



Desire for the guidance of humanity

Maulana Abul Hasan Nadwi (R) writes, “Nabi Muhammad ﷺ had a burning desire to invite humanity towards Islam. Despite 13 years of untiring effort in Makkah Mukarramah and 8 years in Madinah Munawwarah, there was no large scale movement of non-Muslims into Islam. Between 8AH and 10 AH, which is the period after Fath-Makkah (Conquest of Makkah) until Nabi’s ﷺ demise, there was such an influx of people entering the ranks of Islam that was not witnessed in the preceding 20 years.”

Imam Zuhri (R), an eminent Scholar and Tabi’i (companion of the Sahabah), expressed surprise on this sea of change, with so many people embracing Islam in a matter of just 3 years. Along with other distinguished Scholars he has

commented that this was due to non-Muslims having had an opportunity for the first time, to observe and intermingle with Muslims, witness their honesty, fair dealing, compassion and sole reliance on Almighty Allah. This left such a deep and profound impression on non-Muslims that thousands entered into the fold of Islam within a relatively short period of time.

This incident also contains abundant lessons on how Muslims should live today. Their conduct should be sublime and captivating. Whosoever sees us should accept Islam. Whosoever sits with us should be inclined towards Islam. There should be no need to convince anyone to accept the truth.

9th SAUF Conference ends on a note of optimism

The Southern African Ulama Forum (SAUF) held its 9th conference of Ulama at Crescent Hall, in Parlock, Durban on the 18, 19, 20 of October 2019. The Southern African Ulama Forum (SAUF) holds a biennial conference of Ulama within the Southern African Region as a professional development programme (PDP) for scholars.

SAUF was initiated 18 years ago with 9 conferences held thus far in different SADC countries. Darul Ihsan Humanitarian Centre, based in Durban, was nominated to host the 9th SAUF conference. Hundreds of Muslim scholars from over ten regional countries (SADC region) and even beyond, participated. Many senior and leading Ulama, directors of Ulama bodies, senior lecturers, Mashaaikh, foreign Ulama, guests, dignitaries and young Ulama who are actively involved in serving the Ummah through various community work were present.

This year’s programme once again brought to the fore important and critical discussions affecting the Ulama and the Ummah. A series of insightful presentations were delivered by a host of expert Ulama from different countries on major challenges facing the Ummah. Topics such as: Lessons from Muslims of Sri Lanka, Emotional Intelligence, Social Cohesion among scholars, the neglected duty of Dawah to non-Muslims, Marginalisation of Ulama, Islamic Economics and Banking among other topics were

presented and discussed. Extensive time was allocated for interaction and contribution from the floor through a Q & A session. The enthusiasm of the Ulama and their robust engagement was a breath of fresh air in a time of despondency, especially among young Ulama. The spirit of discussions was balanced, moderate and held with utmost decorum and respect shown for the differing views and opinions.

The SAUF conference seeks to stimulate the youthful energy of the younger Ulama and wisdom of the elders and seniors - a blend that is most essential for the success of our communities. We humbly request dua for the positive outcome and benefit of this conference. It was most encouraging to observe that Ulama from such diverse regions travelled long distances to attend the programme. There was great optimism among delegates about unity, cohesion and networking for the greater good of the Ummah.

Many expressed their gratitude and hope that the SAUF platform can play a major role in contributing to addressing the challenges of the Ummah and cohesion of the Ulama. The next SAUF conference has been confirmed to be held in Swaziland in 2021.

May Allah Ta’ala take the Ulama from strength to strength and crown the sterling efforts of all Ulama with success and acceptance. Aameen.



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The four conditions of daily life

Hazrat Dr Abdul Hayy Arifi (R) has mentioned that in daily life there are one of four conditions that a person experiences:

1. Conditions that conform to a person's liking and wishes
2. Conditions that are contrary to one's wishes
3. Recalling the mistakes of the past and the losses incurred thereby
4. Fear of the challenges that lie ahead

Our response and approach to these four conditions should be as follows:

- When conditions are favourable one should express gratitude
- Allahumma lakal Hamd walakashukr
- this will preserve the goodness
- When conditions are unfavourable, recite Inna lillahi wa inna ilayhi rajoon



- this will bring the reward of patience and grant one the proximity of Allah Ta'ala

- When recalling the errors and losses of the past, say Astaghfirullah

- past sins will be wiped away

- When fearing what is to come say, Allahumm inni auzu bika min jameeil fitan ma zahara minha wama batan - through this supplication the future will be protected.

From the discourses of Hazrat Dr. Abdul Hayy Arifi (R)

Correction

In issue 18 (Zul Hijjah 1440/ August 2019) of the Al Ihsan Times, there was a factual error in the article on the canal that was built under the instruction of Zubeda, wife of Haroun al Rashid. It was stated that in 1275 A.H. the "Saudi government"

commissioned the restoration of the canal, which had become dysfunctional over time. In actual fact, it was the Ottoman (Usmani) Empire that was ruling Hijaz at the time that had commissioned the restoration of the canal.

Living the Seerah in contemporary times

The Seerah of the Prophet ﷺ is one of the most profound sources of guidance for Muslims. It inspires and empowers us to be better Muslims. Yet for many, the events of Seerah are abstract bits of history that might sound sensational from which we are unable to draw relevance to present day challenges.

The Seerah must be a living message where we connect the dots from the past to our lives in the present times.

The life of the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ is full of priceless examples that display the most perfect and sublime model for Muslims and humanity alike. His life is one that was dominated by a purity and perfection in morality, mannerisms; character, justice, sympathy, concern, compassion, mercy, forgiveness, generosity, humility and a host of other good qualities that made him the paragon and pride of all creation.

Every person, from the wealthy to the needy, the ruler and the subjects, the strong and the weak, the teacher and the student, the merchant and the craftsman, the employer and the employee - in every position and role in life will find the guidance he seeks.

Learning about Seerah does not mean just reading a book; it involves contemplating, pondering, reflecting, and deriving lessons from it and applying those lessons in our lives. It requires developing a living relationship and a bond with Nabi Muhammad ﷺ.

The study of the Seerah also develops true love of Muhammad ﷺ in our hearts and loving Him ﷺ is a means of our spiritual elevation. To love Nabi Muhammad ﷺ is a fundamental of our faith. Rasulullah ﷺ said: ***"None of you will attain true faith until you love me more than your parents, your children and the whole world"***

(Bukhari)

Muhammad ﷺ is the only man in the history of mankind whose life has been documented with precision and absolute detail. We know the way he ate, drank, greeted, dressed, etc. Although there is not a single picture of him, his physical appearance is documented. It is through the sound recording of His ﷺ life, that we will find answers to the personal, societal and political challenges that the Ummah faces.

"There is indeed a good model for you in the Messenger of Allah - for the one who has hope in Allah and the Last Day, and remembers Allah profusely."

(Surah Ahzab: 21)

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All India Muslim Personal Law Board (AIMPLB)

Babri Masjid/Ayodhya Verdict

The Honourable Supreme Court of India, today has pronounced its judgement in the Babri Masjid case. Various findings recorded in the judgement are in favour of the Muslim parties. The contentions raised by the Muslims parties, such as the Mosque being constructed in 1528 and Namaz being offered in the Mosque till December 1949, have been accepted. The Honourable Court has also accepted the fact that the Masjid/building was used as a Mosque after 1856 till 1949. The Honourable Court has accepted that the idol of Lord Ram was placed inside the Mosque on the intervening night of the 22nd - 23rd December 1949.

The Honourable Court has further accepted our contentions that neither the Report of ASI nor Faith, can be the basis to decide a Title Suit. Further, it has also been held that the very spot or vicinity of land on which Lord Ram was claimed to have been born has no distinct legal personality.

Further, our contention that even the Traveller's account cannot be the basis to decide Title has also been upheld by the Honourable Court. These contentions have been

consistent throughout the proceedings including the fact that Isha Namaz was also offered in the building on the night of 22nd December 1949.

The Nirmohi Akhara in its Suits filed in 1885 and 1941 has accepted the existence of the Mosque at the site. Its claim in the said Suits/Cases was that the Chabootra in the outer courtyard of the Mosque was the birthplace of Lord Ram.

In as late as 1989, for the first time, in the Suit filed on behalf of Lord Ram Lalla and the Janambhoomi itself, it was claimed that Lord Ram was born exactly below the central dome of the Mosque. Up until 1989, no Hindu Party had made the claim

of Lord Ram having taken birth exactly below the central dome of the Mosque.

With anguish we state that in this historical background, where the Idol of Lord Ram was placed inside the Mosque in 1949 (being a criminal action), no effective legal proceeding has taken place. History has recently witnessed the demolition of the Mosque in 1992.

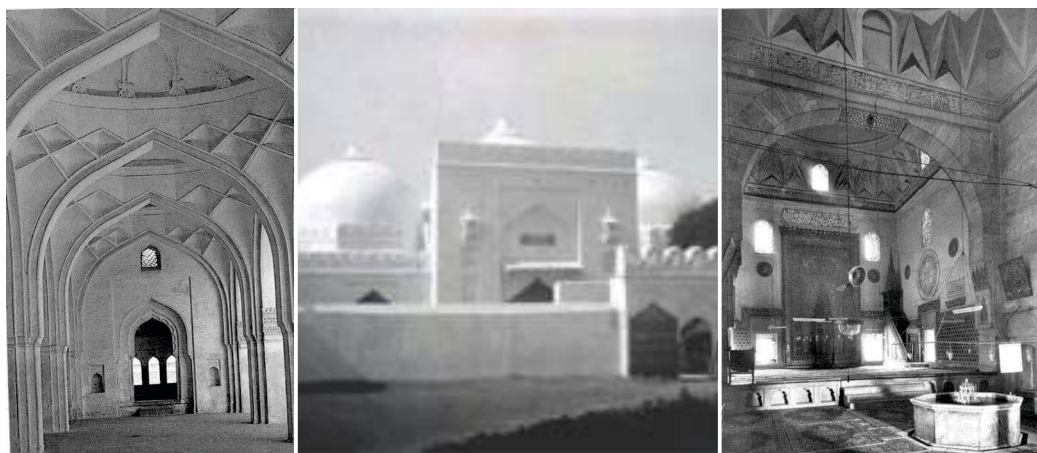
The Board took all effective steps in placing all the documentary and oral evidence to prove the above facts and contested the case with sincerity and diligence. The effort put in to contest the case effectively before the Honourable Supreme Court may be discerned by

the sheer volume of the record of the case.

Despite all of the above, the conclusion of the judgement of the Honourable Supreme Court has gone against us and the land of the Babri Masjid has been given for the Temple by exercising extraordinary discretionary powers of the Honourable Supreme Court which is painful. We are taken by surprise with the final conclusion. However, the Board will examine the judgement in detail and take appropriate decision as to whether a Review Petition ought to be filed. We appeal to the Muslim community at large, not to be disappointed and to exercise restraint from any action which may effect the peace and harmony of the country.

A Mosque is the house of Allah and its protection is pious duty of Muslims and the Board has tried to fulfil the same. You may wait for further views of the Board on the issue.

Issued by:
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Reverence of Imam Malik (Rahimahullah)

Imam Malik (R) is one of the great Imams of Fiqh and Hadith. He is known as Imamu Daril Hijrah (the Imam of the city of Hijrah i.e. Madinah Munawwarah). His Muatta is one of the most famous compilations of Hadith. He was born in 93 AH and passed away in 179 AH. He was a resident of Madinah Munawwarah and he lived there for his entire life. He would very seldom leave Madinah Munawwarah and only made one Hajj because he did not wish to leave Madinah Munawwarah.

He had immense amount of respect for the Ahadith of Rasulallah ﷺ and for Madinah Munawwarah.

He would have a Ghusl (bath) and apply Itr (perfume) before learning or teaching Hadith. He would wear a new garment everyday.

His student, Abdullah ibn Mubarak (R) says that on one occasion in the lesson of Hadith we saw the face of Imam Malik (R) changing colour (in distress) 16 times. After the lesson, we asked him the reason for this. He replied that he had been bitten by a spider 16 times. We asked him why he didn't stop the lesson. He

replied, "How could I interrupt the august lesson of Hadith because of distress to me?"

Imam Malik (R) says, "There was not a night in which I had not seen the Nabi of Allah ﷺ.

He had great reverence for Madinah Munawwarah and would never ride a conveyance in the blessed city of Madinah Munawwarah. When he was asked the reason for this he replied, "How can I ride a conveyance on the places where Nabi ﷺ had walked?" Some reports state that he would walk barefoot in Madinah Munawwarah for the same reason.

He would never relieve himself in Madinah Munawwarah. He would go beyond the precincts of the Haram, which is beyond Mount Uhud (approximately 5 kms outside Madinah Munawwarah), to relieve himself. He would only relieve himself once every 3 days.

This was the extent of the reverence which our predecessors had for the Ahadith and the city of Rasulallah ﷺ. May Allah bless us with some degree of the love and reverence which these pious predecessors had for Rasulallah ﷺ.

The Seerah - Uplifting the spirits of those around us

Let us face it, life is tough! Through the haze of work commitments, chores, managing finances, meeting deadlines and targets, very little is left for family time. In the same breath it can be said that the weight of living can become overbearing. Constant stress, worry and anxiety are afflictions which have kneeled the mightiest amongst us.

The aim of this article is to cast a light on the life of the best of examples, Nabi Muhammad ﷺ, and the balanced life which He led. To bring us into context, let us imagine the environment which He faced. Tasked with the weighty responsibility of Prophethood at the age of 40, Nabi Muhammad ﷺ was mandated with spreading the divine message of truth in an era which was termed as 'Ayyame Jahiliyya' - The period of ignorance or darkness. Whilst other Prophets had successors to follow, Nabi ﷺ had to leave a legacy which would continue and resonate through the ages of time. The timeline to accomplish this universal task was 23 years. Tasked with uplifting women and establishing their rights, he was sent in a time where it was common practice for men to bury their baby daughters alive. He had to call to the Oneness of Allah and there around the Ka'ba sat 360 idols of polytheism.

One can only imagine the weight, responsibility and concern which the Beloved of Allah ﷺ used to carry in His heart.

Despite the enormity of the mission placed before Him, the Nabi of Allah ﷺ always had time to uplift

the spirits of those around Him. He had the time to joyfully engage with a young boy Abu Umair and enthrall him with a rhyming of words in reference to a bird which he used to play with, "Oh Abu Umair, what did Nughair do?"

When this bird died, Nabi ﷺ visited Abu Umair to placate and console him on the loss of his valuable companion, the pet bird. Again by using this play on words Nabi ﷺ consoled him thus, "Oh Umair, what happened to Nughair?"

The Nabi of Allah, Nabi ﷺ ran races through the desert with His spouse, Aisha (RA). He had the time to be light hearted and engage in humour with his companions. The companions queried, "Oh Nabi of Allah you joking with us?" He responded, "I only speak that which is truthful."

On one occasion the Leaders of the Youth of Jannah, Hassan ؓ and Husayn ؓ were perched on the shoulders of Nabi ﷺ. When Umar ؓ saw this, he told the children: "How precious is your horse!" Nabi ﷺ replied: "They are fine riders as well."

No one who had more responsibility than the Seal of All Prophets, Nabi Muhammad ﷺ. Yet despite the heavy "work schedule" we learn that He did not allow that to affect his demeanour, attitude and treatment of those around him. If we simply draw upon this characteristic of Nabi ﷺ, the quality of being pleasant, of having the heart to solicit smiles from those whom we interact with, we will all live a better quality of life.

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The Sublime Conduct of Nabi Muhammad ﷺ

"And surely you are on an exalted standard of character." (Surah Qalam 68:4).

The character of Nabi ﷺ is described most aptly by his dear wife Hazrat Aaisha (R) who said: **"His character was the Qur'an."** (Musnad Ahmad)

In other words, he is the living example of the Qur'an that teaches high morals.

Hazrat Ibn 'Abbas ؓ has said that 'exalted quality of character' signifies a 'great religion, and it is Islam, a religion dearest to Allah'. Hazrat 'Ali ؓ said that 'exalted quality of character' signifies the 'good manners taught by the Qur'an'. All these interpretations signify that Nabi ﷺ possessed such character and excellence that qualified him to be the true guide and inspiration for humanity. Nabi ﷺ was a complete embodiment of all good that a human is capable of possessing.

Rasulullah ﷺ himself said: **"I have been sent to perfect noble conduct."** (Musnad Bazzar)

Compassion for the young

Hazrat Anas ؓ says: "I remained in the service of Nabi ﷺ for ten years. He never once told me 'oof.' When I did something, he never asked me: 'Why did you do so?' If I did not do a certain task, he never asked me as to why I had not done so?" (Bukhari and Muslim)

Obviously, a ten-year period is a long time during which some unpleasant or objectionable thing might have happened.

Hazrat Anas ؓ narrates, "Nabi ﷺ had the best of Akhlaq. One day he sent me for some work and I said to myself that by Allah I will not go to do what Nabi ﷺ had instructed me to do. I came out until I passed by some boys playing in the market place. Suddenly Nabi ﷺ placed his hand on my neck from behind me. I looked at him and he smiled at me asking, "O Unais! Did you go where I instructed to go?" I replied, "Yes. I'm going now O Nabi ﷺ." (Muslim)

Not causing harm to anyone

Hazrat Aaisha (R) said: "Rasulullah ﷺ never struck anyone with his hands, except when he was fighting in jihad in the cause of Allah. He did not hit any servant, nor any woman. He would never take personal revenge for any harm or mistake done. He would only implement Shar'i punishment on those who violated Allah's laws." (Muslim)

Never said 'No'

Hazrat Jaabir ؓ reports that Rasulullah ﷺ never said 'no' to the request of a person. (Bukhari and Muslim)

Always smiling

Hazrat Jareer ibn Abdillah Al Bajali ؓ narrates that Rasulullah ﷺ did not turn me away since I accepted Islam nor did He ﷺ see me except that He had a smile on His blessed face. (Bukhari and Muslim)

Noble Speech and mannerisms

Hazrat Aaisha (R) says: "It was not the nature of Rasulullah ﷺ to talk indecently, nor did he engage himself in the use of obscene language. He would not shout and talk in the bazaars (which is against dignity). He did not avenge a bad deed with a bad one, but forgave it. Thereafter he would not even mention it." (Tirmizi)

Hazrat Anas ؓ narrates, "I was walking with Nabi ﷺ, and he was wearing a coarse-edged shawl that was manufactured in Najran. A Bedouin advanced to Nabi ﷺ and pulled the shawl with such force that I saw the imprints on the blessed shoulder of Nabi ﷺ. He then said, "Assign to me some of Allah's wealth that is in your possession!" Nabi ﷺ turned towards him, smiled, and commanded somebody to give him some wealth." (Bukhari)

Service to the family

Hazrat Aswad ؓ says, "I asked Hazrat Aaisha (R) what Rasulullah ﷺ

used to do in his house?" Hazrat Aaisha (R) replied, "He ﷺ was in the service of his family. When the time of used Salah used to come he used to go for Salah. (Bukhari)

Greeting with affection

Hazrat Anas ؓ narrates that when Rasulullah ﷺ would meet anyone he would not move his hand away until that person moved his hand away and he would not turn his face away until that person turned his face away..." (Tirmizi)

Forgiveness and compassion

On the occasion of Fath (the conquest of) Makkah, Rasulullah ﷺ had all the opportunity to take revenge against the Mushrikeen (idolators) of Makkah after all the persecution and atrocities which they had committed against him and the Muslims. Yet he addressed them with the following words:

"...O group of the Quraish! What do you think I'm going to do to you?" They replied, "We think that you will be good to us. You are a noble brother who is a son of a noble brother." He ﷺ said, "I am addressing you in the same manner which Hazrat Yusuf ؑ addressed his brothers: 'There is no reproach on you today. Go, for you are all free.'" (Faidhul Qadeer)

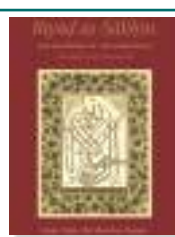


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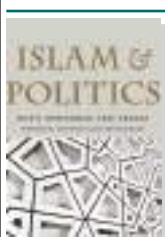
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Sadaqa Jariya

Nabi ﷺ Said: "The deeds for which a believer continues to receive their rewards are:

1. Knowledge which he taught and spread, 2. Pious children which he left behind, 3. A copy of the Quran which he left as a legacy, 4. A Masjid which he built, 5. A residence for travelers, 6. A canal which he dug, 7. Charity which he gave during his life and in good health." (Mishkaat)

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Loyalty and devotion of Hazrat Uthman ؓ

Hazrat Uthman ibn ‘Affan ؓ was not present at the time when the bay’ah (pledge) of Jihad (for defending the life, rights and honour of Muslims) was taken at Hundaybiyah because Rasulallah ﷺ had sent him to Makkah Mukarramah to negotiate with the Makkans.

When Hazrat Uthman ؓ left for Makkah Mukarramah, some Sahabah ؓ envied him (as they thought) he will be able to perform Tawaaf of the Ka’bah. Rasulallah ﷺ on the other hand remarked, “I do not think he will perform Tawaaf without me.”

However, when Hazrat Uthman ؓ entered Makkah Mukarramah, Abaan ibn Sa’eed took him in his protection and said, “Go wherever you like. Nobody will touch you.”

Subsequently, his lower garment was worn above the ankles, to half the shin. Abaan ibn Sa’eed said to him, “You are going to speak to the leaders of the Quraysh. They do not like that the lower garment should be above the ankles but they lower their garments and this is the way of the Arab leaders.” Hazrat Uthman ؓ replied, “I cannot lower my garment because the lower garment of my master Rasulallah ﷺ is worn like this - intimating he will not forsake the practice of the Sunnah.

Hazrat Uthman ؓ continued with the negotiations with Abu Sufyan (who was not a Muslim at that time) and other chiefs of Makkah on behalf of Rasulallah ﷺ as he was mandated. When the discussions were over and he was about to return, the Quraysh themselves said to him, “Now that you are in Makkah, you may perform Tawaaf before you return.” He replied, “How can it be possible for me when Rasulallah ﷺ has been prevented from entering Makkah?”

This reply was most unpalatable for the Quraysh and they decided to detain Hazrat Uthman ؓ in Makkah. News reached the Muslims that Hazrat Uthman ؓ had been killed. When this rumour reached Rasulallah ﷺ, he took the oath of allegiance from all the Sahabah to fight to the last drop of blood to avenge the killing of Hazrat Uthman ؓ.

Hazrat Anas ؓ narrates that at the time of the bay’ah Rasulallah ﷺ said,

“Uthman is doing the work of Allah and His Rasul ﷺ.” So Rasulallah ﷺ placed his own Mubarak hand over the other (as a Bay’ah on behalf Hazrat Uthman ؓ who was not able to be present). Hazrat Anas ؓ says, “The hand of Rasulallah ﷺ for Uthman was better than the hands of the Sahabah ؓ for themselves.” (Tirmizi)

Media Desk

The Media Desk contributes local, national and international news articles for the website and also focuses on news content of the Muslim world.

Letters commenting on broad issues are also regularly sent to the editors of newspapers

Below are a few letters which were sent by the Media Desk and published in newspapers.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Growing opposition to sex education curriculum proposal

The article "Growing opposition to sex education curriculum proposal," The Mercury, Monday, 11 November 2019 refers. Situations like these do not augur well for our country and, if real, certainly does not augur well for our democracy. Our government raises the flag of the 'Rainbow Nation' and the message of Ubuntu - yet it seems that many are not consulted on sensitive matters that can impact on our children.

Bias and negative reporting against Islam has become a very real phenomenon in the media, especially in the international press.

The Darul Ihsan Media Desk primarily monitors the media for Islamaphobic (anti-Islamic) comments and anti-Islamic sentiments made in the mainstream media and interacts positively with media portals conveying the Islamic perspective.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

RK Khan board see red over CEO's redeployment

The article "RK Khan board see red over CEO's redeployment," The Mercury, Thursday, 11 July 2019 refers. Public health institutions, especially hospitals, purport that they are in a Catch-22 situation. The call by heads and management members, etc. of these institutions is a national one in that they

plead lack of staff and funding on the one hand while on the other we have a failure of the basic, essential and primary healthcare needs of our people. Quality healthcare needs for our people are a right and our government, health institutions, staff, etc. need to understand this.

Visit our website for the latest news and letters to the editor [www.darulihسان.com](http://www.darulihсан.com)

What's inside is what matters

You are holding a cup of coffee when someone comes along and bumps into you or shakes your arm, making you spill your coffee everywhere.

Why did you spill the coffee?

"Because someone bumped into me!!!" Wrong.

You spilled the coffee because there was coffee in your cup. Had there been tea in the cup, you would have spilled tea. Whatever is inside the cup is what will spill out.

Therefore, when life comes along and shakes you (which will happen), whatever is inside you will come out.

It's easy to fake it, until you get rattled.

So we have to ask ourselves...

"what's in my cup?". When life gets tough, what spills over? Joy, gratefulness, peace and humility?

Anger, bitterness, harsh words and reactions?

Life provides the cup, YOU choose how to fill it.

Today let's work towards filling our cups with gratitude, forgiveness, joy, words of affirmation; and kindness, gentleness and love.

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DROUGHT!

WHAT TO DO

Severe water shortages are being experienced in certain parts of the country. Recent data indicates that most of the areas that are affected have been constantly receiving less than average rainfall which will inevitably have a knock on effect on food prices and other basic necessities. Veld fires also increase due to dry conditions.

Dams, rivers and boreholes are drying up. Water authorities are alarmed and appealing to the public to save water. Muslims should use water sparingly and avoid wastage

Some measures that can be adopted by the Ummah:

1. Save water. Do not waste water. Lot of water is wasted during wudhu and showers. Only a fraction of the amount of water that is generally used for wudhu and bathing is required.

2. Avoid all forms of sins and vice, especially when committed openly and flagrantly.

3. Discharge Zakah correctly. One cause of drought is when a community does not discharge its Zakah correctly.

4. Abstain from oppression and withholding the rights of others as this causes drought.

5. Abundant Istighfar should be offered by everyone. All should engage in Dua, individually and collectively, begging Allah Ta'ala for rain.

6. Ulama and Imams should initiate Salat al Istisqa in the affected areas. "Method of Istisqa" can be found on Darul Ihsan website as a download www.darulihshan.com

In the hadith we are cautioned about using water sparingly even at the bank of a river - certainly Allah Ta'ala does not love those who waste.

May Allah Ta'ala send beneficial rain to our lands.



AL IHSAN MICRO LIBRARY

A project of Darul Ihsan Humanitarian Centre

Help Darul Ihsan to promote reading in our Madrasahs and community!

Darul Ihsan has launched the Al Ihsan Micro Library project and invites you to Sponsor a Micro Library, which will be placed in Madrasahs, especially in underprivileged communities.

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Serving Water & Seeking Forgiveness

Benefits of providing water

Providing water to a thirsty person or those in need of it is a special form of charity having much reward. Water is the source of life and to give water is likened to giving life.

Nabi ﷺ said "The best form of sadaqah is giving someone water." (Ibn Majah)

Great virtues have been cited for providing water and creating water generating facilities that become a means of perpetual reward and benefit the donor in this life and after death.

Once Sa'd bin 'Ubada ؓ said: "O Rasulallah, Umm Sa'd, my mother has passed away, what is the best charity to do for her?" Nabi r replied, "Water." So Sa'd dug a well and said: "This is for Umm Sa'd". (Abu Dawood)

Similarly, a very thirsty man went down a well and drank water from it. On his return he saw a dog panting due to excessive thirst. The man went down the well, filled his shoe with water and provided the water to the dog. Allah Ta'ala accepted this great deed and forgave his sins.

Nabi ﷺ said, "Sadaqah extinguishes sin just as water extinguishes fire." (Tirmizi)

Nabi ﷺ said, "The believer's shade on the Day of Resurrection will be his Sadaqah." (Ahmad)

In the current climate of severe water shortage, Muslims should seize the opportunity and show mercy towards humans, animals and all living beings by providing water where they can.

Consider the following suggestions:

1. Boreholes
2. Water tankers/trailers
3. Jo-jo tanks
4. Bottled water

Benefits of Istighfar

Nabi ﷺ said "If anyone constantly seeks forgiveness from Allah, Allah will make for him a way out of every distress and a way out from every anxiety, and will provide sustenance for him from where he did not expect." (Abu Dawood)

A man complained to Hasan Al-Basri (R) about a drought, Hasan Basri said to him: "Make Istighfar." Another man complained to him of poverty and he said to him: "Make Istighfar." Another man said to him: "Pray to Allah to bless me with a child." He said: "Make Istighfar." Another complained to him that his garden was dry. He said to him: "Make Istighfar."

When asked how the remedy for all was the same, he said, "This is not my personal opinion - Allah says in Surah Nuh, Ask forgiveness from your Rabb, verily, He is Most Forgiving; He will send rain to you in abundance and give you increase in wealth and children and bestow you with gardens and bestow you with rivers." (Tafseer al-Qurtubi)

Nabi ﷺ used to say: 'Astaghfirullah! Astaghfirullah! (I beseech Allah for forgiveness, I beseech Allah for forgiveness)'." (Muslim)

"Surely Allah loves those who constantly turn to Him in repentance and those who keep themselves pure." (Surah Baqarah - V 222)

Love for goodness, the destitute and dislike for things unpleasant

اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي أَسْأَلُكَ فِعْلَ الْخَيْرَاتِ، وَتَرْكَ الْمُنْكَرَاتِ، وَحُبَّ الْمَسَاكِينِ

O Allah! I beg You to grant me ability to do good acts, to shun what is disliked, and love the destitute. (Tirmizi)

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Q & A

Q A trend these days is being part of a 'stokvel'. There are different kinds of groups for this and one of them is you join for R 200 and make R 1 200 according to the number you are appointed to on a list of names. Is this permissible?

A It is permissible for a group of people to enter into an arrangement whereby each person makes an equal monthly contribution to a pool each month and one of the participants is given the funds as a lump sum each month. However, the following should be borne in mind:

1. Each person's contribution should be equal and prompt. Interest cannot be charged if some participants delay in payment.

2. Each person's contribution is regarded as a loan to the participant who enjoys use of the collective funds for that month.

3. Whoever has use of the funds is required to pay back this loan. Should such a person pass away before the end of the period, the amount outstanding is a debt on such person's estate.

4. To avoid disputes, a basic written agreement should be in place for this purpose.

Q Wearing the red garment is frowned upon but wearing red on other garments is okay. Please enlighten us on the acceptable colour range.

A It is Makrooh Tanzeehi (disliked) for men to dress in full red. If a red garment is worn, with a break in the colour then there is no prohibition in this. However, if the garb is in imitation of another faith, then it should not be worn. Colours that are outstanding and bright are unsuitable for men should be avoided.

Q Can I propose to a girl and marry her after a year?

A It is not preferred to delay Nikah once it has been confirmed. If circumstances require some delay, then the boy and girl should avoid all unlawful communication and interaction in the intervening period. If this cannot be upheld, then the Nikah should be performed and the couple may begin to live together when possible.

Q Is it permissible for a woman in menses to recite verses of the Quran as a supplication such as those in dua books?

A In principle, it is not permissible for a woman in her menses to recite Qur'an according to the Hanafi school. A Hadith states, "A woman in menses

and a person in the state of impurity should not recite anything of the Quran." (Tirmizi #131) However, reciting short Quranic verses with the intention of Dua is permissible provided the verse has the meaning of Dua or is recited for protection.

Q Will the profit made through halaal business that was initially started by haraam money be halaal or haraam to use. Example: If I used haraam money and start a business and I earn some profits from that business so that profit is halaal or haraam?

A It is prohibited to start a business or conduct trade with Haraam funds. Haraam money must be given away in charity. However, if Haraam funds were used to buy and sell, then the resulting profit from such dealing will be Halaal. If Halaal and Haraam money is mixed, the amount equivalent to the original Haraam capital should be given out in charity without the hope of reward.

Q There's a question that's been bothering me for a while... Allah Ta'ala is so merciful. If we turn to Him in sincere repentance, He forgives us. There's forgiveness for everything. Then why is it that when it comes to

Talaaq there's no chance to repent? Man is not perfect. We all get angry and say things in anger. If a man, in anger, says talaaq 3 times then why is the marriage terminated there and then? Does he not deserve a chance to repent? We are forgiven for the worst of sins. Allah is so merciful that He can even forgive a murderer if that person sincerely repents. So why is there such a huge punishment for talaaq?

A A distinction must be made between an act, its consequences and the aspect of repentance. As an example, if a murderer sincerely repents for his act of murder, Allah willing, his repentance will be accepted if he fulfils the conditions of repentance. However, the effect and consequences of his action will remain. He will be tried for his crime and face the full penalty for murder if found guilty. Also, the murdered person will not be brought back to life and the negative impact that his action will have on the family and society cannot be undone. Similarly, if a person issues three Talaaqs the effect of this act remains i.e. the marriage will be over. Repentance is required for the sin to be forgiven. However, all the consequences of such a divorce will be applicable.

The Fatwa Department of Darul Ihsan provides a wide range of services such as the issuing of rulings, verdicts, research, mediation, estate distribution and planning, general advice, etc.

The Fatwa Department receives an average of 250 questions per month - mostly via email - from around the globe. Every reply is checked and approved by at least two Muftis that serve in the department.

Need a Quick Response ?

Darul Ihsan Fatwa Department provides a SMS/WHATSAPP answer service for your queries. Cell Number: 084 786 2224

Dua when entering the market place

لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ ، لَهُ الْمُلْكُ وَلَهُ الْحَمْدُ ، يُحْيِي وَيُمِيتُ وَهُوَ حَيٌّ لَا يَمُوتُ بِيَدِهِ الْخَيْرُ وَهُوَ عَلَى كُلِّ شَيْءٍ قَدِيرٌ

Translation: "There is none worthy of worship besides Allah, He is alone, without partner, to Him belongs the entire Kingdom and all praise. He gives life and causes death, and He is living and does not die. In His hand is all good and He has power over all things."

Virtue for the reciter: Allah will wipe a million sins from his record and grant him a million good deeds, and will elevate him a million ranks - and in another narration will build him a house in paradise.

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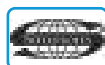
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Be gentle and lenient, not vulgar and harsh...

So, by mercy from Allah, [O Muhammad], you were lenient with them. And if you had been rude [in speech] and harsh in heart, they would have disbanded from about you. So pardon them and ask forgiveness for them and consult them in the matter. And when you have decided, then rely upon Allah. Indeed, Allah loves those who rely [upon Him]. (Qur'an 3:159)

This verse outlines the unique quality of gentleness and leniency of our Nabi ﷺ. He also stated in a hadith "Gentleness does not exist in anything except that it beautifies it, and it is not removed from anything except that it defiles it." (Abu Dawood)

When people are in positions of leadership, they try to impose their authority on others. In most instances this attitude leads to rebellion. It brings about grudging compliance. Neither situation is

healthy. On the other hand, gentleness encourages willing compliance.

Our Prophet ﷺ outlined an important principle for the world when he stated, "The merciful people are such that Allah will show mercy to..." (Tirmizi)

This is a message to all leaders and people in authority. Those leaders who show no mercy, will be not be shown mercy by Allah, nor by those they oppress if they ever gain the upper hand over them.

A sublime example of mercy is when our Prophet Muhammad ﷺ conquered Makkah - his beloved homeland from where he was exiled, where members of his family were killed, companions and friends tortured - was given full authority over the people of Makkah he showed them mercy and forgave them without vengeance.

Bursary 2020

The Darul Ihsan Bursary Fund (DIBF) offers bursaries to deserving students for Islamic education, tertiary education and Muslim Schools (grade 8 to 12)



Application forms can be downloaded from our website or collected from our offices from 1st December 2019, Insha Allah

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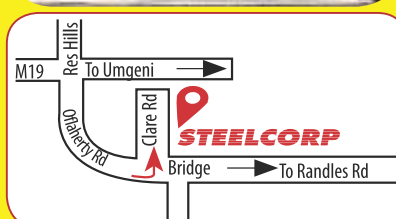
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What's Happening at Darul Ihsan Centre

Ongoing Ghusl and Kafan classes

In Darul Ihsan Humanitarian Centre's ongoing community education drives, another 'Ghusl and Kafan' instruction class was held for ladies on Saturday, 19 October 2019 at Madrassah Khatijatul Kubra in Phoenix.

Alhamdulillah, 50 sisters from Phoenix and the female students over twelve years old from Madrassah Khatijatul Kubra attended the highly informative programme.

The Ghusl & Kafan classes are run on the basis of a 'practical demonstration' which clarifies all aspects of how to correctly perform ghusl for the deceased and instruction of the correct kafans requirements.

All questions that were raised by the attendees were answered professionally by the panel.

There was much positive feedback from the attendees on the benefit of essential information on how to perform Ghushl.

We express our sincere gratitude to Maulana Imtiaz Mohammed and the Muallimas for assisting and facilitating the classes in conjunction with the instructors.

Brother Ahmed Amla - the 'Team Leader' of the 'Ghusl & Kafan' classes expressed his appreciation to Darul Ihsan Humanitarian Centre for hosting this educational programme for the community since 2010.

Relief for residents at Quarry West after fire incident

On the evening of Sunday, 22 September 2019 sixty shacks were razed to the ground after a fire incident occurred at the Quarry Road West informal settlement in Durban.

Over 120 children and adults were affected by the disaster. Fortunately, there were no fatalities nor any injuries.

Late on Monday afternoon EtheKwini Disaster Management official Mr Themba Mdalose - after assessing the situation - contacted the Relief Team of Darul Ihsan Humanitarian Centre with an urgent request for food provisions and blankets for those affected by the fire incident.

On Tuesday morning the Relief Team of the Centre - together with community volunteers - delivered over 240 hot-packed meals and snacks for lunch and supper for the residents at the settlement.

Additionally, 121 blankets were also handed to all who were displaced.



Mr Themba Mdalose, informal settlement community member Ms Myaemeka Ngubelanga and residents of the settlement thanked the Relief Team for its quick response and the much needed provisions.

The Relief Team further committed to provide lunch and supper and clothing for the residents on Wednesday 25 September 2019.

Darul Ihsan Humanitarian works closely with eThekweni Disaster Management for emergency situations. These outreaches of Darul Ihsan Humanitarian Centre are made possible through the generous and ongoing support and contributions of the Muslim community.

Outreach in Malagazi

In Darul Ihsan Humanitarian Centre's ongoing drive to support indigent communities, the Centre recently provided food relief to residents in Malagazi.

On Saturday 14 September 2019 the Relief Team of the Centre, together with community volunteers, distributed over 600 hot-packed meals, biscuits, potato crisps and fruit to residents at an informal area in Malagazi, south of Durban.

Thembi Khumalo and Reshika Alwar, coordinators of the area who - in conjunction with the Relief Team and volunteers - facilitated and assisted in the efficient distribution of the provisions to the residents in the area.

Both coordinators expressed their gratitude to the Centre for providing the meals and snacks to residents in the area.

"We really appreciate the gesture of your organisation and the care shown by your team and volunteers for the residents - their interaction with them is humbling. We thank Darul Ihsan Humanitarian Centre on behalf of all residents for the meals and snacks provided and look forward to the next meal distribution by your kind organisation. May the Almighty continue to bless you."

These outreaches are made possible through the generous contributions and ongoing support of the Muslim community.

'Al Ihsan Clinic Day' held in Illovo

Darul Ihsan Humanitarian Centre - in its ongoing commitment to provide basic health care services to communities living in outlying areas - held another Al Ihsan Clinic Day in Illovo on Sunday, 06 October 2019.

Often senior members of communities in outlying areas find difficulty in accessing or commuting to health care centres.

The Al Ihsan Clinic Day was set-up at the newly renovated Ekuphileni Care Centre which serves as a base for general community services in the area. Further, the Care Centre is also supported by Darul Ihsan Humanitarian Centre.

Almost one hundred senior persons were attended to on the Clinic Day with general check-ups, eye-screening, dental checks, blood pressure tests, etc. Additionally, referrals are made and at least fifteen patients were handed referral letters to state healthcare institutions for further treatment.

The Medical team - headed by Dr Zahid Khan - comprised three general practitioners, three pharmacists, two optometrists, one dentist, one audiologist, 12 nursing



volunteers, four community volunteers with staff members from Darul Ihsan Humanitarian Centre.

Light snacks, bottled water and lunch was provided for all patients who attended the Clinic Day.

Many senior patients and the local Induna expressed their gratitude to the medical team for providing the basic healthcare service in their area.

Darul Ihsan Humanitarian thanks the entire medical team and all other volunteers for giving their time and selflessly serving the needs of our community.

The Al Ihsan Clinic Day and other outreaches of Darul Ihsan Humanitarian Centre are made possible through the generous and ongoing support of the Muslim community.

Dwelling provided for a needy family

A family of four - comprising parents and two children - were living in desperate and appalling conditions in Unit 9 Chatsworth, Durban. The family lived in a makeshift shack attached to the rear of the one-bedroomed RDP home of the grandmother of the children.

The shack was vulnerable to all weather conditions - permanent dampness, flooding when there was rain with the shack being in the direct path of waste-water from the neighbour's home - all of which impacted heavily on the health of all family members.

Darul Ihsan Centre - through one of its staff members - was notified of the distress of the family. Personnel from the Welfare department of DHC visited the family, viewed their circumstances and made an instant decision to provide some sort of secure shelter for the affected family.

Team members from DHC contacted contractors and within a short space

of time erected a secure and sturdy two-bedroomed 'Wendy Home' adjacent to the RDP home on the property.

The male-head of the family - who is currently unemployed - expressed his heartfelt appreciation to DHC for the shelter provided for his family. "I would like to extend my most sincere gratitude and appreciation on behalf of my family for the Wendy house that has been built for us. Before this my family of four were living in a 1 room make-shift house built using odd material along boundary walls of the neighbours property.

Due to this fact whenever it rains our house used to get flooded badly and all my neighbours water use to seep under the wall and into our room. Most of our furniture got destroyed due to this and my children were getting sick due to the dampness. We also had no toilet and bathroom which made it difficult whenever my parents used to go out at night."



Before



After

Youth of the Ummah facilitates programme for Hifz students

Youth of the Ummah' (YOU) - the youth initiative of Darul Ihsan Humanitarian Centre - facilitated a memorable Adventure Day for the learners of the Darul Quran Institute of Durban on Saturday, the 24th August 2019 at 'Infinite Adventures' in the heart of the Valley of 1000 Hills, Durban.

An enthusiastic group of 38 Hifz learners aged between 12 and 18 years, participated in the programme which entailed an obstacle course, a group dynamics segment, archery and a paintball combat session. Islamic guidance and mentoring was conducted sporadically throughout the day.

The learners gathered at 07:30 AM at Masjid Taqwa in Sea Cow Lake. Before departure, advices were delivered to the participants by Mufti Zubair Bayat DB on having fun

in an Islamic manner, as well as the importance of been a believer who is strong physically as well as spiritually.

After the Zuhr Salaah, advices were delivered by Maulana Muhammad Ameer on the importance of a Hafiz and the noble qualities a Hafiz should possess. Lunch and refreshments were provided.

The learners thoroughly enjoyed the exertions of the day and returned exhausted but spiritually uplifted. Alhamdulillah, the youth group returned safely at Masjid Taqwa at approximately 15:30 PM.

Darul Ihsan thanks the Principal of Darul Quran Institute, Maulana Muhammad Motala Saheb, the Asaatiza and the students for the opportunity to facilitate the programme.

YOU holds 'Turn the Tide' Campus programme

The 'Youth of the Ummah' - 'YOU' is the youth development initiative of Darul Ihsan Humanitarian Centre. 'YOU' conducts ongoing educational and orientation programmes in schools and campuses to develop learners' potential and Islamic identity.

'YOU' held a special programme for students on the 19th of August 2019 at the University of KZN in Westville, Durban. The initiative has been dubbed "turn the tide" aimed at guiding learners on aspects of Muslim identity and ways to deal with the quantum of challenges.

A brief discourse was delivered by Moulana Muhammad Ameer of Darul Ihsan - the sterling discourse centred around key points, some of which are mentioned here,

1. The life formula and mantra of Muslim is defined by the verse of the Quran..... "Say verily my prayers, my sacrifices, my living and my dying are for Allah, no one else shares (that) with Him, and I am the first (and foremost) of those who submit to Him ." (Surah Al Anaam). This verse should be recited and reflected upon regularly as a means to remain focused on one's real purpose, obligations and direction.

2. Reference was made to the resounding message which was delivered by Maulana Abul Hasan Ali An Nadwi (Rahimahullah) at a

seminar themed 'ISLAM IN A CHANGING WORLD' that was held in January 1977 under the auspices of Aligarh Muslim University's Department of Islamic Studies. In his talk, Maulana lamented the state of the modern world, in the following words, "The Modern Age is falling into an abyss of destruction. It is bent upon self-destruction and driving mankind to death. It is producing quantities of evidence against the human race in the Court of the Almighty, proving that man has no right to live."

3. The need was for people with sound values, true faith and a sense of humanity to step up and become inviters and influencers towards truthfulness, honesty, mercy and compassion in an environment that suggested the opposite.

4. Learners at campus, whilst beset with modern challenges, had a perfect window of opportunity to assert their Muslim identity, sound values, honesty and dependability to others and thereby promote the truth.

5. To broaden their perspectives, learners were encouraged to revert to the study of the Noble Qur'an wherein the most effective solutions, inspiration and motivation would be found.

'YOU' wishes all Muslim students the best in their academic endeavours and prays for their success in becoming true leaders of this Ummah.

Drug Awareness Programmes held in Benoni

The 'Drug Awareness Drive' (DAD) an educational initiative of Darul Ihsan Humanitarian Centre presented a series of programmes on drug and substance abuse at schools and Masjid's around Benoni and surrounding areas, Johannesburg.

On Thursday evening, 25 July 2019 the 'DAD' Team visited the Musjid Noor in Regiers Park where Moulana Zakaria Murchie, the 'DAD' Project Leader delivered a talk on the "Harms of drugs", the different type of drugs and consequences of substance dependency and abuse.

On Friday 26 July 2019, Ulama and 'DAD' volunteers visited Liverpool Secondary School. Here the interactive session was incredible as learners were engaged and the discussion resonated with all the students. Learners acknowledged the invaluable information and insight gained. Further engagements were held at Benoni Muslim School - separate sessions were held with the respective grades - learners were encouraged to field questions and speak honestly about the challenges facing youth.

Also on Friday morning, a programme was held at Willowmoore School in Benoni where once again discussions and interaction was positive and beneficial.

A special session was held at Benoni Muslim Jamaat Maktab for tutors and Ulama. The programme brought forth the challenges of drug abuse among learners and in Muslim homes. An excellent presentation was delivered by Maulana Murchie on the harms of this scourge and how it is consuming our youth.

The programme concluded with a parent and teacher session in the evening of the 26 July 2019.

The 'DAD' team was well received by the community and shall continue its campaign to bring awareness to our community in the hope that it will serve to save our youth and future generations - InshaAllah.

May Allah Ta'ala accept the effort of all of those involved, make it easy for those whose lives are affected by the incidence of drug and substance abuse and protect our families and the Ummah.



DAD

Drugs Awareness Drive

A project of Darul Ihsan Centre

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Qur'an on the mobile device

With the advancement of technology, life has become easier. There are apps for almost everything. The Noble Qur'an and other religious books are also freely downloadable. In principle, whilst it is permissible to access and use an electronic copy of the

Noble Qur'an, there are certain guidelines which need to be adhered to:

1. In respect of Qur'an recitation, it is always preferred and more rewarding to recite from the original Mushaf (physical copy).

2. Where a copy of the Qur'an is easily available then using an electronic version should be avoided. Reciting directly from the Qur'an carries many benefits which include looking at, touching,

revering and loving the Noble Qur'an. Each of these aspects carries a spiritual benefit and enhances one's relationship with the Noble Qur'an.

3. When reciting from an electronic version, do not engage in any other activity on the phone, such as social media, emails, phone calls, etc.

4. The device should be held in an appropriate manner in line with the etiquette of recitation.

5. Wuzu is not necessary when handling a device containing an electronic version of the Qur'an, though it is preferred to have Wuzu when reciting the Qur'an.

6. If one does not possess Wuzu then avoid touching the screen while the Qur'an is being displayed. A stylus could be used to 'turn' pages.

Masjid Posters

Masjid posters have proven to be an effective medium to notify and educate the Muslim public on topical issues. Darul Ihsan Masjid posters are distributed to over 250 venues nationally and are also sent through social media. Visit www.darulhsan.com to view and download all Masjid Posters



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Harms of spreading misinformation

Modern devices, social media and the internet provide us with breaking news almost as it happens. Never before was it so easy to be in touch with the world. Sadly, the benefits of such advancement have been overshadowed by its misuse. The same technology that brings us news in a flash is also used to spread misinformation, hoax messages, lies, slander, gossip and deception. These messages in turn create anxiety, panic, rage, protests, violence and a whole host of problems in society. Spreading misinformation through lies, gossip, slander and deception is a major sin.

The chief weapon of Dajjal (The great deceiver) will be lies, misinformation and deceit. The real challenge of the information age is to be truthful.

Many of us can relate to receiving messages from well-meaning family members or friends with dubious content or that are unverified. Many of us are also guilty of forwarding such information with 'good intentions', only to find out

later that the information was false and potentially disruptive.

At times, Shaytan misguides people by engaging them in a 'cause' they assume to be noble but in reality causes tremendous harm by peddling false information about families, scholars, organisations and their representatives. This entails cynicism,

disrespect, untruths, assumptions and false information - all in the name of 'truth'.

The Noble Qur'an condemns spreading information without verification.

Rasulullah ﷺ said, "Deliberation and forethought should go into everything except for deeds pertaining to the Hereafter." (Abu Dawud)

Another Hadith states: "Deliberation is from Allah and haste is from Shaytan." (Tirmizi)

May Allah Ta'ala help us to guard what we say and protect us from spreading information that is harmful.

This publication contains Quranic verses and narrations of Nabi ﷺ - Please handle with respect

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