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By: Sis Amanda Smith Page.7

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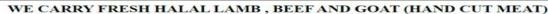
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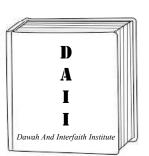


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Bro. Farooq Shafi

Caring For Our Fragile Environment Page. 11



**Looking Forward To The** Removal Of The "Invisable Wall" **Page. 12** 



Dr. Iqbal Nazir

Six Cancer Fighting Foods Page. 30



Pastor Keith A.Spencer

The Meaning **Behind Christmas** Page.7

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#### IN THIS ISSUE

The Life Hereafter VS The Worldly Life

The Ene Herearter v5 The Worldry Enepg. 4
Prophet Muhammad & Hazrata Khadijah an epic love story pg. 5
Be A Beacon Of Light for Islampg.7
Teast & Trialspg.8
Caring For Our Fragile Environment pg. 11
Breief Understanding Of Allah's Prophets pg. 12
Stop The Maddness Of Killing Each Other pg. 15
A Loving Miracle
6 Cancer Fighting Foods
CONTENTS
Contents / Committee / Feature Articlespg. 3
Shaikh Shafayat Sermon Summarypg.
4
Pastor Cornerpg. 7
Sister's / Congratulation Cornerpg. 8
Immigration Cornerpg.12
Humor / Poetrypg. 26
Al-Hikmat / Community & Interfaith Updatepg.16/21
Letters / Feedback / Matrimonialpg. 22
Recognition Cornerpg. 29
Health columnpg. 30
O & Apg. 33



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## THE LIFE HEREAFTER VS THIS WORLDLY LIFE

Summarized by Bro. Kaleem
AL-HIKMAT Representative



I would like to remind myself and you about the life of this world, the

hereafter, and how we live for them; the difference between someone who lives for this world and the eternal life hereafter. In surah Al Imran (Ch 3 vs 185) Allah (s.w.t.) says: "Every soul will taste death. And you will only receive your full reward on the Day of Judgment. Whoever is spared from the Fire and is admitted into Paradise will ?indeed? triumph, whereas the life of this world is no more than the delusion of enjoyment." And in Surah Zalzalah (Ch 99 vs 7-8) Allah (s.w.t.) says: "So whoever does an atom's weight of good will see it. And whoever does an atom's weight of evil will see it."What does Allah say concerning success? They are the people who get Jannah, not those who boast about this world and their accomplishments, their property, and children. The real success is not making achievements in this world. This world is where we live to strive and work by the mercy of Allah to be successful in everlasting life. That is true success. This is why piety takes another level of wisdom. Allah gives wisdom to whomsoever he wishes. The Prophet (s.a.w.) says that the intelligent man is one who lives for the hereafter and not for this temporary world. We are allowed to enjoy the necessities and beauties in this world. No one says not to enjoy the bounties of Allah but in doing so we are to work for real success. Think about this life. When one attends a Janazah, "Mr businessman", "Dr so and so", "Mr know it all or have it all" after death is bathed, shrouded, and is only referred to as "the body". Our titles are only for the days that we are alive. The Prophet (s.a.w.) says that we must remember death always so we can think but today we do not see. Allah speaks about placing a seal on our hearts, eyes, and ears. We still walk around arrogant and boastful. As soon as we die, our homes, money, jobs, and businesses are no longer ours. We are nothing more than "the dead". This is why we should be living for the hereafter. Wise people will live for the everlasting and not the temporary. We are similar to the one in transit at the airport. We can enjoy what is there, but we know that it is not our destination.

Continued On Page 25

AL-HIKMAT INTERNATIONAL MUSLIM MAGAZINE <

Rather, it is



## Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) & Hazrata Khadijah An Epic Love Story

by Taj Siddiqui

She was an ideal wife; theirs was a true love story.Love comes when you are not looking. She fell in love with him, and through a friend, asked him to marry her. He said yes. Their marriage was monogamous until her death 25 years later.Muhammad (pbuh) had no other wives while she was alive and had no children by any of his later wives. She was the first Muslim on this planet.Loving Muhammad (pbuh) was the greatest thing that had ever happened to Khadijah, and he felt the same way about her. In a partnership of minds and hearts, Khadijah, and Muhammad (pbuh) embodied what it meant to transform love into action, and for those actions to have the power to change the world. They supported each other in what was important to them, and they actively encouraged each other to seek out and do what was right. Together, they were the best version of themselves, not just towards each other but to all those around them. The marriage of Muhammad (pbuh) and Khadijah was most successful. It was blessed with felicity unlimited for both husband and wife. Khadijah dedicated her life to the service of her husband and of Islam. She spent all her vast wealth in strengthening Islam, and on the welfare of the Muslims. Khadijah was a woman of beauty, intelligence, and superior character. She was highly sought after by the greatest men of Quraysh. She was married twice and had children with both her husbands. After her second experience as a widow, she chose to focus her efforts on her business instead of marriage, or so she planned anyway.Khadijah was born to a father who was a successful merchant in their Quraysh tribe of Mecca. She inherited her father's skills at a time in history when society was male-dominated and dangerous. Upon her father's death, she took over the business and traded goods through the primary commerce centers at that time — from Mecca to Syria and to Yemen — hiring the most trustworthy men of character to brave the dangerous trade

routes.Khadijah learned of the stellar character of Muhammad (pbuh), as well as his experience managing caravans on the trade routes accompanying his uncle, Abu Talib. She hired him into her conglomerate and sent him with a trading caravan to Syria, accompanied by her slave, Maysara. When the caravan returned, Maysara told her even more about the Prophet and his success in trading. Khadijah was then deeply moved and impressed and really wanted to propose to him, but she did not know how to express her thoughts to him. So, she sent one of her close friends, Nafisah bint Manbah, to the Prophet (pbuh). Nafisah asked him if she could ask him a personal question. The Prophet (pbuh)did not object. So, she asked him why is he unmarried till now. He told her because he did not have financial resources. So, she asked, will you be willing to marry a beautiful lady, from a noble family and wealth who is inclined to marriage with him. He asked about whom she is referring to. When she told him, he said he would be willing to marry her. Muhammad's (pbuh) prophethood began during the 15<sup>th</sup> year of their marriage. His entire body trembling with the weight of Divine Revelation, Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) sought sanctuary in the arms of his beloved. He called out to Khadijah to cover him up, and desperately told her what had just transpired. Khadijah wrapped him in a cloak and held him until his shaking ceased. Khadijah was supportive of Muhammad's (pbuh) prophetic mission, always helping in his work, proclaiming his message, and belittling any opposition to his prophecies. It was her encouragement that helped Muhammad (pbuh) believe in his mission and spread Islam. Khadijah also invested her wealth in the mission. When the aristocrats of the Quraysh harassed the Muslims, she used her money to ransom slaves and feed the community. To her husband, to her daughters, to the Muslims around her, Khadijah provided ceaseless love and support. Her steadfastness in the

face of adversity was both inspiration and comfort, a sign that one did not need to be the Prophet of Allah in order to exhibit such power of faith. Indeed, to the one who was the Messenger of Allah (pbuh), she was the source of constant reassurance and love." Every day Khadijah revived his spirits and restored his morale. Her cheerfulness cushioned for him the devastating pressures of external events, and he was able to face his enemies again with new confidence. The only happiness that he ever found in those years of horror and terror, was when he was with Khadija. Sorrows and tribulations came in

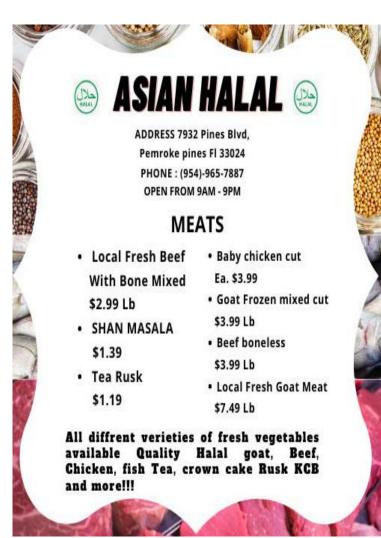
#### BANKRUPTCY

By. Dr.Hye

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#### PASTOR'S CORNER

Pastor Keith A. Spencer / Trinity Lutheran Church, Pembroke Pines

#### The Meaning Behind Christmas



By:Pastor Keith A. Spencer

In the Christian tradition, the four Sundays before Christmas are known as Advent, from the Latin "adventus" or "coming." It is a dual commemoration of the coming of the Christ child in Bethlehem and the coming again of Jesus, his return at the end of things. For now, we wait. In worship, many Christian congregations mark these Sundays of waiting with the lighting of candles on the Advent Wreath, one additional candle is lit for each Sunday, until four are lit on the Sunday before Christmas. It is a time of "Already," but "Not Yet." It is also a time of expectation as we read in the prophet Isaiah: "For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." Prince of Peace. This year, the first Sunday in Advent also coincides with the United Nations' International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People, which notes "The question of Palestine was brought before the United Nations shortly after the end of the Second World War. The origins of the Palestine problem as an international issue, however, lie in events occurring towards the end of the First World War. In 1947 the United Nations accepted the responsibility of finding a just solution for the Palestine issue, and still grapples with this task today." My congregation is part of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) which seeks justice and peace in Palestine and Israel through the Peace Not Walls campaign. The ELCA describes the Peace, Not Walls effort as "Through accompaniment, advocacy and awareness-raising, Peace Not Walls connects ELCA members to our companions and promotes dignity, full respect for human rights, healing and reconciliation. With our Palestinian Lutheran companions, we also

continued on page 26

#### Bilingualism:



#### Be a Beacon of Light for Islam

By Sister Amanda Smith / Miami Florida

"The servants of the All-merciful are those who walk in the earth modestly and who, when the ignorant address them, say,

'Peace'."Surat Furqan, 25:63 In light of the political tension in France, the time has come again for the entirety of the Muslim community to be blamed for the actions of a few, evil individuals. We as a community clearly understand that individuals who commit acts of violence supposedly in the name of Islam are no more Muslim than Jim Jones was a Christian. However, every time an individual who claims the label of "Muslim" commits an act of violence, we face the same double standard of being shamed and blamed as a whole. Every one of us, all us doctors, nurses, teachers, parents, and neighbors, all of us contributing members of society, will be expected to shoulder the blame and apologize for the acts of others. To be expected to apologize for the acts of others whom we do not know, committed in places we likely have not been, is absurd. It's nothing more than prejudice. However, despite that, many in our community will now have to endure a new round of inappropriate comments, social media messages, and questions. How do we handle these interactions in a fruitful, Islamic way?

"1.Do did not apologize for the actions of others. We know the reality of the light and goodness that emanates from the religion of Islam. It's a light that shines stunningly bright for those who are willing to see it. To feel the need to take some sort of responsibility for acts of violence committed by other people, people very far from the teachings of our faith is to sully the beautiful light of Islam. Don't apologize for the acts of others that go against our teachings, rather stand tall, and stand as a beacon of the light of Islam.

"2.Identify who wants to learn and who wants to argue. When these events occur, and the new round of comments and questions begins, many will approach a Muslim simply to argue or to vent their hate. However, others will approach a Muslim out of sincerity to learn. Though our community has suffered from decades of scapegoating and prejudice, one of the greatest blessings of this era is that many people have joined the religion of Islam after taking the time to learn more about it. If you are approached with a question or a comment that may come off the wrong way at first, take a moment to assess the person. Are they approaching me to argue, or do they have a sincere intention?

continued on page 25



#### SISTER'S CORNER

By: Sis. Sylmarie Mustapha / Coral Springs, Florida

#### TEST & TRIALS

by: Sister Sylmerie

My Dear Friends: Allah (SWT) says in the Holy Qur'an: "Be sure that We shall test you with something of fear, hunger, some loss in goods, your lives, and the fruits of your toil, but give glad tidings to those who patiently persevere, who say when afflicted with calamity, "to Allah we belong and to Him is our return (Inna lil laahi Wa Inna ilayhi Raji'oon). They are those on who descend blessings from their Lord, and His mercy, and they are the ones that receive guidance". Further, if Allah (SWT), out of His wisdom, closes a door against you, He opens out of His mercy a door better for you than the closed one. It is by afflictions that righteous and understanding people are increased in rank and reward. Sa'ad bin Abee Waggaas (RA) said: I said, "O Messenger of Allah, who are the most afflicted of all people? He (SAW) replied, "The Prophets, then the righteous people, then those who are nearest to them in perfection and those who are nearest to them. Man is tested according to his religiosity; if he is strong religiously, his test is increased and if he is weak in religion, his test is reduced. And a believer will be tested until he walks on the earth sinless [i.e. his sins have been erased by series of afflictions that he endured." (Al-Bukhari) My friends, we are tested in many different ways and in many different degrees, some may be minor, and some may be major. Hardship and afflictions could affect our health, our wealth, our sustenance, our children, our parents, our family and our friends. These calamities especially those that are sudden and unexpected wrench our hearts and impact us physically, psychologically, emotionally, financially and spiritually. When we are hit with such adversity, our first reaction, is to reach out to Allah (SWT) for help. We make dua and beg for help and continue to do so until ease comes. Depending on the severity of the affliction, we spend the majority of our time begging Allah (SWT) for help, for relief, for support, for mercy. Sometimes during these tests we repent and we make bargains with Allah, that if He brings ease to us, we will be a better person, we will give more charity, we will pray more, we will be more patient, we will make more effort to do good, we will stop doing all the wrong things that we have been doing. If we really live up to these promises, Allah has now made us a better servant and lifts us up to a higher rank. Subhanallah!! Allah (SWT) loves us so much, that He does this for us. Sometimes we forget and may go back to our old ways, again Allah (SWT) may allow affliction to happen to remind us of our prior prom

Continued on page 29, InShaa Allaah

#### **CONGRATULATIONS CORNER**

## Congratulations To Fahad & Faria



Alhamdulillaah congratulations to Fahad & Faria who had a baby girl Sarah Zainab Mirza on December 3rd 2020, Maashaa Allaah







### Congratulations To Sumayyah & Damian

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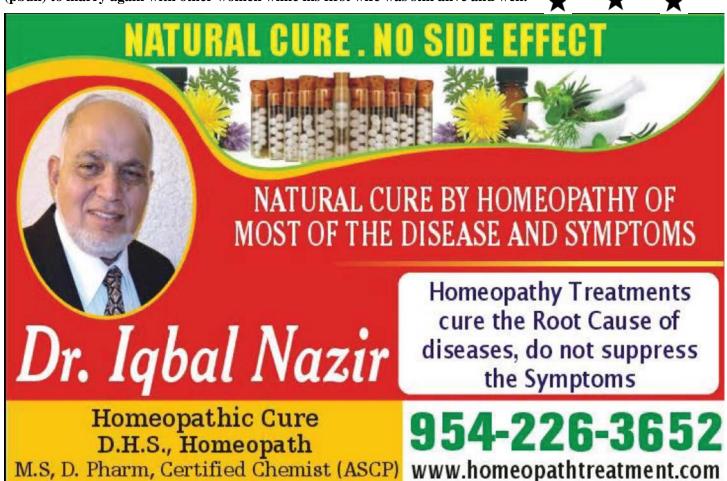
Continue from page 5

## Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) & Hazrata Khadijah An Epic Love Story

Compiled and Submitted by Taj Siddiqui

HomeopathDr71@gmail.com

waves, one after another, threatening to overwhelm him, but she was always there to rebuild his courage and resolution in overcoming them."Hazrata Khadijah died in 619, a few years before the Hijrah to Medina. Though the Messenger (pbuh) understood that every human being belongs to their Creator alone, he was still plunged into sorrow. He lost the woman who had, for twenty-five years, been the love of his life, the intellectual match to his sharp mind, the spiritual counterpart to his heart full of faith, the one whom he held and who held him in turn, and the mother of his children. The love of Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) and Khadija was immortal. When Khadijah died, Muhammad's (pbuh) love for hernot only outlived her but actually went on growing even after her death. The year of her death was forever known from then on as the Year of Grief. Glass ceiling? Khadijah shattered it 1400 years ago. The bride was older than the groom, she was 40 and he was 25. The bride fell in love with him and she proposed to the groom. The bride was a widow and was already married twice before. The bride had children from previous marriages and They now became part of the new family. They had monogamous relationship for 25 years till death did them apart, in a time and culture when men used to have multiple wives. The husband and wife loved and care for each other with passion and devotion. They treated and served each other at equal status, and the man did not pretend to be superior. The bride was a prominent and established business woman. She was the employer, and the groom was working for her. The wife was managing for the household expenses. He was the last Prophet (pbuh), and she was the first Muslim human being on the planet. It is NOT the sunnah of our beloved prophet (pbuh) to marry again with other women while his first wife was still alive and well.



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#### **Making Today Better Than** Yesterday

By Bro. Al Mustapha / Florida USA

My friends, at the end of every year, a careful business man/woman reviews the

performance of their business in order to measure the success over the past year, and establish their financial position at the end of it. They want to know their profit or loss, assets and liabilities. An intelligent person ought to do likewise, in respect to his/her life. More than that, they should beg Allah God Almighty to bless their life and to make today better than yesterdayand make tomorrow better than today. It is worthier for as ensible person to call himself to account for one whole year of his life that has expired, in respect of which Allah, God Almighty the Exalted, will question him/her. A year is not a short time. It's a period of 12 months; a month is on average 30 days; each day has 24 hours, each hour is 60 minutes, and each minute 60 seconds. And every second should be counted as a blessing, a favor upon him/her from Allah SWT and a trust from Him.It is better for this intelligent person to evaluate himself and ponder over the turning of a page in the book of his life. Each day that passes is, as it were, a leaf that has withered and fallen from the tree of his/her life. This is the view that we all ought to take. My friends, instead of living in hopes and fantasies, it is better that we limit our mission and hopes in this life, write them down and hang the paper in front of our dresser or our office desk so that we can read it and return to it often. Here are some of what it should say:I will seek the pleasure of Allah first and foremost with intention to please Him. I will do everything within my power to pray my 5 daily prayers/ salat . I will have sincerity at all times\* . I will memorize the Book of Allah as much as I can. I will try to read half page of the Arabic/English Quran every morning/night without fail, and ponder on the words of the Almighty. I will try to increase my Islamic knowledge. I will focus on cleansing my heart. I will help others in need of advice, money, physical help etc.; they're my test! I will go to the Mosque for congregational prayer once or twice a day. I will give charity every day, even if it's a smile. I will love for my brother or sister that which I love for myself. I will thank Allah daily for all & beg Him for good character and behavior. I will achieve my success at home first and always be grateful for my family. I will not bargain and compromise with my Religion and Faith. I will consult with others as needed and always help others in need. I will defend those who are absent and avoid back-biting at all costs!. I will listen to both sides before passing a judgment. I will look at others who have less than me & be thankful for what I have and look up to those with more Continued on page 34





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Bismillah Hir Rahmaanir Raheem



Bro. Farooq Shafi

#### **Caring For Our Fragile Environment**

By Bro. Farooq Shafi/ Florida USA

Right now, there are floods everywhere. There are wild fires raging in the Amazon, across California and parts of Australia. The forces of nature are sending us a clear message. We are doing something wrong, and planet Earth is complaining. But are we listening? Are we taking responsibility for our actions? This article has chosen some verses that clearly address the subject of our environmental crisis. These verses explain the role of human beings in the grand scheme of things. They urge us to faithfully discharge the honor, the Trust that we have been given, to be good custodians, good stewards of all that our planet Earth has to offer. In Sura Al Bagara, we read:"And when your Lord said unto the angels: Behold! I am about to place a viceroy in the earth, they said: Will You place therein one who will do harm and will shed blood, while we sing Your praise and sanctify You? He said: Surely I know what you do not know." (Qur'an 2:30)In another chapter, the Holy Qur'an declares:"We have honored the sons of Adam; provided them with transport on land and sea; given them for sustenance things good and pure; and conferred on them special favors, above a great part of our creation." (Qur'an 17:70)"We did indeed offer the Trust to the Heavens and the Earth and the Mountains; but they refused to undertake it, being afraid of this Trust: but man undertook it;- He was indeed unjust and foolish." (Qur'an 33:72)In chapter 36, (Yaseen), the Noble Qur'an reminds us; "Glory be to Allaah, Who created in pairs all things that the earth produces, as well as their own (human) kind and (other) things of which they have no knowledge." (Qur'an 36:36) That evocative and lyrical chapter known as Sura Al Rahman, The All Merciful, begins like this:"Allaah, The Most Merciful! He created human beings: He taught them speech (and intelligence). The sun and the moon follow courses (exactly) computed; And the herbs and the trees – both (alike) bow in adoration. And the heavens has He raised high, and He has set up the Balance (of Justice), In order that you may not transgress the balance. So establish weight with justice and fall not short in the balance. It is He Who has spread out the earth for (His) creatures: Therein is fruit and date-palms, producing spathes (enclosing dates); Also corn, with (its) leaves and stalk for fodder, and sweet-smelling plants. Then which of the favors of your Lord will ye deny? (Qur'an 55:1-13)Don't you think these verses speak

Continue on page 15

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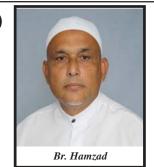
#### IMMIGRATION CORNER

# Looking forward To Removal Of The "Invisible Wall"

By Linda Kaplan, Esq. / Florida USA

As an immigration advocate, I breathed a sigh of relief when it became clear that Joe Biden will be our next President. For the last four years, there has been an unending assault of anti-immigrant policies and actions taken. While there was much rightful attention given to the wall between the U.S. and Mexico, the Trump administration started building the "invisible wall" to reduce legal immigration. This did not just hurt the immigrants. It harms their U.S. citizen families and it damages our business by restricting the admission of skilled workers needed by our U.S. businesses. The invisible wall harms all of us by restricting the economic growth in the U.S. There was an extended discussion of the Invisible Wall in an article published by the American Immigration Attorneys Association. If you wish to read this it can be found here (https://lindakaplan.com/wp-content/ uploads/2018/05/deconstructing-the-invisible-wall-.pdf) I will discuss in this article some of the expected changes that are likely to occur with the change of administration but note that there is much that I will have to discuss in the future - there is just too much change expected to include them in one article- even a long one as this is. Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) DACA was established in 2012 by the Obama-Biden administration to give temporary protection to the "dreamers" - people who had been brought to the U.S. as babies and children and had no legal status. Without DACA they could not work or obtain driver's licenses and in many cases, could not further their education after completing high school. They faced the ever-present threat of deportation often to a country that they don't remember and may not speak the language of their birth county. DACA gave these young aspiring citizens temporary relief that allowed them to move forward in their lives but was not and still is not a permanent solution to their irregular status. The Trump Administration tried to eliminate the program in 2017 but the Supreme Court blocked this in June 2020. The Supreme Court ruling at that time said that the attempted DACA elimination was invalid because the administration failed to follow the proper procedures and failed to provide an adequate reason to justify ending DACA.DHS responded to the Supreme Court decision with a memo in July 2020 saying that new applications would not be accepted and renewals would be limited to one year. On November 14th,2020 a federal court ruled that the acting Homeland Security secretary was not legally serving when he signed these rules limiting the Supreme Court decision and that because of his illegitimate status as acting DHS secretary the rules were invalid. USCIS has not yet responded to the court ruling but we are hopeful that soon new DACA applications can be filed and renewals should be issued for two years. The decision which eliminated the restrictions on DACA can be appealed but President-

Continue on Page 33



#### BRIEF UNDERSTANDING OF ALLAH'S PROPHETS

By : Bro Hamzad Mohammed, T.T.U.T.A.

Teacher of the Year 2013, Trinidad,

Allah states in the Holy Quran in 2:213, "Mankind is a single nation, and Allah raised prophets as bearers of good news and warnings..."Prophets numbering about 124 000 were sent to earth. The names of some are known, whilst others not. Nevertheless, regardless of their number or some being anonymous, we should say Alhamdulilah (All praises are due to Allah) for their past presence on earth. The following are some of the prophets' names in Arabic and the amount of times they are mentioned in the Holy Quran: Adam-25, Idrees-2, Nooh-43, Hood-7, Ibrahim-67, Ismail-12, Ishaq-17, Saleh-8, Loot-27, Yaqoob-16, Sulaiman-17, Ayub-4, Iylas-2, Al Yas'a-2, Zakariya-7, Yahya-2, Uzair-1, Isa-33 and Muhammad (S.A.W.)-5. The prophets' main responsibility was to spread Allah's messages, which were accepted by some and rejected by others. Those messages were given with clarity as stated by Allah in 14:4 of the Holy Quran: "We sent no messenger but with the language of his people so that he might explain to them clearly." As a result of their special and noble attributes, certain prophets were given titles: Adam- Safiyullah- Chosen of God; Nuh-Nabiyullah-Preacher of God; Ibrahim-Khalilullah-Friend of God; Musa-Kaleemullah-Converser of God; Isa-Ruhullah-Spirit of God and Muhammad-Rasulullah-Messenger of God.Let me make it clear that not one of the prophets has that supreme divine status. Allah is that one and only true God as stated in many parts of the Holy Quran, one of which is 2:163," And your God is one God. There is no God but He, most gracious, most merciful."But strange things happen as mankind continues to exist. People claimed prophethood over the centuries, one such person being Musailamah. On the pertinent question of who was thelast prophet sent to mankind, Allah gave the answer in 33:40 of the Holy Quran in which it is statedthat:"Muhammad is not the father of any of your men but he is THE messenger of Allahand the SEAL of all prophets..." Therefore, anyone attributing prophet's status to himself is to be regarded as false. Oh! What a calamity will befall on such an individual (s)!Another aspect of prophethood that must be borne in mind is that Muslims should believe in all of the prophets sent by Allah. Proof of this is in the Holy Quran where Allah stated in 4:152 that, "Those who believe in Allah and His messengers and make no distinction between any of the messengers, due reward from Allah will be forthcoming." To conclude, I will do so with a few poetic verses. **In times of old when spiri**tually sick, Man needed from Him above a tonic, To heal them with His many wonders, And so Allah sent ambiya in numbers. On world's stage, like stars they acted, then, after their parts, ALL departed. Leaving our world richer than before, They WILL pass through Jannah's door.





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# Stop The Madness Of Killing Each Other

Ignored Allah's command of staying united as an Ummat or Brotherhood."Today, many Muslims continue to ignore the Divine Instructions from Allah as in Sura 5 Verses 51, 57 and 144: Verse 51: "O ye who believe, take not the Jews and "the Christians for your friends and protectors they are friends and protectors of each other". Verse 57: "O ye who believe! Take not for friends and protectors those who take your religion for a mockery and sport; that is, they are a people without understanding". Verse 144: "O ye who believe! take not for friends Unbelievers rather than Believers: do ye wish to offer Allah an open proof against yourselves"! Sura 4 Verse 150 - 151 further explains who are Unbelievers: Verse 150: "Those who deny Allah and His apostles, saying 'we believe in some but reject others', and those who wish to take a course midway". Verse 151: "They are in truth equally Unbelievers, and We have prepared for Unbelievers a humiliating punishment".Sura 9 Verse 33 states: "It is He (Allah) Who hath sent His Apostle (Muhammad - peace be upon him) with Guidance and the Religion of Truth to proclaim over all religions, even though the Pagans may detest it". This is the most touching verse in the Holy Ouran about Division or Sect: Sura 6 Verse 159 (Yusuf Ali text): "As for those who divide their religion and break up into SECTS, thou (O Muhammad) hast no part in them in the least: their affair is with Allah: He will, in the end, tell them the Truth of all that they did". It seems as though many of our scholars in Islam have overlooked the underlying weakness (a divided Ummat) and are simply afraid to address it and come up with a solution to fix the problem. Let us call a 'spade a spade'. Do not sugar-coat the problem and think that the situation will be rectified by some in-coming Messiah! That's a fool's thinking! This should be a priority at every gathering and Conference. We

By Bro Twalib Ali / Canada have so many Organizations that are capable of making this sort of 'appeal', just as they do for 'funds'. The Messenger of Allah has already come and gone but the Holy Quran which was revealed to Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) is with us for the benefit of all mankind and it contains solutions for every problem. It cannot be pushed aside in favor of any other Book nor can anyone deny the fact that the majority of Muslims are divided in every corner of the world. We have allowed this problem to magnify itself and the input of innovations mixed with culture and tradition have twisted the Revealed Divine Truth so much to the point that the Holy Quran and Hadith are often confused with each other. Have we left the Holy Ouran for other ideologies that have caused us to be so divided with hate and rancor? Then how can Allah change our condition if we are not attempting to change it ourselves! In Sura 10 Verse 37 it states quite clearly: "This Ouran is not such as can be produced by other than Allah: on the contrary, it is a confirmation of Revelations that went before it and a fuller explanation of the Book wherein there is no doubt from the Lord of the Worlds". It is quite obvious that Satan and his cohorts have caused us to be divided amongst ourselves (as an Ummat) and we have to get back to basics which nonmuslims refer to as Islamic Fundamentalism. Today, the Holy Ouran is sadly ignored as our Source and Foundation of our Belief and Practice. The efforts are concentrated mainly on the language of Arabic, culture, and mostly Hadith - some of which are being questioned by our Imams and Scholars, especially those concerning women. The real purpose of the Message is lost somewhere between the era of the life of Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) and how we conduct ourselves today (with violence and hatred). We have to discourage Sectarianism and Division names and adopt the title of 'Muslims' (Sura22 Verse 78). Allah is the Sole Protector of the Believers and also our Pro

Continued from page 11,

# Caring For Our Fragile Environment

By Bro. Farooq Shafi/ Florida USA

for themselves? They don't need my explanation. Allaah SWT has conferred on us a great honor to be the Trustees of planet Earth. But in Sura Al Ruum, Allaah SWT also warns us about misusing and abusing His sacred Trust: "Corruption has appeared throughout the land and sea because of what the hands of people have earned, so He (Allaah SWT) may let them taste some of [the consequence of] what they have done, that perhaps they will return [to right conduct]." (Our'an 30:41 Please bear in mind that these verses were revealed by the Angel, Gabriel, to Prophet Muhammad SAW, over 1,400 years ago. They do indeed speak to us, as if they were revealed only vesterday! The lesson is clear: To deal with our climate crisis, food insecurity, species extinction and ecological disaster, we must change our personal habits. We must change our attitude &change our lifestyle. We must stop being so wasteful. We have to stop treating Planet Earth as if it's just another giant shopping mall orbiting the sun! Islam not only explains our role as human beings in our precarious relationship as stewards of the environment. Islam also provides us with practical advice. It shows us how we can fulfil our God-given role as caretakers of Planet Earth, in a way that is sustainable for future generations. One example: Don't waste water. Prophet Muhammad SAW was standing next to one of his companions, who was washing himself, preparing for prayers. He reminded his companion not to waste water. His companion asked. "Even if I'm using water from a river? The Prophet SAW replied: Don't waste water, even if you're by a river." As a great teacher and exemplar, Prophet Muhammad SAW lived and ate very frugally. He advised us that the worst thing we can fill is our stomach. In a well-known Hadith, he said that we should only fill one third with food, one third with water, and leave one third empty. Nowadays, with growing problems of obesity and diabetes, medical professionals confirm that this is really good advice. It's a simple matter of priorities. Need must always prevail over greed. We must satisfy our need, and stop our greed. If we can control our appetite for food, it becomes a lot easier to control our appetite for so many other things.On planting trees, Prophet Muhammad

Continued On Page 26

Continued On Page 25

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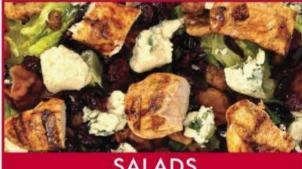
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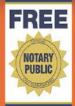


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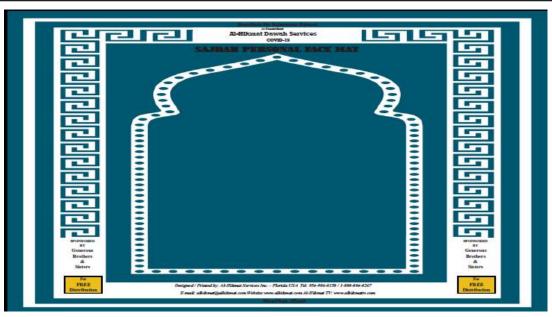


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#### DAWAH / COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS

By: Faria Mohammed



Photos Above: Al-Hikmat BBQ 2020

Alhamdulillaah on October 31, 2020 AlHikmat Da'wah Center held a Drive thru BBQ - MaaShaa Allaah



Photos Above: Masjid Hamza Georgia USA Jumua Khutba 11/20/20

Alhamdulillaah Shaikh Shafayat delivering Khutbah at Masjid Hamza in Alpharetta Georgia MaaShaa Allaah



Photos Above: Masjid Huda Florida USA Jumua Khutba 12/18/20

Alhamdulillaah Masjid Huda in St Cloud City near Orlando Florida invited Shaikh Shafayat on 12/18/20 to deliver the Jumua Khutbah at the Masjid's new site InShaa Allaah / MaaShaa Allaah

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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 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)

**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."

The above verses and Hadiths emphasize the blessings and importance of spreading the Message of the Qur'aan however, due to the negative propaganda in the world today against the Qur'aan, it is even more important upon us to spread the message of the Qur'aan Inshaa Allaah.

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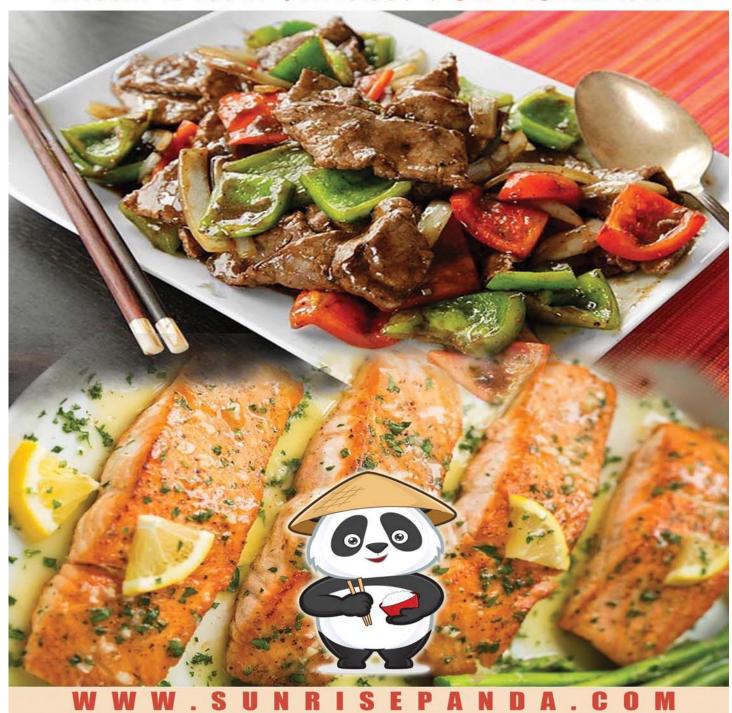
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Continued From Page 15

### Stop The Madness Killing Each Other

By Br. Twalib Ali / Canada

vider, and He is the author of Truth. Yet many of the socalled Muslim countries including Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Pakistan, Egypt, Jordan, Iraq, Afghanistan, and even Lebanon are quite dependant on the United States and Europe for its protection and financial support. The Quran talks about those who divide themselves into sects and those who have gone astray after having believed. Look at how the Lebanese people behaved in March 2005 when Syria was told to exit Lebanon. Lebanese civilians including Muslims were praising the Americans and George Bush, throwing kisses for them (as shown on CNN and other TV Networks), as the Syrian army left Lebanese soil. Now, look at the current conflict! The Lebanese ally and protector (the American Government) turned their backs on them in their time of need. Today these Muslims who were rejoicing in the streets, praising the Americans are fleeing towards the Syrian border as refugees. This is because many Muslims in that part of the world have failed to grasp the Message of the Quran. This Holy Book is not only for 'kissing' and passing all over one's face, but it is a Message and Guidance from Almighty God, the Sole Provider, and Protector of Believers. Let us reflect on Sura 5 Verse 51 as mentioned earlier on page 5."As a Muslim, it is devastating to watch bombs falling on innocent civilians especially on the elderly and children while the rest of the world looks on helplessly and asking themselves 'Why'! In Iraq, Muslims are killing each other and blowing up each others' Mosques, IN THE NAME OF AL-LAH. This is outright INSANITY and a clear violation of Allah's Commands – all to the delight of the enemies of Islam. What about the verse which states:"Let not a Believer kill a Believer' – that seem to have hit the 'Exit Door'! The senseless, mindless, cowardly acts of violence have reduced the noble status of 'Muslims' to the new term that the unbelievers now call 'Terrorists'! What a shame! "It is difficult for any Muslim to attract others to the Religion of Mercy and Compassion, Forgiveness, and overall success. As a Dawa worker, I believe that the 'Hour' has arrived for all of us to take a serious stand against those who continue to advocate Division and Sect (Sunni, Shia, Ahmaddiyah, etc.) and get rid of this condition which is taking its toll and causing major damage to the Muslim identity. Now some of the true Muslims are called Islamists and Fundamentalists. This calls for meaningful dialogue amongst our Scholars and Leaders -

Continued from Page 7,

#### Be a Beacon of Light for Islam

By Sister Amanda Smith / Miami Florida

3.Don't argue. In the case where someone approaches you to argue, don't. Politely decline to interact with them. Arguments only lead to an escalation of bad feelings like anger or frustration. Engaging in an argument with someone will only give them the opportunity to show the negativity within them and may provoke you to show negativity within you. Just walk away. If you begin a discussion with someone and it begins to escalate, just walk away. Make your point, and politely take your leave. 4. Always use the best of akhlaq. No matter what is said to you or how a person approaches you, always use the best of akhlaq. In surat Furqan, aya 63, Allah SWT tells us, "The servants of the All Merciful are those who walk in the earth modestly and who, when the ignorant address them, say, 'Peace'." No matter what may be said to you, no matter how insulting it may be, follow the guidance of the Quran and respond with peace. Choosing to act with graciousness and kindness in the face of hate and anger will show more about the reality of your faith than any other action. Always stand tall and be a beacon of light for Islam. 5.Remember that only Allah SWT guides people. No matter what we may say or do, there will always be some who cling to their prejudice and ignorance about Islam. Remember that we are never the ones who can guide others, rather Allah SWT is the one who guides whom he wills. The Holy Ouran tells us in surat Anaam, ava 125, "For those whom Allah wills to guide, He opens their breast to Islam."You may be blessed to have a role in how someone receives certain information or how someone changes their perception, but in reality, Allah SWT is the one who guides. Focus on enjoining good, forbidding evil and being a good example, and rely only on Allah SWT for the rest.

Continued from Page 4

#### THE LIFE HEREAFTER VS THIS WORLDLY LIFE

the means to get to the destination. We still choose to show off our possessions while we are alive and then are referred to as "the body" or "it" after we pass away. We want to show off our intelligence so we quarrel, fight, and argue because we know we can win, but we should know that our boastfulness will not last forever. That person who realizes that the argument is temporary is the one who prevents the arguing, the fighting, and the quarreling. He/She is the one who ends the dispute. The fool is the one who thinks he's won the argument. Husbands and wives, bosses and employees, colleagues all just want to prove their point all to protect their reputation and show their capabilities. In the end, the person who attains Jannah is the successful one. They have not set their focus on the temporary world and their temporary status and positions. May Allah (s.w.t.) guide us to live in and understand this world that it is temporary and who the truly successful are.

Continue on Page 30

**AL-HIKMAT** 

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#### **POETRY COLUMN**

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



#### LOVING MIRACLE

By. Azad Ali

Man was created to inherit this earth. He was shaped with perfection by fragments of dirt,

Bro. Azad Ali

His mind was free with variance of thought
To do as he wishes but be judged by an ultimate court......
This freedom of choice is now cause for concern
As man has ventured into a frolic of his own,
Some not wishing to follow true guidance to LOVE
A mandate sent down by the Maker above.......
Few were chosen but deviated from the path
Mended their ways to avoid their Maker's wrath,
Messages of LOVE were sent to all humanity
To attain salvation on high and earthly prosperity......
Imperfect man shall be tested in the dark and light
For thou art free to chose between the wrong and right,
Mend thy ways and thy path will forever shine
LOVE not hate oh mankind for to FORGIVE is truly
divine........

Continued from page 7

#### The Meaning Behind Christmas

By:Pastor Keith A. Spencer

Accompany Palestinians and Israelis, Jews, Christians and Muslims working together for peace with justice." As part of our own advocacy, our congregation will commemorate the United Nations' International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People with a special online service that will stream on our YouTube Channel at <a href="http://www.youtube.com/c/TrinityLuther">http://www.youtube.com/c/TrinityLuther</a> anPembrokePines beginning at 10AM in Sunday November 29th. May all Christians, Jews, and Muslims who share in the history, the present reality, and the future of the Holy Land, live into the reality of peace, advocate for it, roll up our sleeves and work towards it with all of our heart, our minds, our strength, and our spirit. Amen.

Continued from page 15

## Caring For Our Fragile Environment

By Bro. Farooq Shafi

SAW said:"The Earth is green and beautiful, and Allaah SWT has appointed you his stewards over it. The whole earth has been created a place of worship, pure and clean. Whoever plants a tree and diligently looks after it until it matures and bears fruit, is rewarded. If a Muslim plants a tree or sows a field and humans and beasts and birds eat from it, all of it is love on his part, an enduring charity." Again, on planting trees and keeping focused on our duty, even in times of calamity, he SAW said:"If the day of Judgement comes upon you while you are holding a little seedling in your hand, then go ahead and plant it." (Muslim) In other words, don't panic. Be Islamic! Trust Allaah SWT. Love, worship and adore Him. Biyadikalkhair, Says the Qur'an: In His Hand is all good. History is safe in His hands! He is our generous Landlord who has entrusted us with the keys to His property. We are the tenants. We'll be held to account. We have to treat all the other tenants well. The other tenants are: fellow human beings, the animals, the plants, the soil, the water we drink and the air we breathe. We enjoy all this as a gift from the Generous Life-Giver. We abuse it to our own peril. Islam invites us to treat every human being, every animal, plant and natural resource with respect. When we do so, we show a courtesy to our Generous Benefactor. In Islam, sharing the earth's resources in an environmentally responsible way isn't just a catchy slogan. It's a moral obligation, a spiritual imperative. Let us fulfil this awesome responsibility of caring properly for our living environment. Avoid waste, and be conscious of the impact our actions have on others.

#### HUMOR

## Politicians Love To Tell Lies

A busload of politicians were driving down a country road when, all of a sudden, the bus ran off road, the crashed into a tree in an old farmer's field.The old farmer, after seeing what had happened, went over to investigate. He then proceeded to dig a hole to bury the politicians. A few days later the local sheriff came out, saw the crashed bus, and asked the old farmer where all the politicians had gone.The old farmer said he had buried them. The sheriff asked the old farmer, "Were they all dead?"The old farmer replied, "Well, some of them said that they were not dead, but I didn't believe them, because you know how politicians love to lie."







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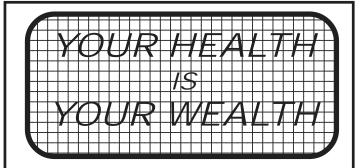
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#### AL-HIKMAT RECOGNITION CORNER

#### Brother Muhammad Azhar Hasan Community Leader

Brother Muhammad Azhar was born in India, did his Engineering from India and Masterswith Honors from Australia. Worked in India, Dubai, Singapore, Australia, Canada and USA. Migrated to Canada and then to USA about 22 years ago. He is currently an IT Manager at Cigna Health Insurance company. As a President of IAMC Florida– Indian American Muslim Council (Iamc.com) continues to serve the under privileged minority community of India from last 12 years. Empowered through strategic Advocacy for peace, pluralism and social justice. Standing up with Human Rights organizations to protect the fundamental rights of minorities. In 2019, he was presented a Community Service Award by ICNA Relief USA (Helping Hand -hhrd.org). His love for Islam and community made him contribute his efforts to establish Musallas& Quran Academy in



**BRO.** Muhammad Azhar

Florida. He was one of the founders and Board member of Islamic center of Weston, which is located in Florida and serving the community with various programs. He has been always involved in serving the community in various dimensions from Islamic works/activities, Jumma Khutbas and various other relief organization activities. Also his admiration, love, passion and determination towards propagating The Quran made him & his team establish the Quran Academy in Pembroke Pines, Florida. He is also, one of the founders and President of Ar-Rayyan Quran Academy (Learn, Love & Live The Quran) serving hundreds of community members learn Quran with several programs like: Quran Recitation, Tajweed, Qirat, Arabic program, Hafiz program for kids and adults, Tafseer program, Youth study groups, Family Enlightenment Nights etc. Making The Quran companion & part of lives. He beliefs that the value of life, is measured by the lives it touches and those who choose to be happy, must help others find happiness. Love All & Serve All

Continued from page 8,

## TEST & TRIALS

By: Sis. Sylmarie Mustapha / Coral Springs, Florida

ise and His love for us to be of those who are righteous. Allah (SWT) is the One that gives us the courage, strength, perseverance, patience and hope to help us through our difficulties. Just as when we see our children making a mistake, we correct them and put disciplinarian action into place, so that they will learn and not repeat that mistake again; and if they subsequently make another or the same mistake, we again discipline them, so that they will become obedient. So too Allah (SWT) wants to keep us in check and make us obedient servants. After every test, their comes relief, Allah (SWT) has assured us of this (Qur'an Chapter 94). Many of us have gonethrough difficulties, tragedies and devastating news, we feel it is unbearable, overwhelming and unending. We become distraught, grief overtakes us, but Allah is there with us to hold us up and eventually show us how to continue our lives and heal. Tests and trials are sent to test our patience, our faith and our love for Allah (SWT). We must be strong at these times and not question Allah as to why it happened. Know that Allah (SWT) will always bring us through these afflictions and we will be a better person, a better family, once we make more effort to worship Allah and do good and stay away from evil.

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#### Six Cancer Fighting Foods

By. Dr. Iqbal Nazir

**GREENS:** Greens provide a nice load of nutrients in a very low-calorie format, most of their calories come from protein, they are rich in folate, phytochemicals, and calcium. They promote healthy vision and weight loss, protect the blood vessels, and are linked to a lower risk of diabetes.

"BEANS: Consuming bean lentils or peas twice a week can reduce colon cancer risk by 50 percent, and legumes have also been shown to protect against cancers of the Kidney, Stomach, Larynx, and oral cancer. Beans are considered one of the most Nutrient-dense sources of carbohydrates you can find and their slow digestion and high fiber content fills you up and keep you satisfied while helping to stabilize blood sugar and keep cholesterol levels in check.

**"ONIONS:** Onions belong to the "Allium Family" which includes scallions, garlic, leeks, shallots, and chives. These foods have positive effects on the immune and cardiovascular system in addition to helping fight cancer and diabetes. Consuming lots of these foods is linked to a lower risk of prostate and gastric cancers. Their high flavonoid content allows them to slow and suppress the growth of tumors in addition to providing them with anti-inflammatory properties.

"MUSHROOMS: Mushrooms must be cooked, do not eat raw, because a substance known as agaritine present in raw mushroom is not healthy which may have carcinogens. Regular consumption of Mushrooms linked to a lower risk of stomach, breast, and colorectal cancers. One study found that women who ate 10 grams of mushrooms per day -which is equal to just one mushroom-enjoyed a 64 percent lower risk of breast cancer, adding green tea to the mix raised that decrease to 89 percent. It is their aromatase inhibitors that are believed to provide this protective effect. Mushrooms ranging from rishi, and maitake to portobello, white, and cremini all offer various benefits

."BERRIES: These are one of the superfoods, rich in nutrients, and antioxidants and low in sugar and calories, all types of berries are beneficial, but blueberries are a particularly good choice. Berries protect from cancer and cardiovascular disease thanks to their ability to reduce blood pressure and inflammation, stop tumors from proliferating, and stop DNA damage from occurring. They can be at lower risk of cognitive decline cancer and Diabetics.

**"SEEDS:** These foods contain healthy fats and a wide array of micronutrients. Chia, flax, and Hemp seeds are all great sources of Omega-3s, while flax seeds have been to protect against heart disease. Pumpkin seeds offer plenty of Calcium, Iron, Zinc, while sesame seeds are rich in vitamin E and Calcium.

Continued From Page 25

# Stop The Madness Of Killing Each Other

By Br. Twalib Ali / Canada

worldwide. This is an Appeal to mainly 'Sunni and Shia' Muslims, and any other Sect to drop these sub-titles. It is totally against the teachings of our Beloved Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him). There is no such thing as 'suicide bombing' in the Holy Ouran. The taking of an innocent life has consequences. "Do not take life which Allah has made sacred except in cases of justice". STOP BLOWING UP THE MOSQUES AND OTHER HOLY PLACES - as we were commanded by Allah in the Holy Quran. There is a punishment from Allah for this! Today every Muslim nation is on the 'hit-list' of the enemies of Islam. Just as Allah said in the Holy Quran, the Unbelievers are always trying 'to extinguish His Light'. Look at the events and circumstances throughout the world today. There are those who say 'we want peace', but their real aim is to destroy cattle and crops as mentioned in Sura Bagara - Sura 2 of the Holy Ouran. The enemies of Allah have been skillfully executing their plans, not only to divide Muslims into Groups, but to systematically humiliate them. At the present moment, the Ummat resembles little pockets of clouds that are unable to gather any strength to produce thunder and lightning and a heavy rainfall. It is a Sign of weakness. The Muslims should be like a rainladen cloud, all together, that sends out thunder and lightning that cast fear into the hearts of the Unbelievers (refer to Sura 2 Verses 17 to 20). Maybe it would be wise to contemplate on this 'Similitude' of Allah. It is so sad and mind-boggling to note the remarks of Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) on the Day of Judgement, as revealed in the Holy Ouran Sura 25 Verse 30 (Yusuf Ali text): 'O my Lord! Truly my people took this Quran for just foolish nonsense'. I humbly request that every Muslim Leader in every City throughout the World contemplate on the Commandments of Allah, especially the one mentioned in Sura 3 Verse 103 of the Holy Quran (Yusuf Ali text). History tells us how the Babylonians humiliated the chosen Children of Israel and destroyed their Temple in Jerusalem (site of the Al-Aqsa Mosque) when they disobeyed Allah. Do you think that if Muslims continue to overlook and disregard the Commands of Allah that we would be spared His Wrath and Punishment? Think again! The Promise of Allah is True. In His Superior Knowledge, He knew that we would become divided amongst ourselves. In His Mercy, He revealed to us in Sura 3 Verse 179 of the Holy Quran (Yusuf Ali text), that He will not leave us in this state 'until He separates what is evil from what is good'. In Sura 3 Verse 149 Allah says: 'O ye who believe! if ye obey the Unbelievers, they will drive you back on your heels, and ye will turn back (from faith) to your own loss'. Yesterday it was Palestine, Chechnya, Somalia and Bosnia. Today it is Afghanistan, Iraq, Lebanon and still Palestine.

Continued Next Issue •••

InShaa Allaah - Ameen - MaaShaa Allaah

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#### **QUESTION & ANSWER CORNER**

By: Shaikh Shafayat Mohamed

### Do Not Let Your Anger Control You

**QUESTION:** What does Islam say about anger?

**ANSWER:** Anger is a natural instinct. However, it is required that man keeps it under control, which if he does so, he will save himself from many difficulties. If man does not control his anger he is prone to commit innumerable sins. Anger gives rise to arrogance; it gives root to jealousy; an angry man bears malice and is also hostile. When faced with anger, one should seek refuge in Allaah from satan. "I seek refuge in Allah from the rejected devil." The Holy Prophet SAW says, "If you feel the rage of anger in you then, if you are standing, sit down. If the feeling persists in that posture, then lie down." The Prophet SAW has also said,"When you become angry, remain silent." By remaining silent and calm , one will be in complete control of one's mind and senses thus allowing one to control his or her anger. Holding on to anger is like grasping a hot coal with the intent of throwing it at someone else; while in reality you are the one who get burnt." The following are some advice given by the Holy Prophet SAW pertaining to anger Inshaa Allaah: Abu Hurayrah, may Allaah be pleased with him, reported that a man said to the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him), "Advise me." He said, "Do not become angry." The man repeated his request several times, and each time the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) told him, "Do not become angry." In another Hadith the Holy Prophet SAW said, Do not become angry and Paradise will be yours. The Prophet SAW also said, "Whoever controls his anger at the time when he has the means to act upon it, Allaah will fill his heart with contentment on the Day of Resurrection." The Mes- senger of Allaah (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) also said: "The strong man is not the one who can overpower others (in wrestling); rather, the strong man is the one who controls himself when he gets angry." Allaah Knows Best

You can send Questions to alhikmat@alhikmat.com.

Your Questions will be answered in the order they were received.

Continued from page 12

#### Looking forward To Removal Of The "Invisible Wall"

By: Linda Kaplan

Elect Biden's list of the actions he will take in his first 100 days includes fully reinstating DACA. It also says that he will work to ensure that Dreamers are eligible for federal student aid programs including loans and Pell grants. A permanent solution for the dreamers will need to be enacted by the legislature. While it is clear that there is bipartisan support for giving dreamers a path to citizenship, this has been blocked in the Senate. Hopefully, this roadblock will be cleared soon so that our legislature will be able to provide permanent relief for Dreamers. Temporary Protected Status (TPS) TPS is a temporary immigration status provided to nationals of certain countries experiencing problems that make it difficult or unsafe for their citizens to be deported there. It was created in 1990 and it gives the DHS secretary the power to decide when a country merits the TPS designation. TPS may be granted because a country is in an ongoing armed conflict, an environmental disaster has occurred or other extraordinary conditions prevent its citizens from returning safely. It can be granted for 6-18 months and may be extended if country conditions still support the designation. We currently have TPS designation for Sudan, Nicaragua, Haiti, El Salvador, Nepal, and Honduras. Please see my last blog – What is happening with TPS- here https://lindakaplan.com/what-is-happeningwith-tps-Continue on page 34

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Continued from page 33

#### Looking forward To Removal Of The "Invisible Wall"

By: Linda Kaplan

and-can-i-get-a-new-or-extended-employmentauthorization-document for a discussion of the current status for each of those countries. Many of the people with TPS status have been in the US for more than 20-30 years. They have been working legally, paying taxes, have married U.S. citizens, and are raising U.S. citizen children - many of whom are now adults. Many have started their businesses and have created jobs for U.S. citizens. For most, their work authorization and TPS status expire on Jan 4, 2021, less than two months from now. We are hoping that this status will be automatically extended in the next few days but don't have an announcement as to this yet. The Biden platform calls for protecting TPS holders from being returned to unsafe countries. It also calls for a path to citizenship for those who have been in the U.S. for an extended time and built their lives here. A path to citizenship will require legislative action which will require the Senate roadblock to be cleared. "President-Elect Biden has committed to providing TPS status to Venezuelans, something his DHS secretary can do without Congressional Approval The Muslim BanThere has been three Executive Orders signed by Trump to ban foreign nationals from predominately Muslim countries. The one signed on Jan 27, 2017, and the one from March 6, 2017, were stopped by court order. The third version of the Muslim ban was upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court. Because the ban was implemented via Executive order, it can be rescinded by Executive order. The Biden platform on this reads as follows: The Trump Administration's anti-Muslim bias hurts our economy, betrays our values, and can serve as a powerful terrorist recruiting tool. Prohibiting Muslims from entering the country is morally wrong, and no intelligence or evidence suggests it makes our nation more secure. It is yet another abuse of power by the Trump Administration designed to target primarily black and brown immigrants. Biden will immediately re-

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scind the "Muslim bans." Change of Mission statement of USCIS before 2018, the USCIS mission statement read "USCIS secures Americans promise as a nation of immigrants by providing accurate and useful information to our customers, granting immigration and citizenship benefits, promoting an awareness and understanding of citizenship, and ensuring the integrity of our immigration system."In early 2018 USCIS adopted a new mission statement "U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services administers the nation's lawful immigration system, safeguarding its integrity and promise by efficiently and fairly adjudicating requests for immigration benefits while protecting Americans, securing the homeland, and honoring our values." The most significant changes were eliminating the reference to our customers (those who apply for benefits through USCIS) and eliminating the phrase - USCIS secures America's promise as a nation of immigrants. These clearly show the anti-immigrant bias of the Trump Administration which attitude trickled down to those in USCIS making policy decisions and to those adjudicating applications and petitions. The Biden immigration platform set forth on the joebiden.com website starts with "The Biden Plan for securing our Values as a Nation of Immigrants". It acknowledges that immigration is not A threat but "an irrefutable source of our strength" It further states that "Immigration is essential to who we are as a nation, our core values, and our aspirations for the future" Let us hope that the USCIS mission statement is changed once again to be reflective of the U.S. as a nation that welcomes Immigrants and recognizes their value to the U.S. and that the new mission statement trickles down and influences the USCIS decisions going forward. More to Come This blog is more than twice as long as most of my blogs and I have only scratched the surface of what there is to say about changes that we are likely to see soon. Some of the changes can be made immediately by executive action and some can be enacted via regulatory change which will take a bit longer. Some, however, will require legislative action which may not happen (even with strong bipartisan support) without removing the roadblock in the Senate. These actions may depend on the two run-off elections in Senate races in Georgia. If both of the seats are filled by Democrats, the legislative reforms have a good chance of being enacted. If not, it may require substantial and sustained pressure from all of you to persuade the recalcitrant legislators to do what is right for the country. "

#### LINDA M. KAPLAN, P.A

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#### Making Today Better Than Yesterday

By Bro. Al Mustapha / Florida USA

knowledge of Islam than me and learn from them. I will not get angry or take revenge for my own sake; only for our Creator. I will be a good example to my family & others and leave behind a good legacy. I will always be positive and constructive. I will be planful and write down my work for tomorrow. I will listen twice as much as I speak. I will desire success for others, not just myself\* I will learn from my mistakes and the mistakes of others. I will strive to be well-organized as a person and in my work. I will be optimistic, humorous and smiling. I will focus all my ability and effort on the task at hand. I will develop and expand my skills. I will not squander what I'm blessed with and responsible for . I will not blame the situation on others. I will focus on what concerns me and concentrate on my circle of influence. I know that what befalls me could not have missed me and what missed me could not have befallen me .I will take my soul to account daily and be open and truthful with it. I will strive daily to strengthen my relationship with my Creator SWT. Allah SWT commands us in Quran chapter 33 verse 21: "Indeed in the Messenger of Allah (Muhammad SAW) you have a good example to follow, for him who hopes for the (meeting with Allah) and the last Day and remembers Allah SWT much. May Allah SWT always shower us and our families and this Ummah with His mercy, forgiveness, guidance and His Jannatul Firdaus without reckoning .Aameen!\*\*Please listen to Radio Islam Sundays at 4pm on 1470AM, 95.3FM, 96.9FM& 103.9FM. JazakAllah

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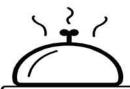






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