

## ABOUT DARUL IHSAN

• The Darul Ihsan Centre, founded in January 2000, as an Islamic organization (NGO) is presently based in Seacowlake, Durban which works for the upliftment and empowerment of the Ummah through the provision of a variety of essential and quality services at NO COST.

✍ Among its services is a Fatwa Department, Counseling (particularly for marital disputes), Hifz Class, High-School Students Madrasah, Publications, Da'wah, Mediation and Arbitration, Workshops, Seminars, Website, Media response, Assistance to the poor and needy and other related activities. A number of further activities are planned for the future, Insha-Allah.

✍ Alhamdulillah, the first half of 2007 has seen a steady growth in the activities of the Centre. The Centre owes its success to the community, who have used its services, and to the generous support of its donors, and to the pious elders who have offered valuable advice and sincere Dua and continue to do so. May Allah reward all.

✍ By the grace of Allah Ta'ala, in this half-year, the centre was visited by numerous distinguished guests from around the globe and locally. Among them:

- ✍ Mufti Khalid Saifullah Rahmani of India (01/2007)
- ✍ Mufti Saeed Palanpuri, Shaikhul-Hadith of Deoband (18/04/07)
- ✍ Shaikh Muhammad Yaqoubi of Syria (01/05/07)
- ✍ Shaikh Abdul Sattar Abu Guddah of Syria (02/05/07)
- ✍ Junaid Jamshed of Pakistan (24/05/07)
- ✍ Shaikh Zakariyya of Jordan (25/05/07)
- ✍ The world-renowned Mufti Taqi Usmani of Pakistan (06/06/07)

and many others. We invite the readers to visit our Centre and request your Duas for the Centre to grow from strength to strength.

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE:** [www.darulihسان.com](http://www.darulihسان.com)

Some of the features of our website:

- LATEST NEWS - coverage on Muslim & Islamic issues around the globe
- FUNERAL NOTICES & SICK LIST - submit information to our website and receive Dua from our hundreds of visitors
- PROGRAMS/BAYANS/EVENTS - keep yourself up-to-date with latest events in the community
- ARTICLES on a variety of issues - Islamic Schools, Da'wah, Health, Women, Youth, Spiritual upliftment, Islamic history, short stories, biographies, etc.
- A special section for the Ulama-Kiraam
- QUESTION & ANSWER section - you ask, we respond
- BOOK REVIEWS - read about recent books published
- VISIT DARUL-IHSAN - take a virtual tour of our centre!
- HAVE YOUR SAY - want to make a point, make any input, ask a question- go ahead and submit it
- AUDIO DOWNLOADS - Listen to or download lectures, Qiraats, Nazms, Naats, Interviews & other Special Programs - for FREE!



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## OUR CURRENT OUTREACH PROJECT

Our charitable wing, the **MUSLIM COMMUNITY CHARITY (MCC)**, has embarked on a feeding scheme for under privileged & indigent pupils in 2 neighbouring schools. The principal of Dr Mackan Mistry School expressed gratitude to the centre for this very welcome initiative. We require your support to make this initiative successful. **Check our banking details at [www.darulihسان.com/support.us](http://www.darulihسان.com/support.us).** We also require volunteers to assist in the feeding program & our other programs.

## ON THE LIGHTER SIDE ...

Once a villager remarked on seeing Mulla Nasruddin grieved: "You may have lost your donkey, Nasruddin, but you don't have to grieve over it more than you did about the loss of your wife". "Ah" replied the Mulla, "but if you remember, when I lost my wife, all you villagers said: We'll find you someone else. But so far, nobody has offered to replace my donkey!"

*Al Ihsan will feature a regular humour column, so be sure to look out for what Mulla Nasruddin will be up to next!*

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# AL-IHSAN

## الإحسان

Organ of the Darul Ihsan Islamic Services Centre

Vol 1:1

Sha'baan 1428 / August 2007

## TO THE POINT !

### OPENING WORDS

All praises belong to Allah alone and salutations and peace be upon all the Messengers and their esteemed Leader, our Master Sayyidina Muhammad (sallallahu-alayhi-wasallam) and those who follow in his footsteps till the Last Day.

We praise Allah and bow our heads in gratitude for allowing this first issue of AL-IHSAN to become a reality. We beseech Him to allow this publication to continue in the future, and to grant it great acceptance. To our esteemed readers, this is YOUR publication. So we appeal to you, our honourable readers, for Dua, and for your inputs, comments, suggestions and even your (constructive) criticisms. A quick run down of what to expect:

- ✳ **To The Point Column** - which will briefly highlight burning and pertinent issues of relevance to our community.
- ✳ **The Advice Page** - Our pious elders, with bleeding hearts are pleading to the Ummah to reform before it is too late, so that we may become deserving of Allah's help.
- ✳ **A quiz and teenage essay section** - to increase our general knowledge and to stimulate our youth to think and write creatively.
- ✳ **Q & A column**, Humour Corner, Activities of Darul-Ihsan, Wazifahs, etc.

### DEMISE OF OUR GREAT ULAMA

"Almighty Allah will not lift knowledge from this world by blanking the pages of books, but He will do so by lifting up the Ulama" - Hadith. The sad demise of some of our senior Ulama recently - Hazrat Moulana Qasim Sema, Hazrat Moulana Ahmed Hathurani and Hazrat Mufti Basheer Sanjalvi - has left a vacuum that is very difficult to fill. In fact, the demise of an Aalim, is a vacuum that cannot be filled according to one Hadith. The death of an Aalim, is

actually, the death of a realm. We beseech our readers to make Dua and make Isaalus-Thawaab for these pious elders as our token of gratitude and appreciation for their sterling services and contribution to Islam and the Ummah. Each one has left behind a rich legacy. May Allah grant them total forgiveness, lofty stages in the Hereafter and illuminate their graves. We have been orphaned by the demise of these great men. It is important then, that we value and appreciate those Ulama who are still with us and we derive maximum benefit from them, before it is too late, and we have to wring our hands in anguish.

**The normal tendency is to take this blessing for granted when we have it, then when a great personality departs, we suddenly realise and start lamenting our loss.**

Whilst their doors of Dua, Nasihah (advice) and Tawajjuh (spiritual boosting) are still open, let us take our full share. If we say, "Not now, later", it may be too late... Are we going to wait for some other great personality to depart, or are we going to go TODAY and start taking benefit from those who are still around us?

### BEGINNING OF A SPIRITUAL SEASON

Rajab's gone. Sha'baan's here, to herald the coming of the great and majestic month of Ramadaan. The time is now to start intensifying our spiritual activities. Why not spare an hour a day for this? Either in the morning or evening or split between morning and evening? Dedicate this time only and only to spiritual acts and do not allow any distraction of any sort - not even a phone call. A suggested plan follows: 4 to 8 Rakaats of Nafl Salaah (10 minutes), Tilawah of Quran (20 minutes), Zikrullah (10 minutes), Reading of a good Islamic book (15 minutes), Dua (5 minutes).

**This hour will just fly past before we know, but it will make us FLY, spiritually! Insha-Allah. And when Ramadaan comes, we'll be ready to take off from the first night for a great spiritual journey.**

May Allah let us reach this month, loaded with the full blessings of Rajab and Shabaan.  
- Mufti Zubair Bayat (Ameer, Darul Ihsan)



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## TIME TO POLISH THE HEART

- Moulana Yunus Patel

- ☸ Due to us not appreciating the message of the Quran and the Hadith, and since we have not absorbed its reality within our hearts and within our lives, we do not experience the Noor of Allah Ta'ala.
- ☸ **Everything we do is Zaahiri (external). As a result we see nothing and we feel nothing and thus remain just 'dry' worshippers of Allah Ta'ala, deficient in His Love.**
- ☸ Then again, even though Ibaadah generates light within the heart, obedience to Nafs and Shaytaan introduces darkness therein. Either we bring light into our hearts or darkness. Both cannot co-exist in one place, at the same time.
- ☸ The darkness of backbiting, lies, false oaths, deceiving, fraud, interest (taking and giving), reading filthy literature, gambling, music, television, Haraam computer games, casting evil glances, Haraam fantasizing, adultery, fornication, etc. covers the Noor of our little Ibaadah like a thick blanket of soot.

## WHAT MAKES A HOME A MUSLIM HOME?

- Moulana Abdul Hamid Ishaq

- ☉ A Muslim home is really one in which 5 times Fardh Salaah takes place (by the females - males go to the Masjid), Nafl Salaah takes place, Tilawah (recitation) of the Qur'an Sharif, Zikrullah, Dua, Muraqabah (meditation) and very important, Taleem takes place. Also good Islamic characteristics (Akhlāq) are displayed by all inhabitants of the house as well as Islamic Aadab (Etiquette and Mannerisms).
- ☉ If there is an Alim in the house, advantage should be taken of Tafsir and Hadith lessons. If there is a Hafiz or Qari advantage can be taken of Tajweed lessons. In this way the Muslim home could become a Madrasah.
- ☉ By having Taleem, Barakah and Rahmah will descend in the form of love and respect between all the family members. Money will not only be sufficient, but there will be extra as well. We will be saved from terrible diseases, accidents, problems, etc. Aafiyah (a smooth and safe life) will be guaranteed for all.



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## Brief Profile of HAZRAT ABU BAKR

- ★ Name: Abdullah bin Abi Quhafa (son of Abu Quhafa)
- ★ 2 years younger than Nabi ﷺ
- ★ 1st man to accept Islam and will be the 1st person to enter Jannah from this Ummah
- ★ He was known as الصديق (the truthful) and العتيق (saved from the fire of Jahannam)
- ★ Passed Away in Jumad-al-Ula 13AH. Age: 63
- ★ Buried next to Nabi ﷺ

## MAKE THE BEST USE OF TIME

- Mufti Ebrahim Salejee (Taleemuddin)

- Take a survey. Examine what comes out from the discussion when you sit with a group of friends for an hour or two. It's of very little benefit and insignificant. Two hours of priceless time has been wasted. So be alert. When you know that someone is speaking just for the sake of speaking, read some Tasbeeh. Listen to him as well, but continue with Durood Shareef (or any other Zikr). You cannot ignore the person, but do not become a loser yourself (use this time profitably as well). Don't be inconsiderate to the other person or yourself.
- A friend phoned from Cape Town and I could sense that he wanted solace. He talked about his problems and I (Mufti Sahib) thought to myself that "he's told me that he's going to talk for two hours. I cannot put the phone down on him - that would be impolite, so I will listen to him, but also continue with my tilawah". In that time, I finished 2 ? paras comfortably. I told him at the end that "I am not robbing you, but I finished 2 ? paras during this conversation". He needed to talk and I could afford him the opportunity to do so without compromising my time. (There is a couplet) "First be concerned about yourself, then about others".
- To develop this do not talk to anyone except your wife on the day that you have not completed your Ma'mulaat (regular practices). Expend every effort in completing these. When completed, then give some time to your friends - not before that. When you do this, you will find that you have ample time.

PLEASE HANDLE WITH RESPECT, THIS NEWSLETTER CONTAINS EXTRACTS FROM THE QURAN & HADITH. FILE AWAY FOR FUTURE REFERENCE.

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## TEST-YOUR-KNOWLEDGE QUIZ

Questions:

1. Who was the 1<sup>st</sup> person buried in Jannatul Baqi?
2. Who gave the 1<sup>st</sup> Azaan in Makkah-Mukarramah?
3. Who was the 1<sup>st</sup> Nabi sent to the Bani-Israeel?
4. Who was the 1<sup>st</sup> officially-appointed and independent judge in Islam?
5. Which Sahabi was the 1<sup>st</sup> to be buried in Kufa (Iraq)?

Submit your responses via fax, email, sms or letter but do it FAST! The first 20 correct replies will receive a prize! (Make sure you provide your full address/contact details).

## TEENAGE ESSAY COMPETITION (AGE 12-18)

The 6 best essays received on any of the following topics receive a prize.

1. Importance of Masjidul-Aqsa in the light of Qur'an and Hadith.
  2. The shortcomings of our youth (boys and girls) in Ramadaan month and the solution.
  3. Practical measures to assist the thousands of 'street kids' in our country.
- The essay should not to exceed 2 A4 pages and should be typed and emailed to Darul Ihsan. Do not forget to provide your full details.

## Q & A:

**Q1:** It is generally noticed that during the Janazah prayer the followers repeat the Takbir loudly after the Imam. Is this a correct practice?

**A1:** The followers should recite the Takbir softly as is the practice during normal Salaah. It is not correct to recite it loudly as is the practice nowadays in some places. However, if the crowd is large, and will be unable to hear the Takbeer, then a few select people could act as Mukabbirs, repeating the Takbeers loudly so that those at the rear could hear and follow. But the rest of the people should recite it silently. And Allah knows best.

**Q2:** If one's cellphone rings in Salah, should one leave it to ring or should one switch it off?

**A2:** One should ensure to switch off before Salaah. However if one forgets to do so, then it should be switched off in Salaah, so as not to cause a disturbance to others, in such a manner that one does not engage in an action that might be regarded as out of Salaah. In other words, not more than the equivalent of 3 Subhanallahs in any one posture of Salah should be taken to switch off the phone, else the Salaah will become nullified due to Amal-Katheer occurring. And Allah knows best.

## MISCELLANEOUS SUNNAHS (often neglected)

1. Whilst sneezing Nabi ﷺ used to cover his face with his hand or a cloth.
2. Worldly loss would not anger Nabi ﷺ but anything said or done against the Shariah would anger him.
3. When Nabi ﷺ walked, he never caused any person to move from his path.
4. If Nabi ﷺ got angry whilst standing he used to sit down and if he was sitting he would lie down.
5. Nabi ﷺ gave and received gifts and he said "Exchange gifts among yourselves as it will create love between you." (Sunnats by Mufti EMH Salejee, Estcourt)

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## SOLVE YOUR PROBLEMS WITH ALLAH'S WORDS

Do you live in a home that experiences a lot of anger and arguments between family members? Then recite regularly 19 times "Bismillahir-Rahmanir-Raheem" and blow in the food and water. Insha-Allah, peace and calm will be restored in the home.

**N. B. Wazifahs have their full effect when the conditions of recitation are fulfilled, such as abstaining from major sins and reciting them punctually.**



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