so-called desire for "peace" is known and documented quite extensively, it is also known that by leaning on this false notion, the regime has attempted to deflect scrutiny of its unjust conduct towards Palestinians.

Such deliberate and calculated sophistry has assisted Israel and her supporters to bluff the world. By staking its claim as a "peaceful" state whose citizens deserve to live in "peace", Israel's social architects expect immunity from censure for any and all forms of oppression and military barbarity.

"Peace" is thus a linguistic political tool without any connection to the noble values it incorporates. Malicious and misleading to the extreme for it implies that to oppose Israel is to oppose "peace". In other words, anti-Israelism is equated with mindless violence.

This type of faulty rationale is deliberately constructed to demonise opponents of the regime's colonial status as violent. Thus in the context of contrasting "peace" and "violence", Israel continues to rally support for its savagery on the basis of an aspiration most people would

unhesitatingly subscribe to.

Netanyahu has repeated this trick once again at the United Nations. By casting Israel as a victim of "terrorism" perpetrated by "violent" ideologues of "Islamist radicalism", he hopes to garner global sympathy and thereby shield his apartheid regime's catalogue of atrocities.

America's current bombing spree in cahoots with Britain and France and their respective Arab client-states gives Israel perfect timing and cover. In Iraq and Syria, the US-led "war on terror" has a new enemy in the guise of ISIS commonly referred to as the Islamic State.

Overnight, ISIS has emerged as a new villain threatening the existence of Western civilization. Its dominance over large swathes of Iraq and Syria including key oil fields precipitated what most people currently associate ISIS with: beheadings of Western journalists.

Suddenly this new "Islamist bogeyman" emerges to not only distract global attention from Israel's beheadings of Palestinian families, but also to extend a fresh lifeline to America's military industrial complex. And, of course, to provide Netanyahu the opportunity to cast resistance movements such as Hamas and Islamic Jihad in the mould of ISIS.

Such tricks conjure the minds of magicians and keep people enthralled while deceptive policies of dispossession continue uninterrupted.

Netanyahu and his clique of magicians may believe that waving the wand of "peace" will conceal Israel's bloody carnage and ongoing aggression, but unfortunately for Zionism this illusion won't last.

If South Africa is used as a yardstick to measure whether Israel's bag of dirty tricks has worked, it's pretty clear that Netanyahu has failed dismally.

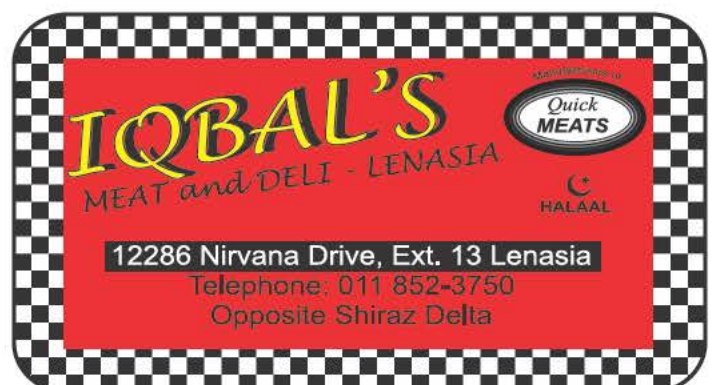
Here, a sustained campaign of boycott, divestment and sanctions (BDS) led by the ANC as the ruling party and a formidable formation of civil societies, churches and trade unions has demonstrated that it has not been deceived by false notions of "peace".

Nabi Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam said:
"Look at those who are below you and
do not look at those who are above you.
That will be more likely to prevent you
from being ungrateful for Allah's
bounties on you." (Bukhari)



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MUHARRAM-UL-HARAAM

GRATITUDE AND CONGRATULATIONS

First and foremost we thank Almighty Allah, and through the waseela of his beloved and final Prophet ﷺ granted us with this beautiful Islamic new year known as the month of Muharram-ul-Haram which is one of the four sacred divine months and at the same time we take this opportunity to extend our congratulations to the entire Islamic world especially to all the Hajees who have returned from pilgrimage. Allah Ta'ala accepts all the Haajees hajj and grants every muslim the opportunity to visit the blessed city of Makkah al Mukarramah and Madeena al Munawwarah Ameen.

INTRODUCTION

With the sighting of the new moon of Muharram (Which is the beginning of the new Islamic month). Muharram itself means sacred and is from those months which have been mentioned as sacred in the Holy Quraan.

Almighty Allah says in the Holy Quraan: "Four of them (Zil Qadd, Zil Hajj, Rajab, and Muharram) are sacred". (Surah Taubah)

VIRTUES

From the 4 months Muharram has been blessed with the certain specific virtues.

The Holy Prophet ﷺ has said: "The best of fast besides the fast of Ramadaan is the fasting of Muharram". (muslim)

In another hadeeth

Hazrat Ibn Abaas ؓ reports: That the peace of our hearts and minds, the most generous and kind prophet r has said: "The one who keeps a fast in the month of Muharram will receive the reward of 30 fast for each fast (in this sacred month)."

Although the fast of Muharram are not compulsory, the one who fast out of his own will be entitled to a great reward by Allah Ta'ala. The hadeeth signifies that the fast of the month of Muharram are the most rewardable amongst the Nafl fasts. The hadeeth does not mean that the reward can only be attained by fasting for the whole month. On the contrary each fast during this month has a merit; therefore one

should take advantage of this opportunity

THE DAY OF ASHURA

Although the month of Muharram is sacred as a whole month but the 10th Muharram is the most sacred amongst all. This day is called the Day of Ashura and it is the one of the most sacred days in the Islamic calendar.

According to Ibn Abbaas ؓ When the Holy Prophet ﷺ migrated to medina he found out that the Jews of Medina used to fast on the 10th of Muharram, They said that it was the day on which prophet Moosa ؑ crossed the red sea miraculously and the Pharaoh was drowned in it, on hearing this from the Jews the Holy Prophet ﷺ has said: we are more closer to Moosa ؑ than you, so the Prophet ﷺ directed the Muslims to fast on the day of Ashura. (Abu Dawood)

SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS THAT OCCURRED ON THE DAY OF ASHURA

There are several incidents which took place on the day of Ashura which have made their place in the glorious history, here are some of them.

- Rain descended from the skies for the first time.
- Mercy was revealed for the first time.
- Arsh, Kursi, Sky, Earth, Sun, Stars, Moon, heaven was created.
- Adam ؑ's repentance was accepted on this day.
- Adam ؑ was born on this day and entered jannah.
- Hazrat Ebrahim ؑ was released and was safe from the fire of Nimrood.
- Hazrat Esa ؑ was raised up to the sky.
- Hazrat Muhammed ﷺ married Hazrat Khadija ؓ on this day.
- Imaam Hussain ؑ was martyred.
- And the Day of Judgement will take place on this day.

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DUA-E-ASHURA TO REQUEST ASSURANCE OF LIFE

The recitation of this dua has been proven on many instances. Hazrat Imaam Zainul Aabideen (Radiyallahu Anhu) mentions that whosoever recites this dua on the Day of Ashura anytime from sunrise to sunset or has someone to recite it for them whilst they listen, then Insha-Allah they would be granted the assurance of life for that year.

دُعَاةِ عَاشُورَاءِ

يَا قَابِلَ تَوْبَةٍ أَدْمِ يَوْمَ عَاشُورَاءِ يَا قَابِلَ كَرْبِ ذِي النُّونِ يَوْمَ عَاشُورَاءِ يَا جَامِعَ شَمْلِ يَعْقُوبَ يَوْمَ عَاشُورَاءِ يَا سَامِعَ دَعْوَةِ مُوسَى وَهَارُونَ يَوْمَ عَاشُورَاءِ يَا مُغِيثَ إِبْرَاهِيمَ مِنَ النَّارِ يَوْمَ عَاشُورَاءِ يَا رَافِعَ أَدْرِيسَ إِلَى السَّمَاءِ يَوْمَ عَاشُورَاءِ يَا مُجِيبَ دَعْوَةِ صَالِحٍ فِي النَّاقَةِ يَوْمَ عَاشُورَاءِ يَا نَاصِرَ سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ يَوْمَ عَاشُورَاءِ يَا رَحْمَنَ الدُّنْيَا وَالْآخِرَةِ وَرَحِمَهُمَا صَلِّ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِ سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَصَلِّ عَلَى جَمِيعِ الْأَنْبِيَاءِ وَالْمُرْسَلِينَ وَاقْضِ حَاجَاتِنَا فِي الدُّنْيَا وَالْآخِرَةِ وَأَطِلْ عُمُرَنَا فِي طَاعَتِكَ وَمَحَبَّتِكَ وَرِضَاكَ وَأَحْيَا حَيَوَةَ طَيِّبَةَ وَتَوَفَّنَا عَلَى الْإِيمَانِ وَالْإِسْلَامِ بِرَحْمَتِكَ يَا أَرْحَمَ الرَّاحِمِينَ اللَّهُمَّ بَعِزِّ الْحَسَنِ وَآخِيهِ وَأُمِّهِ وَأَبِيهِ وَجَدِّهِ وَبَنِيهِ فَرِّجْ عَنَّا مَا نَحْنُ فِيهِ ۝

7 TIMES
سُبْحَانَ اللَّهِ مَلَأَ الْمِيزَانَ وَمُنْتَهَى الْعِلْمُ وَمَبْلَغُ الرِّضَى وَزِينَةُ الْعَرْشِ لَا مَدْجَ وَلَا مَنَاجَا مِنْ اللَّهِ إِلَّا إِلَيْهِ سُبْحَانَ اللَّهِ عَدَدَ الشَّفَعِ وَالْوُزُرِ وَعَدَدَ كَلِمَاتِ اللَّهِ التَّامَّاتِ كُلِّهَا نَسْتَعْلِيكَ السَّلَامَةَ بِرَحْمَتِكَ يَا أَرْحَمَ الرَّاحِمِينَ هُوَ حَسْبُنَا وَنِعْمَ الْوَكِيلُ نِعْمَ الْمَوْلَى وَنِعْمَ النَّصِيرُ وَلَا حَوْلَ وَلَا قُوَّةَ إِلَّا بِاللَّهِ الْعَلِيِّ الْعَظِيمِ وَصَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَصَحْبِهِ وَعَلَى الْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤِمِّنَاتِ وَالْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ عَدَدَ ذُرَاتِ الْوُجُودِ وَعَدَدَ مَعْلُومَاتِ اللَّهِ وَالْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ ۝

Ya qaabila taubati Aadam Youma Aashura, Ya faarija karbi zin nooni Youma Aashura, Ya jaami'a shamli Ya'qoob Youma Aashura, Ya Saami'a Da'wati Moosa wa Haroone Youma Aashura, Ya mugheethe Ebrahime minan naari Youma Aashura, Ya raafi'a Idreese elas samaaee Youma Aashura, Ya Mujeebe da'wati saaleh fin naaqati Youma Aashura, Ya Naasira Sayyidina Muhammadin Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam Youma Aashura, Ya Rahmanud Dunya wal aakhirati wa Raheemahuma Salli Ala Sayyidina Muhammadew wa ala aali Sayyidina Muhammadew wa Salli Ala Jamee'il Ambiyaae wal mursaleena waqdi haajatina fid dunya wal aakhirati wa atil umranaa fi taa'atika wa mahabbatika wa ridhaaka wa ahyina hayaatan tayyibataw wa ta waffana alal imaani wal islaami bi rah matika yaa arhamar Raahimeen. Allahuma bi iznil hasani wa akhihi wa ummihi wa abihi wa jaddihi wa banihi far rij anna ma nahnun fi. (Then 7 Times) Subhanallahi mil al mizaani wa muntahal ilmi wa mablaghar ridhaa wa zeenatal arshi laa malja'a wa laa man jaa'a minal laahi illa ilay. Subhanallahi ada dash shaf'ee wal watriwa ada da kalimaatil lahit tammati kulliha nas alookas salaamata bi rahamtika yaa arhamar Raahimeen. Wa huwa hasbunaa wa ni'mal wakeel. Ni'mal moulaw wa ni'man naseer. Wa laa howla wa la quwata illa billahil aleeyal azeem. Wa Sallalhu Ta'aala ala Sayyidina Mohammadew wa ala aalihi wa sahbihi wa ala mu'mineena wal mu'minaati, wal Muslimeena wal Muslimaati ada da zarraatil fujudi wa ada da ma'loomatil laahi wal hamdu lillahi rabbil aalimeen



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MOULANA MUSTAPHA RAZA KHAN QADRI ﷺ

MUFTI-E-AZAM-E-HIND ﷺ

Moulana Mustapha Raza Khan ﷺ, commonly known among the Muslims of the Indian sub-continent as "Mufti-e-Azam Hind" was born in Bareilly (India) in 1892. His father, Moulana Ahmed Raza Khan (1856 - 1921) (radi Allahu anhu), and grandfather, Moulana Naqi Ali Khan (d. 1880) (radi Allahu anhu), were recognised as great scholars of Islam in Islamic academic circles all over the world.

Educational Background: He was born into a scholarly atmosphere. His family was reputed for its services in Islamic Traditional Sciences. His father especially, a "Mujaddid" of the 14th century A.H., is profoundly respected in the Muslim world for his struggle in social, political, educational and spiritual fields for the resurgence of "Deen". Moulana Mustapha Raza Khan (radi Allahu anhu) completed his religious education under the guidance of his learned father as well as other great Ulema. Academic Status: Moulana Mustapha Raza Khan (radi Allahu anhu) was well versed in more than twenty branches of oriental learning, including Tafseer, Hadith, Fiqh, Sarf, Nahv, Tajweed, Balghat, Tassawuf, Mantiq, Seerah, Tareekh, Kalam, Aqa'id, Reyazvi, Touqeet, Jafar and Hayat.

Sufism (Bai'ah): He was a Shaikh of the Qadriya order. His own spiritual guide, Shaikh Shah Abul Hussain Noori (1839-1906) (radi Allahu anhu), of Mahrehra Shareef (India) was a great Sufi and spiritual guide. It is estimated that nearly ten million Muslims received spiritual guidance from Huzoor Mufti-e-Azam Hind (radi Allahu anhu). Pilgrimage (Visit to Haramain Sharifain): He visited Haramain three times. During his two pilgrimages in 1905 and 1945, photographs were not introduced for the Haj journey. But on his last visit in 1971, although visa and passport photographs were introduced, he was given special permission to travel to Saudi Arabia without providing his photograph for passport or visa by the governments of India and Saudi Arabia. This event showed the strict adherence of Huzoor Mufti-e-Azam Hind (radi Allahu anhu) to the Shariah.

A Great Mufti and Faqih: He started issuing Fatawa while he was only a boy of 13 years old. His first Fatawa was on "Raza'ah". At the age of 13 he became a recognised "Mufti" and it is estimated that he issued more than 50 000 Fatawas during his lifetime. All the contemporary Ulema and Fuqaha respected his opinion on current issues and accepted his Fatawa as the most reliable religious verdict in the sub-continent. Collections of his Fatawa have been published in Urdu in two volumes under the title "Fatawa Mustafawiya".

As a Teacher: He started teaching in Jamia Manzare Islam, Bareilly in 1910. He served in this prominent institution for a period of about 27 years. He was a proficient scholar of Hadith and Fiqh. Several famous Islamic teachers of the sub-continent who were his pupils went on later to teach in the prominent Darul Uloom of India and Pakistan. Some of them are: Moulana Sardar Ahmed Razvi, Moulana Ejaz Wali Khan, Moulana Hashmat Ali Khan and Moulana Mufti Shareef-ul-Haq. Hundreds of his students are serving all over the sub-

continent and other parts of the world as Heads of Religious Institutions and Muslim organisations.

As an Author: In spite of his round the year journeys all over India, and his deep commitment to his Central Darul Ifta, he wrote many books and commentaries on some of the books of Fatawa and Fiqh. It is estimated that he has left about 40 books on a variety of subjects and important issues. He followed the methodology of his great father in his writings. His style was straight and clear. He was very bold and strong while expressing his views and presenting his ideas. His books mainly consists of refutations against the invalid views and heretical ideas of deviant sects and groups of the Ummah. He mainly targeted "Wahabi" institutions in the sub-continent.

As a Religious Leader: He offered a dignified and powerful leadership to Muslims throughout his life. He was a man of principle and high morals. He never agreed to such proposals or plans that might harm the interests of the Muslim Ummah, and he never remained silent on such occasions when the reputation of Islam and Muslims came under threat. He was at the forefront during the movement to restore the Shahid Ganj Mosque at Lahore in 1935 and declared that participation in this movement was Fard for Muslims. Similarly in 1976 when the programme of compulsory sterilization (Vasectomy) was forced upon Muslims along with other Indian communities, by the Central Government of India, Mufti-e-Azam Hind (radi Allahu anhu) was the only Muslim leader to oppose the campaign vigorously and publicly. He issued his Fatawa against the government and arranged its distribution all over India. At that time he took all the possible risks and proved to be a practical leader of Muslims and a true servant of Islam and lover of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (sallallahu alaihi wasallam).

Demise: He passed away on the eve of the 14th of Muharram 1402 A.H. in Bareilly Shareef. It was estimated that over two and a half million Muslims from all over the world attended his funeral prayer. He is buried in Bareilly Shareef beside his father, A'la Hazrat, Imam Ahmed Raza Khan (radi Allahu anhu). His Urs Shareef is held every year in Bareilly Shareef and in various other countries around the globe. He left behind six daughters and one son. His son, Hazrat Anwar Raza (radi Allahu anhu), passed away during childhood.



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BLESSING in DISGUISE along this JOURNEY of LIFE

The journey of life often encompasses difficulties, challenges, trials and tribulations. These conditions can be stepping stones to ease and wisdom. With the right frame of mind we can come out of each "dark tunnel" better, stronger and wiser.

We have a choice on how we respond to life's "storms." Either we can cast blame while becoming resentful and bitter, or we can be positive and turn to the Allah Ta'ala. Every hurdle we face in life has a meaning and Allah Ta'ala will not expose us to a burden we cannot endure. "Allah does not burden a soul beyond that it can bear..." (Qur'an: 2:286).

"Great reward comes with great trials. When Allah loves a people, He tests them, and whoever accepts it attains His pleasure, whereas whoever shows discontent with it incurs His wrath." (Hadith- Tirmidhi)

".....If anything befalls you, do not say 'If only I had done (such and such), the such and such would have happened,' rather say: 'Allah has decreed and what He wills He does , for (saying) 'if only' opens the door to the work of the shaytaan(devil)." (Hadith-Muslim).

As part of our Imaan (faith), we believe that all matters are in the hands of Allah Ta'ala. However, our Imaan can get shaken during times of trials and hardships. It is during such times though that we should remind ourselves that a believer's position and rank is raised in front of Allah and that such a hardship may very well be a sign of Allah's love for the believer. This can help us in maintaining and even strengthening our faith.

Once a boy found a cocoon of a butterfly and took it home. One day a small opening appeared, he sat and watched the butterfly for several hours as it struggled to force its body through that little hole.

Then it seemed to stop making any progress. It appeared as if it had gotten as far as it could and it could go no farther. Then the boy decided to help the butterfly, so he took a pair of scissors and snipped off the remaining bit of the cocoon. The butterfly then emerged easily.

But it had a swollen body and small, shriveled wings. The boy continued to watch the butterfly because he expected that, at any moment, the wings would enlarge and expand to be able to support the body, which would contract in time.

Neither happened!

In fact, the butterfly spent the rest of its life crawling around with a swollen body and shriveled wings. It never was able to fly.

What the boy in his kindness and haste did not understand was that the restricting cocoon and the struggle required for the butterfly to get through the tiny opening were Allah Ta'ala's way of forcing fluid from the body of the butterfly into its wings so that it would be ready for flight once it achieved its freedom from the cocoon.

Sometimes struggles are exactly what we need in our life. If Allah allowed us to go through our life without any obstacles, it would sometimes cripple us. We would not be as strong as what we could have been and possibly never be able to "fly".

Sometimes we need heat and warmth to ripen fruit and sometimes cold is needed in certain fruit to complete the ripening process. So exactly is the same in life sometimes we may have to undergo various conditions that may appear to be unfavourable so that we "ripen" and are ready for the onward journey.

I wise person once said: "I asked for Strength...And Allah gave me Difficulties to make me strong. I asked for Wisdom...And Allah gave me Problems to solve. I asked for Prosperity...And Allah gave me Brain and Brawn to work. I asked for Courage...And Allah gave me Danger to overcome. I asked for Love...And Allah gave me Underprivileged people to help. I asked for Favours...And Allah gave me Opportunities. I received nothing I wanted ...Yet I received everything I needed!"

Accepting and enduring our condition and the Divine Decree of Allah Ta'ala can help us in not only shedding burdens of the past but to also win Allah's pleasure. Suppressing our urge to blame others for the pains that we encounter by maintaining a positive mindset can help us maintain a less stressful life and promote healthy relationships.

"Nothing befalls a believer, a (prick of a) thorn or more than that, but Allah will raise him one degree in status thereby, or erase a bad deed." (Hadith-Bukhaari)

Hardships and trials are part of everyone's life. The important thing is for us to have the right attitude of trusting Allah and His plans when facing such hardships and trials. During such trying times, always remember that nothing happens without the Will of Allah. Second, we may not know that our trials and hardships may be part of a bigger plan of which we may have only limited knowledge. It's only at a later stage when the bigger Plans of Allah reveal themselves to everyone. We can see an example of this from the following verse of Qur'an-Surah Yousuf that when the step brothers of Prophet Yousuf (peace be upon him) were taking him to throw him into a dark well, Allah revealed to Prophet Yousuf (AS) that,"Allah will bring about, after hardship, ease." (Qur'an, 65:7) and this is exactly what happened.

"There is a blessing in calamity that the wise man should not ignore, for it erases sins, gives one the opportunity to attain the reward for patience, dispels negligence, reminds one of blessings at the time of health, calls one to repent and encourages one to give charity and endure."

Life is a learning curve and the challenges are there to make us stronger and to condition us and build us emotionally, spiritually and physically for the greater challenges that we will encounter tomorrow. Outwardly circumstances may be perceived as hardships but in reality they may really be blessings in disguise!

NAIL BITING

COMPILED BY HASINA BEGUM SAYED

Nail-biting (onychophagia) is a common stress-relieving habit. You may bite your nails in times of stress or excitement, or in times of boredom or inactivity. It can also be a learned behavior from family members. Nail-biting is the most common of the typical "nervous habits," which include thumb-sucking, nose-picking, hair-twisting or -pulling, tooth-grinding, and picking at skin.

You may bite your nails without realizing you are doing it. You might be involved in another activity, such as reading, watching television, or talking on the phone, and bite your nails without thinking about it.

Nail-biting includes biting the cuticle and soft tissue surrounding the nail as well as biting the nail itself.

Who bites their nails?

People of all ages bite their nails.

- About half of all children between the ages of 10 and 18 bite their nails at one time or another. Nail-biting occurs most often during puberty.

- Some young adults, ages 18 to 22 years, bite their nails.

- Only a small number of other adults bite their nails. Most people stop biting their nails on their own by age 30.

- Boys bite their nails more often than girls after age 10.

Nail-biting may occur with other body-focused repetitive behaviors (BFRB) such as hair-pulling or skin-picking.

What treatments are available for nail-biting?

Several treatment measures may help you stop biting your nails. Some focus on behavior changes and some focus on physical barriers to nail-biting.

- Keep your nails trimmed and filed. Taking care of your nails can help reduce your nail-biting habit and encourage you to keep your nails attractive.

- Try stress-management techniques if you bite your nails because you are anxious or stressed.

- Try substituting another activity, such as drawing or writing or squeezing a stress ball when you find yourself biting your nails. If you keep a record of nail-biting, you will become more aware of the times when you bite your nails and be able to stop the habit.

- Wear gloves, adhesive bandages, or colored stickers whenever possible to remind you not to bite your nails.

- Snap a rubber band on the inside of your wrist when you start to bite your nails so you have a negative physical response to nail-biting.

Children may bite their nails more often when they are having problems at school or with friends. Talk with your child or his or her teacher about any new stress at school. Children are more likely to stop biting their nails when they understand what may trigger it. It is also important for your child to help choose a treatment method so he or she can use the treatment successfully.

What problems can develop from nail-biting?

Nail-biting can cause your fingertips to be red and sore and your cuticles to bleed. Nail-biting also increases your risk for infections around your nail beds and in your mouth.

Long-term nail-biting can also interfere with normal nail growth and cause deformed nails.

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DAWAH CENTRE'S MISSION PROCEEDS!

BY SHEIKH ZUZE ISHAAQ - HEAD OF DAWAH ACTIVITIES AT ORANGE FARM

Soob-haanallah! Its new year's dawn on our Islamic calendar as the Dawah Centre desires to keep telling its story in sharpening its focuses in benefitting the community eminently. It's obvious that it is an agent of change, nurturing our spiritual and creative aspirations, caring for vulnerable people, and finding solutions to our social problems of our daily lives.

For the past 7 years this Centre has been running as the social accountability and spiritual leader to the community in bringing a platform that concord people's differences together. This spirit however has shaped the history and character of Orange Farm-Driezik, as a great tradition of collaboration, generosity, and participation that continues today in the form of religious congregation and respective use of public.

What makes Saaberie Chishty Dawah centre distinctive is not just the indispensable services, but in what they provide and also how they do their relevant inspiring work in variety of programs which falls in 7 categories; Islamic Pre-School, Afternoon Madresa, Adult ladies class, Saturday tuition Study classes, Islamic Advices and counseling, 5 times daily facilities and Muslim Burial Services.

Our Centre implements these practices that manifest its dedication and education that are part of a well planned, well managed, and well evaluated community benefit programme. This has changed lives of many young people and most of their families. 'Selected boys from this Madresa are send off to Islamic boarding schools around Gauteng province every year, and our Muslimah Girls are groomed by being educated to stay away from all bad influences and are encouraged to focus on education and chastity.'

In many instances, it has built support through networks that governance practices through community based programmes, with African People, Youth Forum, Family Matters, Muslim Aids Programme, and Community Based Policing Forums etc. This focus however has an ethical conduct which uses necessary tools like workshops, Youth

Campaigns, and Dawah Days, to educate youth to abstain from early sexual activities and resist the urge to do drugs and to take control of their lives as it will give them confidence to live a substance free life.

The Centre stands as a tremendous local opportunity that set a stage of lifting a generation of young ones to reconnect, explore and embrace their humility in their lives and embracing the best codes of living from the religion of Islam, that will be so effective in creating a strong sense of identity and belonging, that will forever shape their best attitudes, character and life long bonds.

We forever develop positive happiness, our infrastructures we use here deploys a salutary communication between people at no cost when it comes to use the centre. The Johannesburg Social Services uses the Centre for organizing meetings with community, and Social Issues such as grants, ID applications and births are solved by commencing a meeting at this centre. With this, it has become the subject of proficient speculation and has generated public support.

The most interesting part is this- it is the biggest strong and equitable Dawah centre in whole Orange farm. It accommodates more than 280 children on daily working basis. Our Kitchen, Baba Fareed Langar operates exclusively 365 days a year to feed less fortunate children and adults too! And this is the best work done here for the sake of Almighty Allah.

Alhamdulillah! a lot moral excellence has to be said about this magnificent Dawah Centre, and it will take us the whole time through with the discourse that is so mellisonant, but though, We send gratitude thanks giving to the Saaberie Chishty Society and all sponsors who consider spending time for their tireless efforts in sponsoring in every avenue this centre takes. And for the past 7 years to this date, this site (Dawah Centre) stood as inspirational and educational at all times. Ameen!

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS FOCUS

BY FAKIR HASSEN

With the ongoing conflict in countries of the Middle East, Africa and Asia, and news on it changing rapidly, Al Kausar's foreign focus this month is on some of the more positive recent events in the Muslim world.

Birmingham, UK - Teenaged Pakistani activist and youngest ever recipient of the Nobel Prize Malala Yousafzai has invited the Prime Ministers of Pakistan and India – Nawaz Sharif and Narendra Modi - to the ceremony in Oslo in December where she and fellow recipient and Indian national Kailash Satyarthi will receive the award. Malala said she was greatly honoured to share the prize with him and the two would together work for child rights and education. Malala said that winning the Nobel Prize was not the end of the road for her. "I will continue my campaign for children's education." She said she believed that the Nobel Committee has not just given the prize to her "but to all those children whose voices need to be heard. This honour is for all of them." Her aim behind the invitation was to get the two leaders to meet, so that they could talk and help end the tension between India and Pakistan.

Canberra, AUSTRALIA - A group of non-Muslim Australian women organised a show of support with the Islamic community in Canberra by putting on the Islamic headscarf and offering flowers to Muslims celebrating Eid al-Adha. In a bid to send a message of love and solidarity, women attended an Islamic festival in the Australian capital to give away flowers to Muslims. The event organisers said that they wanted their fellow Canberran

Muslims not to feel left out amid an anti-Islamic rhetoric that has recently surfaced in the country. "We told them we were sorry you've been treated so badly in the media and we wanted to say we stand with you in solidarity and we want to share love instead of hate," said Annabelle Lee, a 26-year-old who helped organize the event. She said some Muslims had been cautious at first but then welcomed the gesture. "And when they heard that, many of them wanted to give us a hug, many smiled and some were brought to tears," she added.

Cairo, EGYPT - Envoys from dozens of countries gathered for a conference that aims to raise billions of dollars to rebuild conflict-battered Gaza, despite fears of renewed violence and donor fatigue. The United Nations' Palestinian refugee agency has described the financial needs as "unprecedented ahead of the meeting, which follows the Gaza Strip's third war in six years. But it is unclear how generous the world is willing to be, given the intractability of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and other priorities in the region such as the fight against radical militants in Syria and Iraq. The Palestinians have called for more than \$4 billion in aid, and the Palestinian refugee agency UNRWA for \$1.6 billion. Other estimates suggest up to \$8 billion will be needed to repair damaged infrastructure and homes, and ensure health care, education and clean drinking water. The bloody 50-day conflict between Israel and Gaza militants left almost 2,200



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Palestinians dead along with 73 on the Israeli side. More than a quarter of Gaza's population of 1.7 million was displaced.

Makkah, SAUDI ARABIA - Pilgrims this year have spent more than SR2.2 billion on gifts, with SR1,500 being the average spending of a pilgrim, according to Ibrahim Batarji, chairman of the Industrial Committee, Jeddah Chamber of Commerce and Industry. "How much a pilgrims spends on gifts depends on his economic condition and the living standards back in his home country," Batarji said, The majority of pilgrims love to buy their loved ones tasbeehs, prayer rugs, white clothes, and jewellery. About 10-15 percent of gifts bought by pilgrims is gold.

Makkah, SAUDI ARABIA - King Abdullah Gate in the newly expanded area of the Grand Mosque is considered the world's tallest gate of a mosque. With its formal opening during this year's Haj pilgrimage, the gate has become the main entrance to the Grand Mosque with two gigantic minarets on its top. Designed in modern architectural style with Islamic decoration, the gate is adorned with huge lamps. Its internal base, walls, and ceilings are decorated with Qur'anic verses.

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LEAKS REVEALS UGLY HOLES

BY FAIZEL KHAMKAR

A certain report was leaked allegedly from the British Prime Minister's office with regard to a report on the Muslim brotherhood. This report was commissioned by the Prime Minister in the wake of a surge of mercenary activities in Iraq, Syria and other countries around the world and stoking Islamic ideology. A number of these mercenaries came from Britain. It was suspected that these mercenaries were either recruited by or were members of the Muslim Brotherhood. Ironically Sir John Jenkins the British ambassador to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia was tasked to head the commission overseeing the report. This irony will become clear further on.

The question of who instigated the report is an interesting one. We are all aware that Saudi not only has a dislike to the Muslim Brotherhood but was also instrumental in supporting its downfall in Egypt. According to other leaks a private meeting was held in Paris between Prince Saud Al Faisal and King Abdullah of Jordan where the prince requested that the King's good standing and influence in Britain should be used to instigate an investigation into the Muslim Brotherhood to have them declared as terrorists or involved in terrorist activities. The irony of having the Saudi ambassador in charge of the investigation is then not lost.

Who would benefit from an adverse report? The answer to that question raises a number of names, none of whom will surprise the general public. Without a doubt the beneficiaries would be the State of Israel as such a report will then be used against Hamas as another reason to continue with its ethnic cleansing. The British government and its "allies" including the United States of America will benefit as this will give their spin doctors a tool to use in order to justify themselves from the mess they created in the Middle East. Furthermore this can also be utilised as a means to their veiling their neo colonialist policies unabated. Then we have the Saudi's and their alliance who wish to create their own hegemony in the Middle East region. This is indeed a pot of enemies who wish to be friends in order to achieve their own agenda. It is almost a new game of chance called let the innocent suffer even more.

With the report not released, having been commissioned in April and with so many agendas on the table it is little wonder that the leaked reports to the Telegraph newspaper had a field day in creating doubt and fuelling Islamophobia and hatred towards Muslim institutions. The newspapers report in an attempt to its credibility was iced with quotations from names of prominent people of the British community such as Sir Richard Lovemore formerly of the MI6 and academic and author Lorenzo Vidino. On scrutiny of these reports it was not unsurprising found that the newspaper article was not true on many counts and with no response to questions raised about the article the article is worthless. However with its publications and the inherent biasedness of the British the damage has been done.

The damage cannot be quantified however we are aware of some of the steps which will be taken in the event of an adverse report. A number of institutions will be linked to the Muslim brotherhood with the intent to curb their activities especially in the field of advocacy and dawah. More than sixty organizations have already been earmarked. Two organizations had their bank accounts frozen by HSBC Bank. HSBC needed no further incentives to do so following being fined in excess of one billion pounds for over poor money laundering controls. One of the organizations styled as Cordoba Foundation was not given more clarity yet the British Prime Minister could elaborate on this issue in parliament. It has been reported that the consequence of this report would only allow for internal funding of Muslim institutions and all funding to organizations outside the border will be curbed. In South Africa we are aware that banks having its headquarters in the United Kingdom are using the FICA process to reassess Muslim institutions banking with them.

At the end of the day these leaks have created a position where the agendas were exposed instead of obtaining mass submission to these agendas.




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DATE	EVENTS 1436/2015
28 Nov 2014	Shab-e-Data Wa Mehr-o-Raza (R.A.) Urs Shareef Saaberie Chishty Masjid Lenasia
5/6 Dec 2014	Meelaad-un-Nabi (Sal lal laa Hu Alay Hi Wa Sallam) & Urs Shareef Standerton
26/27/28 Dec 2014	Hazrat Badsha Peer (R.A.) Urs Shareef Overport Secondary School Grounds Durban
3 January 12th Rabi-ul-Awwal	Eve Meelaad-un-Nabi (Sal lal laa Hu Alay Hi Wa Sallam) "Big Night" Subject to sighting of the New Moon
9, 10 & 11 January	Meelaad-un-Nabi (Sal lal laa Hu Alay Hi Wa Sallam) Saaberie Chishty & Jamia Razvia Masjid Lenasia
17 & 18 January	Meelaad-un-Nabi (Sal lal laa Hu Alay Hi Wa Sallam) Rustenburg Meelaad Group
18 January	Meelaad-un-Nabi (Sal lal laa Hu Alay Hi Wa Sallam) Al Hudaar Foundation Lenasia
17 & 18 January	Meelaad-un-Nabi (Sal lal laa Hu Alay Hi Wa Sallam) Mafikeng
24 & 25 January	Meelaad-un-Nabi (Sal lal laa Hu Alay Hi Wa Sallam) Sham-ul-Islam Lenasia South
24 & 25 January	Meelaad-un-Nabi (Sal lal laa Hu Alay Hi Wa Sallam) Laudium Moullood Group
31 January	Eve Giyaarwee Shareef-Subject to sighting of the New Moon
1 February	Meelaad-un-Nabi (Sal lal laa Hu Alay Hi Wa Sallam) Madressa Mohamadiya Qadriya Park Primary School
8 February	Meelaad-un-Nabi (Sal lal laa Hu Alay Hi Wa Sallam) Zakariyya Park Civic Centre
8 February	Meelaad-un-Nabi (Sal lal laa Hu Alay Hi Wa Sallam) Qadriya Masjid Roshnee
21 & 22 February	Meelaad-un-Nabi (Sal lal laa Hu Alay Hi Wa Sallam) Mansoor Family Sultan Bahu Centre Mayfair
1 March	Meelaad-un-Nabi (Sal lal laa Hu Alay Hi Wa Sallam) & Giyaarwee Shareef Bawas Toli Benoni
7 & 8 March	Meelaad-un-Nabi (Sal lal laa Hu Alay Hi Wa Sallam) Piet Retief
8 March	Meelaad-un-Nabi (Sal lal laa Hu Alay Hi Wa Sallam) Azaadville Civic Centre
3 April	Meelaad-un-Nabi (Sal lal laa Hu Alay Hi Wa Sallam)& Jalsa Saaberie Chishty Dawah Centre Orange Farm
25 April	Hazrat Khwaja Gharib Nawaaz (R.A.) Urs Shareef Buzme Chishtiya - Laudium
2 May	Hazrat Khaak Saar Ali Shah (R.A.) Urs Shareef Baitun Noor Centre Lenasia
8 & 9 May	Saaberie Chishty Urs Shareef Gulistan-e-Sabri Chishty- Sayed Bros Res. Lenasia
15 May	Eve Shabe Meraaj (Subject To Sighting Of The New Moon)
16 May	Hazrat Maqsood Ali Shah (R.A.) Urs Shareef Baitun Noor Centre Lenasia
24 May	Hazrat Jahangir Shah Dada (R.A.) Urs Shareef Zeerust
1 June	Eve Shabe Baraat (Subject To Sighting Of The New Moon)
6 & 7 June	Hazrat Khalid Shah Bawa (R.A.) Urs Shareef Benoni
17 July	Eid-ul-Fitr (Subject To Sighting Of The New Moon)
8 August	Hazrat Ghulaam Jilani Baba (R.A.) Urs Shareef Gulistan-e-Sabri Chishty- Sayed Bros Res. Lenasia
15 August	Hazrat Mehboob Ali Shah (R.A.) Urs Shareef Baitun Noor Centre Lenasia
24 Sep	Eid-ul-Adha (Subject To Sighting Of The New Moon)
13 - 23 October	1st - 10 Muharram (Nightly Lectures After Esha) Saaberie Chishty Masjid Lenasia
31 October	Hazrat Baba Fareed Urs Shareef Gulistan-e-Sabri Chishty- Sayed Bros Res. Lenasia
1 November	Yaade Shahid-e-Karbala Baitun Noor Centre Lenasia
6 December	Madressa Saabriyya Chishtiyya Jalsa

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