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UNITE! UNITE! UNITE!

ISIS or ISIL? Al-Qaeda or Taliban? Hizbollah or Hamas? What's going on?

America and Iran. Iran and Asad. Saudi and Iran. Really! What is going on? And is the Caliphate about to re-emerge?

Seriously?

Its leader with a name like Abu Bakr! The conspiracy-watchers have already identified him as a jew. A Mossad agent. Who or what is he really?

A massive jig-saw puzzle. No doubt true evidence will appear and the ummah will once again slide to ground level in the new-hope board game.

Sobering. Except that the cost, once the dust momentarily settles, is huge.

Not just structurally or financially. Human lives are lost. Mostly muslim lives.

One message is clear. Yes, muslims must unite. Although leadership will always be an issue.

The enemy knows. Muslims are so desperate for their unity and their long-awaited leader, that anybody who meets even the smallest criteria has a chance to get in.

They will exploit this situation as they have in the past. Let us muslims put on our thinking caps under our prayer caps, and share the intelligence.

Putting the diverse pieces together will bring the one picture, the whole picture.

To all those in religious positions or any leadership positions, the responsibility is yours. Fear Allah. Obey Allah and His Rasool (ﷺ), first and foremost. Let the work start!

Unite the ummah!

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TAKBEERAAT-E-TASHREEQ

Beginning from the fajr of 9th Zil Haj upto the Asr of 13th, it is Waajib on every Muslim to recite the Takbeer-e-Tashreeq after every Fard Salaah

اَللّٰهُ اَكْبَرُ اَللّٰهُ اَكْبَرُ لَآ اِلٰهَ اِلَّا اللّٰهُ وَاللّٰهُ اَكْبَرُ اَللّٰهُ اَكْبَرُ وَلِلّٰهِ الْحَمْدُ

N.B. Whether one is perform with Jamaat or on one's own, it makes no difference. One must recite the Takbeers. Males should recite it in a loud voice, females in a low voice.

HAZRAT MALIK BIN DINAAR رضي الله عنه

Once upon a time, there was man called Malik bin Dinar. He was sinful person who used to drink alcohol and was drowning in his sins.

Malik had a young daughter whom he loved dearly. When he wanted to drink alcohol, however, this daughter would tip over the bottle and spill its content. When she reached two years of age she passed away. This caused Malik great grief and sadness. One night, Malik went to sleep after drinking alcohol and without praying. In his dream he saw that the day of Judgement had come and that the people had risen from their graves. They were all gathered and he was amongst them.

While Malik was standing with the people he heard some noise behind him. When he turned around he came face to face with a huge frightening dragon (i.e. huge Python). The dragon's huge mouth was wide open, as it was rushing towards him. Very frightened from the dragon, Malik began to run. While getting away, he passed by an old man who was wearing white and who had a nice scent.

Malik said: " As Salamu Alykum" to the man and asked him help.

However, the old man was not able to help Malik. Rather, he told him to run quickly so he could escape the dragon.

Malik kept on running until he was overlooking hellfire. There he heard a voice calling out to him, " go back, you are not amongst its inhabitants" This comforted Malik a little, as he back away while continuing to run.

Still running away, the dragon was getting closer. Malik returned to the old man and asked for his protection. The old man started weeping and said: " I am weak." He instructed Malik to run towards the mountain. Muslim children, who died young, were gathered in that mountain. The old man said:" If you have a child in that mountain, then your child will save you."

Malik saw the mountain, which seemed majestic in its beauty, and he quickly ran towards it desperately trying to escape the dragon. When Malik got closer the mountain, an angel called out:" lift the covers and open the doors" The angel then told the children to come forwards perhaps one of them was as son or a daughter of this desperate man, and they in turn can save him. The young children, who were as beautiful as the full moon looked at Malik.

When the dragon got closer to Malik, the children called upon each other to hastily come forward and see if any of them knew him. Group by group, the children passed by Malik, until finally his daughter who had died when she was young came forward and identified him. When she saw him, the daughter wept and said:" i swear by Allah this is my father."

She threw herself at him, and with her left hand held her father's right hand. she then confronted the dragon by lifting her right hand in his face. That was enough to repel the dragon which quickly turned away and started running.

She sat her father down as she emotionally said, " Oh father" and she recited an Ayah from the Qur'an which means: Isn't it time for the believers' hearts to soften upon hearing the name of Allah and the recitation of the Qur'an, and for them to submit and obey ALLAH". When Malik heard this he started weeping.

He then asked his daughter, " You children know the Qur'an?" She replied: " We are more knowledgeable in it that you are". He then asked her to tell him about the dragon.

She said:" He represents your bad deeds. He was made stronger by your sinning and by your drinking of alcohol, He wanted to throw you into hellfire". Malik then asked his daughter about the old man, to which she replied: " He represents your good deeds which were so weak that they could not out-power your bad deeds.

"Malik suddenly awoke frightened and vowing to repent to his Creator. Malik repented from his sins, and he eventually became a great and pious person.

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ISIS - What is wrong?

Think about this

If Iran are enemies to US and Saudis don't get involved

Why are they standing together openly to fight ISIS forces

They just revealed "Friend and Foe"

I think all the enemies are allies of each other

The fight against the Islamic militant group ISIS has alarmed so many governments and religious groups that it has been turning old enmities into an awkward tangle of alliances, most of them not publicly acknowledged.

The most recent example came this weekend with the rescue of the Iraqi town of Amerli, a town that had held off a besieging ISIS army for more than a month. That siege was finally broken with a combination of U.S. airstrikes, Iraqi and Kurdish army units, and a Shiite militia.

The U.S. bombing runs were helping a militia that had doggedly battled U.S. forces in the years after the overthrow of Saddam Hussein. The militia is also supported by Iran and, according to the Associated Press, was being advised by officers of Iran's elite Revolutionary Guard.

The U.S. has repeatedly said that is not coordinating its efforts with Iran.

President Obama has ordered surveillance flights over Syria to track ISIS, which has its capital, Raqqa, in Syria. Obama has not authorized airstrikes against ISIS in Syria, but they would inevitably benefit the Assad regime.

Iran hasn't been the only antagonist of the U.S. to come to the aid of America's ally, Iraq. Shortly after ISIS shocked the world by overrunning much of northern Iraq, Russia sent several warplanes and helicopters to Iraq, putting the U.S. and Russia on the same side in Iraq while having a political confrontation over Ukraine.
In addition, many Iraqi Shiites in recent years have gone to fight in Syria to defend the regime of President Bashar al-Assad, whose government U.S.-backed rebels have been trying to topple. Many of those Iraqis who opposed U.S. goals in Syria are now returning home to join Shiite militias to fight ISIS.

Within the Islamic world, Iran, America's enemy, and Saudi Arabia, a U.S. ally, have jockeyed for dominance, often through allied militias. Iran is a Shiite country while Saudi Arabia is run by a Sunni monarchy.

One of Iran's most powerful allies is the Lebanese militia Hezbollah, which has sent forces into Syria to support Assad. Saudi Arabia has been funneling money and weapons to Syrian rebels.

Now, Hezbollah is poised to battle ISIS in defense of Assad -- and all three are traditional enemies of the U.S.

Possibly more surprising is Saudi Arabia aligned with Iran in its fear that ISIS could destabilize the region and threaten the influence of both governments.

Rasulullah ﷺ said: "There are no days in which righteous deeds are more beloved to Allah than these ten days."

The people asked: "Not even Jihad for the sake of Allah?"

He said: "Not even Jihad for the sake of Allah, except in the case of a man who went out, giving himself and his wealth up for the cause (of Allah Ta'ala), and came back with nothing."

Rasulullah ﷺ also directed us towards how to occupy our time: "No days are as weighty with Allah and so liked by Him for good deeds than the first ten days of Zul Hijjah. So on these days increasingly read: Subhanallah, La ilaaha illallaah, Alhamdulillah and Allahu Akbar."

And Rasulullah ﷺ said: "On no days is the worship of Allah desired more than in the first ten days of Zul Hijjah. The fast of each of these days is equal to the fast of a whole year, and the Ibaadah (worship) of each of these nights is equal to the Ibaadah of Laylatul Qadr."

We have to search for Laylatul Qadr in Ramadaan, and here Allah Ta'ala is giving us the rewards of Laylatul Qadr, on each of these nights of Zul Hijjah – indicating their blessedness and greatness.

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ETIQUETTES OF QURBANI

ON WHOM IS QURBANI WAAJIB

The sacrificing of animals has been made waajib and incumbent on the entire ummah. Rasulaliah ﷺ Himself and all the Sahabah ؓ, Tabi'een, and the whole Ummah from every country and place have continuously fulfilled and up kept this waajib.

Qurbani is waajib on every muslim who is mature, sane, muqim (i.e. Not a traveller) and possesses the amount of fifty two and a half tolas of silver (equivalent to 612,36 grams) or wealth equivalent to that value in excess of one's basic (asli) needs.

In the case of Qurbani it is not necessary that this amount be in one's possession for a complete lunar year, like in zakaat.

THE DAYS OF QURBANI

The act of Qurbani is prescribed for three special days - the tenth, eleventh and twelfth of Zil Haj. Qurbani may be performed on any of these days, but the first day is better.

SADAQAH OR CHARITY INSTEAD OF QURBANI

There is no Ibadah more lovable in the eyes of Allah Ta'aala during the days of Qurbani than Qurbani itself. By giving the equivalent amount of Sadaqah or Charity during the days of Qurbani will not compensate nor fulfill the Wujoob. One will always remain sinful because of leaving the Waajib (Qurbani is a unique Ibaadah). In the manner that salaat cannot compensate for Saum, or Saum cannot compensate for Salaat, similarly Sadaqah or Charity cannot compensate for Qurbani. The practices of Rasulallah ﷺ and the Sahabah ؓ are a testimony to this.

WARNING FOR THOSE WHO IGNORE QURBANI

It is reported by Hazrat Abu Hurairah ؓ that Rasulullah ﷺ said, "that the person who has the means of performing Qurbani but does not do so should not even come near our Eid Gah (where Eid Namaaz takes place).

THE TIME FOR QURBANI

In towns where Jumma namaaz and the Eidayn are performed, qurbani is performed after the Eid Namaaz and not before. In villages where Jumma Namaaz and the Eidayn's are not performed, Qurbani may be performed after Subha Saadiq (true dawn) on the tenth day of Zil Haj till the 12th of Zil Haj until sunset. It is makrooh to perform Qurbani at night.

AGE OF THE QURBANI ANIMAL

A camel 5 years old.
A cow, ox and buffalo must be 2 years old.
A goat or sheep must be at least at least 1 year old.
A sheep that has reached the age where it is thought to be 1 year old could be used for Qurbani.
Animals that are younger in age are not suitable for Qurbani. If an animal seller says that an animal has reached the required age, and outwardly there is no sign to disprove it, then it is permissible to rely on such a statement.

DEFORMITY IN A QURBANI ANIMAL

There are two kinds of deformity in a Qurbani animal, some deformity in an animal prohibit Qurbani while other faults does not affect the Qurbani at all.

UYOOB-E-MUKHALLA

Deformity which prohibit Qurbani

* Horns which are broken off from the root.
* Weakness which does not permit the animal to walk to the place of slaughtering
* Animals which are blind, squint eyes or limping.
* If more than a third of the ear or tail of the animal is cut off.
* An animal that was born without ears.
* An animal without teeth.
* An animal that has three or less legs.

UYOOB-E-GHAIR MUKHALLA

Deformity which does not affect Qurbani

* Horns which are broken above the roots.
* An animal born without horns.
* Less than a third weakness visible.
* Limps but is able to walk on its own.
* If less than a third of the ear or tail is cut off.
* While slaughtering the animal jumps and thereafter becomes injured or deformed.

MISCELLANEOUS MASAA'IL

* Is an animal that has been selected for Qurbani gives birth before it's slaughter, or while slaughtering a live lamb or calf is born, then the newly born animal should also be slaughtered.
* A person may eat the meat of every Qurbani slaughtered, be it a Waajib, Nafil or Nazr (mannat) Qurbani.
* Seven people are allowed to the part in the sharing of a cow for Qurbani, providing each shareholder contributes 1/7 towards purchasing the cow. If any of the shareholders share is less than a 1/7 then no - one's Qurbani will be correct, (even those who have given a full share.)
* If seven people have a share in a cow or bull, then the meat should be weighed and divided equally.
* It is better to slaughter your own Qurbani yourself. If for some reason or the other one is unable to slaughter, then it is permissible to let someone else slaughter it.
* It is preferable to be present when the animal is being slaughtered.
* Rasulullah ﷺ made Qurbani on behalf of his ummah.

*** It is NECESSARY that a person performs Qurbani for himself/herself first, thereafter if Allah has given him the means he can perform Qurbani on behalf of deceased relatives, minor children or on behalf of Rasulullah ﷺ**

Madressah Time
By Moulana Sayed Yusuf

DARS-UL-FIQH

QURBANI

SOME RULES OF SLAUGHTERING

1.) Ensure that the knife is sharp.
2.) Let the animal lay on its left side allowing its face to be towards the Qibla.
3.) It is Sunnah to recite the following Dua:

إِنِّي وَجَّهْتُ وَجْهِيَ لِلَّذِي فَطَرَ السَّمٰوٰتِ وَالْأَرْضَ
حَنِيفًا وَّمَا أَنَا مِنَ الْمُشْرِكِينَ ط
إِنَّ الصَّلٰوتِي وَنُسُكِي وَمَحْيَايَ وَمَمَاتِي
لِلّٰهِ رَبِّ الْعٰلَمِينَ ط
اَللّٰهُمَّ مِنْكَ وَلَكَ ط

"Inni Wajjahtu Wajhiya Lillazi Fataras Samawati Wal Arda Hanifaw wa Maa Ana Minal Mushrikeen. Innas Salaati Wanusuki Wamah Yaaya Wa Mamaati Lillahi Rabbil Aalemeen. Allahumma Innaka Walak."

For me I have set my face firmly and truly towards Him who created the heavens and the earth and I am His alone (hanif) and never shall I ascribe partners to Allah.

O Allah this sacrifice is from You and for You.

4.) Then say
"Bismillahi Allahu Akbar" بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ اَللّٰهُ اَكْبَرُ ط
And slaughter

5.) After slaughtering read this Dua:

اَللّٰهُمَّ تَقَبَّلْ مِنِّي كَمَا تَقَبَّلْتَ مِنْ خَلِيْلِكَ
إِبْرَاهِيْمَ عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ وَحَبِيْبِكَ مُحَمَّدٍ صَلَّى اللّٰهُ
عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ ط

"Allahumma Taqabbal Minni Kama Taqabbalta Min Khaleelika Ibrahim Alay His Salaam Wa Habeebika Muhammadin Swallal Laahu Aly Hi Wa Sallam"

"O Allah accept from me (this sacrifice) like you have accepted from Your friend Ebrahim (A.S.) And your beloved Muhammad (S.A.W.)

6.) If slaughtering for someone else then read:

اَللّٰهُمَّ تَقَبَّلْ مِنْ (.....) كَمَا تَقَبَّلْتَ
مِنْ خَلِيْلِكَ إِبْرَاهِيْمَ عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ وَحَبِيْبِكَ
مُحَمَّدٍ صَلَّى اللّٰهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ

"Allahumma Taqabbal Min (mention the persons name) Kama Taqabbalta Min Khaleelika Ebrahim Alay His Salaam Wa Habeebika Muhammad Sal Lal Laa Hu Alay hi Wa Sallam."

O Allah accept from . . . (Mention the persons name) this sacrificelike you have accepted from Your friend Ebrahim (A.S.) And Your beloved Muhammad (S.A.W.)

7.) Do not skin the animal until it has cooled.
8.) Do not slaughter an animal in front of other animals.
9.) Four veins should be clearly cut. The throat, windpipe,and the two jagular veins. Even if three are cut the meat would still be considered as Halaal.

MEAT OF THE QURBANI ANIMAL

It is preferable to divide the Qurbani meat into 3 portions:
1.) A portion for one's own use.
2.) A portion for relatives and friends.
3.) A portion for the poor and needy.

* However it is permissible to keep all the meat or give all away.
* The Qurbani meat of shareholders should be distributed by weight and not estimation.
* It is Haraam to sell the Qurbani meat.

SKIN OF THE QURBANI ANIMAL

*The skin of the Qurbani animal may be kept for one's personal use, such as tanning the skin and using it as a Musallah or water bag etc.
* If the skin is sold, the money cannot be used for oneself - it is Waajib to give it awat as Sadaqah
* A needy Muslim engaged in religious activities (organisations) may be given the skin as Sadaqah. It is preferable to dod this.
* It is incorrect to give the labourers (who skin the animal) the skin, fat or unusable flesh as payment for their labour, they must be paid for their labour in terms of cash.

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Irony of Tearing Pages: "Why Israel?" and MRN's Advocacy Role

BY IQBAL JASSAT

Advocacy for justice and human rights defines the role of a multitude of social movements across the world.

It has purpose and follows rigorous process in addition to creating networks and sustainable partnerships sharing common goals.

Methods may differ amongst various formations which constitute a vibrant kaleidoscope of organisations, while the theme under which they agitate retains a common bond.

As an advocacy ngo, the Media Review Network or MRN as its known in South Africa and in some regions of the world, shares and embodies these noble interests.

As a forerunner in the arena of contesting Islamophobia, the MRN has made and continues to make a unique contribution.

Side by side with the challenge of unpacking an understanding of contemporary origins of Islamophobia, the MRN has positioned Israel at the core of it.

A key architect of this modern day phenomenon that conflates resistance to its apartheid policies with Islamophobia is Benjamin Netanyahu.

Research undertaken by MRN spanning a decade or more, provides conclusive evidence that Israel's role as an active initiator and perpetrator of deceptive propaganda has been instrumental in the unleashing of many brutal campaigns targeting Muslims.

Whether its the "War on Terror" by America and NATO allies or the banning of hijabs and minarets in Europe, Israel's highly resourced Islamophobia industry is its political base.

Challenging and creating public debates on the twin evils of Apartheid Israel and Islamophobia has attracted immense hostility from South Africa's pro-Israel lobbyists.

From being described as their "nemesis" to regularly being subjected to a chorus of rhetorical slander such as being "antisemites" and "holocaust deniers", the MRN has remained dedicated to its advocacy and networking goals.

An important component in advancing it's mission has been commissioning academic studies.

One such significant accomplishment has been the publication of "Apartheid Israel" in partnership with British publisher Zed Books.

Its author is the well known Israeli sociologist and human rights activist Uri Davis.

MRN's alliance with Davis predates the publication and 9/11. He was invited to South Africa as guest of MRN during the 2001 Racism Conference in Durban and not surprisingly played a central role in developing crucial outcomes that placed international spotlight back on the "Zionism is Racism" debate.

During the 2002 Sustainable Development Conference held in Johannesburg, Davis yet again played a pivotal role alongside social movements in leading protest marches and articulating aspirations of the world's marginalised.

A number of crucial Davis-inspired debates entered public space and amongst them two stand out: the deceipt of the Jewish National Fund and the need for strident opposition to the colonial settler regime.

Remarkably yet not without surprise, persons with struggle pedigrees such as Ronnie Kasrils were immediately attracted to Uri Davis' profound arguments that being Jewish or Israeli doesn't bar you from acknowledging and opposing Israeli Apartheid.

This moment marked an era which commenced the emergence of Jewish voices led by Kasrils, who at the time was a senior Minister in Nelson Mandela's cabinet, to demand "Not In My Name".

For the first time in the annals of Jewish support for Israel, South Africa witnessed major cracks in the dominant pro-Israel lobby that hitherto monopolised Jewish voices as representative of unconditional supporters of the zionist project.

More recently, MRN researcher Suraya Dadoo and senior executive member Firoz Osman embarked on an ambitious project which culminated in a highly acclaimed study known as "Why Israel".

Its a detailed and comprehensive book dealing with MRN's twin concerns: Islamophobia and Israel.

Judging from the many rave reviews by historians, academics, human rights activists, media, including Palestinian voices, this publication has been a crucial component in mobilising public opinion critical of Israel's racist ideology.

As Israel keeps pounding Gaza with bombs and missiles extracting huge civilian death tolls, South Africans of all stripes have taken to the streets to protest their outrage against the savagery of Netanyahu's war crimes.

Indeed in what has been described as the country's largest mass protest since the dawn of democracy twenty years ago, Cape Town was brought to a standstill as 200000 and more demanded an end to Israel's bloody massacres.

MRN is a component of the new grassroots formation embracing close to fifty organisations from churches to trade unions and known as "National Coalition For Palestine".

The sudden rush to gain insight on Palestine has been characterised by a spike in demand for "Why Israel".

In addition highy respected Israeli authors and historians have made a huge impact on people's ability to understand that the canard of "antisemitism" is no more than a decoy used to discourage pro-Palestinian activism.

Two such remarkable individuals who graced the shores of South Africa have been author of "The General's Son" Miko Peled and author of "Ethnic Cleansing of Palestine" Ilan Pappe.

Suddenly a renewed energy to embrace Palestine's freedom struggle by embarking on a full fledged campaign to adopt Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions, BDS, as an empowering tool is evident throughout the country.

MRN plays a central role in these endeavours and its strategic assets which include a dynamic young leadership headed by Zaakir Ahmed Mayet and Aayesha Soni, complemented by research structures headed by veteran scholar Ibrahim Vawda, and the powerful wide network of activists positions it strategically.

Recent reports that "Why Israel", which incidentally is marketed via all leading bookstores, was found mutilated with pages torn in a CNA store at the Sandton branch, is ironically testament of MRN's effective advocacy and the hatred it arouses amongst intolerant zionist zealots.

EXTRACTS FROM KIMIYA-E-SA'AADAT

MOULANA JUNIAD GAFFOOR MOEENI

All praises is due to allah subhanahu ta aala sustainer of the worlds choicest blessings and salutation upon his most beloved prophet sayyiduna wa moulana al Mustapha muhammadur rasoolallahi sallahu alai wassallam

In today's modern day age and era we find that haraam rozi or eating haraam food has become so common that we forget the words of our blessed prophet sallalahu alai wassallam

Let us take a look at some hadith of our blessed prophet sallalahu alai wassalam where he advises us on halaal rozi.Hazrath Imaam Ghazali rehmatulahi alai in his famous book kimaye sa aadat quotes a few hadith of our prophet sallahu alai wassallam and he says :

* Looking for halaal rozi is fard upon every muslim

* A person who eats halaal rozi for 40 days,not allowing a morsel of haraam to enter his stomach Allah ta aala fills his heart with noor and hikhmah

* Hazrath saeed radi allahu anhu was once in the company of our blessed prophet sallahu alai wassallam when he requested by saying:Ya rasool sallalahu alai wassallam please make dua for me that every dua i make is accepted in the court of Allah ta aala,Rasool sallalahu alai wassalam replied by saying eat halaal so that you duas are always accepted.Then the prophet sallahu alai wassallam said: people eat haraam and wear haraam clothes and then lift their hands and beg in the court of allah ta aala with duas,how can allah ta aala accept such a persons duas ....?

* Sayyiduna rasool sallalahu alai wassallam has said:Allah ta aala has appointed an angel in baitul muqadas ,and every night this angel calls out and says:all those people who eat haraam beware your fard and sunnah are not accepted in the court of allah ta aala

* Sayyiduna rasool sallalahu alai wassallam has said: A person buys clothes for 10 dirhams and from the 10 dirhams 1 dirham is haraam,aslong as he wears those clothes his salaah is not accepted in the court of allah ta aala

* Rasool sallahu alai wassalam has said: A person who is not concerned about where his rozi comes from allah will not be concerned about which part of jahannam his thrown in

* Rasool sallahu alai wassalam has said: Ibadat is made up of 10 parts 9 parts consist of halaal rozi

* Rasool sallahu alai wassalam has said: A person who goes out and works the whole day acquiring halaal rozi and then comes home tired after a long day,before he goes to bed allah ta aala forgives him for his sins

So from this few ahaadith we can see the importance of halaal rozi and eating halaal

We make dua may allah ta aala guide us,and give us barakah in our halaal rozi and may he keep us far away from haraam rozi...ameen

Jazakallah

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BY MOULANA SHAH FAISAL KHAN SAHEB

EXCELLENCE OF SACRIFICE

Q. Inform us of some excellence and rulings of Eid-ul-Adha also known as Baqr-e-Eid Jazakallah?

A. A holy companion of the prophet ﷺ Hazrat Zaid bin Arqam tstates that one day some companions came to the holy court of Rasoolullah ﷺ and queried as follows: "Ya Rasoolullah what is the reality of these sacrifices (of an animal) He r replied: This is the tradition and sunnah of your great father sayyiduna Ebrahim Khaleelullah عليه السلام, again they asked: what rewards will be gained by theses sacrifices? Then the beloved master r said: there is a reward in exchange for each hair/fur on the animal.

WHAT IS THE TRADITION OF NABI EBRAHIM عليه السلام

Dear readers in Islam, The summary of the blessed hadith mentions that Ebrahim عليه السلام had a dream on 3 consecutive nights to sacrifice the thing that is dearest to him, he understood from this that he must sacrifice his little son Ismaeel عليه السلام who was just 7 or 13 years of age. When he expressed his understanding to his wife and child, they agreed and with full loyalty they let it go ahead. On the 10th Zul Hijjah he took his little son to the valley of mina and laid him down on his stomach rather than his back as he tried slicing his son's neck the knife did not cut and Ismaeel عليه السلام was replaced with a ram Allah accepted this sacrifice of Ibrahim عليه السلام.

THE STATEMENT OF THE HOLY QURAAN:

The glorious Quran has mentioned this incident: "And when his son was old enough to walk with him he said: O my son I have seen in a dream that I am slaughtering you (offering you in sacrifice to Allah).So what do you think? He said: "O my father do that which you are commanded if Allah wills you shall find from those who are patient". Then they have both submitted themselves and he had laid him prostrate on his forehead we called out to him: O Ebrahim you have fulfilled your dream verily we reward the good doers. Verily that indeed was a manifest trial, and we ransomed him with a great sacrifice (a ram) and we left for him (a good remembrance) among the later generations. Peace be upon Ebrahim .Thus indeed we reward the good doers. Verily he was one of our believing slaves (37:102-111)

Intention and sincerity is the centre of everything

Dear friends in Islam this Qurbaan (sacrifice) is a great means of guidance for people of Imaan till the day of judgement .It is a reminder of the great incident of Ebrahim u therefore the beloved prophet ﷺ stated that when sacrificing the animal do so with full devotion .Allah has mention in the Quraan" Allah only accepts the practices of the pious ones".

The purpose and wisdom of sacrificing

Sacrifice (qurbaani) in its outer appearance means to sacrifice an animal in the name of Allah, However the purpose of sacrifice is not merely sacrificing an animal rather the spirit of sacrifice is that a slave of Allah must be Allah consciousness and sincere Allah Ta'aala states in the Holy Quraan:

"The flesh and meat does not reach Allah rather it is your piety and consciousness of Allah that reaches him".

In another part of the Quraan Allah addresses the people of Imaan through the medium of Rasoolullah ﷺ as follows:

"Say (O beloved) to them that indeed my prayers, my sacrifices, my life and my death are all for Allah the cherisher and sustainer of all universe." (6:162)

An urdu poet beautifully says: *"Ay musalmaa sunny eh huktah dares quraan meh hein azmatey Islaamo muslim sirf qurbani meh hein".*

O Muslims listen carefully this point is given in the Quraanic lesson that the greatness of people lies only in the Qurbaani (sacrifice).

Philosophy of sacrifice

Anything sacrificed in the path of Allah never decreases but the reward continues to increase. Therefore those animals (which are halaal to be consumed) slaughtered in the name of Allah there is continuous increase in their numbers. Hence those animals not slaughtered in the name of Allah (i.e. forbidden animals) their numbers keep decreasing.eg. Cows, sheep and goats etc... Some give birth to one child annually and others 2 or 3. So their production is little with high consumption of their meat that thousands are sacrificed in the name of Allah many even die due to sicknesses however their number still increases. Contrary to this a dog gives birth to 5-6 and a pig to 10-12 offspring's. Their production is a lot and consumption is a little yet their quantity keeps decreasing. The answer to this is that sheep etc... Are slaughtered in the name if Allah and dogs etc... are not.

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TOWARDS GRADUATION

BY SHEIKH ZUZEIS HAAQ - HEAD OF DAWAH ACTIVITIES AT ORANGE FARM

These are some of delightful activities we might be missing here at the Dawah Centre, furthermore I decided to attend our pre-school class and look into their daily life and attachment to the centre and here are some of my interesting discoveries.

It's spring now where outdoor activities occurs a lot, one of the awe-inspiring activity which I have noticed is that children were picking up papers around the centre grounds, this activity motivates them to be environmental conscious of outdoor plants like grass and flowers. It is sharing of chores while singing. Again I have noticed that their curriculum offers creative crafts, fun activities of free and imaginative playing areas, circle time of storytelling and reading, songs, besides all this, they have a once opportunity of field trip to the Zoo during the course of the year. Care and development is mostly bird-watched by these tireless teachers by implementing love of learning and exploration.

All graduating children who will be beginning their new school curriculum next year are best breed here and become the outstanding product ever in their lives. Saaberie Chishty Dawah centre strives to ensure each child receives individualized attention. It has provided learning experience as unique and provides a warm, friendly, nurturing and stimulating Islamic environment, which promotes morals and values- the manner best on eating and the method on how toilet is to be used. Most importantly, resources here are best avail to facilitation on explanation and making it easy for children to understand.

Records are kept to assist in proper planning of the child and are kept to give a report on performance, behavior and assessments in their progress so as to find remedies to their weaknesses and extensions to areas of easy mastering. And all this is meant to be near to the child as possible and to help within or with necessary information regarded of the child.

One day they took a stroll visit to the nearby neighboring pre-school center for a breath taking and to interact with their fellow friends, on which they were welcomed with smiles, in due moment of time they stood show casing their talents by singing rhymes and traditional stage dance. Our pre-school children are real interesting to keep watching as they perform their excellent stances that lead more than the rest here.' Let's all stand and applaud these children'

These children are really advancing on and are acquiring with them new discoveries and new accomplishments shared and it's all worth memorable and unforgettable ones. The pre-school focuses on early literacy skills, such as phonics, pre writing, pre reading, beginner math concepts and development of the fine motor skills. It's all awarding them focus, direction, strength and endurance. In them is created knowledge and understanding and capacity of determination, to strengthen their weakness, for the challenges that stand ahead of them and developing their self esteem, assuring how special they are!

Currently it is so beautiful to see children practicing and preparing for their graduation towards this year end. They are more active with their items with full of vitality- individual introduction, cultural dance, and group singing of our national anthem. What I witnessed here is the efforts of the management, teachers and parents, who are constantly helping to archive the visual modality of the centre.

Saaberie Chishty Society has benefited the community of Orange Farm with education and safe keeping of the children during their basic cognitive process. These children are provided with nourished breakfast of morning porridge of oats or Kellogg's and also lunch is served for them. How wonderful this is- providing for all, especially most of them are coming from disadvantaged families…

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FAMILY VALUES IN ISLAM

MOULANA NASIK AHMED BROOD

Family values are defined as the moral and ethical principles that pertain to the family's function, roles, beliefs, attitudes, and ideals. Without family, where do we learn values? We are not born with values, but we learn values from our families. If we look at family values closely, we can see that strengthens the fabric of society. Many people would wonder how does this have an effect on society and what does it mean by "strengthening the fabric of society". Many answers pop-up in the peoples mind, but one answer could be such that when one family upholds family values then it automatically is an encouragement to other families to do the same.

Someone once said: "A family is a circle of strength whereby every crisis faced together makes the circle stronger." This is the best way in strengthening the fabric of society. We are in an age where the world has changed profoundly, from being a pro-family to anti-family society. So, how many Muslim homes possess the understanding and implementation of family values? It is time for us to re-examine our family situations to determine to what degree we are been affected by our larger society. Many people do not think about family values until a crisis arises and then it hits them with a bang. It is as though the only thing those families can fully understand is when they are in a drama that is now turning into a horror. People who have not identified their family values, when chaotic consequences are brought about by a previously secret situation and made public, suddenly they a faced with the truth. This is the only time when people realise how important family values are. The directors of establishing family values in a Muslim home are the parents. If the directors are incompetent and ineffectual in instilling this, then how can we expect the children to practice this in their everyday lives? Some people consider that ultimate happiness lies in the highest education, attaining a professional status and/or becoming wealthy. Everyone looks forward for these material successes. The problem is that it has been made as the centre of attraction and family values are not included in this centre. People then look for sympathy when they see that their very own flesh and blood are more focused on things that have a negative impact on family values. A typical example of this can be seen when a girl from a well-known and revered family comes home and tells her parents that she is pregnant. The boys can also be trapped into doing that which is contrary to family values by making a girl pregnant, becoming drug addicts, etc.

Allah Almighty has mentioned in the Holy Quraan: "And Allah Almighty has made for you in your homes an abode." (S 16: V 80) From the word abode, we can understand that our dwelling place not only means just living in it, but it also indicates that a home is made-up of family values. If there are no family values then that residence cannot be called a home, it is just referred to as a house. Many inferences are made about other families and their values, but the very same people are the ones who only understand family values when they go through crises. Benjamin Todd Jealous, an American political and civic leader, has said: "Let us nurture the practice of family values, by embracing policies that value families."

May Allah Almighty, through the Wasilah of Nabi (Sallallahu Alayhi Wa Sallam), grant us the capability of imbibing family values into our homes and in our lives. Aameen!

As-Salaam Alaikum. I read with interest an article widely circulated regarding the spelling of "INSHA ALLAH" and must admit that it has put doubts about an expression that belongs to the common table-talk of all muslims since forever. My fear is that people may hesitate to use it in future as freely as has been the case, due to confusion or forgetfulness. This is so typical of our current standing with our faith and actions these days. We need to take stock of a Prophetic tradition which refers..."Verily actions are (based on) intentions." Furthermore the method of transliterations from one language to another will always be debatable in terms of accuracy. We can agree that the closest we can possibly get is by how it sounds in spoken is how we try to reproduce it in writing. There is no exact letter for letter match between arabic and english. So when you see insha Allah, Inshallah, in shaa Allah or even Insha-Allah, you know it means "Allah-Willing", and the context of the sentence will discount any other meaning. May Allah guide us towards Truth and Righteousness, and spare us from wasting valuable time and effort on issues that only put doubts on what is virtuous and certified. In a world where "modesty and respect" is slipping away, consumption of alcohol and intoxicants on the increase, adultery and promiscuity, dishonesty and oppression, greed and corruption out of control, the casualty without doubt is faith (eemaan). We as believers are only as strong as the level of faith we possess. Faith can increase by sound and positive actions. The actions suggested in the Quran and Hadeeth are about promoting good and preventing evil. Before we reach the level of feeling the need to teach spelling of arabic words in english, we have a bigger task ahead, preventing the collapse of the sunnah way of life in preference of the secular / materialistic lifestyles devoid of Truth and spirituality. When there is need for 'sword' what good is it making a show of 'miswaak'?

STRENGTHENING JAHILIYA

BY FAIZEL KHAMKAR

When it comes to strengthening oppression an alliance is normally sought. This is evidenced with the new initiative to strengthen NATO with the strongest proponents coming from the UK and the USA. The concerns which prompted this new initiative are the events taking place in the Ukraine as well as Syria/Iraq through the actions of ISIS. It is reported that thirty two nation states met in France to form a coalition against ISIS. This is obviously the first step to strengthen NATO. Unsurprising there are ten Arab countries in the alliance of thirty two. This alliance is a direct result of (1) not willing to take legal responsibility or be shown to be the responsible party for gross human rights abuses. In simple words: a cowardly act of bullying but running for the protection behind mummy's skirts of against the consequences of such actions and (2) to ensure that their actions appears to have some credibility. These alliances should not be seen as a collective good but rather an arrangement where material benefit can be obtained despite spin doctoring trying to present a façade of decency.

Furthermore these alliances are normally fragile largely as a natural result of the greed and dominance the intention binding the alliance together. This puts to rests the absoluteness of the notion: "as thick as thieves". The closeness between the alliance partners are only as strong as the benefit received. The targets currently in the sights of the alliance i.e. ISIS, Taliban, Al Qaeda Russia and others originally had ties and alliance arrangements with, support from and financed by the very same alliance currently out to subdue them in order for them to dance to their ever changing tunes.

A further point of note is that the Obama and other so called alliance partners are attempting to deceive the Muslim world in believing in the justness of this unholy alliance. Various calls were made that the global Muslim should ad hoc discredit and distance itself from the so called terrorists groups. This issue is a religious and not political matter which needs to be sorted out in a forum distinct from and clearly distanced from the political sphere of influence of the alliance partners. We need to be careful not to be sucked up in their political agendas. Our leadership is not based on Capitalism and our methodology is not one of neo imperialism or neo colonialism. It is for this reason that we can neither accept their leadership nor their false friendship. If we do then we will end up being as guilty as them in their connivance of all forms of nation terrorism and human right abuses.

Alliances need not be confined to alliances of jahilia and deception but an alliance to present the truth and real justice needs to be formed. This would require extensive networking and dedication. The world is not devoid of honest and moral people with whom these alliances can be formed. The alliances of truth will not find and easy path and its greatest foe will be the alliance of jahilia. The funds, resources and military strength will be heavily biased towards jahilia. The strength of the alliance of the truth will be sincerity and dedication. This would be a natural outcome of any gathering which is devoid of personal agendas fueled by greed and a lust for power. History testifies that truth despite being suppressed a period of time will surface as the winner. The spark to create this alliance of truth must be lit now.

Dithering and wavering would only consolidate the alliance of the unjust hypocrites. At the same time the removal of the flash of distorted Islam and the enemy from within can be effectively eliminated as the initiators of these fringe groups will be severely curtailed. Failure to form the alliance of truth will only cause further looting of resources, destruction of infra structures and loss of life as well as untold suffering for many.

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS FOCUS

BY FAKIR HASSEN

Washington, USA - Several Arab countries have offered to launch air attacks on the group calling itself the Islamic State, according to US officials who declined to identify which countries made the offers as the US begins to identify roles in its coalition against fighters who control parts of Iraq and Syria. There has been growing opposition worldwide, including South Africa, to the cruel acts of terror and killings by IS which has proclaimed a Caliphate. This included releasing videos showing the beheading of Western journalists amid British concern that some of its citizens are returned IS fighters who might stage attacks in the country. About 40 countries have signed up to a coalition to help fight IS.

Islamabad, PAKISTAN - Cricketer-turned politician Imran Khan announced his party's suspension of talks with government following the arrest of anti-government protesters in the capital city of Islamabad. Anti-government cleric Tahir-ul-Qadri, who has been leading demonstrations in conjunction with Khan's, said police had also detained his supporters as they staged lengthy sit-ins to force Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif to resign over alleged voting fraud in last year's election.

Gaza City, PALESTINE - Some half million Gaza children are making a delayed return to school after a devastating 50-day war with Israel that killed more than 2 100 Palestinians and damaged hundreds of school buildings. Gaza Education Ministry official Ziad Thabet said that the first week of instruction in government schools will be used to provide psychological counselling and recreational activities to help the children transition to learning. He says 26 Gaza schools were destroyed during the war, and another 232 sustained damage.

Manila, PHILLIPINES - In a historic move, Philippine President Benigno Aquino has asked the country's congress to swiftly enact a law creating a Muslim autonomous area in the south of the mainly Roman Catholic state. The move aims at ending nearly five decades of conflict, which has seen the two sides signing a deal in March to end a rebellion that has killed more than 120,000 people, displaced two million and stifled development in the resource-rich region. The Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF), has agreed to disband and surrender weapons in exchange for powers over the economy and society in the Bangsamoro area.

Sri Nagar, INDIA - The prime ministers of Pakistan and India have offered to help each other in efforts to alleviate flood havoc in the disputed Himalayan region of Kashmir, lowering tension between the rival nations after weeks of army clashes and heated rhetoric. Kashmir is divided by one of the world's deadliest and most heavily militarised borders. Both the Indian and Pakistani sides have been ravaged by floods that have killed at least 375 people as rivers burst their banks after heavy rain. The disaster, which left large parts of Srinagar, the capital of Indian-administered Kashmir, deep in water, comes weeks after Prime Minister Narendra Modi cancelled high-level peace talks and accused Pakistan of fighting a “proxy war.”

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Both prime ministers flew over their respective areas of Kashmir to review the extent of the flooding.

Jeddah, SAUDI ARABIA - With the arrival of more than half of the pilgrims in the holy cities, the Indian Haj Mission is making optimum use of the new state-of-the-art navigation system introduced to help the pilgrims to find their way to their places of accommodation. The Indian Haj Mission is the first foreign mission in the Kingdom to come up with the innovative Global Positioning System (GPS) application on mobile phones called 'Indian Haj Accommodation Locator' so that pilgrims can easily reach the holy mosques in Makkah and Madinah from their accommodation. Some pilgrims managed to reclaim their lost baggage thanks to the locator.

Dubai, UAE - The UAE has topped two of the three main categories of this year's Forbes Middle East 200 Most Powerful Arab Women. Sheikha Lubna Al Qasimi, Minister for International Cooperation and Development, won top slot in the list of the most powerful women in government. A total of 26 women from the Emirates featured on the list of 200 drawn from government, family business and executive management.

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“O Mankind ! Eat of the lawful and good things from what is in the earth, and follow not the evil. Surely he is an open enemy to you (S2: V168)

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