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Inshaa Allaah Maashaa Allaah

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Founder of Al-Hikmat Services INC.
Principal of Darul Uloom Institute Florida USA



Shaikh Shafayat

**CONTINUOUS
BLESSINGS
AFTER DEATH**

*Summarized by Bro. Kaleem
AL-HIKMAT Representative*

We must remind ourselves about the reality of death, the barzakh and the soul. In relation to this we must remind ourselves about our souls in the hereafter. How can our souls still receive benefit in the hereafter and the barzakh? Is it the end after we are buried? No! We can continue to get blessings and the Prophet (s.a.w.) reminded us of this. The Prophet (s.a.w.) reminded us that after we die, all of our actions are cut. No more salaah or Hajj. There is nothing more we can do, but there are some blessings that continue which are called Sadaqa jaariyah. This comes in 3 things:

- 1) Something that we gave in the path of Allah that continues to benefit people e.g. a masjid, a garden that produces fruits, a well used for water
- 2) Knowledge that we teach that continues to benefit people
- 3) A righteous child who will make dua for us

What is the sense that we live in this world and when it comes to money and investment, we want to see continuity but should it not be the same for our souls? We don't have to reach an old age to think of death, the young die every day. Allah says in surah Hashr (Ch 59 vs 18) "O believers! Be mindful of Allah and let every soul look to what ?deeds? it has sent forth for tomorrow. And fear Allah, ?for? certainly Allah is All-Aware of what you do."

Good deeds today can benefit us both when we're older as well as our souls after the body dies. The Prophets (AS) had these deeds incorporated into their lifestyles to benefit after death. Concerning Sadaqa, Allah says in Surah Munaafiquun (Ch 63 vs 10) "And donate from what We have provided for you before death comes to one of you, and you cry, 'My Lord! If only You delayed me for a short while, I would give in charity and be one of the righteous.'" For this reason, the Prophet (s.a.w.) has told us that when a person gives in Sadaqah while they are alive and healthy, it is better than giving when they are sick and dying. There is no coming back and we will regret our actions only when it is too late. Therefore we should do what we have to do now and take care of our souls for our death.

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VOICE OF OUR READERS & VIEWS

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"Assalamualaikum! Watching from South Africa! Love this Sheikh as he always speaks about unheard topics. Keep up with the good reminders! May Allah reward you and the entire

-Siraj Harris/Cape Town

Zambia

"I'm a Christian and I follow Al-Hikmat TV. Shaikh is a good preacher and I always listen to his teachings."

-Esau Musambi/Zambia

Zambia

"Brother please advise me. Whenever I listen to your Bayan my eyes can't stop the tears"

-Reyaz Alloo / Zam

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"I always listen to your khutbah! I'm Christian but now I believe that Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) was the last prophet of Almighty God."

-Ben / Australia

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AL-QUR'AAN - Ch. 3 V. 104

“Let there arise out of you a band of people inviting to all HADITH: Abu Sa’eed (R.A) narrates that Rasulullah (S. A.W) said, “Almighty Allaah says: “If anybody finds no time for remembrance and for begging favors of Me, because of his remaining busy with the Qur’aan, I shall give him more than what I give to all those who beg favors of Me. The superiority of the Word of Allaah over all the other words is like the superiority of Allaah over the entire creation.” (Tirmidhi)

AL-QUR'AAN - Ch. 5 V. 67

“O Messenger, spread that which has been revealed to you from your Lord, and if you do not, then you have not conveyed His message. And Allaah will protect you from the people. Indeed, Allaah does not guide the disbelieving people.”

AL-QUR'AAN - Ch. 16 V. 125

“Invite (all) to the Way of thy Lord with wisdom and beautiful preaching; and argue with them in ways that are best and most gracious.”

AL-QUR'AAN - Ch. 41 V. 33

“And whose words are better than he who calls towards God, and does righteous deeds, and says, “Verily, I am of those who have surrendered to God.”

HADITH: Hadrat Uthman (R.A) narrates that Rasulullah (S.A.W) said: *“The best amongst you is he who learns the Qur’aan and teaches it.”*

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THE FOUNDATION OF OUR DEEN

By Taj Siddiqui
Former Pembroke Pines City Engineer

Abundance of books and volumes of literature have been written and spoken about the five pillars of Islam, Tauheed, Salat, Roza, Zakat and Hajj. However, I have seldom seen valuable discussion about the foundation of Islam. The basic foundation upon which the entire structure of our Deen has been built. If the foundation is not sturdy and durable, then the structure instituted above it may not be strong and stable. The first five Ayats of Surat Baqarah defines Succuss and who are the Successful. It describes the foundation of Islam on the very first page, as a prequalification to read Quran .

Islam is founded on two major components :

1. Faith and Belief in the Unseen 2. Utmost, without any doubt and absolute

Certainty in the Hereafter

Faith and Belief in the Unseen

Our Deen requires that we MUST have total and complete faith and belief in the unseen. The unseen implies those realities which are hidden, concealed, invisible, or unknown, and cannot be perceived by our senses and cannot be experienced directly through human experience and observation. Having faith in a vast, unseen world which cannot be comprehended by our sense of perception is a requirement for having faith in Allah. For example, the Being and Attributes of Allah, Angels, Revelation, Heaven, Hell, etc. It also includes future events that only Allah knows. In order to obtain guidance from the Quran one must believe in the unseen. We must place our total faith and complete trust in the messages from our Prophets, as we do follow the instructions from the experts in various fields in this physical world. Only such a person, who believes in the "unseen", can attain utmost, precious and maximum benefits from the Guidance of the Quran. As for the one who believes only in those entities which can be seen, tasted and smelt, or can be measured and weighed, may not be able to achieve valuable and proper guidance from this Book. Belief in the unseen is the first essential quality of believers. It is the foundation of our Deen and is the basis of all the roots and branches of religion. Although intellect and understanding are important in Islam, without belief in the unseen there can be no faith. To reject all that is unseen is to reject all belief.

Hereafter : Akhirah : Judgement and accountability

Islam requires that we MUST have utmost with absolute certainty, and without a shred of doubt in the hereafter, in the Akhirah, and in our life after death. Akhirah is the term used in Islam to describe the belief in everlasting life after death. According to Islam, death is not the end of the life, but it is a transferal from this world to the everlasting world. Life on Earth is a test from Allah, to prepare us for eternal life. Importantly, Quran tells us that Allah will not test us beyond our limits. This encourages Muslims to take responsibility for their actions. *Akhirah* is necessary so that true justice can be done. In this world pious people suffer and do not reap a full reward for their actions. Similarly evil persons triumph and often do not receive full punishment for their deeds. Allah, who is Just, wants full justice to be done and everyone to be fully recompensed.

Quran shows us that there will come a day when the entire universe will be shattered. On this day, called the Day of Judgement, the dead will be resurrected for judgement by Allah. All humans will receive Allah's reward or punishment according to their beliefs and actions. We can enter Paradise by living according to the teachings of the Quran. Therefore, obeying the rules set by Allah is of ultimate importance for us. If there is no

Continued on Page 40...



Bro. Farooq Shafi

WISDOM A GIFT FROM ALLAAH SWT

By Bro. Farooq Shafi

These days, our beloved family and friends normally send us Jum'ah Mubarak greetings on various social media platforms. There are wise quotes and video clips that share inspiring thoughts. Recently, I saw a video clip that grabbed my attention so that I watched it again. Then I decided to transcribe the audio and share it with you. I have no idea who the speaker was, but these were his wise words:

"If Allaah SWT is on your side, then who can harm you? No one! And if Allaah SWT is against you, then who can defend you? No one! And if you have earned the love of Allaah SWT, then what did you lose? Nothing! And if you lose the love of Allaah SWT, then what did you really gain? Nothing!

Allaah SWT's love has can benefit you in endless ways! To mention just a few....

If Allaah SWT loves you, He will place your love in the hearts of the people. And if the people love you, that is priceless. Imagine being loved by everyone around you!

When Allaah SWT loves you, He grants you Wisdom! And whoever is granted wisdom certainly has been given a lot of goodness. A wise person will manage and be happy with a small income. But without wisdom, a person could be miserable with a huge income. A wise man will be happy and content with an average wife. But an unwise man could be miserable with a first-class wife! A wise person can turn enemies into friends. But an unwise person could turn friends into enemies!

In short, one is granted priceless gains if one is granted wisdom from Allaah SWT. And wisdom from Allaah SWT is granted to believers as a reward for their faith and right conduct. That is only one of the gains of Allaah SWT's love, that He grants you wisdom.

When Allaah SWT grants you wisdom, He blesses you with *sakeena* (inner peace and tranquility). *Sakeena* is a high status that gives you contentment, happiness, optimism, strength, self-confidence, the right perspective. *Sakeena* will give you happiness even if that is all you possess. But if you lose it, you will be miserable, even if you possess everything else.

You could be blessed with health, wealth and intelligence, but if you lack wisdom, you will surely be miserable. It is narrated that Allaah SWT grants health, wealth, intelligence, and beauty to many people, but Allaah SWT grants wisdom only to his chosen believers!"

Do you not wish to become one of Allaah SWT's chosen believers? I do!

Let us see how Surah Al-Anfal, describes this special category of the True Believers: (Quran 8:2, 8:3 and 8:4.):

The true believers are only those whose hearts tremble at the remembrance of Allaah, whose faith increases when His revelations are recited to them, and who put their trust in their Lord.

Continued on Page 45...

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Dr. Anita Meinbach



Dr. Anita Meinbach

Dr. Anita Meinbach joined the University of Miami faculty in 2003 and is an Associate Professor teaching in the School of Education and Human Development.

Formerly with the Miami-Dade Public School System, Meinbach was a teacher, curriculum writer and teacher trainer, proving seminars and guidance in curriculum development. She was named to the U.S.A. Today “All Teacher Team” in 2002 and received the Mary Collins Award for Outstanding Teacher Educator from the Florida Association of Teacher Educators. In 2003, she was honored to have been named the Miami-Dade County Francisco R. Walker Teacher of the Year.

Meinbach has written or co-written numerous texts, including *The Literature Connection: Using Children’s Books in the Classroom*, *Memories of the Night: A Guide to the Study of the Holocaust*, *The Complete Guide to Thematic Units: Creating the Integrated Curriculum and Teaching the Holocaust through Film and Memoir*. Her published articles include “Seeking the Light: Welcoming a Visually Impaired Student” in *Middle School Journal*.

In addition to her teaching responsibilities at U.M., for the last five years Meinbach has served as the Director of the Jack and Harriet Rosenfeld Foundation Program in Jewish Education. To meet the vision and mission of the Rosenfeld Foundation, she has been responsible for establishing the Annual Rosenfeld Ethics Institute and was instrumental in the creation of *The Rosenfeld Legacy Project: Connecting Children’s Literature with Judaic Heritage* (for grades K-3) and *The Rosenfeld Legacy Project: Exploring Jewish Values Through Children’s Literature-Early Childhood Edition*.



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SISTER'S CORNER**QUESTION & ANSWER CORNER**

By: Shaikh Shafayat Mohamed



Sister Sylmerie

Tawakkul Brings Comfort

By Sister Sylmerie

Assalamu Alaikum my dear sisters and brothers; "And Allah created you from dust, then from a sperm-drop; then He made you mates. And no female conceives nor does she give birth except with His knowledge. And no aged person is granted [additional] life nor is his lifespan lessened but that it is in a register. Indeed, that for Allah is easy. And not alike are the two bodies of water. One is fresh and sweet, palatable for drinking, and one is salty and bitter. And from each you eat tender meat and extract ornaments which you wear, and you see the ships plowing through [them] that you might seek of His bounty; and perhaps you will be grateful. . He causes the night to enter the day, and He causes the day to enter the night and has subjected the sun and the moon – each running [its course] for a specified term. That is Allah, your Lord; to Him belongs sovereignty. And those whom you invoke other than Him do not possess [as much as] the membrane of a date seed". {Surah Fatir Ayat 11-13}

These are most powerful words reminding us of Allah's glory, His wisdom, His mercy, His greatness, His power, His creation. And when we are blessed with happiness, triumph, financial success, happy additions to our family whether by marriage or birth, positive accomplishments, good news, blessings whether it is physical, mental emotional, financial or spiritually....let us remember the greatness, generosity, mercy and glory of Allah. And let us always show gratitude for all of Allah's favors and put our complete trust in Allah and know that He has blessed us and answered our prayer. And when we are faced with catastrophe, sadness, despondency, loneliness, failure, financial problems, physical and emotional issues, hurt, pain, suffering, the passing of loved ones.....let us remember the greatness, glory and mercy of Allah. Have tawakkul and find comfort in knowing that Allah will never burden you with more than you are capable of. "Allah does not charge a soul except [with that within] its capacity". {Quran 2:286}. Understanding this brings ease that we will get through what is ahead because Allah (SWT) knows us like no other. He wants ease for us and will provide us ease even during the most challenging situations. So let us always remember Allah (SWT) in good and bad times and know that He wants the best for us. 'You Alone we worship and You Alone we ask for help' [Surah al-Faatihah: 5] "The Opening".

Truly, it is in the remembrance of God that hearts find peace and contentment.

The Importance Of Marriage In Islam

QUESTION: HOW IMPORTANT IS MARRIAGE IN ISLAM?

Answer: Al-Hamdulillaah in the Holy Qur'aan chapter 30 Verse 21 Allaah tells us that a husband-and-wife relation is from His sign to humanity. Allaah also tells us in this verse, about the peace, tranquility and love that He has establish in a husband-and-wife relationship from His mercy.

Allaah has described the relationship between the husband and the wife, the way they support each other, consider each other's feelings and opinions in a very beautiful way. In the Qur'aan chapter 2 Verse 187, Allaah says "they are clothing for you and you are clothing for them".

Just as some clothing protects us from rain, summer clothing keeps us cool to enjoy the summer. Similarly, the husband and the wife do exactly the same; they protect and support each other through good times and bad times. The husband and wife know pretty much each and everything about one another. They know each other's strength and weakness. This is how the marital relationship should be. They could easily expose each other's weaknesses and secrets to others but they don't. They are each other's clothing. However, it's very important to remember, that the right clothing can add beauty and make a person look good. Similarly in marriage, a person needs to choose a spouse wisely.

When Allah created Adam AS, He placed him in Jannah; surrounded by all types of luxuries, but Adam AS was lonely. Hence, Allaah created, from Adam AS, his wife Hawwaa AS. The Qur'aan and Sunnah have not only permitted marriage, but have established marriage and stressed the importance of marriage time and time again.

Qur'aan and Sunnah should always be at the top of a person's mind before getting married. A person with Qur'aan and Sunnah in his or her life will treat their spouse in the most righteous manner. They would look after them, protect them, and support them through thick and thin. Second factor to consider is compatibility; in their nature, interests, etc. Marriage should make a person feel more comfortable and at ease rather than an added pressure and a burden in one's life.



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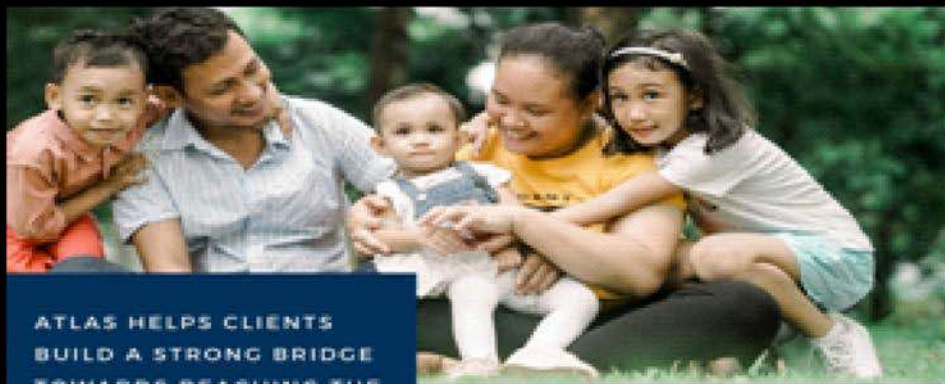
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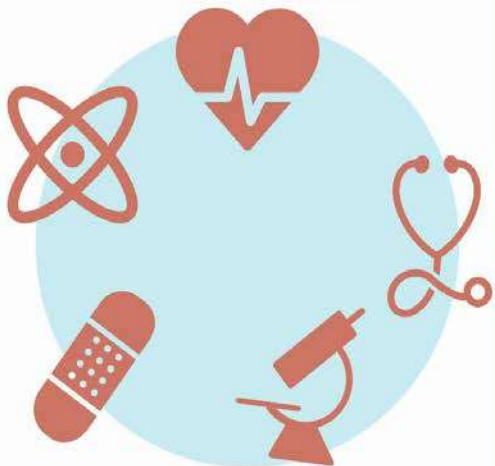


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Pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church,
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Let us continue our exploration of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's (ELCA), recently approved document "A Declaration of Inter-Religious Commitment: A policy statement of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America" and what it means for the over 9,000 ELCA congregations and their 3,000,000+ members in how they are being called to shape their relationships with people of other faiths, including Islam. We recall that the Declaration, the result of over three years of reflection, prayer, and dialogue, was passed at the ELCA's 2019 triennial assembly with more than 97% of those in attendance voting in the affirmative. The document notes that "God's vision is of a world in which humans and creation, in all their glorious diversity, live in unity, justice, and peace. In such a world, hope abounds, and fear no longer separates one person from another or one people from another... We envision a world in which God's grace and mercy are celebrated, and all of God's creatures and all of God's creation are regarded with value and treated with care." Further, that "As a community of faith, we are inspired to put God's vision into practice here and now, even if we can see only vague outlines of its fulfillment. We realize that we will fall short of the glory of God. Nevertheless, we live in love and hope. We seek to foster healthy relations and healthy communities in which all can flourish. We break the cycle of escalating retaliation that divides and destroys. With God's help, we seek to mend and heal the world that God so dearly and deeply loves" The Evangelical Church in America does not speak for all Lutherans in the world, or even in the United States; however, for those who are guided by this document, a captivating vision of mutual respect, fellowship, and support emerges. We have enjoyed building our relationship with the people of Darul Uloom in Pembroke Pines, Florida since 2001, emphasizing people to people contact and fellowship as well as supporting one another's ministry. We believe that these activities equip all participants with a truer. ■



GOOD CHARACTER VS BAD CONDUCT

By Bro. Al Mustapha

Do you want to be close to the Prophet Muhammad (SAW) on the Day of Judgement? Do you want to know a simple way you can achieve great success and have Allah God Almighty Be happy with you? The Prophet Muhammad (SAW) said: "Those of you who will be closest to me on the Day of Judgment will be those who have the best Akhlaq/Character. My friends, here are some pertinent teachings of Prophet Muhammad SAW (peace be upon him) for us to all implement in our lives and follow daily to get closer to Allah God Almighty and closer to His beloved Prophet on Judgment Day: Prophet Muhammad SAW said: **Good Intentions:** (Niyah) "Actions shall be judged only by intention, a man/woman shall get what he/she intends." (al-Bukhari)

Be Truthful: "Guarantee me six things and I shall assure you of Paradise. When you speak, speak the truth, keep your promise, discharge your trust, guard your chastity and lower your gaze and withhold your hands from high-handedness." (al-Baihaqi) "Surely truth leads to virtue, and virtue leads to Paradise." (al-Bukhârî)

Keeping Promises: "Do not quarrel with your brother, nor jest with him nor make him a promise which you cannot keep." (at-Tirmidhi)

Have Tolerance: "There are two traits in me which Allah likes, toleration and deliberation in undertakings." (Ahmad, at-Tirmidhi)

Politeness: "Allah The Almighty is polite and likes politeness." (summary-from Muslim)

Modesty: "Modesty is part of faith." (al-Bukhari, Muslim)

Brotherhood: "Each of you is a mirror of his brother, if you see something wrong in your brother, you must tell him to get rid of it." (at-Tirmidhi) "Believers are like the parts of a building to one another - each part supporting the others. "None of you can be a believer unless he loves for his brother what he loves for himself." (al-Bukhârî) "A Muslim is he from whose tongue and hands, other Muslims are safe." (al-Bukhari)

Charity: "Every good action is a charity and it is a good action to meet a friend with a smiling face." (al-Bukhari) "There is a man who gives charity and he conceals it so much that his left hand does not know what his right hand spends." (al Bukhari)

Contentment: "Wealth does not come from abundance of goods but from a CONTENTED HEART." (al-Bukhari, Muslim)

Learning: "The best of you is he who has learnt the Qur'an and then taught it." (al-Bukhari) "The seeking of knowledge is a MUST for every Muslim man and woman." (Mishkat) "The learned are the successors of the Prophets, they leave behind knowledge as inheritance. One who inherits it obtains a great fortune." (al-Bukhârî)

Continued On Page 46...



Sis. Amanda Smith

YES! YOU CAN LEARN TO PRONOUNCE THE QURAN CORRECTLY!

By Sister Amanda Smith / Maine, USA
Sister Amanda a graduate student in
Communication Sciences and Disorders.

لَمْ نَجْعَلْ لَهُ عَيْنَيْنِ (٨) وَلِسَانًا وَشَفَتَيْنِ (٩)

"Have We not made for him a pair of eyes? And a tongue and a pair of lips?" Surat Balad: 8-9

We are often reminded of the importance of keeping the words of the Quran distinctly pure, exactly as the Holy Prophet (s) recited them. Important as the task is, it is common for many students of the Quran to struggle with the most basic dimension of correct recitation, proper pronunciation. Many students will struggle for years trying to master the difficult sounds of Arabic and are unfortunately often met with abrupt reprimands for their mistakes. Furthermore, there are many who believe that the task is impossible for adults, or that only those who speak Arabic as their first language would have the ability to properly pronounce the Quran. However, the reality is that our creator has made us with a tongue, lips, and all the equipment we need to learn to recite the Quran correctly and, in sha Allah, with dedication, patience, and practice, it is possible for anyone.

One major struggle for Quran students is hearing the difference between two Arabic letters that may not exist in their native language, such as β and β . According to experts in speech and language development, babies are able to clearly perceive all sounds used in languages of the world, but as they grow their perception will narrow to only the sounds they hear spoken around them. However, this does not mean that older children or even adults cannot learn new sounds. Rather, by implementing strategies such as listening frequently, learning how to move your tongue, and working with a qualified Quran teacher can enable anyone of any age to correctly pronounce the Quran, regardless of their linguistic background.

Another common frustration both Quran students and teachers will experience is pronouncing a letter correctly once, but then incorrectly the next time they read it. For example, many students may be able to say $\dot{\text{I}}$ by itself but struggle to say it in a word or when they are reading an entire aya. This can lead many students to feel like learning to pronounce challenging letters is impossible, and many teachers may think that their students are simply not paying attention. However, according to speech scientists, intermittent accuracy when learning to produce a new sound is a normal part of the process.

When one is learning to produce a new sound, the mouth is learning to move in a new way. Just like learning to swim, it takes the body time and practice to be able to master the correct movements to produce these sounds. For example, the letter $\dot{\text{U}}$ is produced deep in the throat, using the pharynx. For students who speak English as their first language, the pharynx is normally used only when swallowing, therefore learning to say $\dot{\text{U}}$ requires them to use this part of their body in an entirely new way. Naturally, this will take time, practice, and many mistakes along the way. Furthermore, as one is learning it is natural to have less difficulty reading a letter one way, such as in the beginning of the word, and more difficulty reading that same letter in a different context, such as at the end of the word or within a complete aya. To all students of the Quran: remember that with the tawfiq of Allah, practice, and patience, it is possible to read the Quran with correct pronunciation. Recognize that your mind and body both need to adjust and show yourself enough patience to make mistakes without getting discouraged.



Linda Kaplan, Esq.

IMMIGRATION CORNER NEW GUIDELINES OF NON USA CITIZENS

By Linda Kaplan, Esq. / Florida USA

Alejandro Mayorkas, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) recently issued new guidelines for the apprehension and removal of noncitizens who are physically present in the U.S. The guidelines state that there are an estimated 11 million undocumented or otherwise removable noncitizens in the U.S. and that DHS does not have the resources to apprehend and seek the removal of all 11 million. The guidelines recognize that this requires DHS to exercise their discretion and determine whom to prioritize for immigration enforcement action.

The guidelines state that they are "guided by the fact that the majority of undocumented noncitizens who could be subject to removal have been contributing members of our communities for years. They include individuals who work on the frontlines in the battle against COVID, lead our congregations of faith, teach our children, do back-breaking farm work to help deliver food to our table, and contribute in many other meaningful ways. The fact an individual is a removable noncitizen therefore should not alone be the basis of an enforcement action against them. We will use our discretion and focus our enforcement resources in a more targeted way. Justice and our country's well-being require it."

The guidelines indicate that they will prioritize enforcement action and removal of noncitizens who are a threat to our national security, a threat to public safety or a threat to border security.

Those considered a threat to national security would be those who are engaged in terrorism, espionage or related activities. Those who are considered to pose a threat to border security are those who are apprehended at the border while attempting to unlawfully enter the U.S. (note that showing up at the border and asking for asylum is NOT an attempt to unlawfully enter) or those who are apprehended in the U.S. after unlawfully entering after Nov 1, 2020.

Those who are considered a threat to public safety are those who have engaged in serious criminal conduct. The guidelines further indicate that the determination of whether noncitizens are a threat to the U.S. is not to be determined by bright lines or categories but instead require an assessment of the individual and the totality of the facts and circumstances. Aggravating factors that mitigate in favor of enforcement actions include the gravity of the offense, the nature and degree of harm, use or threatened use of a weapon, and a serious prior criminal record.

Mitigating factors that point to a decision to decline enforcement action can include advanced or tender age, lengthy presence in the U.S., the impact of removal on family in the U.S. (such as loss of provider or caregiver) military or other public service of the noncitizen or their immediate family among other factors.



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Solving The Car Problem... For Older Drivers

By Greg Brown, MBA

One of the biggest concerns older drivers have is not wanting to give up their car because they want to remain independent. It's one of the major concerns of families who don't feel their parent should still be driving.

The car is an important aspect of aging that elders hold on to because without it, they have to rely on others for all their daily necessities! Who can blame them?

The seriousness of the situation, however, is if they have any vision loss or confusion, they can injure themselves, or someone else.

It's an obvious answer. Hire a companion to drive them where they want to go.

"I am so happy that I can be a part of helping seniors keep their independence by providing them through my company, Home Helpers Home Care, with highly qualified and dedicated companions and assuring them that they can grow older gracefully with security and helping hands."

As one ages, many changes begin to affect seniors, and consequently, their families, so planning for those changes will assist everyone. One way to manage these changes is to talk with a companion service and know what's available. Companions can provide so many valuable services, especially assisting with driving.

"When my husband had macular degeneration, he tried to drive, but realized he didn't see everything and was endangering himself and others so he hired a companion that drove him to the doctor, the pharmacy, and to lunch with friends and was safe and satisfied. Admittedly, it was traumatic when he sold his car, but it worked for all of us...and he kept his independence."

— A. Finley



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DAWAH/ INTERFAITH / COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS By: Faria Mohammed



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Dr. Shahaab is the Dean of Intenational Students at NSU-Florida, USA

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DAWAH / INTERFAITH/ COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS By: Faria Mohammed



Photo Above:

“Alhamdulillah Rabbi Mathew , Father Christian and Shaikh Shafayat - LIVE PODCAST / RADIO SHOW & LUNCHEON held on Nov. 2nd 2021 at St Mary’s Church in Stuart Florida USA Maa Shaa Allaah “

Photo On Right:
Alhamdulillah
The South Florida Muslim Federation in conjunction with Shepard Broad School of Law (NSU Law) and International Muslim Association at Nova (NSU Iman) held a presentation on



“What is Shariah Law” on Friday 11/12/2021. The guest speaker was Imam Azhar Subedar from Texas. Maa Shaa Allaah



Photo Above: Alhamdulillah and Jazaak Allaah Khairaa to all those who supported and assisted in making Alhikmat Annual BBQ a success on October 16th 2021 - Alhamdulillah over 1000 boxes of BBQ were sold Maa Shaa Allaah “



Photo Above:

Lifespan Holistic Health Network Event held on Nov. 20th 2021 at Al-Hikmat Dawah Center. The event was coordinated by Sr. Naima Ghany.



Photo Above:

“ Alhamdulillah a brother accepting Islam on Nov. 14th 2021 at Darul Uloom Fiqh classes, conducted by Shaikh Shafayat Maa Shaa Allaah “



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THE TRUTH ABOUT JESUS (YESHUA IN ARAMAIC)

Submitted By Br. Twalib Ali / Canada

THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE BIRTH OF JESUS AND HIS MISSION

(Yusuf Ali Text) Holy Quran Chapter 3 vs 45

Behold the Angel said, "O Mary! God giveth thee Glad Tidings of a word from Him: his name will be Christ Jesus, the son of Mary, held in honour of this world and the Hereafter and of the company of those nearest to God. He shall speak to the people in childhood and in maturity, and he shall be of the company of the Righteous." She said, "O my Lord! How shall I have a son when no man hath touched me?" He (the Angel) said, "Even so: God createth what He willeth: when He hath decreed a Plan, He but saith to it, "Be! and it is!" And God will teach him the Book and Wisdom, the Law and the Gospel, and appoint him an Apostle to the Children of Israel (with this Message): "I have come to you with a Sign from your Lord, in that I make for you of clay, as it were, the figure of a bird, and breathe into it, and it becometh a bird, by God's permission: and I heal those born blind, and the lepers, and I quicken the dead, by God's permission; and I declare to you what ye eat, and what ye store in your houses. Surely therein is a Sign for you, if ye do believe. I have come to you to attest the Law which was before me, and to make lawful to you part of what was before forbidden to you. I have come to you with a Sign from your Lord. So fear God, and obey me. It is God Who is my Lord and your Lord; then worship Him. This is a Way that is straight."

GOD'S PROMISE TO JESUS

(Yusuf Ali Text) Holy Quran Chapter 3 vs 55-60

"Behold!," God said, "O Jesus! I will take thee and raise thee to Myself and clear thee of the Falsehood of those who blaspheme: I will make those who follow thee superior to those who reject faith to the Day of Resurrection: then shall ye all return unto me, and I will judge between you of the matters wherein ye dispute. As to those who reject Faith, I will punish them with terrible agony in this world and in the Hereafter, nor will they have anyone to help." As to those who believe and work righteousness, God will pay them (in full) their reward; but God loveth not those who do wrong. This is what we rehearse unto thee of the Signs and the Message of Wisdom. The similitude of Jesus before God is that of Adam. He created him from dust and then said to him 'Be', and he was.

"The Truth comes from God alone, so be not of those who doubt."

THE BIRTH OF JESUS

- Full Confirmation

Holy Quran (Yusuf Ali Text) Chapter 19 vs 16-35

Relate in the Book (the story of) Mary when she withdrew from her family to a place in the East.

She placed a screen (to screen herself) from them; then we sent to her our angel and he appeared before her as a man in all respects. She said, "I seek refuge from thee to God Most Gracious: come not near if thou dost fear God!" He said, "Nay, I am only a messenger from thy Lord to announce to thee the gift of a holy son." She said, "How shall I have a son, seeing that no man has touched me and I am not unchaste?" He said, "So it will be": Thy Lord saith 'That is easy for Me: and We wish to appoint him as a Sign unto Men and a Mercy from Us. It is a matter so decreed.'

So she conceived him, and she retired with him to a remote place. And the pains of childbirth drove her to the trunk of a palm tree. She cried in her anguish: "Ah! Would that I had died before this! Would that I had been a thing forgotten and out of sight!" But a voice cried to her from beneath the palm tree "Grieve not! for thy Lord hath provided a rivulet beneath thee; and shake towards thyself the trunk of the palm tree:

Continued on Page 32...



Br. Hamzad

ODE TO TEACHERS

By : Bro Hamzad Mohammed,
T.T.U.T.A. Teacher of the Year 2013,
Trinidad, W.I.

October is the 'Month of the Teacher' in my country of Trinidad and Tobago. Teachers are important cogs in the wheel of educational development in any country of the world, hence my reason for specially preparing an appropriate poem to pay tribute to them. Let me make it abundantly clear that I'm referring to both academic and religious knowledge teachers in my poem of honour. My poem hereunder is entitled,

'A TEACHER WORTH HIS SALT'

*Ever so often I'm asked to answer,
"What makes someone a top teacher?"
Though my replies are forthcoming,
I tap the grey matter before stating.
That person to me a very good teacher,
Who's a ton-filled energised character,
Walking in kids' aisles the extra miles,
While planting on their faces the smiles.
That person is surely a great teacher,
A stickler for time and ever regular,
And like a soldier he's up for battle,
With much finesse and fine wine mettle.
That person to me a teacher of class,
Who does not engage in any bias,
For whatever be the student's race,
He serves him with cups of grace.
A top teacher is rare, no iota of doubt,
An Oscar winner to shout out about.
In any class he's the star that glows,
Ending darkness of the children's woes.*



END



..Continued from Page 18

New Guidelines Of Non USA Citizens

The guidelines indicate that DHS must exercise their discretionary authority to remove a person in a way that protects civil rights and civil liberties – that a person's race, religion, gender, sexual orientation or gender identity, national origin, or political associations should never be factors in deciding to take enforcement action and that a person's exercise of their First Amendment rights should never be a factor in deciding to take enforcement action. It further states that State and local law enforcement agencies with which DHS works must respect individuals' civil rights and civil liberties. Another section of the guidelines talks about guarding against the use of immigration enforcement as a tool of retaliation for the assertion of legal rights. DHS points out that unscrupulous employers exploit the immigration status of employees and their vulnerability to removal by suppressing wages, maintaining unsafe working conditions, and quashing workplace rights and activities. Likewise unscrupulous landlords exploit their tenants by charging inflated rental costs and failing to comply with housing safety ordinances and other housing standards.

For many years, I have been advocating for common sense and compassionate enforcement of removal actions. It has never made sense to remove a law-abiding person who is contributing to our country and to have less time to remove dangerous criminals. It is gratifying to see that position written into these guidelines. ●

...Continued from Page 31

The Truth About Jesus

it will let fall fresh ripe dates upon thee. So eat and drink and cool thine eye, and if thou dost see any man, say 'I have vowed to fast to God Most Gracious and this day will I enter into no talk with any human-being'." At length, she brought the babe to her people carrying him in her arms. They said, "O Mary, truly an amazing thing hast thou brought! O sister of Aaron! thy father was not a man of evil, nor thy mother a woman unchaste!" But she pointed to the babe. They said, "How can we talk to one who is a child in the cradle?" He (Jesus) said, "I am indeed a servant of God. He (God) hath given me Revelation and made me a prophet; and He hath made me blessed wheresoever I be and hath enjoined on me Prayer and Charity for as long as I live. He hath made me kind to my mother, and not overbearing and miserable. So Peace is on me the day that I was born, the day that I die, and the day that I shall be raised up to life again." Such was Jesus the son of Mary, a statement of Truth, about which they vainly dispute. It is not befitting to the Majesty of God that He should beget a son. When He determines a matter, He only says to it, "Be, and it is." It is important to note that the word 'BE' became Flesh and Almighty God did NOT come down to earth in the flesh, as many Christians and Catholics perceive.

Jesus Was Never Crucified

Holy Quran (Yusuf Ali Text) Chapter 4 vs 157

That they (the Jews) said in boast, "We killed Christ Jesus, the son of Mary, the Apostle of God; **but they killed him not, nor crucified him**, but so it was made to appear to them, and those who differ therein are full of doubts, with no certain knowledge, but only conjecture to follow, for a surety, they killed him not; - **Nay, God raised him up unto Himself; and God is exalted in Power, Wise;** - and there is none of the People of the Book but must believe in him before his death; and on the Day of Judgement, he will be a witness against them."

Continued In the Next Issue...

Youth Corner



Br. Basit Hasan

CONTROL YOUR CLIMATE

By Bro. Basit Hasan

'The Earth is getting hotter'. We hear those words quite often, and in our lifetime have seen a massive shift in the auto industry away from gas powered to electric vehicles. Solar panels and wind turbines are gaining traction as prominent, alternative sources of energy. Research and Development is at the forefront of almost every growing corporation to tackle the climate crisis. According to the IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change), "human influence has warmed the climate at a rate that is unprecedented in at least the last 2,000 years. It is unequivocal that human influence has warmed the atmosphere, ocean and land." Now there are efforts underway to 'solve' the climate crisis, but in finding solutions, the intention is to benefit from the crisis. Rather than looking inwards, the focus is on the outward. 'What solutions can I provide that will make me money? What ideas can I come up with so I can get credit for the solution?'

Allah says in surah Ar-Rum, 30:41, "Corruption has appeared throughout the land and sea because of what the hands of people have earned so that He (God) may let them taste a little of what they have done, so that perhaps they will return (to righteousness)". Science has clearly stated that human hands have caused the climate crisis and Allah (God) has also mentioned the same in the Quran. Our inner self has to change if we want to see the land and sea heal. We must heal our hearts first. We must look into our hearts and purify our intentions. People of God consciousness need to be at the forefront in providing solutions to the climate crisis because there is a direct correlation between our spiritual state and the state of affairs. Yet, most people are oblivious to the reality that they have brought this upon themselves. They simply wish for a quick fix; they do not take responsibility for the pollution in our oceans, lakes and rivers. They do not care about the health risks of mining coal and fossil fuels on communities. Allah says in surah Al-Anbiya, 21:1,

...Continued on Page 40



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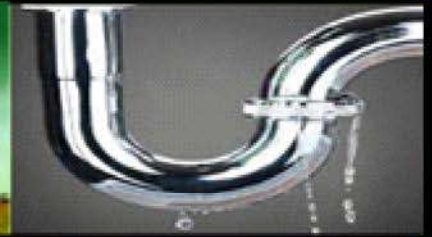
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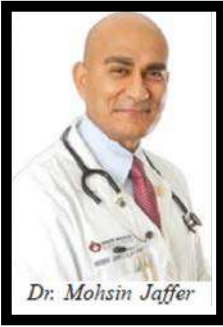
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HEALTH

VITAMIN D

Not Just For Your Bones

By Dr. Mohsin Jaffer
President of Senior Medical Associates

Vitamin D has long been known to be an essential nutrient for maintaining both bone and muscle health. However, recent studies have shown that vitamin D may have other multiple health roles including normalizing blood pressure, helping with adequate glucose control, protecting against cancer, and other important physiological roles. Studies have shown that people who are deficient in vitamin D may be at risk for osteoporosis, muscle aches/weakness, psuedofractures, and other nonspecific musculoskeletal pain. Vitamin D comes from food such as fatty fish and foods fortified with vitamin D as well as sunlight. Unfortunately, many individuals are deficient as a result of a diet high in processed foods, limited sun exposure, darker skin, obesity, and drug interactions. Older adults are especially at risk for vitamin D deficiency, because as they age skin cannot synthesize vitamin D efficiently. Seniors are also likely to spend more time indoors, have inadequate intake of vitamin D, or are on drugs that may interact with vitamin D absorption. Recommended daily allowances for vitamin D range from 600-800 IU per day. Only your doctor can determine whether or not your vitamin D levels are adequate enough to maintain your body's homeostasis.

Vitamin D roles - Helps utilize calcium. Vitamin D promotes calcium and phosphate absorption. These minerals are essential for bone and muscle health and maintenance and prevention of osteoporosis.

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- Helps prevent and treat type 2 diabetes.
- Vitamin D helps keep your immune system strong. It also helps elicit and amplify your body's ability to fight infection.
- Blood pressure control. Vitamin D may help with renin production, an important chemical in your body that contributes to blood pressure control.



THE LIFE OF RABIA BASRI

Submitted by Dr. Abdul Hye
Former NASA Scientist

And the believers are strong in love for Allah (Al-Baqarah 2:165)

Rabia was born in 714-718 CE (about 82 years after Prophet Muhammad r departed) in Basra, Iraq. She was the 4th daughter of her family and named Rabia, meaning 4th. When Rabia was born, her parents were so poor that there was no oil in the house to light a lamp, nor even a cloth to wrap her with. Her mother asked her husband to borrow some oil from a neighbor. He went to the neighbor's door and returned empty-handed. At night Muhammad r appeared to him in a dream and told him, 'Your newly born daughter is a favorite of Allah and shall lead many Muslims to the right path. You should approach the Amir of Basra and present him with a letter stating this message: 'You offer Durood to the Prophet r 100 times every night and 400 times every Thursday night. But you failed to do last Thursday, pay as penalty to the bearer 400 Dinars'. After the death of her father, famine overtook Basra. Rabia parted from her sisters and went into the desert to pray and lived a life of semi-seclusion. She prayed: 'O Allah, if I worship You because of fear of Hell, then burn me in Hell; if I worship You because I desire Paradise, then exclude me from Paradise; but if I worship You only, then do not deny me your Eternal Beauty'. Rabia died in 801 CE in Basra, her grave is there outside the city.

Philosophy

Rabia was very pious. When asked why she performed 1,000 sejda during the day and at night, she answered: 'I desire no reward; I do it so that the Messenger of Allah (may Allah bless him with peace) will be delighted in it on the day of Resurrection and say to the prophets, 'Take note of what a woman of my Ummah has accomplished'. She was intense in her self-denial and devotion to Allah. She never claimed to have obtained unity with Him; instead, she dedicated her life to getting closer to Allah. As an explanation of her refusal to lift her head toward the heavens (to Allah) as an act of modesty, she used to say: 'Even if the world be in possession of a single man, it would not make him rich ... because it is passing away'. She was the first set forth the doctrine of Divine Love known as Ishq-e-Haqeeqi and is the most important of the early times, eventually labeled as Sufism. One narration says that the Prophet Muhammad r asked her in a dream whether she loved him, to which she replied: *O prophet of Allah, who does not love you? But my love to Allah has so possessed me that no place remains for loving or hating except Him,* which suggests that love for any man would represent a distraction for her from loving Allah'.

Continued on Page 46...



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Meet Shamikh Sahadat of ICNA Relief USA Programs

From VoyageATL

Today we'd like to introduce you to Shamikh Sahadat.

Hi Shamikh, thanks for sharing your story with us. To start, maybe you can tell our readers some of your backstories.

I was born in Guyana, South America. As a kid growing up in Guyana, my parents had several businesses and I was able to observe and see first-hand how to run a business. At the same time, our family use to be proactive in the different Mosque around our area. I was able to witness many philanthropic works which my father did within the community and had a huge impact later in my life. We moved to the United States in November 1996. As a teenager coming to the US, I was very excited to see what the new world offer. We came and settled in Hollywood, Florida. I went to McArthur High School where I graduated in 2000. While I was in high school, my life took a turn when I enrolled in an evening Islamic School, Darul Uloom Institute, Hollywood, Florida. There I met my teacher, Shaykh Shafayat Mohamed, who became very instrumental in my life. While attending high school, I was doing my Islamic Studies part-time in which I was learning to Memorize our Holy Scripture, The Quran. After my memorization, I was able to obtain my certificate as a reciter of the Holy Quran, a title given to me as a Qari. Along with that, I was able to do my Islamic Studies in which I finished my studies in 2006. While doing my Islamic Studies, I was also attending college in which I was studying business administration, world religion, comparative religion, and theology. I was very fortunate along this journey to have met many of my teachers from Africa, Egypt, UK, and many other countries.

In 2006 me and my family moved to Georgia where I settled in Marietta, Georgia. At that time, I ended up landing a job with a startup company in which I became the Chief Operating Officer for the company. I spend 13 years and 6 months with the company. While working with the company, I was able to volunteer my time and efforts in helping out the Muslim communities around Atlanta. I was able to use my fundraising and public speaking skills which I develop during my Islamic Studies and apply it towards building many Muslim communities across the United States.

In 2019, my life took a bigger turn when I resigned from running the company and I then accepted the position as the South East Director of ICNA Relief USA Programs Inc. I use to volunteer with this organization for many years before which prompted me to take the position with ICNA Relief. This position has really opened my ability towards serving humanity. As I was growing up in Guyana, watching my father do many philanthropies work, I now see myself in that direction towards helping the most vulnerable within our communities throughout the 8 Southern States, FL, NC, SC, TN, GA, AL, MS, and LA. Within a very short time, I found that what I was now doing was a life's mission to help people.

...Continued on Page 46

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The Foundation of Our Deen

By Taj Siddiqui

according to the teachings of the Quran. Therefore, obeying the rules set by Allah is of ultimate importance for us. If there is no judgment day, we can do as we please with no consequence for our actions.

According to Quran, the present world is not an eternal abode. It tells us that man is placed here only temporarily, so that his moral fiber may be tested in terms of his obedience to Allah's will. He must always remember that there will be the life hereafter, or Akhirah . There is a time limit to mortal existence. Death marks the end of the testing period for all human beings. But death only means a change of abode, for the soul never dies. Man returns to the realm whence he came, so that he may wait for Judgement Day. That realm, the life hereafter, is the eternal world. Thus, a human being's life is divided into two parts: a brief pre-death period of test and an eternal life in the post-death period of the world of the hereafter.

It is very easy to lose sight of the Akhirah, or to fail to be fully conscious of this most important reality. It is easy to forget that we will harvest in the Akhirah what we sow in this world, and that for good or for bad, we are all engaged in sowing, each moment of our present life. There are several reasons for this loss of sight and forgetfulness. One, we do not see the Akhirah before our eyes as we do other things. Two, we have no experience of it. And thirdly, of course, we have our many distractions. The vivid and variety-filled world that we see before our eyes absorbs our attention, time and energy. This world seems solid and permanent, while death seems remote and the Akhirah merely an abstract proposition of no immediate relevance.

A Word of Warning

Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters in Islam please pay attention. If you do not have a firm faith in the Unseen, or you do not have absolute certainty in the hereafter, then you have your structure of Deen built on a shaky foundation. A minor disturbance in the grounds of your life can easily damage this structure. The Deen becomes a collection of stories, historical events, and doubtful predictions. As soon as you exit the Masjid, you jump back into the worldly distractions and wrongful activities. This is the root cause of the downfall of Muslims all over the world, and it is happening today right herein front of our eyes. ■

...Continued from page 32

Control Your Climate

By Basit Hasan

“Closer and closer to mankind comes their reckoning; yet they do not care and turn away.”

We must control our climate, our inner self, our desires for worldly benefit. As we wash and polish our cars and homes, similarly we should wash and polish our hearts and let them be a beacon of light to reflect on humanity. What good is it to leave footprints in the sand if the sand is no longer there. Be people of consciousness and spirituality and the earth will heal and serve your needs. ■

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POETRY COLUMN

Written by: Bro. Azad Ali Chairman of Darul Uloom Institute, Florida



**A
BRIGHTER
SPRING**

By. Bro. Azad Ali

*A cool breeze blows the rose petals
Birds on high sing their praise,
Green leaves rustle but never falls
A BRIGHTER SPRING ushers happier days.....
The white morning mist now fades away
Rippling streams flow through the fields,
White stallions all role in hay
Brown doves perched on broken wheels....
Peacock show its colored feather
A Love bird sing its fabled tune,
A little white lamb suckles it's mother
Buzzing bees on every bloom.....
Happier days are now foretold
As a BRIGHTER SPRING is here,
All must now perform our different role
And saddened days shall soon disappear....*

HUMOR

**WEDDING
ANNIVERSARY GIFT**

A husband forgot his wedding anniversary. His wife was really angry. She told him "Tomorrow morning, I expect to find a car as a gift in the driveway that goes from 0 to 200 miles in seconds AND IT BETTER BE THERE!" The next morning he got up early and left for work. When his wife woke up, she looked out the window and sure enough there was a box gift-wrapped in the middle of the driveway. Confused, the wife put on her robe and ran out to the driveway, brought the box back in the house. She opened it and found a brand new bathroom scale for her to weigh herself. The husband never came home after that.



CONGRATULATIONS CORNER

Congratulations To

Amanda Smith & Saeed Moshfeghyeganeh

Maine USA



Photo Above: Al-Hamdulillah, they have been blessed with a baby boy Yaseen Sabir Moshfeghyeganeh on September 1st, 2021.

Maashaa Allaah

Continued From Page 10...

WISDOM A GIFT FROM ALLAAH SWT

They are those who establish prayer and donate from what We have provided for them.

It is they who are the true believers. They will have elevated ranks, forgiveness, and an honorable provision from their Lord.

According to Abu Hurairah RA, the ProphetSAW said that:

A word of wisdom is the lost property of the believer. Whoever finds it is most deserving of it.

In Surah Al Baqara (2:269) Allaah SWT gives us a beautiful reminder: (roughly translated)

He (Allaah SWT) gives wisdom to whom He pleases; and those to whom wisdom is given has received indeed a benefit overflowing; but no-one will grasp the Message except people of understanding.

Clearly, Allaah SWT's wisdom will only be conferred on those of us who use their intellect, those who ponder, who contemplate on Allaah SWT's abundant signs in the world around us and the world within us. This regular exercise of deep contemplation must inevitably lead us to appreciate how much Allaah SWT loves us, how much Allaah SWT loves His entire creation.

Let us sum up the key points:

- We can enjoy lasting peace and contentment (*sakeena*) if we have wisdom.
- Wisdom is a gift from Allaah SWT to the most devoted believers.
- The believers love Allaah SWT more than anything and anyone else.
- Our love for Allaah SWT is the natural outcome of recognizing and appreciating Allaah SWT's love for us.

Allaah SWT Knows Best!

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Meet Shamikh Sahadat of ICNA Relief

ICNA Relief is the largest Muslim Social Service organization in the United States and does relief efforts in over 26 plus states. We develop and run programs such as Hunger Prevention, Health Services, Women Transitional Houses, Muslim Family Services, Back to School Supply and Empowerment Grant, and Disaster Response Services throughout the US. I was able to do what my father use to do while we were living in Guyana, helping the poor and needy within our society.

Today I am very happy to say, I love what I do and it feels like it is ingrained in my DNA to do what I do. In the South East, we were able to develop programs to help the homeless population and help needy families at our food pantries. We are able to help the uninsured and underinsured within our communities. Rescue single women and women with children and able to take care of them in the most dignified way and also help them to get back on their feet. We manage to help refugees, those in financial hardships, case management, and those who need counseling services. We do back-to-school drives in many different communities and were able to develop the empowerment grant to help teachers and parents to get the financial assistance needed to teach the students and run the classrooms. Of course, we are able to deploy our employees and volunteers during natural disasters and help families who have lost everything. In 2020 we were able to help over 1.8 million Americans. All of this is done through our donors and volunteer base. Aside from ICNA Relief, I help my beautiful wife with her company, CAFA Enterprises, LLC in which she does local, state, and federal contracting. We both work towards our dreams and goals in life together. We reside in Dallas, Georgia, and love spending time with our kids and families. We both love outdoor activities such as Bike Riding, Hiking, and Walking.

We all face challenges, but looking back would you describe it as a relatively smooth road? It has definitely not been a smooth road. My first obstacle was when I wanted to move to Georgia. I had to made that tough decision to take a leap of faith to leave all my extended families in Florida and move to Georgia with my immediate family. My second was to leave the company I was working for to be with ICNA Relief USA. It was a tough decision at that time because I was the one who architect the entire company I was working for before. Alright, so let's switch gears a bit and talk business. What should we know? ICNA Relief is the largest Muslim Social Service organization in the United States and does relief efforts in over 26 plus states. We develop and run programs such as Hunger Prevention, Health Services, Women Transitional Houses, Muslim Family Services, Back to School Supply and Empowerment Grant, and Disaster Response Services throughout the US. We have 48 Food Pantries, 24 Women's Transitional House/Domestic Violence Shelter, 8 Clinics, and 4 Mobile Clinics, Offer Family Services such as bill pay assistance, refugee services, case management, and counseling services. We have back-to-school drives and we are doing a 100k empowerment grant for teachers and we have responded to over 69 disasters since 2005. All of this is done only in the United States. ●

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THE LIFE OF RABIA BASRI

Poetry & Myths

After a life of hardship, she achieved a state of self-achievement. She was able to perform divine miracles because of her intimacy with Allah through introspection. When Hasan-al-Basri asked how she discovered the secret, she stated: I was freed from slavery when my master saw me praying while surrounded by light, realized that I was a saint and feared for his life if he continued to keep me as a slave. Hasan-al-Basri explained on Sufism, 'I passed

one whole night and day with Rabia ... it never passed through my mind that I was a man nor did it occur to her that she was a woman... when I looked at her I saw myself spiritually worthless and Rabia as rich in spiritual virtue. She stayed celibate to leave her womanhood behind and devote herself completely to Allah. One day, she was running through the streets of Basra carrying a pot of fire in one hand and a bucket of water in the other. When asked, she said, 'I want to put out the fires of hell and burn down the rewards of paradise. They block the way to Allah. I do not want to worship from fear of punishment or for the promise of reward, but simply for the love of Allah'. **3 qualities for Love of Allah:**

1. No desire for wealth, 2. Devoted long prayers, 3. Burning desire

...Continued From Page 17

GOOD CHARACTER VS BAD CONDUCT

Kindness: "Allah is not kind to him who is not kind to people." (al-Bukhârî, Muslim) "Those who are kind and considerate to Allah's creatures, Allah bestows His kindness and affection on them. Show kindness to the creatures on the earth so that Allah may be kind to you." (Abu Dawad, at-Tirmidhi)

Thankfulness: "He who does not thank people does not thank Allah." (at-Tirmidhi)

Steadfastness: Sufyan bin 'Abdullah said, "I asked: 'O Messenger of Allah, tell me something about Islam which I can ask no one but you.' He said: 'Say, I believe in Allah and thereafter be upright.'" (Muslim) Repentance: (Tawbah) "By Allah, I (Muhammad) ask Allah's forgiveness and turn to Him in repentance more than seventy times a day." (Al Bukhari)

BAD CONDUCT

Lying: "Woe to him who tells lies to make people laugh! Woe to him! Woe to him!" (Ahmad, at-Tirmidhi) "It is great treachery that you tell your brother something he accepts as truth from you, but you are lying." (Abu Dawud)

Backbiting: "If anybody pledges to me that he will keep his tongue under control, guard his chastity, will not speak ill of others nor indulge in slander and backbiting and refrain from adultery and similar sins, I shall assure him of Paradise." (al-Bukhari)

Suspicion: "Beware of suspicion, for suspicion may be based on false information, do not spy on another, do not disclose others' hidden defects." (al-Bukhârî)

Jealousy: "Keep away from jealousy for as fire burns wood, so jealousy consumes good actions." (Abu Dawûd) "Nothing is more atrocious than injuring unjustly a Muslim's reputation." (at-Tirmidhi)

Anger: "He is not strong who throws down another, but he is who controls his anger." (al-Bukhari, Muslim) "If anger rouses anyone, he should sit down and if that does not help, he should lie CTC down." (al-Tirmidhi)

Pride: "If anyone has got an atom's weight of pride in his heart, he will NOT enter Paradise." (al-Bukhari)

Abuse: "Abusing a Muslim is sinful and killing him is disbelief (kufr)." (al-Bukhârî, Muslim)

Hypocrisy: "The signs of the hypocrite are three: When he speaks, he lies; when he promises, he breaks it; when any trust is kept with him, he misuses it." (al-Bukhârî)

Taunting: "A believer neither taunts, nor curses nor speaks foul nor chats nor babbles." (at Tirmidhi) "Do not rejoice over the distress of a brother Muslim for Allâh may relieve his distress and put you in his position" (at-Tirmidhi)

Sickness of heart: "Beware, in everybody there is a piece of flesh, if it is healthy, the whole body is healthy, and if it is sick, the whole body is sick. Beware, it is the heart." (al-Bukhârî, Muslim).

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