

# MUSLIM EMPOWERMENT FUND

WELFARE WING OF DARUL IHSAN

## FEED-A-PUPIL:

**41 780** sandwiches a month are provided for the poorest pupils at 50 schools around Durban.



Help us feed a poor school child  
Donate R1.00 a day = R30.00 a month

## FEED-A-PATIENT:

**15 788** biscuit packs a month are distributed at 23 institutes & care centres.



Help us feed a hungry person  
Donate R1.20 a day = R36.00 a month

## IHSAN FEEDING SCHEME:

**60** degs a month are distributed to the poorest of the poor.



Help us feed a hungry person  
Donate R30 a day = R900 a month

## SPONSOR-A-BLANKET PROJECT 2009 :

Over 4700 blankets distributed. Jazakallah to those who contributed towards this project.



## OTHER WELFARE PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN BY US :

- "Home Improvement" Project
- "Tradesman Empowerment" Project
- "Feed a Madrasah Pupil" Project
- "Feed a Family" Project
- "Educate a Child" Project
- Disaster & relief operations

## HOW YOU CAN HELP US HELP THE POOR!

**1** Direct deposit / EFT

**2** Fill a debit order form for a monthly contribution

**3** Donate online @ [www.darulihسان.com](http://www.darulihсан.com)

## THE "TUCK SHOP STARTER PACK" PROJECT:

The "Tuck Shop Starter Pack" project aims to create business opportunities and to make people self-reliant. Grocery items are mainly provided as start-up capital for this project. After a thorough assessment is carried out, a person is assisted through this project. Generally the tuck shop is conducted from the premises of the home of the recipient. However, in cases where a tuck shop needs to be constructed in the front of the home or elsewhere, then this is also done as part of this project.



## THE "INFORMAL TRADER STARTER PACK" PROJECT:

Persons showing a desire and potential are screened and assessed and then assisted by giving them initial trading stock. These goods are given either to sell from door to door or for street vending.



Wish to receive free sms's and e-newsletters?  
Then sms your details to 083 786 0788  
or email [disc@darulihسان.com](mailto:disc@darulihسان.com) immediately!

## "LAKKA CHOW" VENDING CARTS:

As part of our job creation initiative for unskilled people, vending carts are offered to potential candidates.

Each cart is equipped to make hot dogs, burgers, as well as cooked meals. The cart is valued at R7500; in addition, first-time stock as well as all other costs such as permits, registration fees, uniform, etc. totals to approximately R12 500 per unit. So far 25 carts have been commissioned.



Bank:



Branch: Tongaat - Code: 220329

Account Name:

Darul Ihsan Islamic Services Centre

Account Numbers:

Lillah : 62130045398

Zakaat : 62130044910

Feeding: 62134947764

Relief : 62134947144



# Darul Ihsan Activity Report

**Fatwa Dept.** - The number of queries received by the Fatwa Dept. has increased tremendously. From January 2009 approximately 800 written Fatwas were answered. Some of those answered are posted on the Darul Ihsan website for public benefit.

**Youth Programs** - "Youth of the Ummah (Y.O.U.)" is a Darul Ihsan youth development project. Y.O.U activities to date that were very successful and enthusiastically received by the youth:

- Q & A Program in Ramadaan 2008 - Approximately 250 youth attended
- Youth Day in December 2008 - Approximately 60 youth attended
- 3 Day youth camp at Umgeni Valley Nature Reserve in April 2009- 36 youth attended
- 3 Day youth camp at Seula Zimbili in June 2009 - 66 youth attended

**Visit the Y.O.U. website:** [www.you.org.za](http://www.you.org.za)

**Literature Collection Project** - The Literature Collection Project is a much appreciated service. Approximately 36 Literature Collection Units have been placed at different Masajid and Musallahs in Durban and around KZN. Qurans and Kitabs that are in a good condition are distributed to organizations that are in need of such literature, especially in the poor African countries.

**Programs** - Darul Ihsan arranged various programs on different Islamic issues. The "Gaza on Fire" and "Seerah" conferences were very well received. Last year a Qurbani program was arranged in 18 Masajid of KZN. This year an "IMBIZO" program was held in Lindelani for the local Zulu speaking people of surrounding areas. The IMBIZO was well attended with a crowd exceeding 800 people. A pre-Ramadaan Zulu program to educate new Muslims about Ramadan was held in four Masajid - Kwa Mashu, Umlazi, etc.

**Website** - The website gets approx. 14000 visitors per month with more than 300 000 hits per month. The website is updated daily, featuring news, Islamic articles, recent Fatwas from our Fatwa Dept., media responses, Mp3 downloads, online bookshop, etc. E-newsletters are sent out to over 14000 subscribers on a regular basis. **Visit our website:** [www.darulihshan.com](http://www.darulihshan.com)

**Social Dept.** - The social dept. handles a wide range of social issues, inter alia, marital discord, family disputes, marriage counselling, drug abuse, etc.

**Welfare Dept.** - Aside from the Muslim Empowerment Fund., the welfare dept. assists 28 permanent and 372 temporary cases per month. All cases are investigated for their eligibility before assistance is given. These cases are provided with grocery hampers, lights and water, rental money, medical help and other assistance, as required.

**Publications Dept.** - Masjid board posters are printed & distributed on a regular basis. Many fan-folds were printed for free distribution, some of the most recent titles are 'Homosexuality' and '41 Marriage advices'. 2 books were published viz. 'Introduction to Mishkat' and 'Muslim Contribution to Modern Civilization'.

**Education Dept. & Dawah Dept.** - Reports are lengthy and could be viewed on our website.

## Darul Ihsan Fact Box:

- Established 2000/1420
- 14 Ulama staff (full & part time)
- 3 Non-Ulama staff
- 9 Departments providing various services
- Auditors: Salim Kharwa & Associates

**Darul Ihsan is a registered PBO**  
**PBO No. 930028504**

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# AL-IHSAN

## الإحسان

Vol 3:1

Organ of the Darul Ihsan Islamic Services Centre

Ramadaan 1430 / August 2009

# Ramadan

## — the beneficial "scorcher"!

Once more, the honourable guest, Holy Ramadan is here. The word "Ramadan" comes from the Arabic root word denoting "scorching heat", "parched thirst", "intense dryness", "sun-baked ground", etc. Thus, Ramadan is so called to indicate the burning sensation in the stomach as a result of hunger and the dryness of the throat due to thirst. Ramadan also "scorches out" the sins of the Muslim as if burning it to the ground. In another sense, the hearts and souls soak up the spiritual warmth of Ramadan, just as the sand and stones are receptive to the sun's heat. Heat is also used as a medical treatment to remove and drive out toxins, cold and other harmful substances from the body. In a similar manner, the heat of Ramadan will expunge and "dry out" greed, arrogance, indifference and other spiritual maladies from the soul of man. Again, intense heat is vital to all manufacturing processes as metals, plastic, glass, wood, etc. are all moulded into various products under scorching temperatures. Similarly, the heart of man is cast into a beautiful spiritual mould in the heat of the crucible of Ramadan, thereby becoming a wonderful receptacle of piety and righteousness!

### Tremendous benefits of fasting

Fasting is not a mindless exercise of torturing the body by remaining hungry and thirsty, but is extremely meaningful and produces tremendous benefits for the fasting person, some of which are summarised as follows:

- Increased Ibadah and devotions in Ramadan make a Muslim feel closer to the Creator, and generate appreciation for all His provisions; food, water, etc. as a boon and blessing from Him.
- By becoming more charitable in this month, feelings of generosity, soft heartedness and

good-will towards others are developed. The Prophet Muhammad ﷺ was more generous than the fast blowing wind in this month.

- Through the self-control and discipline of fasting, a Muslim develops tolerance, patience, contentment, good manners, good speech and good habits.

- Ramadan causes a change in life's routine, which results in healthy lifestyle habits - particularly with regard to diet, eating habits and less smoking.

- Because fasting is a collective activity, it creates a sense of belonging to a huge global family of Believers and strengthens the bonds of family ties and Islamic brotherhood on a local level as well.

### First hand sympathy with the poor and hungry

One of the outstanding benefits of fasting is that a Muslim experiences hunger and thirst, and thus personally identifies with the plight of the hungry and poor, thereby generating a real and intense degree of sympathy and concern for the underprivileged who have so little to eat every day. This in turn makes Muslims reach out to the poor and render them all forms of assistance. One who does not from time to time experience this hunger first hand, cannot truly empathise with the poor and hungry and this has a bearing on the effectiveness of any relief programmes operated by such people.

Ramadan is a very special month, but it is important for the benefits of this month to remain throughout the year. The spirit of piety and spiritual elevation experienced in Ramadan should stay on during our "normal" lives in the eleven months. And when the spiritual batteries begin to weaken, again comes the next Ramadan to give a full charge! Ramadan Kareem to one and all and a happy and joyous Eid Mubarak in advance from all at Darul Ihsan!

- by Mufti Zubair Bayat (Ameer, Darul Ihsan)

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