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## THE PICTURE OF ISLAM FROM THE CANVAS OF HAJ

Haj is considered the 5th pillar of Islam.

At no time is the theme of unity in diversity more explicitly demonstrated than at the platform of Haj. Makkah, land of the Holy Ka'aba, the first house of worship known to mankind, is the direction muslims face to pray.

The annual pilgrimage becomes the global headquarters for every race, from every nation on earth, joining the universal commonwealth of subscribers to the unitarian belief of Islam, *Wa Ilaahukum Ilaahun Waahid* (and your God is a God that is One).

This sea of humanity clad in the most humble of garments, swarming around the Sacred House, chanting the "labbaik" and praises of Allah is a most awe-inspiring spectacle, as is the assembly at Arafaat.

Arafaat, symbolic of Recognition, or ma'arifah (gnosis), where the seeker finds the One he seeks, is also the place where prayers are accepted and sinners forgiven.

It is the place where the last Messenger of Allah, Muhammad Mustafa (ﷺ), delivered his farewell message proclaiming Islam as the religion chosen and favoured for mankind by the Creator himself. Declaring emphatically the equality of all mankind and justice for all, he emphasised Taqwa (God-consciousness and righteous behaviour) as the only standard for distinction of rank and rating of people.

By this he smashed all racist ideologies and theories of "chosen People", "master race", or anything "supremacist", which was a message that appealed to the whole world, as was proven in later years when the expansion of Islam would extend across the world.

In India Islam spread rapidly amongst the oppressed and poor because of the popularity of its call to equality and universal brotherhood. In a country where "Brahminist" mythology exploited "low-castes", Islam was always going to be championed as salvation into a free, just, and equitable society modeled on the life and example of the Holy Apostle of the Merciful, Muhammad (ﷺ).

The Prophet (ﷺ) confirmed the Qur'anic revelations mostly by his own example and the sermon on Arafaat was his legacy summarised in an epic oration that resounded in the hearts of all that were present. Clearly he was highlighting the principles and priorities in Islam, for all mankind.

Haj is also the visiting and witnessing of the landmarks and the revision of the history of Prophets Ibraheem and Isma'eel (عليه السلام).

It was also the greatest story about submission and surrender to the command of Allah, Ibraheem's willingness to sacrifice his son, and Isma'eel's patience, unprotestingly allowing his father the opportunity, while rejecting the satanic intrusions.

After running between the hills of Safa and Marwa, nothing could be more cherished than the blessed water from the well of Zam Zam to cool the throat and eyes, carried back home to be gifted to family and friends. Every sip of Zam Zam is like a pilgrimage for those who have yet to go, or those who have no hope, due to disability.

May Allah accept and bless the Haj of those presently attending and those planning to in future.

May Allah bless our festival of the Sacrifice, Eid-ul-Adha. Al Kausar wishes all muslims *Eid Mubarak!*

**BIRTH OF THE NEW MOON FOR MUHARRAM 1439 WEDNESDAY 20 SEPTEMBER 2017 @ 07:30**

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## SA`ID IBN AMIR AL-JUMAHY ﷺ

Sa`id (رضي الله عنه) story begins when he was a young boy living in Makkah. It was his fate to witness something that would haunt him forever, yet transform his life completely. He was among thousands of people invited to watch the killing of Khubayb ibn `Adiy, a companion of the Prophet (ﷺ), whom the Quraysh had captured. They all wanted to get revenge for their dead in the Battle of Badr.

Sa`id (رضي الله عنه) watched as they brought Khubayb (رضي الله عنه) up to the cross to be crucified. He heard his calm, firm voice, amidst the screaming women and children, make the request: "If you could let me pray two rak`as before my death, please do so." He saw him face the qiblah, and pray with complete composure and contentment. "Would you like Muhammad to be in your place and you be saved?" He responded without hesitation: "By ALLAH, I wouldn't like that I be secure with my family and children while Muhammad (ﷺ) is even pricked with one thorn..." The spectators were infuriated. They threw their hands up in the air and yelled even louder than before: "Kill him! Kill him!" Sa`id could see Khubayb looking towards the sky from atop the cross, saying: "Allahumma-ahsihim `adada, waqtulhum badada, wa la tughadir minhum ahada (O ALLAH, count them all, wipe them out, and don't leave any of them out)." Then he breathed his final breaths. Sa'id ibn `Amir, never forgot Khubayb for a moment. He learned from Khubayb that the true life is a life of belief and conviction in ALLAH, and struggling for the sake of this belief until death. He also learned that deep-rooted Imaan can give you unimaginable strength. And there's one more thing he learned: that a man whose companions loved him that much, must be a Messenger receiving Divine help from the heavens. It was through these realizations that ALLAH guided Sa`id to Islam.

Sa`id migrated to Madinah and accompanied the Prophet (ﷺ); he witnessed the Battle of Khaybar with him and other battles after that. When the Beloved Messenger (ﷺ) passed away, Sa`id was at the disposal of Abu Bakr and `Umar (رضي الله عنه) during their caliphates, and he lived a life that was uniquely exemplary to the believers. Both Caliphs knew of Sa`id's honesty and ALLAH-consciousness, and they would take his advice, and listen intently to his words. Once a group of people from Himms passed through the town of Madinah. Umar (رضي الله عنه) asked them to write down the names of their poor people so he can get their needs met. They gave him a list, and lo and behold, one of the names was Sa`id ibn `Amir.

Shocked, `Umar said: "Who is this?!" They said, "He is our Amir" "Your Amir is poor?!" `Umar asked with astonishment. They affirmed, "Yes, and by ALLAH, days would pass by and no light (i.e. fire for cooking) would be lit in his home." On hearing this, `Umar wept until his beard became wet with tears. He took 1,000 dinars and put them in a sack,

instructing the people of Himms: "Send him my salaam and tell him that Amir al-Mu'minin sent you this money to assist you in fulfilling your needs." The delegation brought the money to Sa`id (رضي الله عنه). He opened the sack and found money in it, but immediately pushed it away, saying, "Inna lillahi wa inna ilayhi raji`un (to ALLAH we belong and to Him is our return)" as if a catastrophe had befallen him. Startled, his wife asked: "What is wrong Sa`id...?" He said: The dunya (material world) has come to destroy my (outcome for the) hereafter and the fitnah (trial) has entered my home. "Will you help me in doing so?" "Yes," she replied. So they both rationed the dinars into sacks, and distributed them to the poor Muslims in Himms.

It wasn't long before `Umar ibn al-Khattab (رضي الله عنه) came to Himms to check up on its affairs. "How do you find your Amir?" They immediately complained about him and brought up four issues. "What are your complaints about your Amir?" They replied, "He doesn't come out to us until late morning." "What do you have to say about this Sa`id?" `Umar asked. He remained quiet for a bit, then said: "By ALLAH, I would hate to say this, but now I have to; my family has no servant, so I wake up every morning and knead the dough for them. Then I rest a little until it rises. Then, I bake it for them. Then I make ablution, and go out to meet the people." "And what other complaint do you have about him?" `Umar asked. "He doesn't respond to anyone who calls for him at night," they said. "What do you have to say about this Sa`id?" `Umar asked again. He replied, "By ALLAH, I would hate to mention this too... I have devoted the day to (serving) them and the night to (worshipping) ALLAH, the Glorious and Almighty." "And what other complaint do you have about him?" `Umar said. They said, "There is one day out of every week where he doesn't come out at all." "And what is this Sa`id?" `Umar asked. Sa`id said, "I don't have a servant, O Amir al-Mu'minin, and I don't have any clothing except what's on me now. So, I wash it once a week and wait (at home) for it to dry, and then I go out to the people at the end of the day." "And what is your last complaint about him?" `Umar asked. They said, "From time to time he loses consciousness, and becomes unaware of those he is sitting with." "And what is this Sa`id?!" `Umar exclaimed. Sa`id said, "I witnessed the killing of Khubayb ibn `Adiy while I was a mushrik. And by ALLAH, there is not one day that I remember this and how I didn't help him except that I think ALLAH will not forgive me for it; and that is when I lose consciousness."

At this point, `Umar (رضي الله عنه) exclaimed, "Praise be to ALLAH Who did not disappoint me in him!" SubhanALLAH! May ALLAH be pleased with Sa`id, and Khubayb, and all the companions. And may He purify our hearts, and grant us the strength and courage to follow in the footsteps of the righteous.

# ETIQUETTES OF QURBANI

## ON WHOM IS QURBANI WAAJIB

The sacrificing of animals has been made waajib and incumbent on the entire ummah. Rasulallah ﷺ Himself and all the Sahabah رضي الله عنهم, 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 salaah cannot compensate for Saum, or Saum cannot compensate for Salaah, similarly Sadaqah or Charity cannot compensate for Qurbani. The practices of Rasulallah ﷺ and the Sahabah رضي الله عنهم are a testimony to this.

## WARNING FOR THOSE WHO IGNORE QURBANI

It is reported by Hazrat Abu Hurairah رضي الله عنه that Rasulallah 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 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.
- \* Rasulallah ﷺ made Qurbani on behalf of his ummah.

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## HAZRAT SHAMS-E-TABREZ ﷺ

BRINGS THE DEAD TO LIFE

Once there was a king who was a non Muslim. His child died due to some illness. The king felt very sad on seeing the death of his child. He told his servant that he would like to get his child back. The servant told the king that it was only possible to be done by a muslim who had knowledge. With the Aayats of the Holy Quran they can bring back the dead. On hearing this the king announced in the kingdom to gather all the great Muslims having knowledge of the Holy Quran. As commanded by the king the scholars were gathered. Maulana Rumi ﷺ was also there. He was the head of all Islamic scholars. Maulana Rumi ﷺ was shocked to hear the kings request, believing life and death to be according to the will of Allah. The king questioned Maulana Rumi ﷺ if there existed such verses in the Holy Quran which could bring back the dead. Maulana Rumi ﷺ answered affirmatively but added that it was not within the reach of every ordinary scholar. He explained that most scholars had only Zaahiri (external) knowledge of the holy Quran but the Baatini (Internal) Knowledge is possessed by an absolutely rare few, who are indeed the special and beloved slaves of ALLAH. On hearing this the king commanded them to find such a person or else face execution. They were shocked and started to search disparately for somebody capable of honoring their promise.

While searching in the jungle Maulana Rumi ﷺ heard the sound of the zikr "ALLAH HU". They traced the voice and found Hazrat Shams-e-Tabrez ﷺ sitting under a tree with his eyes closed as if asleep. Although his mouth was closed the loud chanting was coming from him, as if from his heart. On witnessing this the scholars were jubilant that perhaps they had found their man.

The kings face lit up with expectation as he watched the group of muslim scholars with a strange looking dervish making way towards the palace.

When Hazrat Shams-e-Tabrez ﷺ saw the dead child he recited these words. "Qum bi iznillah"! which meant arise by the order of ALLAH. But nothing happened. He repeated his recitation, but again failed. The lifeless child never stirred. Then a silent rage overpowered the dervish.

He shouted "Qum bi izni!", Which meant "arise by my own order!"

As soon as he uttered this command life returned to the boy. Everyone was astonished to witness the miracle.

The king in his joy expressed his wish to accept Islam and immediately was guided to recite the testification of faith.

On explanation about the miracle the king was told about the Hadees al Qudsi where Allah has declared to His beloved servant that He, Allah Himself, would become their hands, their eyes, their mouth, their ears and their feet.

## ISLAM'S GREAT LEADERS

Important death anniversaries (wisaal Shareef) of note in the holy month of Zil-Haj include, amongst others, Hazrat Sayyidina Ameerul Mu'mineen Umar ibnul Khattaab ؓ, the second of the khulafa-ar-Raashideen, as well as the third successor of the leadership, Hazrat Sayyidina Usman Ghany ؓ.

Both of these esteemed personalities were martyred, assassinated by rebels. Hazrat Umar ؓ was attacked whilst performing salaah, while the final moments of Hazrat Usman ؓ arrived as he was reciting the Holy Quran.

Hazrat Umar's ؓ achievement during his reign as leader were remarkable. The humble Islamic state made great territorial gains, bringing to surrender both the Persian and Roman Empires. His firm grip and control saw law and order at its highest, and the spread of Islam overflow the boundaries of the Arabian peninsula.

The Holy Prophet ﷺ was very fond of Usman ibn Affaan ؓ, who was given the title Zun-Noorain, the possessor of two lights, on account of his successive marriages to two of the Prophet's ﷺ daughters. Being one of the richest men in Arabia, Sayyidina Usman ؓ constantly financed the struggling nation especially in its early defensive wars against the enemies of Islam.

May Allah grant them the highest mansions in paradise, and inspire every muslim to walk in their footsteps.

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# 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 السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضَ  
حَنِيفًا وَمَا أَنَا مِنَ الْمُشْرِكِينَ ط  
إِنَّا لِلَّهِ وَأَنَّا إِلَيْهِ رَاغِبُونَ ط  
اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي أَسْأَلُكَ بِكَرَمِكَ وَكَرَمِ رَحْمَتِكَ  
وَبِكَرَمِ عِلْمِكَ وَكَرَمِ قُدْرَتِكَ وَكَرَمِ  
مَجْدِكَ وَكَرَمِ جَلَالِكَ وَكَرَمِ إِكْبَارِكَ وَكَرَمِ  
عِزِّكَ وَكَرَمِ قُدْرَتِكَ وَكَرَمِ جَلَالِكَ وَكَرَمِ  
مَجْدِكَ وَكَرَمِ جَلَالِكَ وَكَرَمِ مَجْدِكَ

"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" ط  
And slaughter

- 5.) After slaughtering read this Dua:

اللَّهُمَّ تَقَبَّلْ مِنِّي كَمَا تَقَبَّلْتَ مِنْ خَلِيلِكَ  
إِبْرَاهِيمَ عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ وَخَبِيبِكَ مُحَمَّدًا صَلَّى اللَّهُ  
عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ ط

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

اللَّهُمَّ تَقَبَّلْ مِن (.....) كَمَا تَقَبَّلْتَ  
مِنْ خَلِيلِكَ إِبْرَاهِيمَ عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ وَخَبِيبِكَ  
مُحَمَّدًا صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ ط

"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 jugular 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 away as Sadaqah

\* A needy Muslim engaged in religious activities  
(organisations) may be given the skin as Sadaqah. It is  
preferable to do 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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## 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

اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ  
اللَّهُ وََاللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ  
وَلِلَّهِ الْحَمْدُ ط

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



# MOULANA ABDUL ALEEM SIDDIQI

THE GREATEST PROPAGATOR OF ISLAM OF THE 20TH CENTURY

Every religion and great ideology has in every age a great exponent who personifies in a distinguished manner the cause they cherish and reflect certain ideals with such clarity and resonance that it forces humanity to reflect on its very existence. One such great personality of recent times was His Eminence Maulana Muhammad Abdul Aleem Siddiqui Al-Qadri (R.A). Even today one cannot help but marvel at the relevance of the teachings and writings of this scholar and spiritual master.

His father, Hazrat Maulana Abdul Hakim Siddiqui Qadri [RA] was a great 'alim, poet and sufi master and a descendent of the first Caliph of Islam Syedinna Abu Bakr Siddiqui [RA], taught him Urdu, Persian, Arabic and literature. At the age of nine years, the young student delivered his first public speech of ninety minutes at the Jama Masjid of Meerat. His Eminence Maulana Abdul Aleem Siddiqui graduated as an Islamic scholar at the age of sixteen when he obtained a B.A. degree from the University of Meerat (India). He spoke Arabic, Urdu, Persian, English, French, Indonesian, Malaysian and Japanese languages fluently.

He continued advanced Islamic studies under the guidance of the great Islamic scholar Imam-e-Ahle Sunnat Maulana Shah Ahmad Raza Khan Faazile Bareilly [RA] of whom His Eminence became a most valuable *Khalifa*. His Eminence acquired further knowledge in Quranic exegies, Hadith, Tassawwuf and the four schools of Islamic Laws in Makka al-Mukarrama and Madina al-Munawwara under the care of eminent 'ulama of his days such as Sheik Ahmad as-Shams of Morocco, Sheik as-Sannusiyya of Libya, Maulana Abdul Baqi of Ferrangi Mahal at Madina. His Eminence also studied Islamic Medicine which he used in serving ailing humanity in the many countries which he would later visit. He received *Ijaaza* of the Qadriyya, Chisti, Naqshbandi, Soharwardi, Idriisi and Sanusi orders.

In 1951, he toured the world preaching and propagating Islam. He visited America, London, Japan, Indonesia, Malaysia, Europe, Southern Africa, Trinidad, Philippines, Iraq, Holland, Thailand, Ceylon, France, and many other countries. As a result of his efforts, thousands of non-muslims accepted Islam at his hands. Princess Gladys Palmer of Burinia, Merwate Tifinch, the French Governor of Mauritius, Mahifli Donawa, a Minister of Trinidad and Mr. F. Gengson, the Christian Minister of Ceylon, were some of the famous personalities who accepted Islam after meeting him.

His Eminence was responsible for establishing various mosques and Islamic Centres throughout the world. Three of the famous such institutions are the Hanafi Masjid in Colombo, the Sultaan Masjid in Singapore and the Nagoya Masjid in Japan. He established many institutions of Islamic propagation including ASJA in Trinidad & Tobago. He was also the founder of various newspapers and Islamic magazines from amongst which are, "The Muslim Digest" (South Africa), "Trinidad Muslim Annual" and the "Pakistani News".

During his tour of the world, he met with various western dignitaries and had lengthy discussions with them on Islam. He met the world renowned Irish dramatist and philosopher, George Bernard Shaw, on 17th of April 1935 during his visit to Mombassa, Kenya and discussed many moral and spiritual issues with him. Bernard Shaw was impressed with the unique perspective of His Eminence and commented thus, "I have been very pleased to make his acquaintance, and it will be the most precious of all memories of this trip of mine."

His Eminence spent most of his remaining life traveling to the most obscure corners of the world to spread the message of Islam and imparting spiritual teachings to adherents of various sufi orders. It is said that he traversed the world seven times over and has no doubt earned the title - *Mubaligh-e-Azam* (The Greatest Propagator of Islam).

His Eminence passed away in Madina al-Munawwara on the 22<sup>nd</sup> August 1954/(22<sup>nd</sup> Zul-Hijjah) whilst on the *hajj* and is buried in Jannat-ul-Baqi at the feet of Umm-ul-Mumineen 'Aisha Siddiqah Radi Allahu anha.

May we continue to benefit from his efforts duas.

## QURBANI

"It is not their meat, nor their blood that reaches Allah it is your piety..."  
(Quraan)



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# I WANT MARRIAGE, NOT RESPONSIBILITY!

BY UMM ABDULLAH

I think it's safe to say that most women want the benefits of being married. We want some of the same things – to be loved and taken care of and to have a companion. But how many of us put in the work to receive those benefits? And how many of us are thinking, “what work?”

Some women think that the benefits of being married should be automatic, either because the husband loves her or simply because that's what a married woman is supposed to get. Maybe they think they are entitled to these benefits, whether or not they are doing anything to deserve them. There are also women who say they do their part so they should receive the same. It sounds normal, but the problem comes when the wife's efforts correlate to her level of pleasure. Meaning the happier the husband makes her, the more she will do for him and if he is not making her happy, he gets the same in return (unhappiness). This image of the husband feeling the wife's displeasure excuses her of responsibility for her behaviour.

Before I got married, I was told “No man is worth your tears and the one who is, won't make you cry.” This sounds nice and romantic but it is very unrealistic. This is to say that your husband would not do anything that would make you sad or upset. And what happens when he does make you cry? Does that mean he is no longer worthy of your love?

Narrated by Ibn Abbas Radhiyallahu Anhu that The Messenger Sallallahu Alayhi wa Sallam said, “I was shown the Hell-fire and the majority of its dwellers were women who were ungrateful.” It was asked, “Do they disbelieve in Allah?” (or are they ungrateful to Allah?) He replied, “They are ungrateful to their husbands and are ungrateful for the favours and the good (charitable deeds) done to them. If you have always been good (benevolent) to one of them and then she sees something in you (not of her liking), she will say, 'I have never received any good from you.’” (Bukhari)

When I think about this hadith, I am speechless at the accuracy of it. And although you may think you don't ever say this to your husband with your tongue, there are times when we say it with our actions.

You know that moment when your husband tells you he can't come through on something he promised, something you were looking forward to, or when he hurts your feelings or makes you mad, and something switches inside of you. Something that makes you instantly stop caring about what makes him happy. Something that makes you storm out of the room or hang up the phone. That same thing that makes you say, “Hmph” and you no longer feel motivated to be nice to him. That's the part that says, “I don't need you. I'll do it myself” or “Fine, you don't want to help me, I won't help you either.” Even worse, is when we act out by withholding our kindness to blatantly show our

displeasure in an effort to get our husbands to “behave”.

This is when you have to remind yourself of a few things:

What is marriage about? Are you fulfilling the purpose? A couple is supposed to help each other get closer to Allah. What have you done to help your husband achieve this? Is marriage a one-way street? Are you in it just to have someone work to make you happy? Are you okay with pleasing your husband, as long as he is pleasing you? When you fell short and disappointed him, did you expect him to be patient with you or lash out with resentment and harsh words? If the answer is the former, then why do we think it's ok for us to respond with the latter? If it's hard for you to be good to him when you are hurt, then maybe you weren't being good to him for the right reason in the first place. His rights are not dependent on your emotions.

There was a poster on the wall in my school classroom that read “When you point a finger at someone, there are three pointing back at you.” This means when you are pointing the finger of blame at your husband, claiming that he has fallen short, you need to take a look at yourself and analyse your own behaviour. Ask yourself, “Has he really done anything wrong? Has he not given me my rights or am I just unhappy about my wants not being met?” Sometimes you may find yourself thinking, “Why should I continue pleasing him if he isn't pleasing me?”

The answer is because you are married. A wife may ask, “Why should I be fake? Why should I continue to be there for him after he's hurt me?” The answer is, “That's what marriage is... it's called Loyalty”. And if you're reading this and the first thing you say is, “But he's not being loyal to me!” – You're doing it again. You are ignoring your part of the deal.

Remember how, before you got married, you made a list of the characteristics or qualities of your future husband? You wanted him to be patient with you when you burned the food, supportive when you were tired and helpful when you needed it. Did you think about the qualities you would need to have?

I am not advising anyone to put up with a husband's behaviour if it involves something haram or detrimental. What I am saying is that we need to realign our standards with Allah's. We need to understand that we will not be questioned on the Day of Judgment about what our husband did. And when Allah tells us of our responsibilities, that is exactly what they are – responsibilities. Not negotiations or bargains.

## “DISJOINTED STATEMENTS BY THE WRITER/S AND THE SO-CALLED “TERROR EXPERTS”,

BY IBRAHIM VAWDA

The Saturday Star of August 5th, 2017, “IS Jihadists Eye South Africa”, refers. (Shaun Smillie and Jacques Van Der Westhuisen).

The article is a mere collection of disjointed statements made by the writer/s and the so-called “terror experts”, Jasmine Opperman and Martin Ewi.

When dealing with this “Islamic State” (IS) phenomenon, it will be prudent to begin with a few definitions. The phrase “Islamic State” confers a sense of legitimacy to this spectacle. Under International Law, the criteria for “statehood” are simple. According to the 1933 Montevideo Convention on the Rights and Duties of a state, concluded that such an entity must have a clearly defined territory, demarcated by fixed boundaries or borders. It must have a government capable of exercising authority over its citizens. The so-called IS fails on both counts.

The next concern with this terminology is: “How Islamic is the IS”? When the Islamophobic western media equates IS barbarity and inhumanity with Islam, the Western media is simply serving western Hegemonic interests and empire building.

Opperman and Ewi should be raising hard questions such as: Who employed IS to wreak havoc in the Middle East and Africa? Why is it that the US government and its NATO allies cannot seriously fight IS in Iraq, Syria and Libya? IS is a US-made monster! IS Caliphate is never an Islamic Caliphate.

It is a known truth that CIA constantly backs-up and supports all known so-called jihadist groups from the Taliban of Afghanistan and Pakistan, and Al-Qaeda in the Middle East, and the Boko Haram of Nigeria.

Why does Islamic State never attack the Zionist entity in the heart of the Muslim world? Why do

Israel's air raids on Syria always target Syrian government or pro-Syrian Iranian forces, but never Islamic State?

Therefore, who is supporting this IS militia, who is equipping them, who is funding them so heavily?

Is this about establishing a war scenario in the Middle East so that the global weaponry business of the US and Israel's military industrial complex is at its best and profitable business as usual?

These are relevant questions for Opperman and Ewi to research and provide answers.

Media outlets, academics and commentators are falling over each other to claim expertise. This has only added to the confusion as distorted depictions are stated as fact in articles such as the one referred to. No evidence has been provided to substantiate the assertions made by these “connoisseurs”. Opperman refers to “extremism” in a Johannesburg mosque. She also talks of “active recruitment” and “active calls for expansion” in South Africa. It is her civic obligation to inform the relevant authorities, divulge her sources of information and have these “potential terrorists” arrested.

I take this opportunity to remind the “experts” that this is not about Islam. We should be addressing the real roots of violence perpetrated by IS.

It is still not about Islam, even if the media and militants attacking western targets say so. But it is important for many to conflate politics with religion; partly because it is convenient and self-validating.

To avoid a rational discussion about real issues, many make non-issues the crux of the debate. So Islam is discussed alongside IS, Nigerian tribal and sectarian conflicts, Palestinian resistance to Israeli occupation, immigration issues in Europe and much more.



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Cell +27 76 630 3485

Fax to email: 086 503 1566

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# EMBRACE EACH MOMENT, AND OPPORTUNITY

BY YASMIN OMAR

Don't we all find that time is never enough when we are busy with certain things, yet time drags in other situations? Time is never enough when you are in the company of close friends yet time in that dreaded English or Maths lesson stretches endlessly!!

We all have experienced this some time or the other! [I hope that reading this article is not one of those situations when time drags on ].

It has to do with our likes and dislikes. Those situations and company we find enjoyable and appeals to us, would not have us clock-watching! It makes sense, doesn't it? But, I'm sure that you would have realized this already!

We are all unique individuals and our tastes too differ. That is also something you're quite aware of, isn't that so? And then, we also have those individuals who, is bored out of his mind, yet sits through it without showing his boredom! This person deserves a medal for his efforts!

We have all been placed in such awkward situations where every nerve in your body screams out to you to run but you cannot do it. Either because you are afraid of offending someone or, your Dad (or someone equally important) would 'never' forgive you if you did.

How would you manage such a situation? There are tons of hilarious posts that I can think of right know but I'm going to present you with the sensible options.

Be polite - You could remain in the situation for a reasonable period of time and then gently excuse yourself and leave ... or... stick it till the end and pretend that you are enjoying yourself!

- \* Focus on the positives there is learning in every moment that presents itself to you, either 'how to' or 'not to' something. For eg. While sitting through a boring lecture; look at how you would avoid making the same errors the lecturer did.
- \* Put on different lenses - Allow yourself to understand what is really happening around you. Look at the situation differently, who knows, it may become an enjoyable experience.
- \* Choose your company wisely - Sometimes, even the most boring and unappealing situation may be brighter if you have good company. So surround yourself with those who lift your spirits.

Get into the habit of making the most of what has been dished out for you. Keep in mind that Allah Ta'ala has given us all different strengths and has sent us into different environments the people you encounter, the situations you find yourself in, is not incidental. There is a purpose behind it, it is all part of Allah's plan for you!

So, utilize it to the best of your ability. Look at what you can take away from the situation, there is always a Divine purpose behind it!

There should never be a time that you complain of as being boring or a waste of time. It's what you make of it and how you choose to view the situation. So, if there is any one to blame, it should be YOU, because YOU were not able to appreciate and take the most of the unique experience that Allah Ta'ala has gifted you with.

The change has to come from you!

**"Rasulullāh (Sallallāhu 'alayhi wa sallam) said:**  
*Indeed your actions are presented before your deceased relatives and families.*

*If your actions are good, they rejoice and if they are bad, they say:  
Oh Allah! Do not take their lives until You guide them, as You guided us"*  
(Musnad Ahmad, Hadith of Anas, vol. 3, pg. 165)

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# ALTERNATIVES...

COMPILED BY HASINA BEGUM SAYED

Here's a list of healthy alternatives to our favorite junk foods.

## 1. Potato Chips

Instead of reaching for that bag of potato chips, try kale chips. Or, if you don't have any kale, use lots of vegetables (or fruits) to make great veggie chips.

## 2. Fries

Instead of frying potatoes, why not try baking them in coconut oil? Get all the health benefits of coconut oil while giving those fries that crunchy, crispy texture. Who says all good fries have to be fried?

## 3. Mac & Cheese

Throw away that orange stuff in a box and make your own by adding some butternut squash in place of elbow macaroni. It will give your mac & cheese more texture and a hint of sweetness.

## 4. Candy

If you're ever craving something sweet, grab some fruit, which has lots of natural sugars that will satisfy your sweet tooth. Try frozen grapes, which will last you weeks. Once you run out, go for a frozen watermelon on a stick.

## 5. Pizza

Make pizza bites with zucchini, mini pizzas with eggplant or mushrooms, or make your pizza out of cauliflower crust to add veggies to your diet and reduce your carb intake.

## 6. Ice Cream

Ice cream is amazing but eating too much isn't as amazing. Instead of eating ice cream for every meal, swap it out for vegan "ice cream" made of blended frozen bananas and a few other ingredients. There are so many different variations, you'll never get tired of it.

## 7. Pasta

If you can't cut pasta out of your diet, try replacing it with spaghetti squash. If you don't like the texture of squash, try making your own pasta using a spiralizer.

## 8. Pancakes

You'll go B-A-NAN-A-S for this super easy pancake recipe. It only requires two ingredients, and one of them is (you guessed it) bananas! Using bananas adds sweetness to these pancakes, so you're not going to need any maple syrup to top it. If you want to change up your pancake game, you can also make these banana oat pancakes for an early morning energy boost. (2 eggs, 1 banana, mix well)

## 9. Pudding

If you don't believe that chia seeds soaked in almond milk tastes just as good as your favorite pudding, give your overnight oats a rest and try chia seed pudding.

## 10. Chocolate

You can easily satisfy your chocolate craving by munching on a few dark chocolate squares.

## 12. Soda

Water is the healthiest thing for you, but it's hard going from soda to water. . If you want to drink something quickly without going out, just add fruit to your water.

## 13. Mashed Potatoes

Try have mashed cauliflower, which tastes lighter and more flavorful than its mashed potato relative? Add some garlic and the onions in this mash.



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# HIDDEN FAILINGS

BY FAIZEL KHAMKAR

The recent hyped up vote of no confidence against Jacob Zuma had highlighted a number of interesting failings within the broader community of South Africa. We dare not in any analysis of this nature forget that corruption, nepotism, fraud and everything else linked to these activities is not acceptable and can never be accepted. This acceptance will then obviate any deviations coming in to the discourse from the necessary interrogation of any hidden failings. The fact that this was the eight no confidence debate with no significant change other than the ballot being secret and removing rhetoric no success would possibly be visualised. The hype that was then created together with the mass mobilisation of large sectors of the community needs to be understood. These acts must have had a motivation based on information not shared with the public but had the potential to create discord and strife.

One of the key factors that negated the discord from gaining momentum lies is the fact that South Africa's populace are more in poverty than in affluence and the target market became less effective. The vast majority of the poor had nothing to lose in terms of wealth or possessions but had a great deal to lose in terms of their hopes and aspirations together with whatever little dignity that they still possess. The model of the agitation which was found in Libya would not be successfully introduced here.

A key player in the mobilisation of the community was the business leaders. It is the very same leaders who had in the past and will continue in the future finance the ANC. The financing by way of donations or other forms of giving can never be looked at as an act of pure goodwill. Their intention was to get repaid in some or other way in the future. This hypocrisy must be exposed. The cry of poverty alleviation is hollow in the extreme and must be rejected. When open exploitation of the work force became exposed it is this group that closed the taps of employment simply to ensure the maintenance of absurdly high returns on their investment. The source of these investments can simply be put down to theft of land and minerals. The

unlocking of this wealth would never have been achieved without the human hand. Having created the poverty through its employment policies they now call for a change in leadership to correct a matter for which they are responsible for and not the sitting President or his cabinet. Had the motion succeeded than would matters have changed? No one with basic knowledge of history and finance can confidently state that the answer would have been a resounding yes.

Some of the political parties realised that this action would be the last hoorah for them. However the effects of a successful no confidence votes would have resulted in the dissolving of cabinet. This action may have resulted in the calling of an early election and without proper planning and processes in place there would have been mass jockeying for positions at all costs. The killing fields of Kwa Zulu Natal at present would not only have escalated but also spread nationally. The innocent victims would have been killed simply to satisfy the political dreams of some. In politics we are aware of the hidden hand. We may not know the hidden hand but we are aware of it. The question remains: Who is the hidden hand? And is this not another form of state capture? There is an obvious disregard for the people that the political parties say they care about and as a result puts them in a no better position than the ANC. The forcing of early elections as Part of the strategy became manifest that shortly after the unsuccessful no confidence vote a motion to dissolve the parliament was moved by the DA.


The biggest surprise is the haste with which the process to remove Zuma is taken. His term is near its end and the need to remove him before the end of his term of office which will happen in less than two years reflects an agenda of deviousness intent. The consequences of this haste which may be known to some but kept hidden from the masses still needs to be interrogated.




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# INTERNATIONAL NEWS FOCUS

BY FAKIR HASSEN

**Makkah, SAUDI ARABIA** - Sheikh Saleh bin Abdullah bin Humaid, Imam and Khateeb of the Grand Mosque in Makkah, has stressed that the pious ritual of Hajj should not be used to further the vested political interests of any group or any nation. Sheikh Bin Humaid said the Kingdom does not allow exploitation of religion by anyone in the holy sites as it diverts the pilgrims' attention from their main goal, which is to spend all their time and effort in worshipping Almighty Allah and carrying out their Hajj rites with devotion and sincerity of purpose. Politicisation of Hajj rites, he said, will not bring any good to the Ummah which is already suffering from discord and differences.

**Mangilao Village, GUAM** - Amid a threat by North Korea to fire a missile on the tiny island of US-owned Guam, it has emerged that there is a small Muslim community there, although membership has varied over the years from a high of more than 100 to the current total of about fifty. The association also serves as a unified body to provide Islamic information to the general public and has a stated goal of creating understanding and harmony between the different religions on Guam. Almost all members are U.S. citizens but originate from such countries as Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, Bangladesh, Sudan, Eritrea, Morocco, Egypt, Indonesia, Malaysia, Guam and the United States.

**Xinjiang, CHINA** - Authorities in China's Xinjiang region have reportedly banned Muslims from using their language in schools. The Hotan government in north western China prohibited the use of the

Uighur language from being used in schools including pre-school. The new move comes after strict restrictions on Muslims in the region, including a ban on fasting during Ramadan. The notice claimed that the move aimed to 'fully popularise the common national language'. Signs around the schools also have to be in Mandarin.

**Islamabad, PAKISTAN** - Pakistan's ruling party appointed Shahid Khaqan Abbasi as interim prime minister after Nawaz Sharif was ousted. Sharif resigned following his disqualification by the Supreme Court over undeclared assets. The court has also ordered a criminal investigation into Sharif, 67, and his family.

**Bhabanipur, INDIA** - Muslim residents of this village came forward to help a Hindu woman who died, whose two daughters could not afford to arrange a funeral. "We were aware of the family's condition. They had no source of steady income or a man to conduct the rituals. Nirmala's daughters were helpless," said neighbour Mirza Golam Mustafa. Despite the huge media interest in a country racked with sectarian violence, the Muslim neighbours found nothing special in what they did. "We have been living together for years. What kind of humans are we if we can't stand by our neighbours in times of need?" asked Mustafa.

**Alabama, USA** - The Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR-Alabama) has called on the McDonald's fast food chain to identify and fire the staff who inserted pieces of bacon into 14 chicken sandwiches ordered by a Muslim family recently. "Based on the evidence in this



incident, as well as the unprecedented spike in anti-Muslim bigotry nationwide, we believe this was an intentional act of religious and ethnic bigotry," said CAIR-Alabama Executive Director Khaula Hadeed.

**Amsterdam, NETHERLANDS** - The highest courthere hastold the government it must fund an Islamic school that authorities had tried to ban, tapping into a divisive debate about the role of Muslim culture in Dutch society. Deputy Education Minister Sander Dekker withheld funding for the school in 2014, shortly after a member of its board expressed support for militant group Daesh in a Facebook post. But the Council of State reversed that decision, concluding there were "no valid grounds" to refuse funding as the person in question had since left the board, which had publicly condemned the posting.

**Michigan, USA** - Sixteen former Muslim employees of US auto supplier Brose are suing the company for religious discrimination after they say they were forced to "involuntarily resign". The company allegedly told the men their request for a change in their meal break time during Ramadan could not be accommodated. According to their legal representatives, their employer told them they would have to choose whether their religion or their jobs were more important. The men unanimously resigned following the incident.

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