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Welcoming Ramadhaan
By: Bro. Farooq / Pg. 11
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What Leads To a Life of Misery & Confinement

There is a missing link in the lives of people today. A spiritual connection to Allah. We may be involved physically but neglect the spiritual connection to Allah. Allah emphasizes in the Qur’an the importance of us being connected to him, for us being God conscious. This means whatever we do, wherever we go, it should be the way Allah expects us to do. The way that Allah expects us to fulfill his rights and commands. We must always be in total submission to Allah as we can never tell when we will die. We are humans and make mistakes. Allah understands that but expects us to repent. According to the Prophet (s.a.w.), a person who repents sincerely is forgiven and becomes as someone who did not sin. Allah knows that we are forgetful, but he is willing to forgive. Allah is Al-Ghaffur, Al-Raheem. While he is forgiving, we must follow the commands of Allah lest we become the followers of Shaytaan. We let Shaytaan mislead us. It is important that we understand the system that Allah has put in place for us. Just as Allah created the body and created food to keep the body healthy, he has similarly created the system to keep our soul healthy. Hence we should always be in the remembrance of Allah. It does not only make dhikr but it means our actions should be in connection to the remembrance of Allah. Allah (s.w.t.), in Surah Taha, Chapter 20 vs 124: “And whoever turns away from my message, for him, his lifestyle will be a very frustrating one.” Does this not sound familiar? It is widespread in the ummah today but a good believer with faith in Allah isn’t supposed to be stressed. Allah says in the Quran that the people who do what Allah expects them to do will find peace and tranquility in their hearts. When Allah has ordained a way in the Quran and sunnah but we choose to do things our own way, we must face the consequences. Also in this verse: “and that person will be raised on the day of Qiyamah, blind” We complain of everything but we don’t work on our own imaan. We go to some masjids where the poor are begging outside and inside the masjid, the rich are begging. We are not in the line of Allah and live the frustration of not being happy. Our spirituality has deteriorated. We only live and pray for ourselves. Chapter 13 vs 28: “By the remembrance of Allah do hearts find rest” We teach children that wealth gives happiness as opposed to loving Allah and his Rasool (s.a.w.). They grow up knowing the price of everything but without tranquility and peace. On the flip side to all of this, in different parts of Surah Yunus, Chapter 10: “Certainly the people who are the friends of Allah, they will have no fear, nor will they grieve.” “For them will be glad tidings of happiness in this world and the Hereafter. Allah does not go back on his words” Allah has given us the answer. If we follow what he says to do, he has promised us peace, happiness and joy in this world and the hereafter.
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Al-Hikmat International Muslim Magazine
GOD’S CALL

The voice breathes gently
Yet with strength supreme;
Questioning the heart,
Creating the dream.

Then slowly, but surely
You let God’s word in,
And in this resolve
You finally begin.

“At first it is slow.
You are not quite sure;
But with each new day.
Grows feeling secure.”

At times it seems perfect,
At times quite insane,
But all of these feelings
Are part of the same.

God’s call filters peace,
Through searching indeed.
You come to acknowledge
God’s will and your need.

For moments in time,
You feel it is true.
Convictions you have,
You must follow through.

Your need to follow,
God’s will in your life;
Be able to grow,
And push through the strife.

Yet gently, and sweetly
God’s voice enters in,
“Finish all this,
And then we’ll begin.”

For only in this,
In facing each day,
Can you be certain
To discern God’s way.

Begin with the plan,
That I have for you.
Begin with the work
I want you to do.”

The process is slow.
It takes much time.
Rewards are many;
God’s peace sublime.

AUTHENTIC CELEBRATION
OF HIGH HOLY DAYS

As we enter more deeply into the celebration of High Holy Days of the various religious traditions, we need to be keenly aware that each tradition utilizes rituals/services that are meant to draw us closer and closer to Our God. If we are authentically attempting to draw closer to Our God, we will be challenged to follow God’s Call, which is specific to each and every one of us. May these most sacred times within our faith communities truly lead us to deeper and richer understanding of Our God and one another.

QIYAS

It should be noted that every great religion of the world provided protection of faith, life, reason, generation and property. According to Maliki school “public interest” is an independent source of law.

It is a means to protect the aims and objectives of the Shariah. The objectives of the Shariah are known through the Quran, the Sunnah, and Ijma. Any law which does not fulfill the purpose of the Shariah is not valid. As it is designed to secure the ends of law, it cannot be excluded from the recognized sources of law. Nevertheless, it is not called qiyas. It is technically called al-maslahah al-mursalah (public interest let loose from the text). The reason for adopting this term is that while Qiyas rests on some definite authority, Masalah relates to the matters about which the Shariah is silent. Ahmed Hasan in his book “Analogical Reasoning in Islamic Jurisprudence” writes “In his Shifa al-Ghalil al-Ghazali clearly distinguishes between maslahah munasabah; the former being seeking something useful, and removing something harmful; the latter being the preservation of an objective. But in his al-Mustafa it seems that he identifies maslahah with munasib. He remarks: “Originally maslahah is seeking utility and removing harm, but we do not mean that by it, for seeking utility and averting harm are the objectives of people and their good lies in the acquisition of their objectives. By Maslahah we mean preservation of the objectives of the Shariah, and the objectives of the Shariah are five-fold. Anything which involves preservation of these five principles (usul khamsah) is maslahah and that which causes the loss of these principles is mafsadah and removing it is maslahah……………….” It is, therefore, evident that maslahah involves public interest or benefit for the Muslims in general and the benefit is meant for all Muslims and not for a few persons.

To be continued in the next issue, InShaa Allaah

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QIYAS

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The Angel of Death was at YOUR BED

Umar (RA) heard the Prophet (peace be upon him) say: ‘If you put your faith completely in Allah, He will arrange for your sustenance in the same way as He provides for the birds. They go out in the morning with their stomachs empty and return filled in the evening. Tirmidhi.

Here is a hypothetical thought-provoking conversation with God Almighty:

Person: God, can I ask you a question?
God: Sure!
Person: Promise you won’t get mad?
Person: I promise.
Person: Why did you let so much stuff happen to me today?
God: What do you mean?
Person: Well, to begin with, I woke up very late.
God: Yes
Person: My car took forever to start
God: Okay…..
Person: At lunch they made my sandwich wrong and I had to wait very long for another one
God: Hmmmm……..
Person: On the way home, my phone went dead just as I picked up a call
God: Okay
Person: And on top of all that, when I got home I just wanted to soak my feet in my foot massager and relax. But it would not work. Nothing went right today.
God: Well, let me see. The Angel of Death was at your bed this morning and I had to send one of the other angels to battle him for your life. So I let you sleep through that.
Person: (humbled)…Oh
God: I did not let your car start because there was a drunk driver on your route that would have hit you and you would have ended up in a bad accident.
Person: (Ashamed)……Oh
God: The person who made your first sandwich today was sick and I did not want you to catch what he had and miss days from work.
Person: (Embarrassed): Ok…
God: Your phone went dead because the person calling you, was about to engage you in backbiting. So I saved you from that sin.
Person: (softly) I see, God Almighty

Continued on page 29, InShaa Allaah
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We will begin this amazing month of Ramadhan, in a few days’ time, In Shaa Allaah. Why do we fast? What do we expect to gain from fasting? And, how can we make the best of Ramadhan? What should we do to get the maximum benefit? “O You who believe! Fasting is prescribed for you as it was prescribed to those before you, that you may learn taqwa, (self-restraint).” [2:183] Those of us who will be fasting, enjoy the satisfaction that we are giving up our delicious food and drink, our leisure and amusement so that we can please our Lord and Sustainer. Allaah SWT tells us in His Holy Book, all our other duties concern the poor, the needy, our families and ourselves, but Fasting is for Allaah alone, and He rewards whom He pleases. We must always bear in mind the purpose of our fasting. It is not only to stay hungry and thirsty. It is to be conscious of Allaah SWT at all times. Fasting teaches us to tame our lower passions, al-nafs-al-ammara-bis-sow. This is the lower self that clings to the earth, and drags us towards all the hateful and shameful actions, envy, greed, sexual lust, jealousy, anger, hatred, revenge…Fasting helps us to be disciplined. It helps us to strengthen our conscience, the higher self, which is called al-nafs-al-law-waamah. This is the self-reproaching naf, this is the higher self that constantly blames itself and seeks to put right all the errors and sins of the lower self. Throughout our lives, we struggle with this great Jihad, of trying to control our desires and passions, so that our thoughts, our words and our actions are only good and pleasing to Allaah SWT. Once the Muslims returned from a battle, and Prophet Muhammad SAW said to them “You have completed the lesser Jihad, now you must engage with the greater Jihad, which is the struggle to control and purify yourself”. I pray that every one of us will use this Ramadhan as an opportunity to fight this most important of all struggles, the Greater Jihad of taking control of our lives, control of our lower passions and desires. This struggle to cultivate self-discipline is not only for Ramadan. It is a lifelong struggle. Shaitan will constantly offer temptations and make our evil nature seem pleasing to us. Nevertheless, we must be on guard, and we must remember what pleases Allaah SWT. We must say, “A-oothu bil-laahi minash shyaatanir rajeem” : “I take refuge in Allaah from Shaytaan, the Cursed One”. We must constantly keep in mind that Allaah SWT will hold us to account for our actions. We do not want to be among the losers, the ones whose end is hellfire. We want to be among the winners, the ones who will enter paradise. We want to spend our lives, purifying our thoughts and words and actions, so that when we die we have a purified heart and soul. We want our Ruh, our soul to be as pure and unblemished as the day when we were born.

Continued from last issue

The Covenant of the Prophets

Submitted by: Bro. Tawlib Ali / Whitby, Ontario, Canada

Jesus was not getting his Message of the Gospel through to the Jewish leaders, so they decided to confront him about healing on the Sabbath. They questioned him about his identity and status and his popularity upset them to the point where they wanted him dead. They slandered Mary and thought that she had an affair and gave birth to Jesus, and that his miracle birth was not real. When Jesus told them that God’s Last Messenger whom he called ‘Ahmad’ in Aramaic (the language spoken by Jesus) would come from the seed of Ishmael and not Isaac, they decided to set up the Romans to have him crucified. They knew from the Scriptures that crucifixion was a form of punishment for criminals but not for prophets. So they plotted to kill him in this fashion rather than stone him to death. They thought they killed him but Almighty God saved him from such a horrific death, even though the Jews were bragging that they killed Jesus, the son of Mary, the Apostle of God. Jesus was taken up (the Ascension) and must return to Earth towards the end of time to complete his life, at which time he must die like everyone else. Only Almighty God is Eternal and will never die. The mystery surrounding Jesus defies logic and reason which is why his mere existence has confounded Christians and Catholics whose Foundation and Belief System is hinged on the Trinity (father, son and Holy Ghost) concept. I did not ask if he was God since that question was too premature. Instead I went on to Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him). I asked, “What was the ‘thing’ that appealed to the Arabs during the time of Prophet Muhammad?” Since she was unaware. I mentioned that it was ‘Poetry.’ Here is a man who could not read nor write reciting verses that are so poetic, they were astonished - only to realize that it was Divine Revelation that contained a Message, and was not Poetry. The Arabs were amazed when the Jewish people in Mecca and Medina recognized the verses as Revelation from Almighty God, and eventually those verses were put in well-arranged stages and order - which we now refer to as the Holy Quran. Some Jews became Muslims while others refused to Believe. Then I asked, “Would you say that the Prophet Muhammad was God?” She replied, “No! He was a man.” Then after a brief pause, I asked her if her Geography Teacher was better than her Math Teacher, or any other teacher. She replied, “No! They’re all teachers, they’re the same!” Then I remarked - Similarly, all Prophets who were teachers will be considered in the same fashion and that is why we have been reminded and instructed in the Quran “not to make distinctions among God’s Messengers,” even though they all had the same Message but played differed roles, and were given different gifts. Then I asked her if Moses was greater than David or Jesus or Muhammad or even Abraham who was saved by God from being burnt in a huge furnace after being thrown into it.

Continued on Page 30, InShaa Allaah

Continued on Page 29, InShaa Allaah
How to Welcome Muslims Who Reverted to Islam

By Sister Amanda Smith / Miami Florida

A recent survey of the Muslim community in the US found that almost 25% of American Muslims are converts. However, one would not guess that this was the case by looking at our masjids. At best there may be a convert or two, and it is not uncommon for someone to say the shahada, then disappear. The reality is that our community grows every single day, but many of these new comers do not feel comfortable in our masjids. Here are a few insights as to why this is the case, and what Muslims who were raised in Islam can do to help.

1. Do not ask a convert to share their conversion story when you first meet.

It is normal to be curious about how someone may have come to Islam, but for many converts this is the most personal experience of their lives and not something they would normally want to share with everyone. Get to know them like you would anyone else, asking appropriate questions about their work, background, likes, etc. and leave the conversion story for a time when sharing personal information would be more appropriate.

2. Socialize with converts.

When a new convert comes to a masjid it is common to experience a wave of excitement that quickly fades. After everyone has asked about how they came to Islam or shared their congratulations, often people will return to their social group and speak in a language that the convert does not understand, leaving them alone. Many converts struggle with loneliness. Ramadan and Eid, a time of celebration, is a time that leaves many converts feeling very alone. Please talk to converts in your masjids, include them in social activities, and invite them to celebrate Islamic holidays with your families.

3. Do not be suspicious.

Another problem converts experience in masjids is suspicion.

Many converts will be accused of not having sincere faith, pretending to be Muslim to get married, and even of being spies for the government. Islam teaches us that only Allah swt knows what is in the hearts of people, and to not be suspicious of others. Please do not say these things to fellow Muslims in your community and speak up when you hear these things.

4. Do not try to push a new Muslim into doing something before they are ready.

Islam was revealed gradually over 23 years. Muslims today cannot be expected to completely live Islam too quickly. Recognize that it may take a new Muslim time to implement Islam, and do not respond harshly because they are not doing something. One practice in particular that should take time is marriage.

Continued on Page 26, InShaa Allaah

Importance of Duas

Daily & Especially In Ramadan

Written by Bro. Al Mustapha / Florida USA

The month of Ramadan is a very blessed time of the year for Muslims. It is the month in which we indulge in excessive worship and constantly praise Allah God Almighty. Besides keeping fast in the proper manner, the other objective of this month is to repent to Allah SWT and try to gain His mercy, His forgiveness, His salvation from the fire of hell and to gain as many blessings and rewards from Allah (SWT) as possible. One of the acts of worship we perform is Dua (supplication). Our beloved Prophet Muhammad (SAW) said: “Dua (supplication) is worship” (Abu Dawud). We should make Dua daily throughout the year but in the holy month of Ramadan, Duas hold a greater value than the rest of the year. Hence, Ramadan is not only about fasting, rather it is also an increase in reciting the Holy Quran, praying Salaah and in making extra Dua as well. Allah Almighty says in the Holy Quran: “And when My slaves ask you (O Muhammad SAW) concerning Me, then surely I am near. I answer the prayer of the supplicant when he calls to Me.” (Quran, 2:186), He also says, “Call on Me and I will answer your prayer.” (40:60) and He says, “Therefore remember Me, I will remember you. Give thanks to Me and reject Me not.” (2:152).

From the above verses of Holy Quran, it is clear that Allah Almighty loves those who remember Him and ask Him and He listens to us and what we ask for and He answers our Duas (at the best time). We should ask for everything no matter if it is small or big from Allah (SWT). In the month of Ramadan, our Duas should increase daily. There are two special times when Duas are immediately accepted by Allah (SWT) in Ramadan; at the time of Iftaar (breaking the fast) and at the time of Suhoor (beginning the fast). The Sunnah way of making Dua is:

1. Start by praising Allah (SWT)
2. Send salutation upon the Prophet (SAW) at the beginning and just before ending your Dua
3. Demonstrate humility and fear of Allah (SWT) while having high hopes that He will respond to your Dua.

Ways of Increasing Acceptance of Duas

In the blessed month of Ramadan we can actually increase our chances of having our Duas accepted by following the below mentioned ways of making Dua. Allah (SWT) out of His mercy and benevolence has specified specific times in the day when He accepts Dua.

Continued on Page 33, InShaa Allaah
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One of the distinguishing features of Ramazan is forgiveness. The Prophet (pbuh) explained in one Hadith that Ramazan is a month whose beginning is Mercy; whose middle is Forgiveness and whose end is Freedom from the Hellfire. This makes it a great time to ask Allah for His Forgiveness. It’s also a wonderful time to open our hearts and cleanse them of grudges and bitterness by forgiving others. What better way to seek this divine forgiveness then by forgiving those who have wronged and hurt us? Just as we seek forgiveness from Allah, we must learn to forgive ourselves. When the servant knowingly gives up the things and acts that nullify the fast, despite his ability to reach them in secret, he gives indeed strong evidence of his certain belief that Allah, the Almighty, watches over him in both his manifest and secret deeds. There is no doubt that in this kind of conduct is a significant training to strengthen faith in Allah.

The Prophet (pbuh) said: “It is not permissible for a Muslim to abandon his brother (or sister) for more than three days, each of them turning away when they meet. The better of them is the one who gives the greeting of salaam first.” Forgiveness requires an extraordinary struggle against the bruised ego. And, the bigger the hurt, the more difficult it is to forgive. Forgiving is giving up your right to hate or hurt the person who hurt you. Hate hurts you physically, mentally and emotionally. Forgiveness gives you peace, tranquility and happiness. During Ramazan, the doors of Allah’s mercy and forgiveness are open. Allah described the believers and said: “And those who avoid the major sins and immoralities, and when they are angry, they forgive.” (Quran 42:37). How can we raise our hands and ask Allah for forgiveness but not be willing to forgive another human-being?

The Prophet Muhammad said that Musa, the son of Imran once asked, “Oh my Lord! Who is the most honorable of Your servants? And He replied, the person who forgives even when he is in a position of power”. Peace and blessings be upon the Prophet. When he entered the city of Makkah after the victory, the Prophet (pbuh), had in front of him some of his staunchest enemies. Those who fought him for many years, persecuted his followers and killed many of them. Now he had full power to do whatever he wanted to punish them for their crimes. It is reported that the Prophet (pbuh) asked them, “What do you think I shall do to you now?” They pleaded for mercy. “No blame on you today. Go, you are all free.” Subhan Allah, soon thereafter they all came and accepted Islam due to his huge act of mercy.

Once when the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) was sitting in the Mosque with a group of his companions, he caught everyone by surprise by stating that the next person to enter the sanctuary would be a person of paradise. The Prophet’s companions waited eagerly to see who it would be. Finally, a rather simple man by the name of Abu Dumdum appeared. The companions were befuddled because they didn’t think that this person was extraordinarily pious. One of the companions asked Abu Dumdum if he could stay with him for a few nights making an excuse of need. In reality he just wanted to know what was so special about Abu Dumdum. In the night the companion expected Abu Dumdum to pray all night – but no such thing happened. During the day, the companion expected Abu Dumdum to fast, but that didn’t happen either. Finally, the companion told Abu Dumdum about what the Prophet (pbuh) had said and why he was actually spending nights in his home. Abu Dumdum replied that the only thing he did that was different and unique was before going to bed every night he would forgive anyone who had offended him knowingly or unknowingly and would go to sleep with a clean heart toward others. Forgiveness in the Arabic language is related to the word “covering”. When Allah (Mighty and Sublime) forgives His servants’ sins, those sins are covered on their heart. How can we raise our hands and ask Allah for forgiveness but not be willing to forgive another human-being?

Let’s try to forgive those who have hurt us.
Al-Hikmat Annual Dinner & Award Ceremony


Fundraising Lecture at Islamic Center of Washington DC (ISWA)

Photo on left: Shaikh Shafayat was invited by ISWA to deliver the Jumua Khutbah on Friday May 22nd, 2019. He also did the fundraising speech on Saturday March 23rd, 2019. Al-Hamdulillaah, the program was very successful, MaaShaa Allaah.

First Taraweeh at Darul Uloom Institute Florida, USA

Photo above: Shaikh Shafayat Ramadhaan Message to the audience on the first night of Ramadhaan, May 5th, 2019 at Darul Uloom Institute, Pembroke Pines Florida USA. MaaShaa Allaah.

Al Hikmat Fiqh Class Field Trip 2019

Photos above: Al-Hamdulillaah- On Sunday April 21st, 2019 Al-Hikmat Fiqh class went on a Field Trip to Pahokee, Florida USA. The trip was a very beautiful experience, MaaShaa Allaah.

Tri-County Meeting

Photo above: Al-Hamdulillaah the Tri-County Resource Referral Network coordinated by Marjorie Aloni, held a Networking Meeting with professional on Thursday April 25th, 2019. The event was held at the Al-Hikmat Da’wah Center, Pembroke Pines Florida USA. A Government officer spoke on the importance of USA 2010 Census, MaaShaa Allaah.
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INTERFAITH / COMMUNITY UPDATE

AL-HIKMAT INTERFAITH BANQUET DINNER

“Building Bridges With Other Faiths & Cultures”

Photos above: Al-Hamdulillaah, on Sunday March 17th, 2019 Al-Hikmat office for the Caribbean and South America held an Interfaith Banquet Dinner in Trinidad, West Indies. An address was delivered by the Honourable Minister Kazim Hosein and greetings were given by many prominent Interfaith and Community Leaders of Trinidad and Tobago, organized by Pundit Raviji Maharaj. The special Guest Appearance was Dr. Khalilah Ali (Former wife of Muhammad Ali). A message on “Building Bridges with other Faiths & Cultures” was delivered by Shaikh Shafayat. The event was coordinated by Bro. Siddiq, Sis. Fatima, Maulana Jamal, Bro. Kaleem and Sis. Faria. MaaShaa Allaah.

Qari Shamikh Sahadat visit to Indonesia

Photos above: Al-Hamdulillaah Qari Shamikh was invited in April 2019 to deliver a series of lectures in Indonesia on Islam, MaaShaa Allaah.

Al-Hamdulillaah

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Assalaamu Alaikum (WB) Shaikh Shafayat

My name is Johnson Bullock. My Muslim attribute is Abdul Shakur. I am currently incarcerated in Crawfordville, Florida. I was introduced to your magazine (Al-Hikmat) by another brother that is currently incarcerated with me. I really did enjoy it. Jazakallah Khaira (May Allah reward you greatly). I would love to have a copy of my own as well so Inshaa Allaah when I get released I’ll be able to locate some of these Islamic spots, and I can live according to the Qur’aan and Sunnah. Shaikh may Allaah continue to grant you success in this world and may he grant you success in the next. InShaa Allaah, I would love to be of assistance to the Islamic Community even from within these walls, anything I can help you with- I would love too.

Jazaak Allahu Khair
Johnson Bullock
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CUTTING OFF YOUR NOSE TO SPITE YOUR FACE

By Linda Kaplan, Esq. / Florida USA

My Grandmother, Emma, never finished elementary school but she was wise in many ways. She taught me not to cause problems for myself by trying to punish someone else. I often think of this when I read the news about immigration. I see “solutions” that cause problems for the country by punishing immigrants. Two things in particular that I read in the last few days made me think of my Grandmother’s advice. First is the denying of drivers’ licenses to undocumented persons. The second is declaring that the “country is full” and trying to stop immigration into the U.S. Most states require a person to prove “legal status” to obtain a driver’s license. About a dozen states (NOT including Florida), along with the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, allow a person without legal status to obtain a license upon establishing their identity with a foreign passport and passing the same tests as everyone else. Pending legislation would also let undocumented persons in New York obtain a license. This issue pits the desire to punish undocumented persons by denying them a license with the desire to enhance road safety. William Bratton, who served as police commissioner in both Los Angeles and New York, has said that giving undocumented immigrants a driver’s license would reduce the number of hits and run accidents and would decrease the number of uninsured motorists on the roads. A 2017 study found that hit and run accidents in California decreased by 7–10% after undocumented immigrants were allowed to obtain licenses. After New Mexico allowed licenses to be issued to undocumented persons in 2011, the number of uninsured drivers fell from 33% in 2002 to 9% in 2011. A 2017 study by the Fiscal Policy Institute shows that the State of New York would bring in an estimated $26 million in fees for license applications, car registration, and the gasoline tax if the pending legislation is passed. These statistics clearly show that the desire to punish undocumented immigration comes at the steep cost of public safety. Would you rather make it more difficult to obtain licenses at the risk of being in an accident with an uninsured motorist? Would you rather that an undocumented immigrant stops and renders aid after an accident or flee because they didn’t want to be caught driving without a license? The second example of the dangers of cutting off your nose to spite your face is the efforts to stop/reduce immigration (even legal immigration) to the U.S. An opinion piece was published in the Washington Post on April 11th entitled “Sorry, Mr. President, this country is not ‘Full’.” This was written by Marc A. Thiessen who is clearly a Trump supporter in many ways but expresses the opinion that we need “more immigrants, lots of them.”

Continued on Page 34, InShaa Allaah
THE BOOK OF LIGHT

This BOOK OF LIGHT was created for man
Miracles and guidance enshrined so we may understand,
Messages foretold by Him to adorn all the world
Revelations of love, peace and warnings to enrich our soul........
Many a nation were destroyed for their sins
For they disobeyed the Messengers sent them from within,
This BOOK OF LIGHT illumines the way to our Maker
A guidance to salvation and the life hereafter........
Words of wisdom, guidance and warnings
A LIGHT to the pathway to all the heavens,
A place of abode and reward for righteous deeds
All foretold in this Final BOOK which begins - READ !........
This BOOK OF LIGHT is but a Book of love
Revealed to mankind from the Almighty above,
For all to live in love, peace and contentment
To avoid the sins of earth and a dreadful punishment ........
Many relent for past transgressions
For our Lord is pleased when we are forgiven,
No matter our sins, He shall purify our soul
And reward us all in HIS everlasting world........

DON'T LIE to your BOSS

Boss to an employee:
Do you believe in life after death?
Employee: Certainly no, there’s no proof of it.
Boss: Well, there is now. After you left early yesterday to go to your uncle’s funeral, he came here looking for you.

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AMANDA F. SMITH

HOW TO WELCOME MUSLIMS WHO CONVERTED TO ISLAM

New Muslims should NOT get married while they are still learning the basics of the religion and many converts have been taken advantage of in marriage because they did not know what their rights were. Do not push a new convert to get married and speak up if you see a new Muslim being bullied into a marriage too quickly under the guise of it being “sunnah.”

5. Respect a convert’s individuality.
Converts will often be pushed into changing more about themselves than is Islamically necessary, such as what they eat or what they wear. So long as the food is halal and they are properly covered, there is no need to switch from burgers to biryani or from jeans to an abaya. Furthermore, many Muslims have the misconception that it is wajib for a new Muslim to change their name. However, the prophet only instructed new Muslims to change their name if they had a bad meaning. Do not push a new Muslim into changing their name if they do not want to; one can be just as Muslim named Billy or Susan.

In surat Nasr, Allah swt says
“And you see people entering the religion of God in flocks.”
Though revealed after the conquest of Mecca, subhan Allah we still see people entering the religion of God in flocks. In sha Allah through the use of good akhlaq and patience, we will see the impact of this growth on our centers here in the USA and around the world.
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Dr. Naveed Shafi graduated with a double Major and academic scholarship from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. After receiving his Medical Degree, Dr. Shafi completed his residency in Internal Medicine at the prestigious Cleveland Clinic where he was nominated residency representative by his peers. He completed his Sports Medicine fellowship at the University of South Carolina and has received Board Certification in Sports Medicine, Internal Medicine, Hyperbaric and Dive Medicine, and is certified as a Medical Review Officer. He has served as Medical director and Head team physician for Florida Atlantic University, and as an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Biomedical Sciences. At age 32, he was the youngest Team physician of any Division One University in the entire US. He has also served as Team Physician for the following teams: The Florida Panthers, Florida Bobcats arena football, Florida Atlantic University and numerous professional and Olympic athletes, MMA fighters and professional boxers. Dr. Shafi has always been active in the Muslim community, as a supporter of many programs and initiatives. He has served as vice president of the Youth Coalition of South Florida and regularly participates in youth related community activities and a successful lecture series with his wife on Family Dynamics. He has served as a coordinator and presenter at several interfaith dialogues and lectures over the years.

She said, “No!” I asked, “Do you still believe that Jesus is God in the flesh?” She said, “After such an explanation, no man is God, and Jesus was a man who ate, and slept, and God does not require food and sleep.” I told her just like the Baker does not look like the Bread, similarly the Creator does not look like anything He created. No one should make or fashion any image in the likeness of God who created “all things in pairs,” since He Alone is One. He is unlike all of creation. He is Incomprehensible, Unseen, Indivisible, and has neither an equal nor any parallel. He is Eternal and Alone. After such an explanation which lasted no more than ten minutes, she requested a copy of the Quran and wanted to learn more about Jesus whose status as a Prophet of God is highlighted in the Quran. Almighty God is Great! - not ‘greater’ nor ‘greatest’ as many mistakenly say. Almighty God is “Incomparably Great” and “Incomprehensibly Great” and no one can imagine Him because to do such will be to create an image of Him and that violates the 2nd Commandment of the 10 Commandments. PS: The one who steals the praises of Almighty God for himself or herself is a bigger thief than one who steals jewelry and other things. That is why Muslims say: “Alhamdulillahae Rabbi Alamin” - All Praise is due to Allah, Lord of the Worlds. ‘Worship’ is meant for God Alone, and not for created beings or things.
Homeopathy - A Natural Cure

German Doctor Samuel Hahnemann discovered homeopathy in 1799. Homeopathy is a science and a form of alternative medicine which treats the individual with highly diluted substances with the aim of triggering the body’s own natural system of healing. The basic principle of homeopathy is “like cures like.” For example, if a patient goes to a homeopathic doctor complaining of insomnia, the homeopathy will look for the remedy which causes the same symptoms in a healthy person—in this case, caffeine. In large doses, caffeine causes insomnia, but in extremely small doses it will induce sleep. Onion normally causes watery eyes, therefore, a person experiencing watery, itchy eyes will likely be prescribed alum sepia (red onion) as the cure. The majority of homeopathic medicines are taken sublingually and absorb directly into the bloodstream through mucous membranes in the mouth. Unlike conventional medicines, they have no preservatives, fillers, binders, dyes or other toxic chemicals. Homeopathy was officially practiced in the U.S. from 1821 to 1935; in 1900 there were 20 percent homeopathic physicians practicing with the least mortality rates in the states of New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Massachusetts and California. Dr. John S. Heller and Dr. William Boerick were the pioneers of homeopathy in the U.S. Due to the influence of big pharmaceutical companies, homeopathy began to diminish, with only Connecticut, Arizona and Nevada continuing to have licensed homeopathic doctors. Today, the State of Florida authorizes homeopathy as an alternate medicine according to Senate Bill 1324. It is practiced in 54 countries throughout the world, chiefly in Germany, France, UK, Sweden, Australia, India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and many South American countries. In conventional medicine, doctors suppress the symptoms of disease with the emphasis on disease management/control rather than cure: diabetes under control, cholesterol under control, arthritis under control, thyroid under control, acid reflex under control, etc. Homeopathy cures the problem rather than simply managing it. When a patient goes to his primary care physician with complaints of uncontrollable headaches, ulcers, arthritis, shortness of breath, severe back pain, urinary bladder problems and kidney problems, he will be referred to a neurologist, GI doctor, rheumatologist, pulmonologist, orthopedist, urologist and nephrologist. These specialists will prescribe medications with each of the prescription drugs causing side effects and exacerbating the conditions. Now, this patient has more problems. Homeopathy does not treat the disease—it cures it.

Continued on page 34, InShaa Allaah

WELCOMING RAMADHAN

The last verses of Sura Al Fajr, are indeed the words we would all like to hear from Allaah SWT, when we die and return to Him: “Return unto thy Lord, content in His good pleasure. Enter thou among my bondmen: Enter thou my garden.” (89: 28-30) Ramadhan is also a time for us to remember those who are fasting every day of their lives, not by choice, not because they want to fast, but because of poverty. They simply do not have enough to eat or drink. We who enjoy clean drinking water, hot meals every day and a warm comfortable home, we must remember that we are very fortunate to have these blessings. Ramadhan is a time to remember others less fortunate. It is a time to show Compassion and Mercy. You know, every time a Muslim begins an important action, he says Bismillahin Rahmaanir Rahimeen! He says: “I begin this action in the Name of Allaah, the Most Merciful, the Most Compassionate!” How many times a day do we say these words? Surely, it must have some effect on our behavior, if we are conscious of the meaning. Surely, compassion and mercy must flow from our words and actions. In time, our whole character should be infused with Allaah SWT’s mercy and compassion. This is one of the big lessons of Ramadhan. And that is why most people pay their Zakat during this month. Zakat is the 2.5% of unused wealth that goes to the poor and needy. Let us try to remember these important lessons of Ramadhan. Many of us think that Ramadhan is a time to ‘go slow’ and to avoid exerting ourselves. Some of us, if we had the opportunity, would want to sleep all day until iftar. Ramadhan is not a time for hibernation. That is for the polar bears and grizzly bears in the cold American winter. It is not for Muslims! Ramadhan is the time we should be busy reading and understanding the holy Qur’an, studying our faith and trying to improve our knowledge and our character. It is a time of spiritual renewal and revival. Many important events took place in Ramadhan:

- The Holy Qur’an was revealed in Ramadhan.
- The Battle of Badr took place in Ramadhan.
- Makkah was conquered in a bloodless battle during Ramadhan.
- Tariq bin Ziyad conquered Spain during Ramadhan. The list goes on and on…So let us remember, Ramadhan is not an excuse for laziness. It is a time for improving ourselves, improving our mind and body and spirit. We must welcome Ramadhan like a long lost friend. May Allaah SWT accept our fasting, which we do only for His sake. We do not fast just to lose weight or to show off to others, how religious we are. We fast because we love Allaah SWT, and we want to please Him. We owe Him so much. Fasting is a very small thing that HE asks us to do, only for Him. Allaah SWT says in the Holy Qur’an: “Fasting is for Me alone, and I will give rewards for it.” Allaah SWT does not specify how much, 10 times, 70 times or 700 times. Allaah gives rewards for fasting, from His limitless bounty, “bi ghairi hisaab,” without limits. I pray that you and I will be amongst those whom Allaah SWT rewards, without limits. Ameen!

Allaah SWT Knows Best.
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Some Benefits of Hajj

Question: What are the benefits of Hajj?

Answer: Al-Hamdu’llaah some of the benefits of hajj are as follows:

- One who performed Hajj would have obeyed the command of the Qur’aan in Ch:3 V: 97: “In it are clear signs [such as] the standing place of Abraham. And whoever enters it shall be safe. And [due] to Allah from the people is a pilgrimage to the House - for whoever is able to find thereto a way. But whoever disbelieves - then indeed, Allah is free from need of the worlds.”
- One who goes to hajj is regarded to have thanked Allah for the bounties like health and wealth that Allaah has bestowed upon him or her.
- Hajj removes the sins of a person.
- Hajj helps people to understand that Islam is a religion of unity and solidarity.
- Hajj helps to get rid of psychological problems.
- Hajj dress code helps to prevent discrimination of color, race and nationality.
- The IMAAN of people who go to hajj becomes stronger. They learn to realize that all human beings are equal; hence, peace and love are attained.

Hajj

You can send Questions to alhikmat@alhikmat.com.
Your Questions will be answered in the order they were received.

Continued from page 12

Importance of Duas

Daily & Especially In Ramadan
Written by Bro. Al Mustapha

So, we seek to make more Dua especially during those times. Some of the best times and ways to make Dua:
- oAt the time of Suhoor
- oAt the last 3rd of the night
- oAfter obligatory prayers
- oWhile fasting
- oWhile breaking the fast
- oWhen in Sujood (Prostration)
- oAfter Wudu (Ablution)
- oDuring the last hour on Friday. Prophet (SAW) said: “Friday is divided into twelve hours. Amongst them there is an hour in which a Muslim does not ask Allah for anything but He gives it to him. So seek it in the last hour after the afternoon prayer.” (Abi Dawud)
- oBetween the Adhaan and the Iqama
- oMaking Dua on the Night of Decree could transform the one’s destiny throughout the year. Aisha (RA) reported: “I asked: “O Messenger of Allah! If I realize Laylat-ul-Qadr (Night of Decree), what should I supplicate in it?” He (SAW) replied, “You should supplicate: Allahumma innaka ‘afwun, tuhibbul-‘afwa, fa’fu ‘anni (O Allah, You are Most Forgiving, and You love forgiveness; so forgive me).” (Tirmidhi)
- oMake it a habit to praise Allah SWT, glorify Him, and also send blessings upon the Prophet (SAW)
- oYou should start and end your Dua with Salawat on the Prophet (PBUH)
- oOur Dua will also be accepted when we call upon Allah (SWT) by His beautiful names and attributes
- oConfess your sin and repent
- oOne of the key things in improving our success rate of Dua is to obey Allah Almighty and to NOT disobey Him
- oIncreasing our worship and sincere love for Allah (SWT) is a sure way to quicken the response to our Duas by Allah (SWT).
- oMake Dua when you pray Qiyamul Layl in the night of Ramadan.
- oFace the Qibla while making Dua if it’s possible and also do not raise your voice too high while making Dua
- oPray for others!

Continued on Page 34, InShaa Allaah

Who’s Who in America

Homeopathy Cure with Dr. Iqbal Nazir

Dr. Iqbal Nazir is a specialist in Homeopathy, serving the local Community and other states. He has patients in New York, New Jersey, Atlanta, Dallas, Houston, Chicago, New Orleans, Nevada, Los Angeles, San Diego, San Francisco, Seattle and Anchorage, Alaska. Homeopathy deals with natural medicine; 85% of homeopathic remedies are derived from medicinal plants, 10% from mineral salts and 5% animal sources. These medicines are safe to use and can be prescribed to infants and pregnant women. Homeopathic medicines are used extensively throughout the UK, Germany, France, Australasia, Sweden, India, Pakistan and many Asian and European Countries.

Services offered: Homeopathic medicines prescribed are customized and compounded specially to suit the symptoms and disease per individual thereby making them optimally effective.

Areas of specialty: Dr. Nazir has compounded a variety of homeopathic remedies extremely effective for depression; anxiety; panic attacks, hemorrhoids; acid reflux; prostate; sinus; allergies; lower back pain; knee pain; joint pain; numbness of limbs; poor circulation; have; adrenal support; thyroid support.

Philosophy on healing: Dr. Nazir’s approach is to find the root cause of the problem rather than to suppress the symptoms. The human body has a “Healing Itself” power (which shuts down when taking toxic and harsh chemicals). Homeopathic medicine restores that Healing Power.

To make an appointment with Dr. Nazir, see page 10, InShaa Allaah

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Inshaa Allaah Ameen
HOMEOPATHY  
A Natural Cure

If the same patient had gone to a homeopathic doctor, he likely would be cured. In acute and chronic conditions, homeopathy should be sought for its effectiveness in diagnosing the root cause and eradicating it.

Dr. Iqbal Nazir grew up in India with homeopathy, natural remedies and herbal treatments being the lifestyle. He holds a Bachelor’s in Physiology, Bachelor’s with Honors in Chemistry, Master’s in Biochemistry and a degree in Pharmacy from the University of Karachi. In the U.S., Nazir enrolled in a doctorate program, received Certification in Clinical Chemistry from the American Society of Clinical Chemists, Chicago, and holds a Supervisor License from the Clinical Chemistry Department of Professional Regulation, State of Florida, since 1980. He worked in the world renowned critical care teaching hospital, Columbia Presbyterian Hospital, in New York. He also worked in Jackson Memorial Hospital, Miami, affiliated to the School of Medicine, University of Miami. Over the past 35 years, Nazir has combined his cultural experience in natural and herbal medicine with his formal clinical education and knowledge in pharmacy and biochemistry to help hundreds of people cure themselves of illness and disease the safe, natural way. Whereas pharmaceutical drugs often present side effects necessitating other drugs to offset them, homeopathy and natural remedies are safe and have no side effects. Nazir presents a calm, peaceful demeanor when discussing symptoms and treatments with his patients; that positive energy is the beginning on the path to natural healing. He successfully treats a variety of ailments, conditions and diseases ranging from the common cold, inflammation, acid reflux and allergies to anxiety, depression and tobacco and alcohol addiction.

Homeopathy and natural treatments may be used alone or in conjunction with doctor-prescribed medications. Nazir arms his patients with information and options which allow them to be instrumental in determining how to best proceed. Dr. Nazir’s office is located at 12900 NW 6th St., Pembroke Pines. For more information and appointments, call 954-226-3652 and/or visit HomeopathTreatment.com. You should not use this information as a means of diagnosing a health problem or disease, or as a means of determining treatment, or as a substitute for professional medical advice. Consult your licensed health care provider for any individual medical advice.

Continued from page 30 / By: Dr. Nazir

CUTTING OFF YOUR NOSE TO SPITE YOUR FACE  
By: Mrs. Linda Kaplan

He cites the historically low unemployment rate in the U.S. and the National Federation of Independent Business statistics that show 39% of small businesses have a job opening that they can’t fill and 90% of business owners who hired or tried to hire workers reporting few or no qualified applicants. The problem is that the U.S. is not producing enough native-born workers due to declining birth rates. The U.S. population rate growth is now below replacement levels. If not for the immigrants, we would be facing an overall population decline. According to Mark A. Thiessen, “an overall reduction in immigration would be disastrous for the country. We need immigrants to stop population decline. We need immigrants to work and pay taxes that fund Social Security and Medicare for our aging population. And we need immigrants to provide the human capital for continued economic growth and prosperity.” We do have a humanitarian crisis on our Southern Border, but this should not allow us to lose sight of the economic reality that we need immigrants for a strong and healthy economy in the U.S. and we need them to have driver’s licenses for public safety purposes.

Continued from page 25

Importance of Duas  
Daily & Especially In Ramadan

Written by Bro. Al Mustapha

Ramadan is the month in which we can gain maximum blessings and mercy from Allah Almighty and also seek forgiveness for whatever sins we have committed. Therefore, Duas need to be excessive during the month as it is a means to achieve our desired goals. May Allah bless us more in Ramadan and allows us to increase in our Dua within this virtuous month, and may He accept all our Duas and all other forms of Ibadah and grant us His mercy, forgiveness and salvation from the fire of hell, Ameen.
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Ch. 5 V. 99 - “The Messenger’s duty is but to spread (the message of Al-Qur’aan). Allaah knoweth all that ye reveal and ye conceal.”

Ch. 3 V. 20 - So if they dispute with you, say: “I have submitted My whole self to Allaah and so have those who follow me.” And say to the People of the Book and to those who are unlettered: “Do ye (also) submit yourselves?” If they do, they are in right guidance, but if they turn back, your duty is to spread the Message (of Al-Qur’aan); and in Allaah’s sight are (all) His ser

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In-Shaa Allaah Ameen-MaaShaa Allaah

Ch. 5 Verse 67 - “Oh Messenger! Spread the message (of Al-Qur’aan) which has been sent to you from your Lord. If you do not- then you did not spread

Ch. 33 V. 39 - “Those who spread the message of Allaah (Al-Qur’aan) and fear Allaah, and fear none but Allaah. Sufficient is Allaah who keeps account (of Mankind)

Ch. 36 Verse 17 - “And our duty is but to spread the message (of the Qur’aan).”
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