

Al Kausar

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Islamic New Year Issue

أَلَا إِنَّ أَوْلِيَاءَ اللَّهِ لَا خَوْفٌ  
عَلَيْهِمْ وَلَا هُمْ يَحْزَنُونَ ۝  
الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا وَكَانُوا يَتَّقُونَ ۝

**Behold! verily on the friends of Allah  
there is no fear nor shall they grieve  
Those who believe, and are amongst  
the people of piety!**

- Surah Yunus Verse 64



Vienna, AUSTRIA - The Arab Coordination Group (ACG) will provide US\$10 billion for immediate relief and long-term support amid the food crisis which the UN has said will leave over 49 million people in a number of countries facing famine in the next few months. OPEC Fund Director-General Dr. Abdulhamid Alkhalifa made the announcement after a meeting of the ACG Heads of Institutions. ACG members expressed "grave concern" about the current global crisis in food and energy security, exacerbating the already challenging global economic situation following the COVID-19 pandemic.

Varanasi, INDIA - The Supreme Court has decided to await a decision by the Varanasi District Judge on an application filed by the caretakers of the Anjuman Intejamia Masjid who had made a special plea to the higher court. They were challenging the status of an application by several Hindu women to endorse their right to worship Hindu deity Maa Shringar Gauri and other "visible and invisible deities" within the premises of the Gyanvapi mosque in Varanasi.

Istanbul, TURKEY - Hagia Sophia, the 6th century Byzantine cathedral which was converted into a mosque in 2020, has received more than 6.5 million visitors since then. The cathedral was first converted to a mosque after the Ottoman conquest of Constantinople in 1453. In 1937 Hagia Sophia was declared a museum, attracting millions of visitors annually. The mosque now also offers classes on Quran interpretation, and the life of the Prophet (SAW).

Dubai, UAE - The UAE Ministry of Human Resources and Emiratisation has announced that July 30 would be an official paid holiday for all private sector employees on the occasion of the Islamic New Year. The announcement is in line with a decree issued by the UAE Cabinet to unify the number of holidays between the private and public sectors in 2021 and 2022. Hijri, the Islamic New Year, is the day on which Prophet Mohammed (SAW) migrated from Makkah to Madinah.

Tashkent, UZBEKISTAN - The government will host an international conference on Afghanistan with delegations from more than 20 countries and international organizations participating. The event is aimed at developing a set of measures and proposals for the approaches of the world community on issues of promoting stability, security, post-conflict reconstruction in Afghanistan and its integration into the regional cooperation process in the interests of the multinational Afghan people and the rest of world.

Riyadh, SAUDI ARABIA - The Saudi National Centre for Archives and Records held a scientific symposium themed "National Archives in the Islamic Countries: Distinguished Experiences and Future Directions".

Head of the institution Dr. Fahd bin Abdullah Al-Semari said the objective was to call for the establishment of an Islamic archival group to contribute to strengthening joint Islamic action and to

provide national archives in the least Islamic developed countries.

Nagpur, INDIA - Relatives and several members of the Hindu community have asked a widow and her two daughters to vacate their home in a suburb here after the trio embraced Islam following the death of her paraplegic husband. Authorities are keeping a close eye on the situation in the midst of ever-increasing communal tensions, but said they would not intervene until someone laid an official complaint.

Ladakh, INDIA - The Dalai Lama visited several religious institutions, including the Jamia Masjid, Shia Mosque and Moravian Church as part of an interfaith pilgrimage. Joining special prayers for peace and brotherhood in the world, the Dalai Lama was seen wearing a Muslim cap and eating from the hands of Muslim women as they welcomed him in local mosques. He was seen praying along with Muslim priests for global peace. "One of my commitments is the promotion of religious harmony. All religions, whether theistic and non-theistic, have a message of compassion. These days and even in the past, sometimes because of different faiths, there are killings, which is sad and unbelievable. In our neighbourhood in Afghanistan, Sunnis and Shias are killing each other. It's sad," said the Dalai Lama who has been in self-exile in the Indian territory of Ladakh since 1959 as the Chinese government laid claim to Tibet as their territory and crushed sporadic rebellion by the Buddhist Tibetans.

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NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) was formed in 1949 after the second world war. The idea behind its formation was to create a defensive alliance where a member state could rely on the military and other support in the event of there being a threat or military invasion against the member state from the other member states. This would also imply the sharing of military hardware and military intelligence. This sharing does not hold in all cases, an example is the French refusal to commit its nuclear armed sub marines to NATO. The idea of a common enemy then becomes necessary to hold the alliance together. The threat of a common enemy could be real or falsely created. It is for this reason that Russia was singled out and became the target of the cold war. As is the case with all alliance a dominant partner will emerge from the alliance and this dominance could have negative effects. These forms of alliances are not new or unique and a number of such alliances exists currently.

Since the beginning of the twenty first century the Arab nations were considering a similar alliance. This idea has now resurfaced and has gained a lot of media attention globally. Such an alliance makes sense as most of the Arab countries on their own do not necessarily have the military capacity to defend itself but as a unit can be regarded as strong enough to ward off threats. Iraq and Libya are examples of the inability to effectively defend itself. In a televised interview the king of Jordan stated that such an alliance was considered but certain conditions needed to be fulfilled and secondly mentioned the current close relationship Jordan had with NATO. The common enemy has already been created by identifying Iran as the threat following the war of hegemony.

The elephant in the room of such an alliance is America. America has historically promised military support to the region because of its economic interest in the region. However, we are all aware that such support was always premised on unstinted support to America and any signs of the waning of such support was met with American intervention militarily to entrench its interest and such betrayal of its commitment to stability in the region has also seen regime change. Furthermore, Israeli interest was always placed above all other interest including their own. It is unlikely that the Israelis will agree to such an arrangement unless they become the dominant partner in such an alliance. This in turn will not satisfy Saudi Arabia who harbours their own dream of being the dominant partner.

Another factor which comes into play is what is regarded as the drifting away from the unstinting support that America desires as has been ably demonstrated by the Russian/Ukrainian conflict.

This in a sense can also explain the unusual (and unsuccessful) visit to the region by Joe Biden.

Taking into account the history of NATO and its war of aggression in the name of peace, where no threat was eminent in countries such as Libya and Bosnia (amongst others) where countless innocent people were killed or maimed together with the destruction of critical infrastructure alliances such as these can have horrible consequences for the masses of countries targeted for nefarious reasons certain concerns must be raised. The danger lies in the fact that no control mechanisms are in place where the alliance are stronger to control such repugnant acts of immorality. However, where the alliance is deemed to be weaker than the anticipated assistance will not materialise and member states who relies on such support could be sacrificed.

The other danger is that the dominant partner in pursuing its own personal agenda would force its alliance partners to act even where such actions are detrimental to its own interest. Once more the Russian/Ukrainian conflict exposed this truth. The European partners in NATO are causing immense harm to their own economies and placing unnecessary hardships onto its citizens simply to fulfil the reprehensible agenda of America.

Such alliances can only be good if it is sincerely for the benefit of the masses and not to serve those wanting to increase their hold on power. Such alliances must be intended for good and we have a timely reminder of Karbala to demonstrate this.

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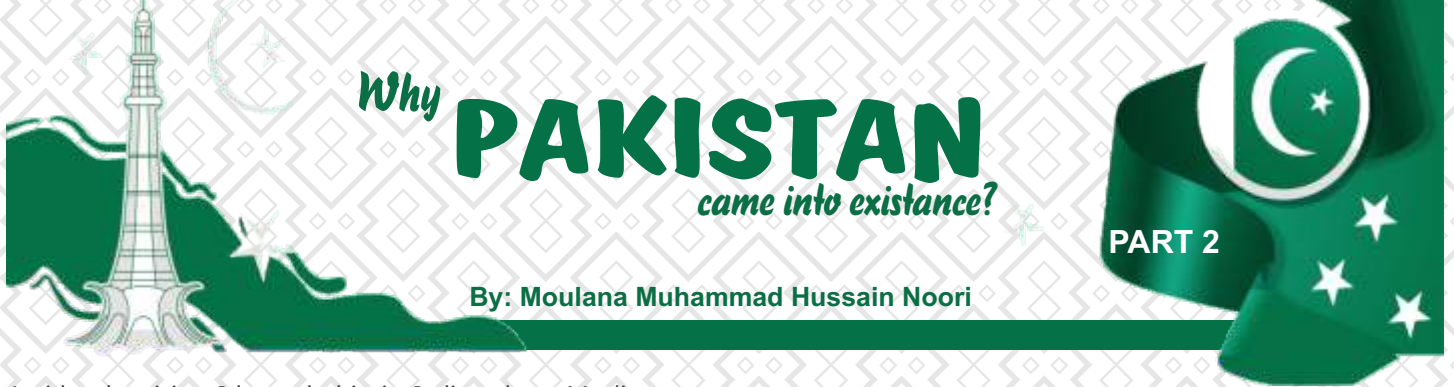
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Amidst the rising Islamophobia in India, where Muslims are considered to be the largest minority and the second largest Muslim population in a single country, the narrative in India today is that no Muslim should have been allowed to remain in India due to the fact that partition of the subcontinent occurred on religious grounds. Constitutionally, India rejects the two-nation theory and regards Indian Muslims as equal citizens. In the words of Iqbal as to what he actually meant by his vision of an 'independent state for Muslim-majority provinces in northwestern India': "I would like to see the Punjab, North-West Frontier Province, Sind and Baluchistan amalgamated into a single state. (All of which were considered as Muslim-majority provinces) Self-Government within the British Empire, or without the British Empire, the formation of a consolidated North-West Indian Muslims State appears to be the final destiny of the Muslims; at least of North-West India..." "The idea need not alarm the Hindus or the British. India is the greatest Muslim country in the world. The life of Islam as a cultural force in this country very largely depends on its centralization in a specified territory. This centralization of the most living portion of the Muslims of India, whose military and police service has, notwithstanding unfair treatment from the British, made the British rule possible in this country, will eventually solve the problem of India as well as of Asia. It will intensify their sense of responsibility and deepen their patriotic feeling. Thus, possessing full opportunity of development within the body politics of India, the North-West Indian Muslims will prove the best defenders of India against a foreign invasion, be that invasion the one of ideas or of bayonets. "I therefore, demand the formation of a consolidated Muslim State in the best interests of India and Islam. For India it means security and Peace resulting from an internal balance of power; for Islam an opportunity to rid itself of the stamp that Arabian imperialism was forced to give it, to mobilize its law, its education, its culture, and to bring them into closer contact with its own original spirit and with the spirit of modern times."

According to this statement, Iqbal's main concern was self-governance by the Muslims rather than occupying land, for the idea was simply for Muslims that resided in Hindu majority provinces to migrate to Muslim-majority provinces and vice-versa. Whereby, the Muslim-majority provinces in northwestern India such as, Punjab, North-West Frontier Province, Sind and

Baluchistan could be amalgamated into a single state which should then be considered as an independent North-West Indian Muslim State.

The struggle seems to continue for although the Muslims of India were able to solve a religious ideological problem on geographical lines, today in what is known as Pakistan, they have yet to resolve their political and social ideological conflicts.

Former Prime Minister Imran Khan has renewed his call for early elections after the by-elections allowed his party to take control of a crucial provincial assembly by winning 15 out of 20 seats in Punjab, beating their rival the PML-N on their very home ground. The result of this by-election is considered as a major blow and foretaste of what could happen in a general election. The by-elections were called after the MPs from Imran Khan's party were disqualified for switching allegiance in a vote to elect the current Prime Minister's son, Hamza Shahbaz as Punjab Chief Minister. However, his short term in office seems to be coming to an end.

Pakistan is currently suffering from unprecedented inflation and energy shortages and the masses are further enraged by the consequences of the urban flooding which is getting worse every year with no one to attend to the fixing of the country's drainage system. To top that up there is a constant tug of war between the current government and the opposition and this political instability could spiral out of control.

Having the winds in his favor, Imran Khan seems to be sitting pretty ahead of the next general elections by having secured a prime spot ahead. It is not a sudden build up for he has been attracting thousands of PTI supporters to rallies since the day he was ousted. Determined with one view alone that the only way forward from here is to hold free and transparent elections for any other way will only lead to increased political uncertainty and further economic chaos.

According to sources, both the opponents would shortly hold talks to decide the date for a fresh election in order to control the ongoing political and economic turmoil. The establishment has decided to intervene and start talks between the government and the opposition in order to take the country out of the political and economic turmoil. The date for the next general elections is expected to be held this year in October.







# Biden Mission to Israel and Saudi Kingdom is to Forge Alliance of Military Dominance

by: Iqbal Jassat

US President Joe Biden cannot by any stretch of the imagination pretend to be oblivious of America's despicable role in Israel's suppression of Palestinian human rights.

Neither can he deny America's putrid historic legacy of overarching protection of Israel's ethnic cleansing of Palestine and settler-colonialism - all illegal under international law, yet blindly pursued by his administration to this day.

To arouse Biden from his slumber, the Israeli human rights group B'Tselem erected a number of billboards in Occupied West Bank drawing his attention to the elephant in the room: Israel's apartheid status.

It is thus stunning and extraordinary for him as so-called "leader of the free world" to not only deny the existence and practice of apartheid against Palestinians in a regime he declared as his "home", but to also dismiss fellow Democratic Party members opposed to it, as "mistaken".

A sizeable and growing number of US Congress and Senate members accuse Israel of running an apartheid regime. They obviously have objectively studied and accepted damning findings of apartheid by Amnesty International as well as Human Rights Watch in addition to extensive reports by the United Nations. More so would be their knowledge of daily lived experiences of an entire population under a vicious military occupation enforcing apartheid.

Notwithstanding these reports plus overwhelming empirical evidence compiled by B'Tselem, Biden nevertheless contemptuously dismisses it as fake. The comments he uttered in a TV interview when challenged to respond on this matter, made him sound like a tin pot dictator.

In fact making unreasonable demands on Palestine while allowing Israel to behave with impunity, is part of his game plan.

Exactly what's playing out between Biden and the Palestinian Authority's call on him to comply with a number of pertinent matters.

These relate to the his administration's unfulfilled pledge to reopen the US Consulate in Jerusalem. In addition, to unban the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO), scrap the listing of its affiliate organizations as terrorists, and reopen its representative office in Washington.

Prior to his landing in Israel, leaked reports reveal that Biden will seek to impose Israel's conditions on the PA thus confirming that his policies and twisted approach to Palestine, are a carbon copy of the Zionist regime's.

In other words in the case of Palestinian prisoners and martyrs, the US demand is that the PA must halt all payments to their families.

As for the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), the PA will have to provide evidence that it is not affiliated to the PLO. If not, the PFLP will remain designated by Israel and the US as a terror group. This is not enough.

The PA must also demonstrate disassociation from the Al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigades, a coalition of resistance groups bravely engaged in defending their besieged people in the Occupied West Bank from Israel's military attacks.

These and probably more repressive demands imposed on a pliant PA by the Biden administration, illustrates a shocking disarray in power relations between the benefactor of Zionism - the US, and beneficiaries of its tainted largesse - the PA.

Many commentators have correctly compared the PA's role and function to that of Bantustans, created by South Africa's apartheid regime to hold and contain the black majority in confined designated areas.

Though passed off as "autonomous", Bantustans had zero to little independence and their leaders, like Abu Mazen, were glorified "Presidents".

The PA lacks authority over Israeli settlers and settlements, borders, airspace, water, and a variety of other spheres. The Jewish colonial regime reserves power to review and veto any PA legislation.

The outcome of Biden's meeting with the PA will yet again confirm the enslavement of Palestinians under US-backed Israeli Occupation.

The crumbs on offer will in all likelihood be grabbed by the PA, who in any event face similar pressure by Saudi Arabia to conform.

Biden's game plan is no different to former president Trump's sell out of Palestine. It may or may not be called "Abraham Accords" but certainly an alliance of unbridled military power to perpetuate the subjugation of Palestine.

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# THE SUPER-FOOD FOR THE SOUL

by: Moulana Naasik Ahmad Mohamed (Burood)

Gratitude is a simple word with a vibrant power in its meaning and application. Many of us forget to develop and exercise gratitude, overlooking how life-changing it can be. An attitude of gratitude can make a tough reality seem tolerable, giving light to an unhappy mood and driving out negative attitudes, thoughts, and feelings with unlimited speed. Allah Almighty has granted us abundant opportunities to live and prosper on this earth. If we forget the elemental requirements of being thankful, then we are only doing a disservice to ourselves. If we do not show gratitude and be thankful to our Creator Allah Almighty, how then can we be thankful and show gratitude to anyone else? How can we appreciate the good things in our daily experiences and ourselves?

In Islam, our ultimate gratitude is to Allah Almighty who has granted us existence and furnished us with cognitive and emotional faculties, as well as the potential to understand and appreciate their value and benefit. Thus, we need to express our gratitude and say thank you. We should say thank you for elegance, mercy, understanding, wisdom, loved ones in your life, for being able to love and give love, and for kindness, humility, peace, and prosperity. We need to be thankful for everything that has led to our day; the hard times that have made us appreciate the good times and the lessons needed for our development. We need to be thankful for our eyes that get to witness the miracles of today, for all of our blessings, for the courage to fight through the hard times, and for the people in our lives whom we can learn from. Being thankful opens the door to instant happiness. It unlocks the door to everything we are seeking in life i.e. happiness and contentment.

No matter what we say: we want, money, riches, health etc., we need to ask selves why we want it. When we drill deep down, the only reason why anyone wants anything is the feeling we believe we will get from having it. That all boils down to happiness and contentment. The truth is we can have it now if we are grateful. Moreover, if we get quiet and get, get away from the world's noise for a moment about what we could be grateful for, we can find plenty. Be grateful there is food on the table, the air in our lungs, and life in our body, we have the opportunity to take our life to a completely new level. Be grateful for the mental strength we have been given to survive hard times. Be grateful for our limbs if we have them, eyesight if we have them, and hearing if we have it, as there are people who are not so blessed to have these. Be grateful for the health that we have as many are in worse positions. Be grateful for that one person who has had a positive impact on your life, or many people if you are so blessed. Be grateful that we can experience this magical universe and start looking for those blessings that are out there. I can guarantee if we look for those blessings we will see them. There are unlimited

things to be grateful for. All we need to do is to open our eyes, unlock our amazing life, and be ready to see and take in those blessings because it is ready for us right now. Be grateful for this day, whether a challenge which will allow us to grow, a lineup to teach us patience, or any moment of joy. Whatever today brings we should make Dua that we have enough presence in each moment to know that we are blessed. Be grateful that we can choose to attract those things and those people that are in harmony with what we need in our lives.

Someone once said that the one way to coach our minds from depression is with gratitude. Every time we feel ourselves not being in a positive mindset, take out some paper and a pen and start writing down everything we have to be grateful for. Whatever it is, your health, your ability to walk, talk, see, hear,

taste, touch, you have a roof over your head, you have someone whom you know you can speak to and share your life's challenges with, etc. If we write the extreme detail of what we should be grateful for we will be astonished as to how long and how much we will be writing.

Gratitude erases negativity because when we are grateful then there is no room for negativity. It is not some magic trick because contentment and depression cannot live in the same space. These two things cannot live together.

Furthermore, gratitude changes our focus from what we do not have to what we do have. Gratitude changes our perception. Our perception changes our way of life by being in a positive state of mind. We need to concentrate on what we have and we will be blessed by getting more. If we focus on what we do not have then we will never have enough. Gratitude turns what we have into enough. The more we are grateful for, the more Allah Almighty will give us to be grateful for.

The number one blocker of blessings is not showing gratitude to Allah Almighty. There is an Ayah in the Holy Quran whereby Allah Almighty states: "If you are grateful, I will grant you more" (S14: V7). From this verse, we learn that we should express gratitude for obtaining every bounty and blessing. One of the greatest blessings and most generous of gifts that Allah Almighty has given us is that He has guided us on the right path. He has chosen us to be Muslims. Being grateful to Allah Almighty brings additional favors, whilst being ungrateful calls for Allah Almighty's punishment. We will be asked about every gift we have been given, whether or not we thanked Allah Almighty sufficiently. The question we need to ask ourselves is 'are we prepared with the right answer?'.



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DATE	TOPIC	SPEAKER & VENUE
Friday 29 July	<b>THE HIJRI CALENDAR</b> and the background of the Islamic New Year	<b>Moulana Sayed Yusuf</b> Saaberie Chishty Masjid, Ext 6
Saturday 30 July	<b>LOVE OF THE PROPHET (ﷺ) FOR HIS FAMILY, COMPANIONS AND THE ENTIRE CREATION</b>	Moulana Muhammad Hussain Noori Jamia Razvia Masjid, Ext 8
Sunday 31 July	<b>HAZRAT ABU BAKR SIDDIQ (ؓ)</b> The ultimate friend and companion	Qari Zahid Ahmed Zahidi Saaberie Chishty Masjid, Ext 6
Monday 1 August	<b>HAZRAT UMAR AL FAROUK (ؓ)</b> The one who distinguishes good from evil	<b>Moulana Sayed Yusuf</b> Jamia Razvia Masjid, Ext 8
Tuesday 2 August	<b>URS SHAREEF HAZRAT BABA FAREED</b> Rahmatullahi Alayh	Moulana Muhammad Hussain Noori Saaberie Chishty Masjid, Ext 6
Wednesday 3 August	<b>HAZRAT USMAN ZUN NOORAIN (ؓ)</b> The possessor of two lights	Qari Zahid Ahmed Zahidi Jamia Razvia Masjid, Ext 8
Thursday 4 August	<b>HAZRAT ALI AL MURTAZA (ؓ)</b> The gateway to the city of knowledge	<b>Moulana Sayed Yusuf</b> Saaberie Chishty Masjid, Ext 6
Friday 5 August	<b>WHY THE COMPANIONS WENT TO WAR WITH EACH OTHER</b>	Moulana Muhammad Hussain Noori Jamia Razvia Masjid, Ext 8
Saturday 6 August	<b>OUTSTANDING VIRTUES OF IMAM HASSEN (ؓ) AND IMAM HUSSAIN (ؓ)</b>	Qari Zahid Ahmed Zahidi Saaberie Chishty Masjid, Ext 6
Eve Ashura Sunday 7 August	<b>KHATAM SHAREEF, FATIHA &amp; KITCHRA NIAZ AFTER MAGHRIB</b> Saaberie Chishty Hall - After Maghrib <b>KARBALA - LECTURE AFTER ESHA</b>	<b>Moulana Muhammad Hussain Noori</b> Jamia Razvia Masjid, Ext 8

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# HAZRAT BABA FARID-UD-DIN

Rahmatullahi Alay

Dar-e-Janat hai darwaza Farid Uddin Chishti Ka (The door of Farid Uddin Chishti is the door of heaven). Hazrat Baba Faridudeen Gang Shakar (رحمۃ اللہ علیہ) was one of the most influential and pivotal figures in the Chishtiyyah silsila, and is widely renowned for his intensely rigorous mujahedas in Allah's path. After the premature death of Khwaja Qutubuddin Kaki (رحمۃ اللہ علیہ), only a year after the demise of Khwaja Moinudeen Chishti (رحمۃ اللہ علیہ), the bulk of the work begun by the latter fell upon his shoulders. It was he who, in his 37 years as head of the silsila, ensured the propagation of Islam throughout India and the lands beyond.

Baba Farid al-Din Masaud-Ganj-i Shakkar ('Treasure of Sugar') as he came to be known-was born in Kahtwal, in the district of Multan (present-day southeast Pakistan). His grandfather Qazi Shuoayb, a jurist from the house of Farrukh Shah 'the Just' (whose lineage is traced through Sultan Ibrahim ibn Adham to 'Umar al-Faruq), had left his native Kabul after it was swallowed up by the Ghaznavid Empire. Miraculous events surrounded Baba Faridudeen's (رحمۃ اللہ علیہ) birth. He was born on the 29th Shabaan in 569 AH, the son of a pious alim and a waliah (female saint).

As the night was cloudy, people did not know whether Ramadaan had begun or not. But a dervish told them that a wali had been born who would be the Qutb (spiritual monarch) of his time, and that they must look to the child for their answer. Sure enough, the one-day old Baba Faridudeen (رحمۃ اللہ علیہ) did not touch his mother's milk after sehri, indicating to all that Ramadaan had in fact begun. Baba Faridudeen (رحمۃ اللہ علیہ) was a direct descendent of Hazrat Umar Farooq (رحمۃ اللہ علیہ). After completing his education in Kahtwal, for higher studies Farid al-Din proceeded to the city of Multan, which was then an important center of Islamic learning. In Multan, Farid al-Din lodged at a mosque, where he busied himself with books. One day as he was reading Khwaja Qutb-ud-Din Bakhtiyar Kaki appeared in the mosque.

Farid al-Din recognized at once that this was no ordinary man. As Khwaja Qutb al-Din prayed his namaz, Farid al-Din meekly seated himself nearby. When the Khwaja was finished, he addressed him: 'Masud, what are you reading?' Farid al-Din answered, 'I am reading Nafi' (a legal text, the title of which means 'useful'). 'And do you find it useful?' Farid al-Din confessed, 'What is useful to me is the alchemy of your glance.' Overcome with emotion, he kissed Khwaja Qub al-Din's feet.

After his education finished, Baba Faridudeen (رحمۃ اللہ علیہ) was ordered by his Pir-o-murshid to begin a tour of all the Islamic countries in order to meet the leading mystics of his time. On this journey, he came into contact with many great sufis. Whilst in Madinah performing Hajj, he was spiritually directed by the Holy Prophet (ﷺ) to go to Baghdad. Doing so, he was welcomed by the son of Hazrat Shaykh Abdul Qadir Jilani (رحمۃ اللہ علیہ) and given khilafah in the Qadriyya silsila, as well as receiving from him various sacred relics such as a turban and wooden food bowl of Rasulallah (ﷺ). After eighteen years of traveling, he returned to Delhi and his Pir-o-

murshid, and was given khilafah by Khwaja Qutbudeen Kaki (رحمۃ اللہ علیہ) in the presence of many great sufis.

His great popularity aroused the ire and jealousy of Ajodhan's qadhi, who out of his envy wrote a letter to the leading ulema of the time complaining about Baba Faridudeen's (رحمۃ اللہ علیہ) love of Sama. But the ulema rebuffed him, saying, 'Baba Farid is the Qutb of our time, and the highest authority on Shariah among all of us. If he says Sama is permissible, then it is.'

His mujahedas were of such rigour that few in the history of sufism have managed to surpass them. Once he was ordered by Khwaja Qutbudeen Kaki (رحمۃ اللہ علیہ) to perform a forty-night seclusion whilst suspended upside down in a well, being pulled up only for salaah and to perform more ordinary devotions. As an initiate Farid al-Din followed the example of his murshid in fasting continuously and practicing the most rigorous spiritual disciplines undertaking even the daunting chilla makus ('inverted retreat'); forty nights of zikr ('remembrance,' invocation) while suspended upside-down in a well. One day when Khwaja Muoin al-Din Chishti, Khwaja Qub al-Din Bakhtiyar Kaki, and Farid al-Din were sitting together, Khwaja Muoin al-Din said to Khwaja Qub al-Din: "How long will you scorch this youth with spiritual exertions? Show him some kindness." Khwaja Qub al-Din assented, and both Shaykhs rose and together gave Farid al-Din the blessing of a glance of kindness.

Baba Faridudeen (رحمۃ اللہ علیہ)'s kindness and forbearance were legendary. Once a soldier came with the intention of killing him, but the great saint merely told him, "Dear brother, I have done you no harm. Why would you kill a dervish and earn the curse of God?" When the man relented, he immediately embraced and forgave him. He was the most humble of men; despite all the vast knowledge he had at his disposal, he would refrain from even correcting those who came to him arrogantly for fear of puncturing their egos. Baba Faridudeen (رحمۃ اللہ علیہ) enjoined the strict adherence to Shari'ah and the necessity of renouncing the pleasures of the world as pre-requisites for embarking on the journey towards Allah. His love for the Prophet (ﷺ) was so intense that he would sometimes break down and cry whilst lecturing on him, realising his own worthlessness as compared to that of our beloved Prophet (ﷺ). As with all the great sufis, the object of his life was devotion to Allah and service of mankind.

Death comes to all, even the greatest of saints, but the manner in which we receive it is not the same for all. As Baba Faridudeen (رحمۃ اللہ علیہ) was born in a state of devotion, so too he died in that state. Khwaja Farid al-Din would often lie in prayerful prostration (sijda) for hours on end, reciting, 'I die for You; I live for You.' Having reached his ninety-third year, on the evening of 5 Muarram 664/1265 the Shaykh breathed his last. His last words were, 'Ya Hayyo ya Qayyum.' Upon his death, a divine voice was heard by those gathered to say, 'FRIEND HAS MERGED INTO THE UNITY OF FRIEND.'

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# THE PROMINENCE OF HASANAIN AL-KAREEMAIN

Radi Allahu Anhuma

1. It is reported that once, Imam Hasan approached the Holy Prophet - blessings and peace be upon him - and climbed on his shoulders. A person, (who was present) remarked, "O blessed son! What a nice steed you have". In reply, the Holy Prophet declared, "And how nice a rider (too)." [Sunan al-Tirmidhi, Kitab al-Manaqib, Manaqib al-Hasan wa al-Hussain, Hadith no. 3809, Vol. 5, Page 432]

2. Once, when the Holy Prophet - blessings and peace be upon him - was in ritual prostration Imam Hasan wrapped himself on the blessed back of the Holy Prophet - blessings and peace be upon him. Due to this, the Holy Prophet - blessings and peace be upon him - lengthened the ritual prostration so that he (Hasan) would not fall when the Prophet raised his head. [Musnad Abu Ya'la, Musnad Anas bin Malik, Hadith no. 3415, Vol. 3, Page 21]

3. The Prophet - blessings and peace be upon him - declared: "These two sons of mine are the leaders of the youth in Paradise." [Sunan al-Tirmidhi, Kitab al-Manaqib, Manaqib al-Hasan wa al-Hussain, Hadith no. 3793, Vol. 5, Page 426]

4. The Holy Prophet - blessings and peace be upon him - has also stated that, "Their friends are my friends, their enemies are my enemies." [Sunan Ibn Maja, Kitab al-Sunnah, Fadl al Hasan wa al Hussain, Hadith no. 143, Vol. 1, Page 96].

5. He has also stated that, "These two are the swords of the heavens." He has also stated that, "Hussain is from me and I am from Hussain. May Allah keep him as a friend who keeps Hussain as his friend. Hussain is a grandchild from among grandchildren." [Sunan al-Tirmidhi, Hadith no. 3800, Vol. 5, Page 429].

6. It is stated that once, the Holy Prophet - blessings and peace be upon him - placed Imam Hussain on his right thigh and his own son, Sayyiduna Ibrahim on his left thigh. Jibra'il appeared to him and said, "Allah will not keep them both with the Prophet, choose one of them." The Holy Prophet - blessings and peace be upon him - could not bear being separated from Imam Hussain and three days later, Sayyiduna Ibrahim passed on to the Divine Lord. After this incident, whenever Imam Hussain came in front of him, he used to kiss him and say, "Welcome to the one for whom I have sacrificed my own son" [Tarikh al-Baghdad, Vol. 2, Page 200]

7. He has also declared that, "They are my sons and the sons of my daughter. O Allah! I have kept them in my friendship; You also keep them in Your friendship and keep him as Your friend who

keeps them as his friends." [Sunan al-Tirmidhi, Kitab al-Manaqib, Hadith no. 3794, Vol. 5, Page 427].

8. He advised his blessed daughter, "Bring me both my sons." He used to then smell them and then hug them to his chest. [Sunan al-Tirmidhi, Kitab al-Manaqib, Hadith no. 3797, Vol. 5, Page 428].

## GEMS OF WISDOM:

Sayyiduna Imam al-Hussain (Radi Allahu Ta'ala Anho)

\* Dishonoured is he, who is a Miser.

\* If you wish to become a leader then make action and movement, toil and labour your business.

\* You are seeing the different types of business dealings shows that the World is changing its colors (becoming more fickle), turning its face away, emptying itself of good, but we still have a little time, a contemptible life is left, danger and fearfulness has enclosed, Alas with regret, can't you see that justice and truth have been placed behind, falsehood is being practiced openly, whosoever hand you grab to rescue he does not want to be rescued towards the everlasting and Almighty creator, nor does he wish to fulfill his duties to his Eternal Lord.

\* I prefer martyrdom, instead of living a life under these oppressors for such a life is also a crime.

\* The World has changed colours and it has been deprived of good, Is there nobody that would stop the oppressor from oppression, The time has come for the Mo'min to come forth and to sacrifice everything for the sake of Allah SubHanuhu wa Ta'ala.

\* Do not fear that which you do not understand, not cannot attain.

\* Do not keep high hopes for any remuneration for work which is more than necessary.

\* If you know the results of a job will be difficult, then do not take its responsibilities upon your shoulders.

\* The highest status amongst the forgiving is of that person who has all the power to avenge himself yet he adopts to forgive.

\* All the people whom I loved have departed from this World and I am left amongst those whom I don't like.

\* The best use of wealth is to modestly and honourably resolve it.

\* When people in need come to you, then think that this is the grace of Allah and fulfill their needs.

\* One who shows kindness will be a leader and one who is miserly will be disgraced.

\* Think of splendor and piety as bounties and strive to achieve this very quickly.



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# Hazrat Khawaja Syed Makhdoom Ashraf Jahangir Semnani

Rahmatullahi Alay

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He left his home at early age and travelled extensively through many prominent places within the Islamic world. During his travels he met many illustrious personalities of his time before settling in Kichhauchha Sharif where his Khanqah became the focal point for those on the spiritual path. He was an ardent supporter of Hazrat Ibn Arabi's theory of Wadhat ul-wujud (Unity of Existence).

## Gems of Wisdom

- \* Knowledge is the shining sun and skills are its rays.
- \* After Iman (Belief) and Touheed, (Unitarianism) it is obligatory on man (Banda) to know injections of Shariat (Revealed Law) and Aquaede Haqeequah (True doctrines)
- \* Gain knowledge as an illiterate devotee is the follower of Devil.
- \* The difference between Islamic Savant and worldly savant is just like the difference between pure and impure silver.
- \* Astrayed learned is like the sunken boat which sinks itself and makes others drown.
- \* Learned without action is like a glass without tin (Qualai).
- \* Don't be empty handed of actions and conditions; make sure that only Knowledge can not help you.
- \* Remembrance of virtuous persons and memoir of mystics is a light that cast shadow on the seeker of guidance.
- \* Recollect any word of a holy man; and if it is not possible keep in mind his name; You will be benefited.
- \* To know is shariat (Revealed Law) and make practice in accordance with knowledge is Tariqat (Path) and to achieve objectives of both is Haqiqat (Reality).
- \* He, who does not follow Shariat (Revealed Law) in tariqat, (path) is deprived of benefits of Tariqat (Path).
- \* The man who will be staunch follower of shariat, (revealed law) the way to Tariqat will open automatically; and when he would have obtained Tariqat (path) with shariat (revealed law) the splendour of Haqiqat (reality) will itself be illuminated.
- \* In suluk (Holy way) if one commits slightest deviation from the way of obedience to The Holy Prophet (Salallaho Alaihi wa

Sallam) then it will be impossible to reach desired destination.

\* To create love and affection of Allah in the hearts of Slave (Banda) and get their hearts engrossed in the intimacy of Allah is the work of Mashaekhe Tariqat (Holy persons of path).

\* Shaikh (Elder) is just like a competent and experienced physician who diagnoses medicine suitable to the disease and temperament of the patient.

\* Food is like a seed which takes root in the land of salik's stomach and grows tree of actions (Aamal) if the food is lawful the tree of good action grows; and if it is unlawful, the tree of disobedience and sin grows; if it is doubtful the tree of vicious ideas and negligence in prayer grows.

\* After performing Faraezo wajeat (Divine command and obligatory) it is essential for seeker of spirituality to pass his valuable life in the company of holy persons as only one meeting with such persons is so much useful that can't be gained by a number of chillah (sitting in meditation for forty day) and vigorous Mojaheda (Great struggle).

\* A slave (Banda) should pray and merciful (Karim) is worthy of kindness; one should be so engrossed in his prayer that he should forget one's existence.

\* It is the condition that one should be guarded from sin as is the conditions for The Prophet (Salallaho Alaihi wa Sallam) to be guiltless (masum).

\* One of the conditions of wali (Friend of Allah) is that he should be follower of The Prophet (Salallaho Alaihi wa Sallam) in his word, action and belief.

\* Aulia (Friend of Allah) are companion and minister of the Divine court and act according to wishes of Allah.


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# The Beloved Daughters of Nabi Muhammad (ﷺ)

By: Shireen Ismail

*Noble Lady*

*Sayidatina Fatimah Az-Zahra (Radi Allahu Anha)*

The scholars agree that Sayidatina Khadija (Radi Allahu Anha), the blessed wife of Nabi Muhammad (ﷺ), gave birth to four beautiful daughters. The beloved daughters of Nabi Muhammad (SAW) were Sayidatina Zaynab (Radi Allahu Anha), Sayidatina Ruqaiyya (Radi Allahu Anha), Sayidatina Umm Kulthoom (Radi Allahu Anha) and our Noble Lady Sayidatina Fatimah Az-Zahra (Radi Allahu Anha), the flower.

## **Noble Lady Sayidatina Fatimah Az-Zahra (Radi Allahu Anha)**

'There was light and noor everywhere, the entire chamber of Sayidatina Khadija (Radi Allahu Anha) was filled with a beautiful fragrance – the bud of Heaven had arrived. Sayidatina Khadija (Radi Allahu Anha) narrates, "When Sayidatina Fatimah Az-Zahra (Radi Allahu Anha) was in my womb, every day I used to receive a fragrance of Heaven. This fragrance engulfed me for the full nine months and then the beautiful bud of Heaven came to my lap." This is why Rasulullah (ﷺ) often lovingly inhaled Sayidatina Fatimah Az-Zahra's (Radi Allahu Anha) scent and said, "I can smell Heaven in you". Sayidatina Fatimah Az-Zahra's (Radi Allahu Anha) was the youngest and most meritorious daughter of Nabi Muhammad (ﷺ) and Sayidatina Khadija (Radi Allahu Anha).

Nabi Muhammad (ﷺ) said the following of Sayidatina Fatimah Az-Zahra (Radi Allahu Anha), "On the Day of Judgment, a caller will call out, 'lower your gaze until Fatima has passed, When I long for the fragrance of Paradise I smell the neck of Fatima, Of all the women in the Universe, four would suffice: Mary, Asiya, Khadija, and Fatima, Oh, Ali, Jibreel has informed me that God has married you to Fatima, I am not pleased unless Fatima is pleased, All the children of a mother are attributed to their fatherly relation except the sons of Fatima, The most beloved of my family to me is Fatima, The four greatest women in the Universe are Mary, Asiya, Khadija, and Fatima, The head of the women of Paradise is Fatima, If I were separated from the fruits of Paradise I would kiss Fatima, Many men have reached completion, but no women have reached completion except four: Mary, Asiya, Khadija, and Fatima, The first people to enter Paradise will be Ali and Fatima, The verse of purification was revealed concerning five people: myself, Ali, Hassan, Hussein, and Fatima, The 2 best women in Paradise will be Mary, Asiya, Khadija, and Fatima, The first one to enter Paradise will be Fatima, The Mehdi is from my family, from the sons of Fatima, Verily, God has weaned (fatama in Arabic) my daughter Fatima and her children and those who love them from

the Hellfire, and that is why she is named Fatima, Fatima, you will be the first amongst my Ahlul-Bayt to follow after me, Fatima is part of me.

Whatever upsets her upsets me, and whatever harms her harms me, Fatima is part of me, and whoever pleases her, pleases me, Fatima is the head of the women of Paradise, Fatima is part of me, so whoever makes her angry makes me angry, Fatima is a maiden of Paradise in human form, she does not receive any kind of menses, Fatima is part of me, whatever harms her harms me, and whatever is against her is against me, Fatima is more beloved to me than you, oh Ali, and you are dearer to me than her, Fatima is part of me and she is my heart and the soul which is between my two sides, Fatima is the head of the women of my nation, Fatima is a branch of me, what pleases her pleases me, and what saddens her, saddens me, Fatima is part of me – whatever causes her pain causes me pain, and whatever makes her happy makes me happy, Fatima is part of me, whoever harms her has harmed me, Fatima is the joy of my heart, and her sons are the fruit of my soul, Fatima is not like the women of the children of Adam, Oh Fatima, verily God is angry when you are angry, Fatima, God will not torture you or any of your children."

Nabi Muhammad (ﷺ) said about Sayidatina Fatimah Az-Zahra (Radi Allahu Anha), "She is the Queen of the women of Jannah". Sayidatina Fatimah Az-Zahra (Radi Allahu Anha) married Sayyiduna Hazrat Ali (RA) in the second year after Hijra and was a loving and obedient wife, who would perform all the household duties.

Sayidatina Fatimah Az-Zahra (Radi Allahu Anha) led an exemplary life of abstinence and piety never indulging in the luxuries of the world. Sayidatina A'ishah (Radi Allahu Anha) said, "I have not seen anyone who resembled the Messenger (ﷺ) in words, speech, or gait more than Fatima". Sayidatina Fatimah Az-Zahra (Radi Allahu Anha) passed away in Ramadan, six months after the demise of Nabi Muhammad (ﷺ) leaving two sons, Imam Hasan (رضي الله عنه), Imam Husayn (رضي الله عنه) and two daughters, Sayidatina Zaynab (Radi Allahu Anha) and Sayidatina Umm Kulthum (Radi Allahu Anha).

Al -Batool, [www.mahajjah.com](http://www.mahajjah.com), Forty Hadiths About Syedi Fatima (Radi Allahu Anha).



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## Plant-Based Meat Products

There is an increasing trend to leading a healthier lifestyle, and today more people are turning to changing their diets and seeking more plant-based or alternative meat-free products. Early plant-based meat products were developed with vegetarians in mind, providing a vegetarian option for your typical meat-based products. Today, concerns such as food security, sustainability, climate change and impacts of industrial animal agriculture are the main factors that stimulated innovation in developing plant-based meat products that try to replicate or bio mimics conventional meat products. Another trending topic is the benefits of plant proteins on health and chronic diseases. For these reasons, scientists continue to research plant-based proteins to develop products that have the same appearance, texture, flavour, and nutritional properties as regular animal meat, fish, dairy, and egg products. With increased plant-based meat options available in supermarkets today, do we know how these are made?

How is plant-based meat made?

Animal meat is made up of muscle tissue, and in its simplest form, this consists of protein, fat, vitamins, mineral and water. Plants do not have muscle tissue, but they do contain protein, fat, vitamins, minerals, and water. To try and replicate the protein, fats or functional components in animal meat, a replacement is sought in plants.

The well-known texture of animal meat is because of its unique special arrangement of proteins in the muscle tissue. Often plant-based ingredients have different compositions, structures, and physicochemical properties, making it more challenging to mimic animal meat products. However, minced meat has a simpler texture making it easier to replicate, and most of the current plant-based products are mimic minced meat derivatives.

Plant-based ingredients are made similar to meat products through mechanical, chemical, or biological processing.

When making plant-based meat products, these general production steps apply

- Crop development
- Ingredient optimisation
- End product formulation and manufacturing

Crop Development

With proteins being the main ingredient in meat products, the starting point for developing plant-based meat products is finding and optimising the suitable crop sources containing the right protein mixtures that would have the closest structures and functionalities to animal proteins. This results in less costly, energy-intensive, complex downstream processing and, in turn, less effort to create a plant-based meat product with the desired functional and sensory properties of animal meat products. This can be done by finding the right crop sources and growth conditions. Finding the genes that provide the desired properties can be controlled by selecting and breeding crop cultivars.

Ingredient optimisation

Once crops are harvested, they need to be processed to isolate the proteins. The protein concentrates or isolates serve as the base ingredient for plant-based meats. Some crops, such as jackfruit and mushrooms, require minimum post-harvest processing when preparing plant-based meats, but most plant-based products rely on plant protein concentrates or isolates as raw materials. This can be then further processed to obtain desired functional attributes.

Although obtained from the same plant source, Fats and starch are usually sold as separate fractions and are then recombined during the manufacturing of plant-based meat products. This allows manufacturers consistency and reproducibility of the ratios within the final formulation. It is also easier for manufacturers to store ingredients as shelf-stable dry ingredients.

End product formulation and manufacturing

After the formulation, the mixture is structured into appropriate shapes and forms. This is done through manufacturing processes such as stretching, kneading, shear-cell processing, press forming, folding, layering, 3D printing, and extrusion. These processes result in different forms and textures of plant-based meat products that we currently see in the market.

Although the number of plant-based meat products in the market is increasing, research is still ongoing to develop new healthy, nutritional products that taste, looks and feels just as great as animal meat.







Allah's Messenger (ﷺ) said, "It is not permissible for any Muslim who has something to will to stay for two nights without having his last will and testament written and kept ready with him."

Islam is a religion of fairness and equality. Our Islamic laws state how properties of the deceased should be divided among blood relatives and what can be given to our adoptive children or charities of our choice.

With this in mind it is vitally important that we all have an updated and valid Will.

Since we reside in a country that does not follow Islamic law the responsibility remains ours to ensure we all have a valid, up to date Shariah Will. An Islamic will is a legally binding document which gives instructions as to what should be done with one's estate.

If you pass away without having your will in place your wealth will not be distributed according to the Qu'ran and Sunnah. Without a Will your properties and assets will be distributed following the rules of interstate (Interstate Succession Act 81 of 1987). This act regulates who may inherit from the deceased and the share which they are entitled to inherit from the deceased's estate. As a result, you will have no control over who inherits from you.

The rules of Interstate are not Shariah compliant.

Having a valid Will in South Africa means that your Will must comply with the provisions of the Wills Act 7 of 1953. Since South African laws of inheritance allow for the freedom of testation, you are allowed to have a Will which instructs that your estate be distributed according to Shariah Law.

By making sure your Will is valid and up to date you will be avoiding unnecessary family conflicts and confusion between family members and the beneficiaries of your estate. You will also be able to fulfil your Islamic obligations.

Inheritance is considered as an integral part of Shariah Law. Muslims inherit from one another as stated in the Qur'an. Hence, there is a legal share for relatives of the decedent in his estate and property.

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14 August	Yaade Shaheede Karbala Baitun Noor Centre Lenasia
28 August	Hazrat Jabilil Jaffaar (R.A.) Urs Shareef Bramfontein Mazaar Johannesburg
3 September	Hazrat Khwaja Suliman Tonswi & Hazrat Khwaja Habib Ali Shah Saheb Urs Shareef - Saaberie Chishty
20 September	Shabe Data Wa Mehr-o-Raza Urs Shareef Saaberie Chishty Masjid Lenasia
24 - 25 September	Meelaad-un-Nabi (Sal lal laa Hu Alay Hi Wa Sallam) Sham-ul-Islam Masjid Lenasia South
1 & 2 October	Hazrat Badsha Peer (R.A.) Urs Shareef Overport Secondary School Grounds Durban
7 Oct 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
7,8 & 9 October	Meelaad-un-Nabi (Sal lal laa Hu Alay Hi Wa Sallam) Saaberie Chishty & Jamia Razvia Masjid Lenasia
8 - 9 October	Meelaad-un-Nabi (Sal lal laa Hu Alay Hi Wa Sallam) Laudium Mouloud Group
8 & 9 October	Meelaad-un-Nabi (Sal lal laa Hu Alay Hi Wa Sallam) Roshnee Muslim Association
16 October	Meelaad-un-Nabi (Sal lal laa Hu Alay Hi Wa Sallam) Chishty Sabri Khanqah Lenasia South
22 October	Meelaad-un-Nabi (Sal lal laa Hu Alay Hi Wa Sallam) Rustenburg Meelaad Group
23 October	Meelaad-un-Nabi (Sal lal laa Hu Alay Hi Wa Sallam) Al Hudaar Foundation, Harmony School Lenasia
29 & 30 October	Meelaad-un-Nabi (Sal lal laa Hu Alay Hi Wa Sallam) Masjid Shaikh Abdul Qadir Jilani Ext13 Lenasia
5 November	Eve Giyaarwee Shareef-Subject to sighting of the New Moon
6 November	Meelaad-un-Nabi (Sal lal laa Hu Alay Hi Wa Sallam) Al Kareem Islamic Centre Lenasia
2 - 4 December	Darul Uloom Pretoria Graduation Jalsa
11 December	Madressa Saabriyya Chishtiyya Jalsa & Awards Saaberie Chishty Hall, Lenasia
28 January	Hazrat Khawaja Gharib Nawaaz(R.A.)UrsShareef Buzme Chishtiyya Laudium
4 February	Hazrat Khwaja Ghareeb Nawaaz (R.A.) Urs Shareef Chishty Sabri Khanqah Lenasia South
11 February	Saaberie Chishty 56th Annual Urs Shareef Saaberie Chishty Hall- Sayed Bros Res. Lenasia
17 February	Eve Shabe Meraaj (Subject To Sighting Of The New Moon)
6 March	Eve Shabe Baraat (Subject To Sighting Of The New Moon)
11 - 12 March	Hazrat Khalid Shah Bawa (R.A.) Urs Shareef Benoni Mazaar
22 March	1st Ramadaan (Subject To Sighting Of The New Moon)
21 April	Eid-ul-Fitr (Subject To Sighting Of The New Moon)
5 May	Hazrat Baba Ghulaam Jilani Kalyari (R.A.) Wisaal Shareef (Subject to sighting of the New Moon)
6 May	Hazrat Iqbal Shah Dada (R.A.) Urs Shareef Lenasia
20 May	Hazrat Mehboob Ali Shah(R.A.) Urs Shareef Saaberie Chishty Hall Lenasia
22 May	Hazrat Baba Kassim Shah Faridi (R.A.) Urs Shareef Lenasia
16 June	Meelaad-un-Nabi (Sal lal laa Hu Alay Hi Wa Sallam)& Jalsa Saaberie Chishty Dawah Centre Orange Farm
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