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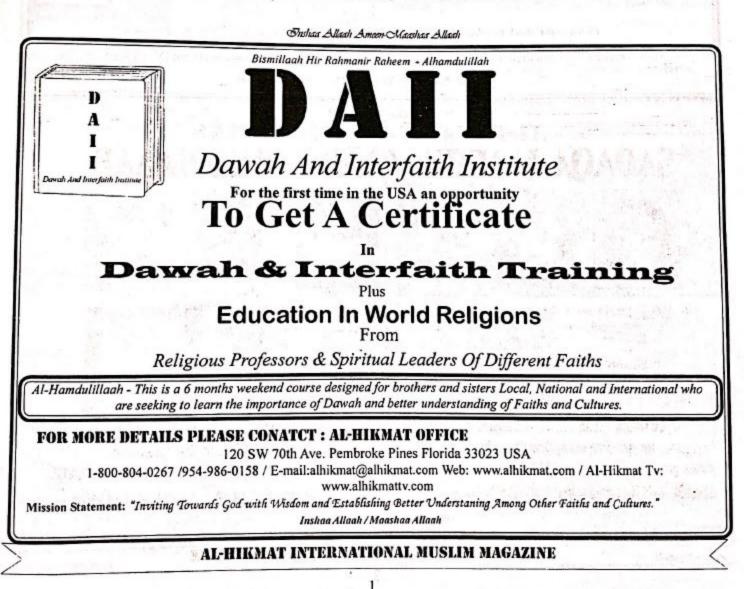
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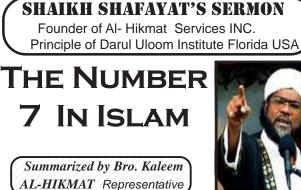
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Shaikh Shafayat

Islam is a way of life that is real and practical. We are not, nor should we be superstitious. We go by the Qur'an and the example of the Prophet (s.a.w.). In 2007, on the 7<sup>th</sup> of July, (07/07/07) people became very superstitious in the casinos which were then flooded. The number 7 was considered lucky for them. The number 7, though, also has some importance in islam. Historically, one of the reasons many people came to the number 7 superstition is because 7 has always been a very spiritual number. It was always religiously affiliated before being taken up by superstition in gambling. Among all the religions that has any affiliation to the number 7, Islam has the most. They are all from the Qur'an and sunnah. In the Holy Qur'an in Surah Talaq Chapter 65 vs #12"It is Allah who has created seven heavens and of the earth, the like of them (in seven). [His] command descends among them so you may know that Allah is over all things competent and that Allah has encompassed all things in knowledge." Also in Surah Hijri Chapter 15 vs #44It has seven gates; for every gate is of them a portion designated."In this verse, Allah refers to Jahannam as having 7 doors. We speak of Jannah having 8 doors as it is better than Jahannam in every way. Allah is deliberate in his creation so there must be a reason. It is noted in Geography, Science and even the Qur'an, Allah speaks about the 7 seas and the 7 continents. We constantly hear of the 7 wonders of the world. The number 7 has been adopted in almost every nation and belief system. Looking at creation, people became superstitious but Islam has nothing to do with such. Let's look at Salaat, the closest position to Allah is in sajdah, during which 7 bones in the body touch the ground. When we make wudhu, we wash the wrists, mouth, nostrils, face, elbows, head and feet, 7 areas. When a baby is born, The Prophet (s.a.w.) said for us to do the aqiqah on the 7<sup>th</sup> day. We do not mention this for us to become superstitious but just as a point of reflection. There are 7 major dialects of the Qur'an. Surah Faatiha is referred to the mother of the Qur'an and one of the most powerful and it comprises of seven verses. In the story of Surah Yusuf, the King dreamt

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PAS'TOR'S CORNER Pastor Keith A. Spencer / Trinity Lutheran Church, Pembroke Pines

# The Apostle Paul Writes In The Christian New Testament, Romans 12:1-8



#### By:Pastor Keith A. Spencer

1I appeal to you, therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. 2Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect."Paul tells Christian believers to no longer be conformed to this world. That the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus have changed their reality. That what should matter most becomes seeking after what matters most to God. That's why Paul says that we need to become living sacrifices. Because what matters in this world, what this world holds holy and sacred and of greatest value, is not what God holds holy and sacred and of greatest value. Do not, Paul says, be conformed to this world. Because the world wants us to conform. Will exert great pressure to bring that about. Instead, we are called to be living sacrifices, living sacrifices who understand the holy way in which we are all part of one another, a sacred community each looking out for the other. As Paul says: "So we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another." Paul is writing to Christians, but our belonging to one another is not limited to our faith, for all of us are children of God and as such, we belong to one another. Reformer Martin Luther writing in his preface to Paul's letter to the Romans some 500 years ago said this: Faith is a work of God in us, which changes us and brings us to birth anew from God....It makes us completely different people in heart, mind, senses, and all our powers, and brings the Holy Spirit with it. What a living, creative, active powerful thing is faith! It is impossible that faith ever stops doing good. Faith doesn't ask whether good works are to be done, but, before it is asked, it has done them. It is always active...."Luther continues, "Faith is a living,

Bilingualism:



# Surat Abasa 80: 1-4

By Sister Amanda Smith / Miami Florida

Allah (SWT)is Al-Kaliq, Al-Bari', Al-Musawwir. He is the Creator, the Origina-

tor, and the Fashioner. Allah (SWT)has created mankind in all of our forms. He created our nationalities, our languages, and our colors. The Holy Quran tells us in Surat Room, 30:22, "And of His signs is the creation of the heavens and the earth, and the difference of your languages and colors. Lo! herein indeed are signs for people of knowledge." The diversity of humanity is one of the beautiful signs of Allah (SWT) on earth. Every detail of every human being is a sign of Allah's (SWT) greatness, though many may not recognize it. This includes the creation of people with disabilities. Disability can often be perceived as negative. Often, others may focus a great deal on what someone with a disability cannot do and forget how much they can do. However, people with disabilities are part of Allah's (SWT) creation. They should be seen first as fellow human beings and their creation should be seen as just as beautiful. The Holy Quran addresses this topic in Surat Abasa, 80:1-4, where it says: "He frowned and turned away, (1) Because the blind man came unto him. (2) What could inform thee but that he might grow (in grace) (3) Or take heed and so the reminder might avail him? (4)." These ayas refer to a blind man who sought knowledge of Islam but instead was frowned at. Allah (SWT) rebukes this attitude in the Quran, indicating that to even frown at a blind man is not acceptable behavior. Many of us understand the importance of being kind to others with disabilities. Most people understand that it is wrong to make fun of a person with a disability or to harm them in some way. However, the surah goes beyond simple unkindness to people with disabilities. It says that this blind man came seeking knowledge sincerely and that despite his disability, he should be able to access the knowledge of Islam. He should have the right to spiritual growth. All people should be able to access the knowledge of Islam and grow spiritually, both with and without disabilities. Our paths and our means may differ, but as a community, we should not inhibit others from accessing the knowledge of Islam. When thinking about people with disabilities, we should see them as human beings first. Disability should not be perceived as a negative, but something part of the beautiful diversity of Allah's (SWT) creation. It is common for many to fear becoming disabled, or to have a child with a disability. Often, people may focus on the hardships they may experience, but forget that there can be blessings and knowledge to be gained from any situa

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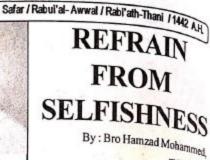


Linda Kaplan, Esa

By Linda Kaplan, Esq. / Florida USA

Now is the time to register if you are not yet registered -The deadline to register to vote is October 5th. If you are already registered the time to request a mail ballot is now. Today I am writing about the process of voting and what the vote means to a first time voter. Vote411-can be found here (https://www.vote411.org). This is a site established by the League of Women Voters to ensure voters have the information they need to successfully participate in every election - local, state or federal. You can insert your address and it will provide you with personalized voting information - you can see your ballot, check you voter registration, find your polling place and much more. When you check your ballot, you can see how each candidate answered pertinent questions or failed to respond to the questions - which also says something about the candidate. Vote 411 is available in English and Spanish There is a lot of discussion about how one should "Plan Your Vote". I plan to vote in person during the early voting period but have requested a mail in ballot in case something prevents me from in personvoting. I think that the only thing that would prevent me from voting would be being so ill that I had to be hospitalized but I have requested a mail in ballot to be certain that I don't lose my voice. You can request the mail in ballot and not use it if you decide voting in person will work for you. It's good to have this as a backup plan. If you plan to vote by mail, you should request the ballot NOW and return it as soon as you receive it. There has been much discussionabout the tight deadlines for requesting and returning the mail ballots. The New York Times included an article about this which can be found here https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/08/31/us/ politics/vote-by-mail-deadlines.html?smid=em-share Florida was listed as a state that might allow enough time for last-minute voting by mail but don't procrastinate - request a mail in ballot today. You can do this by going to your county supervisor of elections https:// dos.elections.myflorida.com/supervisors/Many years of representing clients in their

Br. Hamzad



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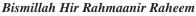
Prophet Muhammad(S.A.W.): "What disease is worse than stinginess?"Allah has given us much in this world. Can we not share some of His bounties to make another human being happy.] think so. My dear Muslim brothers and sisters in Islam, it doesn't pay to be selfish. Burnaby(prophet) Muhammad is a very good example of one who eschewed selfishness. He stood on the principle that sharing is loving and bringing us closer to the Creator, Therefore, it is inevitable for all people to adopt the rasul's (messenger) attitude of giving, and in the end, we would be happy recipients of Allah's Barakat(blessings). Let me paint a scenario, How would we feel if we are in a state of dire need, and someone who possesses plenty refuses to share a part of his wealth with us? Any right-thinking person would frown on such contemptuous behavior. Therefore, it is clear from one's perspective and others that the name of the game is sharing. Don't let the evil vice of selfishness get the better of us while our fellow beings around us languish in life's dark chambers. Now we may want to ask ourselves how can man show that he's selfish. Yes, man can be selfish with his knowledge and time. These are just two of the myriads of forms of exhibiting selfishness. I can relate to a situation where someone was asked to share his tailoring skills to a brother interested in the trade. The tailor, to my dismay, said that his knowledge of the skill is not for sale as he worked hard to acquire it. That stance is taken by the tailor wreaks of utter disdain and shows the level that some people may descend to. On this point of the sharing of knowledge, let me categorically state that Islam requires all Muslims to disseminate it-academic or spiritual. Why should we be selfish with valuable information when the more of it we share, the more is to be gained from its dissemination. Isn't it therefore wise for us to go the way of sharing and giving rather than with Holding? Come on my people wake up and do the righteous thing, else we'll fall into an abyss. But not only are some people selfish with their knowledge, they do so also with their time. How much would we lose if we were to take a little time off from our busy schedule to lend an ear to the suffering ones? Allah put us here to be of service to others, so we should not abdicate our God-given responsibility. If however, we fail to step up to the plate and deliver, we would being do so at our peril. My fellow Muslims the disadvantages of being selfish far outweigh any perceived benefits that can be derived from it. Let us all turn a new page on life and extricate ourselves from the tentacles of selfishness. With this fresh dispensation, we would then be able to move on with greater momentum to brighter things to please Allah. It is befitting that I conclude with this Quranic ayah(verse) "You will not attain righteousness till you spend in charity of the things you love ... "Ch.3: V92 

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# QUALITIES OF A GREAT LEADER By Bro. Al Mustapha / Florida USA

My friends, to excel in leadership, one must have special qualities. Some acquire such qualities as they grow more mature, while others possess them from the outset. The latter are called "born leaders", the Prophet Muhammad PBUH is the BEST

example! His conduct and qualities made it possible for him to excel in all branches of leadership to a degree that is still unmatched to date. Young would-be leaders should endeavor to acquire these exceptional qualities so they can assist and excel in the field of management and leadership. As citizens of this great country, we should also look for these great qualities in our leaders at all levels. As you've seen, we' repaying a very heavy price for choosing the wrong person to lead us! A successful leader is one who attains his ends in the best possible manner, with the least inconvenience to the team, at the minimum cost, in record time, and with high-quality performance. With modern techniques, there are several ways of doing this, but the path adopted by the Prophet Muhammad PBUH is the best, for it was with the divine guidance of Allah SWT that he became the supreme leader of the human race. "Truly, in the Messenger of Allah, you have an excellent example"(Quran33:21). Present-day leaders could parallel at least a part of his achievement if they did their best not for selfish ends, but the sake of Allah the Almighty, and if they anticipated their rewards only from Him, SWT."The following are some of the qualities of a great leader. As believers and leaders of our own families or at work or the Mosque etc. these are qualities can all strive for. Again, these are the qualities we should look for in choosing our leaders. These qualities are outlined for us in the Holy Quran and the teachings/example of Prophet MuhammadSAW."ABILITY""Let there become of you a nation that shall call for righteousness, enjoin justice, and forbid evil. Such men will surely triumph"(Q3:104). Toward the end of the world, people will occupy positions for which they are not suited. (Hadith)"CALMNESS ""'It is He who sent down tranquility into the hearts of the believers that their faith might" grow stronger" (Q 48:4).""You who believe, be patient, discipline yourselves, and hold yourselves together. Heed God so that you may prosper" (Q 3:200). ""Indeed Allah is Gentle and loves gentleness, and gives approval to gentleness which He does not give to harshness. The strong man/woman is not the one who overcomes others by his strength, but the one who though angry controls himself" (Hadith)."DEPENDABILITY &JUSTICE""Those who faithfully observe their trusts and their promises are the heirs of Paradise; they shall abide in it forever"(Q 23:8).""You who believe, stand steadfast before God Almighty as witnesses for Justice, even though it is against yourselves, your parents or your close relatives; whether it concerns a rich or a poor man, Allah God Almighty stands closer to them both. Do not be

Continued on page 34





# LEARNING TO TRUST ALLAAH (SWT) By Bro. Faroog Shafi/ Florida USA

The Angel of Revelation, Jibreela.s. asked Prophet Muhammad SAW three questions. What is Islam? What is Iman?

And what is Ihsan? From the reply we learn that Ihsan is the highest level of worship. That's when you worship Allaah SWT as if you can actually see Him right there in front of you. You know with absolute certainty that even though you cannot see Allaah SWT, then, surely Allaah SWT sees you. That is Ihsan. That is the highest level a Muslim can aspire to. The key to ihsaan, the key that opens the door to excellence of worship is simply: to trust Allaah SWT. What does it mean, to trust Allaah SWT? It's quite easy to say, "I trust Allaah SWT." But it's much harder to do that in practice with your heart and soul, over and over again, all the time, every day, and in every situation. Trusting Allaah SWT completely, constantly, takes practice and serious determination. Trusting Allaah SWT is not just a slogan. It's not just a nice sounding theory. Trusting Allaah SWT means that you set aside all your fears and anxiety, your personal likes and dislikes, set aside your ego, your lower nafs, and you do the right thing. You do it with the firm belief that Allaah SWT knows best, and that Allaah SWT will deliver a good result, whatever your own fears and prejudices might be. Most of us are not Arabic speakers. We therefore have to make a special effort to understand Arabic terms used in the sacred texts. Words are sometimes so inadequate, but it's all that we have. It's always possible that something gets lost in translation. Iman in Arabic does not just mean blind belief. It's not enough just to believe that Allaah SWT exists. Iman also implies the element of Trust. To have Iman is to have faith in Allaah SWT, and to trust Him to take good care of us. This doesn't happen overnight. We have to work hard to cultivate strong faith and trust in Allaah SWT. That is Iman. Allaah SWT is our guardian and our protector. Because we have Iman, we put our trust in Allaah SWT before anything and anyone else. The Holy Quran reminds us that: "Wakafabil-Laahishaheedaa," (4:79 and elsewhere) "And enough is Allaah SWT as a witness," "Wakafabil-Laahiwakeelaa,""And enough is Allaah SWT as a Guardian or Protector." (4:45) The Quran constantly urges us as believers to put our trust in Allaah SWT. But we human beings are forgetful. The Arabic word for human beings, mankind or humankind, is "Insaan." One of the meanings of insaan, is to be forgetful. It's part of our human nature. That's why the Holy Quran recommends dhikr, the constant and loving remembrance of Allaah SWT, as the best cure for our forgetfulness.(SuraRa'd 13:28)"Those whose hearts find peace in the Remembrance of Allaah SWT. Surely, in Allaah SWT's Remembrance do hearts find peace."Let's take an example. When we run into financial difficulty, what do we do?Most of us would run off to speak to our bank manager, or to a wealthy friend or relative. Quite often, the last thing we do is to ask Allaah SWT for help. It seems that when all else fails, when our bank manager shakes his head, or our rich friends and family make their excuses, only then do we turn to Allaah SWT. Shouldn't it really be the other way around? Shouldn't we turn to Allaah SWT first, not last! But there we are: such forgetful creatures! And yet, Allaah SWT loves us so much and Allaah SWT forgives us and He still listens to our prayers and He helps us out of our difficulty anyway.To learn Continue on page 15

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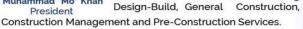
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# October /November / December 2020 **Stop The Madness** Of **Killing Each Other**

#### By Bro Twalib Ali / Canada

Remember - All actions will be looked into on the Day of Judgment which is fast approaching and our Leaders will be questioned first, and of course everyone else thereafter. SURA 22 VERSE 78 (Holv Ouran) It is He (Allah) Who have named you Muslims both before and in this Revelation that the Apostle (Muhammad - peace be upon him) may be a Witness for you and Ye be Witnesses for Mankind! Today is July 24, 2006 and it is the  $13^{th}$  day of the war between Israel and Hezbollah (a Shiite sect) as viewed on television sets, analyzed and scrutinized by many people throughout the world with running commentaries of filtered news, live-reports on mass killings, and a total disregard for human life. It is a time to reflect and observe the position of Muslims in the world today as a helpless Ummat which is so divided, that we cannot defeat one of the smallest nations on earth. While Hezbollah stood up against a nation that does not recognize Islam as the Religion of God, Muslims silently cheer from the sidelines. This is adequate proof that we are not united as an Ummat. The enemies of Islam are using Muslims as target practice in places like Gaza, the West Bank, Chechnya, Somalia, Iraq and Afghanistan, and are delighted that Muslims are divided into identifiable sects. They seem to have the ability to use this 'Divide and Conquer' tactic to have one sect wage war on the other without mercy. Even those Muslims who are not guilty of any crime are deemed 'suspects' and are incarcerated indefinitely without legal representation. They are stripped of their dignity and humanrights and in some cases, tortured and sometimes murdered as in Iraq and other countries. These are confirmed facts by Amnesty International and other Human-Rights Organizations.When Prophet Moses (peace be upon him) scolded his brother Aaron (peace be upc

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stopping the Israelites from worshipping the golden-calf and engaging in other ungodly activities, his response was quick in stating that he was overpowered by the multitude and more importantly, that they would become divided amongst themselves. Note how critical it is to divide any nation or group of people and Aaron (peace be upon him) displayed his intelligence. Today, sound leadership is absent among Muslims. Instead we have become puppets of governments who are hostile towards Islam and Muslims. Rejecters of Faith, Idol worshippers and even Unbelievers in general are skillful in supporting one sect against another (who wage war on each other) by blowing up each other's Mosques, stopping traffic in broad daylight to murder fellow Muslims of another sect, and worst of all, shouting "Allahu Akbar" while committing these atrocities. This is nothing short of outright MADNESS! These are the ones who have gone astray after having believed just as the Holy Quran states. It is sad and shameful to see innocent people losing their lives like cattle lined up for slaughter, when they are praying or simply going to the work-place or looking for a job so that they can support their families. In Iran, Iraq, Africa, India, Pakistan and most areas throughout the world, many are guilty of atrocities mainly Sunni versus Shia. Every sect will pay for their crimes. Just imagine the doctrine of the Taliban and the fact that Afghanistan's main export is an illegal substance that is harmful to the human-being physically and spiritually. This is not Islamic! Allah named us MUSLIMS in the Holy Quran (Sura 22 verse 78). He warned us not to be divided amongst ourselves and to hold fast to the Revelation of the Holy Quran. Today it is said that there are more than 70 sects in Islam. Who authorized this and who is willing to take responsibility for such? Division is the underlying cause and obvious problem of the demise of a once-powerful Ummat under the leadership of Prophet Muhammad (peace d hl

# Safar / Rabui'al- Awwal / Rabi'ath-Thani / 1442 A.H. Continued from page 11, LEARNING TO TRUST ALLAAH (SWT) By Bro. Faroog Shafi/ Florida USA

how to trust Allaah SWT, we should read about the early days of Islam. Holy Prophet SAW and his sahabah, had to endure great hardship before Allaah SWT delivered them to victory. Throughout their ordeals, their faith and trust in Allaah SWT never wavered.Enduring hardship with perseverance is an essential part of showing our faith and trust in Allaah SWT. It takes a crisis to show what we're really made of. When we face a personal calamity, do we panic? Do we resort to desperate actions? Do we throw aside our moral and ethical values? Or do we calmly accept that Allaah SWT is testing us. Do we show our complete faith and trust in Allaah SWT? Do we do the right thing, even though it may be painful or difficult? This is the acid test. A true believer always does the right thing at the right time in the right way. Even if it seems to be against our own interests, Allaah SWT commands us to be just, to be fair.In Sura Nisa, Allaah SWT urges us to remain fair and just at all times:"O you who believe! stand out firmly for justice, as witnesses to Allaah, even as against yourselves, or your parents, or your kin, and whether it be rich or poor: for Allaah can best protect both. Follow not the lusts (of your hearts), lest you swerve, and if you distort or decline to do justice, truly Allaah is well-acquainted with all that you do."When we tell lies, when we cheat, when we take advantage of others, when we exploit someone's weakness or misfortune, then we betray a lack of faith and a lack of trust in Allaah SWT. Remember that Allaah SWT has already decreed our Rizq. Whatever we do, we cannot increase or decrease that Provision. This is a very important point for us to remember. It is a matter decreed by Allaah SWT. No man and no woman will earn a penny more or a penny less than what Allaah SWT has already decreed. The only choice we have, is this. How do we earn our provision? Do we earn it with Allaah SWT's blessings or with Allaah SWT's anger? That's the crucial choice that we must make every day. Do we earn our rizq the Halaal way or the Haraam way? The actual amount of our provision has been fixed by Allaah SWT. That cannot be changed. But how will we earn what Allaah SWT has decreed for us? That's the crucial point. We can either earn Allaah SWT's anger or Allaah SWT's good pleasure. That choice is ours! All the lying, cheating, the greedy and unethical business practices will not increase our wealth. This only gets us our share along with Allaah SWT's displeasure. On the other hand, if we do things the right way, the moral way, the ethical way, we get our share as well as Allaah SWT's good pleasure and blessings with it.That's our choice.We live in

	,	interna	Commuta	On Page 30	Continued On Page 26
>	AL-HIKMAT	INTERNA	AHUNAL	MUSLIM	MAGAZINE

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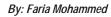
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# DAWAH / COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS By

in the community



Safar / Rabui'al- Awwal / Rabi'ath-Thani / 1442 A.H.

**Distribution Of Mask** 

**And School Supplies** 

**Photo on the left:** Alhamdulillaah ICNA Relief and Sister Naima volunteers from MSA came out to Darul Uloom on September 5, 2020 to distribute school supplies and Facial Mask to Families



# **Chalk 4 Peace**

**Photo on the right:** Alhamdulillah On October 3, 2020, MSA students put together an event that brings together people of all ages and backgrounds to spread love throughout the community by painting their peaceful, strong, and empowering words on Masjid IFSF grounds



# MSA Council Invites You to

# Jamaat Ul Muttaqeen

**Photo on the left:** On Saturday September 25th Jamaat Ul Muttaqeen Pembroke Pines Florida had a Drive thru Dinner in support of the Masjid for the community. Alhamdulillaah it was a great success.

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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 to God." HADITH: Abu Sa'eed (R.A) narrates that Rasulullah (S. A.W) said,

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

"Let there arise out of you a band of people inviting to all

"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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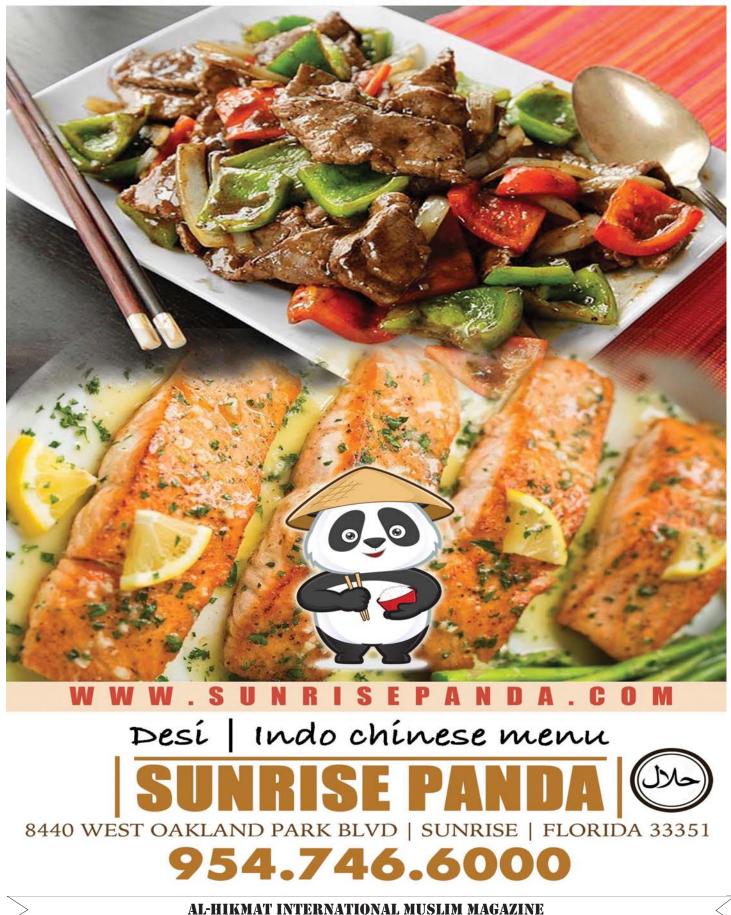
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OF UMMAH By :Ghous Muhammad

The Concept of ummah has occupied an important place in Muslim political thought from the very earliest centuries. There was a

time, soon after the demise of the Prophet of Islam - (PBUH) and for more than one century when the entire Muslim world was politically represented by a single state. There was one political administration that housed the majority of the Muslim ummah in the world. But even in those days, the ummah was not identical to the Islamic state or the 'imamah,' the term used by early Muslim jurists for the Islamic state. Muslim communities were living outside the political frontiers of Islam even in the early decades of the first century. During the tenure of the second caliph, there were Muslim communities in India," China, the Far East and other parts of the world:3 These communities were undoubtedly part of the ummah in the moral and spiritual sense but were outside the politico-geographical frontiers of Islam. In the social, cultural, religious, and ideological sense, they were certainly part of the ummah and the Muslim state was, to some extent, responsible for their welfare and defense, subject to certain conditions laid down by the Qur'an. Later, towards the middle of the second century A.H., the Islamic state was divided into two administrations: the Eastern Caliphate headed by the Abbasids, and the Western Caliphate led by the Umayyads. The concept of the ummah did not face any formidable challenge in this political division: questions of political boundaries, citizenship, rights, and privileges of Muslims living within the two Muslim administrations did not pose any serious problem to the unity and solidarity of the ummah in the spiritual and cultural sense. Despite the presence of two political administrations - and later many others, the concept of ummah remained alive and supreme. The idea of Dar al-Islam, or the territory of Islam, which was developed by the early Muslim jurists during the lifetimes of the companions of the Prophet (PBUH), provided a theoretical and legal framework for maintaining the unity of two or more political administrations inter, se. Irrespective of the specific rulers, the entire territory ruled by Muslims, whether in the East or the West, was considered a part of Dar al-Islam. A uniform and common set of rules and principles were developed by Muslim jurists of the early centuries to define the mutual rights and obligations and regulate relations between the ummah and its political authority. The law of Shari'ah, with its variant interpretations, provided a common ground for allegiance to the ummah. This allegiance was so strong that it guaranteed Muslim unity and solidarity around the globe. The difficulty was felt towards the end of the seventeenth century when, in the West, geography, and territoriality became central to the idea of a state with the development of the concept of the nation-state and the downfall of papal authority in Europe. With the fall of the Church as the unifying force and controlling power of Christian Europe and the resultant disintegration of the papal administration, eventually, militant territorial nationalism emerged and led to the total dismemberment of the Church Empire and the establishment of strong nation-states throughout Europe. All this had its fallout on Muslim thought and Muslim political thinking. From this point onwards, there were increasing encounters between Islam and the West, which kept intensifying and diversifying with time. Muslim thinkers came more and more under the influence of Western ideas through many avenues. It was from this background that nationalism and territoriality came to be acknowledged by Muslims as the major elements of the composition Continued on Page 33,

Surat Abasa, 80: 1-4

Continued from Page 7,

#### By Sister Amanda Smith / Miami Florida

tion Allah (SWT) gives us. An example of this attitude can be seen in the current trend of parents refusing to vaccinate their children, thinking that vaccines cause autism. There are mountains of scientific evidence proving that vaccines are safe, effective, and do not cause autism. However, many parents refuse to vaccinate their children out of the irrational fear that they may cause autism. Let's evaluate this attitude closely. Many parents would rather risk that their children contract a painful disease, like measles, and likely suffer and die, rather than have a child with autism. This is quite a sad bias, that the lives of people with autism are perceived to have such little value that many parents would rather their children die than have it. As Muslims, this attitude should be unacceptable. Rather, our attitude should be the opposite. Our communities should be open and willing to embrace any human being who comes to us. We should embrace all forms of Allah's (SWT) creation and make an effort to see the beauty and wisdom in them. In practical terms, our masjids and community centers should be completely accessible to people with disabilities. All centers should have ramps for wheelchairs, every khutba should have sign language interpreting, and we should offer special education services in our madrassas. To live out the meaning of surat Abasa, we should change our attitudes and our actions to make Islam accessible to all who seek it and Allah (SWT) knows best.

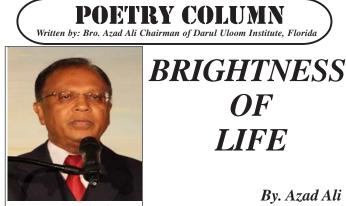
**Continued from Page 4** 

# THE NUMBER 7 IN ISLAM

Of the number seven which Yusuf interpreted and changed his entire life. We get 70 times more blessings in Ramadan, we hear of 70,000 angels making du'a for us, 70,000 angels make the tawaf. We make tawaf around the house of Allah 7 times. 7 times we go through Safah and Marwah, pelting shaytaan with 7 pebbles. There will be 7 groups of people under the shade of Allah on the day of Qiyaamah and hadith tell us that he who eats 7 dates will not be poisoned. Superstitious people have taken a spiritually relevant number and have used it for unislamic and non-religious acts. Let us think. Islam is a religion for those who ponder. We are not of the superstitious belief but we look at the spiritual significance of all things.

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Bro. Azad Ali

Do plants choose their place in the park Do their blooms fade in the silent dark, What are their thoughts in the light of dawn Do they wither against an awakening sun..? Who then did enshrine the soul in man Then placed him in many corners of this land, Who then has beautified the galaxies And has indeed preordained man's destiny ? Think deep, think well with opened eyes For we do not fade when someone dies, Our journey shall depend on our choices on earth The journey then begins when interred beneath this earth....

The UNKNOWN above knows it all From the time we were born and that final call, Embrace His creations in rainbow colors For we are His bouquet and His favourite flowers...

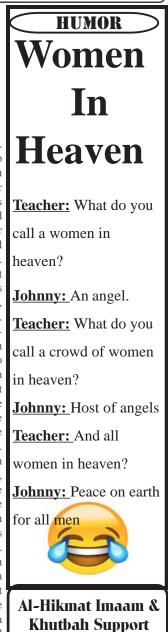
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# The Apostle Paul Writes In The Christian New Testament, Romans 12:1-8

#### By:Pastor Keith A. Spencer

unshakeable confidence in God's grace; it is so certain, that someone would die a thousand times for it....Through faith, a person will do good to everyone without coercion, willingly and happily; he will serve everyone, suffer everything for the love and praise of God, who has shown him such grace." As living sacrifices, Christians are called to embody the humility and selfless servanthood of Jesus and place the welfare and well-being of others at not only the forefront of our thinking but in the center of our hearts, our identity. Our life. Not someday, but this day. In the pandemic or out of the pandemic. Always. The life of living sacrifice can become a point of intersection for Islamic and Christian people, for a sacrificial living is both a deep and sacred Christian practice and a core teaching of Islam. And further, our oneness, our belonging to one another, binds us forever. Continued from page 15 LEARNING TO TRUST ALLAAH (SWT) By Bro. Faroog Shafi

uncertain times. Imagine this scenario. You've been working happily in the job of your dreams. Then one fateful day you are told that your services are no longer needed. You've just lost your job. What's the first thing you do? Most of us would immediately go online to start looking for another job. We'd update our CV and send it along with new application forms. That's the most logical thing to do. But one scholar gives this advice: As soon as you find yourself in a difficult situation, take a deep breath, turn to Allaah SWT. Say, "Inna lil-Laahiwainnailayhirraajioon." Put your faith and trust in Allaah SWT. That's real imaan. Before you do anything else, give sadaqah, make a donation to charity. If you have \$100 that you've saved for a rainy day, give some of it to charity immediately. You're simply reminding yourself that someone out there needs it even more than you do. This is how you keep things in perspective. You've taken a hard knock, but this isn't the end of the world. Once we realize there are millions of people out there who are much worse off than we are, then our own little problem looks like just another minor inconvenience. And when we put our trust and faith in Allaah SWT, and we have cultivated a sense of yaqeen, absolute certainty that Allaah SWT will help us, then this whole experience becomes an act of ibaadah, a beautiful form of extended worship.When you've done that, now you can go on and look for that new job, or deal with whatever situation you have to deal with. If you really put your faith and trust in Allaah SWT, then Allaah SWT will open doors for you in the most unexpected places. You'll be rewarded with an even better job than the one you had before. Believe me. I know this. I speak from personal experience.... Once, I also lost my job. I--- was made redundant with 1,500 others in very difficult circumstances. Our employer went into financial difficulty. But Alhamdulillah, I trusted Allaah SWT, and He made me financially independent as I had never been before. Just learn to trust Allaah SWT!



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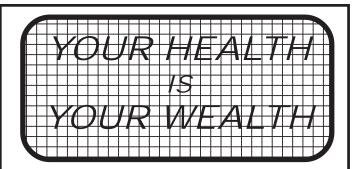
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was chosen to train other managers in different states. Many of you know him as the previous owner of Shahi Restaurant and Shezan Banquet Hall and the current owner of Ellie's Restaurant. But few know that he and his lovely wife have invented a major medical innovation which is currently being used in thousands of hospitals, nationwide and are planning to launch another invention Inshaa Allaah. Brother Raees is a strong supporter of Al-Hikmat Dawah Services. He was was a Presenter at A-Hikmat 2019 Annual Ceremony

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Continued from page 8,

# **Allaah's Promise**

By: Sis. Sylmarie Mustapha / Coral Springs, Florida

start to make proactive positive changes to maintain being physically and mentally Healthy. We refuel our vehicles so that it continues to get us from point A to point B; we get the preventative vehicle checkups, to ensure it continues to run well. Health checkups, mental checkups, vehicle checkups, home improvement...what about a self-checkup to reenergize and improve our connection with Allah (SWT). Just like we wouldn't wait for our vehicles to run empty before we refuel; so too, we all certainly have to continuously work to reenergize our soul to safeguard our connection with Allah, so we do not exist on emptiness and hopelessness..." for without doubt in the remembrance of Allah do hearts find satisfaction." (Surah Al-Rad, 13:28). To be close to our Creator is a fundamental need of every human being and striving to achieve it can be the healing for our chaotic inner selves. Therefore, it is essential to exert effort in seeking closeness to our Creator."Quote from a blind author: "I can see, and that is why I can be happy, in what you call the dark, but which to me is golden. I can see a God-made world, not a manmade world."

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An Indian spice called <u>turmeric</u> is a powerful healing root is very effective in healing and

curing inflammation, lowering the sugar level, blood pressure, and tumors.Turmeric's principle polyphenol called **curcumin** could be used in place of statins, steroids diabetics drugs, chemo, and antidepressants.In 2009, researches found that **curcumin** activates AMPK (5' Adenosine Mono-phosphate-activated protein kinase, is an enzyme that plays a role in cellular energy homeostasis) allowing for increased glucose uptake.

**Curcumin** also suppresses gluconeogenic gene expression in hepatoma cells, allowing for glucose production in the liver. When Curcumin was isolated into tetrahydro curcuminoids (THC), it activatedAMPK and acetyl-CoA carboxylase within the body 500 to 100,000 times more efficiently than common diabetic drug **Metformin**.Curcumin as an Antidepressant, a study published in a 2011 issue of *Acta Poloniae Pharmaceutica* showed how curcumin can reduce depressive behavior in animals. A 2015 study publ-ished in *Phytotherapy Research* found even more promising results in humans with major depressive disorders. A Curcumin and piperine combination significantly reduced depression symptoms in human patients andhad the greatest effects on middle-aged patients for longer duration of administration and at higher doses.

**Curcumin** in **reversing liver disease:** Curcumin possesses such great antioxidant and anti-inflammatory effects, it can reverse liver disease caused by excessive alcohol consumption. In one animal study published in the *Journal of Biochemical and Molecular* Toxicology, a formulation of curcumin-galactomannosides reversed all the pathological effects of alcohol consumption, including elevated liver toxicity markers, lipid peroxidation and inflammatory markers with a simultaneous reduction in antioxidant defenses.

Curcumin and Chemotherapy: When Chemotherapy fails Curcumin heals:

A 2010 study published in TNO *Nutrition and Food Research* found that Curcumin has value in treating cancer cells lines that do not respond to chemotherapy.Two multi-drug resistant proteins, MRP1 and MRP2, were both inhabited by curcumin and its glutathione-dependent metabolism. In conjugation, a study from the *University of Belgrade*, republic of Serbia showed that high doses of curcumin shut down multidrug resistant non-small cell lung carcinoma cell lines. A synergistic cytotoxic effect was observedwhen curcumin was combined with Sulfonimine.

<u>Plant based medicine</u> such as cannabis have opened the door and provided an outlet for more plant based antioxidants and polyphenols to enter the medical field. Turmeric is at the forefront of revolutionizing medicine. With hundreds of peer reviewed

biomedical studies proving its efficacy in

various medical applications, turmeric should finally be embraced by failing Western medicine practices.

# Continued From Page 15 **Stop The Madness** Of Killing Each Other

#### By Br. Twalib Ali / Canada

upon him). We have been reminded about several 'DOs' and 'DON'Ts' in the Holy Quran and we all know what happened when Iblis (Satan) disobeyed Allah's Command. We also know what happened to Adam and Eve when they disobeyed Allah. We have been told what happened to those among the Children of Israel who were in charge of Allah's Book when they became divided among themselves through selfish envy only after they had knowledge of the Revealed Scriptures. This same thing happened to the Christians. Allah tells us in the Holy Quran that they forgot a part of the Message and also became divided amongst themselves with enmity and hatred.Let us look at our position today. Almost every Muslim seems to identify himself or herself with a sect or a division. It is virtually impossible to go anywhere and not be asked by non-Muslims 'what sect are you?' Each sect is saying they are the ones on the Right Path, just as it was revealed in the Holy Quran in Sura 23 Verse 53 & 54: Verse 53 – "But people have cut off their affair of UNITY between them, into sects; each party rejoices in that which is with itself." Verse 54 - "But leave them in their confused ignorance for a time."Allah reminds us in Sura 21 verse 106 - "Verily in this Quran is a Message for people who would truly -worship God (Allah). THE BROKEN **COMMANDMENT** This is one of the most compelling verses in the Holy Quran and a COMMAND from our Beloved Creator: SURA 3 VERSE 103"And hold fast, all together, by the Rope (the Holy Quran) which Allah stretches out for you, and **BE NOT DIVIDED AMONGST YOURSELVES**, and remember with gratitude Allah's favour on you; for ye were enemies and He joined your hearts in love, so that by His Grace, ye became brethren; and ye were on the brink of the pit of fire, and He saved you from it. Thus doth Allah make His Signs clear to you; that ye may be guided." Even in Verse 105 of the same Sura 3, Allah warns us again about dividing ourselves into sects:"Be not like those who are divided amongst themselves and fall into disputations after receiving Clear Signs; for them is a dreadful penalty". Look at what is happening to the entire Muslim Ummat today. It's bad enough to be in a world where Muslims are approximately onefifth of the world's population and are full of resources (oil etc.), and yet some of the poorest people per capita are Muslims living under occupation, tumult and oppression, lacking leadership, academic knowledge and skills mainly because of cultural practices, innovations and tradition. We often boast about prior decades of Muslim accomplishments in Science and Technology and even withthe most modern type of equipment and method of communication, we have grown further apart because we have

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By: Linda Kaplan

Immigration matters have given me an increased appreciation of the importance of voting to all of us. My clients have made me more patriotic because they work so hard for the privilege of living in the US and even harder for the privilege of voting. There was a touching story recently published in the New York Times by a woman who wrote about the reverence that her immigrant mother showed for her right to vote. The author wrote about her Chinese mother who came to the US in 1989 and was able to vote for the first time this year in the Primary election. She has been subjected to brazen and unabashed hostility as a Chinese person in the era of Covid-19 but that did not keep her from feeling that this is her country, her home and to appreciate that we have opportunities to change for the better. The author describe watching her mother vote in their kitchen in a way that seemed she was performing a delicate ritual. Her mother no longer relegated herself to the crowd of the voiceless in this nation. She voted, and come November, she will vote again.



LINDA M. KAPLAN, P.A Over 40 Years of Legal Services in Immigration & Naturalization 305-670-7665 Ik@lindakaplan.com

# Continued from page II QUALITIES OF A GREAT LEADER

#### By Bro. Al Mustapha / Florida USA

led by any passion lest you deal unjustly. If you distort your testimony or decline to give it, God Almighty is still informed of what you do" (Q 4:135)."EXEMPLARINESS "Come I will recite what your Lord has made binding on you. Serve no other gods besides Him. Show kindness towards both your parents. Do not kill your children because of poverty; we shall provide for you as well as for them. Do not kill any person for that God has forbidden-except through (due process of) law. He has instructed you in this so that you may grow in wisdom. Do not indulge in shameful acts, be they open or secret. Do not tamper with an orphan's wealth before he comes of age, except to improve it. Give full measure and weight in all fairness. We do not charge any person with more than he can bear. Whenever you speak, be just, even though it affects a close relative. Fulfill God's covenant. Thus has He instructed you, so that you may take heed? This is My Straight Road, so follow it and do not follow (other) paths that will separate you from Him. Thus has He instructed you so that you may do your duty"(Q 6:151-153). Prophet Muhammad PBUH said: "There is nothing which weighs heavier in the balance than good character". A leader must example in character and lead by attitude!"FAIRNESS""We have sent our Messengers with explanations and sent the Scriptures and the scales of Justice down with them so that men may conduct themselves with fairness" (57:25)."A leader must be fair in his/her dealings. They should be so impartial that nothing influences their decisions except the facts! The leader must be justly balanced and this should reflect in all their actions and decisions. The Prophet PBUH said "All actions are judged by their intention. Two characteristics are NOT found together in a hypocrite, good manners, and an understanding of Religion"."JUDGEMENT "Whenever you judge between people you should do so with fairness" (4:58)."Prophet Muhammad PBUH said, "Allah is with the one making Judgement, that is, His help and guidance are reaching him as long as he is just

# Safar / Rabui'al-Awwal / Rabi'ath-Thani / 1442 A.H.

and fair; but when he departs from the path of justice and fairness and becomes unjust and tyrannical, the Lord leaves him alone and the devil attaches himself to him". Also, a leader should not be a dictator but should consult with his/her associates and deputies to arrive at the most suitable solutions to problems. They should be easily approachable by those concerned and should have the modesty to not claim credit for their achievements."MODESTY"Be modest in the way you walk and lower your voice; the ugliest sound is a donkey's braving"(31:19). "God does not love the man who is arrogant and boastful" (4:36). "Prophet PBUH said: "Allah the most exalted, has revealed to me that you should be courteous and cordial to each other, so that nobody may consider himself superior to another nor harm him". "NOBILITY""Oh mankind, we have created you from a male and female and set you up as nations and tribes, so that you may recognize one another. The noblest among you before Allah are those of you who best perform their duty. God Almighty is All-Knowing and Wise (49:13). Prophet PBUH said:"The best among you are the"best mannwho have those ers"."PERSONALITY""A lasting recompense awaits you (Oh Prophet) for yours is a sublime nature"(68:4).""The servants of the Beneficent are those who walk upon the earth modestly, and when foolish ones address them, they answer, Peace!"(25:63)."The mainstay of leadership, a good personality, is essential to command the respect of followers. The leader must be diplomatic in dealing with people to win their hearts."QUALITY ""Indeed, he succeeds who purifies himself'(87:14). Prophet Muhammad PBUH said:""Beware of committing oppression, for, on the Day of Resurrection, oppression will be darkness, and beware of avarice, for avarice destroyed those who came before you; it led them into the shedding of blood and making lawful that which was forbidden for them".Quality is the essence of leadership. All ventures will be judged by the quality of performance attained by the leader's purifying himself and not oppressing any of his followers in the maintenance of discipline. This cannot be achieved unless he takes responsibility for his actions and the results."My friends, these are just some of the important qualities we should aspire to and look for when choosing our leaders. May Allah the Allmighty guide us to vote in November for the candidate with the best character and leadership qualities as Allah SWT described in His last revelation the Quran and as shown to us by His last Messenger Prophet Muhammad PBUH the Greatest Leader to walk this earth! Ameen!" Excerpts: A-Z Steps to Leadership, A. Barrie 

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#### QUESTION & ANSWER CORNER By: Shaikh Shafayat Mohamed

# Continuous Blessings After We Die

**QUESTION:** What are some of the things that we can do as Sadqa Jaariya for ourselves and Parents who have passed away?

ANSWER: "Al-hamdulillah Sadaqatul jariyah is an ongoing charity (continuous rewards) received by us (for good actions and deeds), that will not only benefit us in this life but will continue to benefit us after our death."Allaah SWT says: "... and spend something (in charity) out of the provision which we have bestowed you before death should come to any of you and he should say, o my Rabb! Why do you not give me respite for a little while? I should then have given (largely) in charity, and I should have been one of the doers of good." (Qur'aan, 63:10)"Anas ibn Malik reported: The Messenger of Allah, peace, and blessings be upon him, said, "Seven deeds of a servant continue to be rewarded after his death while he is in his grave: knowledge to be learned, constructing a canal, digging a well, planting a date-palm tree, building a mosque, handing down a written copy of the Quran, and leaving a righteous child who seeks forgiveness for him after his death.""It is narrated from 'Aa'ishah that a man said to the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him): "My mother died suddenly and she did not leave a will, but I think that if she could have spoken, she would have given in charity. Will she have a reward if I give in charity on her behalf?" The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) said: "Yes.""It was also narrated by Sa'd ibn 'Ubaadah that his mother died when he was absent, and he said: "O Messenger of Allaah, my mother has died when I was absent. Will it benefit her if I give in charity on her behalf?" He said: "Yes." He said: "I ask you to bear witness that my garden that bears fruit is given in charity on her behalf. ""Therefore, the deceased can benefit from charity given on his behalf, which includes distribution of Qur'aan on their behalf, etc, digging a well, planting a tree, whether he does that during his lifetime or it is done by someone else on his behalf after his death. "The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) said: "When a person dies, all his good deeds come to an end except three: ongoing charity, or beneficial knowledge, or a righteous child who will pray for him." "The following are recommended to do as Sadqa Jaariya Inshaa Allaah."Donate and/or actively participate in the building of a Mosque; building or donating to build an Orphanage; raising or sponsoring an orphan; teach someone to recite Quraan, and every time they recite Quraan, you will get blessings, even after your death. If your student teaches Qur'aan to another person, every time that person reads the Qur'aan, you will get blessings from his recitation, even after you have long died until the end of this world; give copies of the Holy Qur'aan and each time someone reads from it, you will receive blessings; donating to build an Islamic school. When the students use the knowledge, they receive from the school, you get blessings, even after you have died; give away Islamic reading materials; teach someone to recite Dua and/or Dhikr ( Remembrance of Allaah ) and each time it is recited, you will gain blessings; help a student to continue his

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or her Islamic Education; donate to dig and build water wells or construct water tanks and when people use this well or tank you will receive blessings.; plant trees or donate for this cause, each time people or animals sits under the shade or eats from these trees, you will receive blessings, even after you have died; place a water cooler in a public place. Each time people drink water from it, you will gain blessings." Abu Huraira (Radhiallahu anhu) reported: Allaah's Messenger (salAllahu alayhi wa sallam) as saying: He who called (people) to righteousness, there would be a reward (assured) for him like the rewards of those who adhered to it, without their rewards being diminished in any respect.""The likeness of those who spend their wealth in the Way of Allah is as the likeness of a grain (of corn); it grows seven ears, and each ear has a hundred grains. Allaah gives manifold increase to whom He pleases. And Allah is All-Sufficient, All-Knower." [Al-Bagarah 2:261]"Share or email this answer with your relatives, brothers, and sisters. If any of the above points are applied by them, you will receive blessings and you will continue to receive blessings until the day of judgment (if the deeds are continued)""Allaah Knows Best / Please remember us in your

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

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THE CONCEPT OF UMMAH

By: Ghous Muhammad

Of the state. No doubt, the increasing appeal to the idea of the nation-state harmed the concept of the ummah and the unity of the Dar al-Islam. Territorial nationality became a decisive factor in the political debate, not only in the West but also in the East. It continued to acquire more and more influence, until, in time, the very concept of the ummah, as defined by early Muslim scholars and maintained by later generations, was desecrated. (Extract from Islam International Law and the World Today by Mehmood Ahmed Ghazi)(Institute of Policy Studies Islamabad)Quran is our goal and the means to that goal become obligatory. In Islamic law what is needed to fulfill and the obligatory act becomes obligatory. Today Quranic values of Jihad, Islamic self-determination, and Muslim self-governance by Shariah law are all obligatory for the Ummah and we need to use the contemporary tools and techniques from the world of finance, economy, politics, technology, and all other beneficial epistemic resources to achieve our Quranic goals.

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