

Iftaar Programme - 2011

Every Ramadaan Darul Ihsan organises an Iftaar programme by providing cooked meals at selected Masaajid and Musallahs in poor communities. Hence people in these areas can at least enjoy a filling and nourishing meal at the time of Iftaar during the blessed month of Ramadaan.

This year the following Masaajid/Musallahs have been selected: The IslamiCentre in Bester, Mt. Moria Musallah, Lindelani Muslim Community, Masjidul Awliya in Kenville and Darul Huda in Westridge.



Dastarkhan Programme continues

Alhamdulillah, thus far approximately six hundred Dastarkhans (eating mats) have been given out over the last two months.

Revive the Sunnah of our beloved Nabi ﷺ. Come along and collect your free eating mat.

Arrangements can be made to send countrywide. Please contact our offices for details

Bringing dates into SA

After further correspondence with the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries with regard to bringing dates into South Africa - not as an import for resale - the following dictate has been issued:

“Please be advised that an import permit is not required for processed and packaged dates.”

We advise Muslims bringing dates to professionally pack and seal the dates. This will avoid requiring a permit and prevent the dates from being confiscated.

SPONSOR A BLANKET

Thus far, over **5100 BLANKETS** have been distributed with your kind donations at the following venues:

- | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|---------------|
| 1. Estcourt | 2. Stanger | 3. Mooi River |
| 4. Ixopo | 5. Verulam | 6. Phoenix |
| 7. East London | 8. Howick | 9. Tongaat |
| 10. Kokstad | 11. Greytown | 12. Gauteng |
| 13. Durban & surrounding | 14. Pietermaritzburg | |
| 15. Port Elizabeth | 16. Qwaqwa | |

Please continue to support this noble cause and service to the poorest in our midst. May Allah reward you.

**R45.00
per blanket**

First National Bank

Darul Ihsan Islamic Services Centre
A/C: 62134947144 Ref: Blanket

The Muslim Empowerment Fund -a wing of Darul Ihsan Centre-

The Muslim Empowerment Fund is a division of the Welfare Department of Darul Ihsan.

The fund looks at helping people to establish themselves with a source of income by empowering them with some skill or vocation. It is a Sunnah to empower someone and to encourage them to work. There are great rewards in doing this. Entire families benefit from this and it further contributes to a better and stronger social environment as well as bolstering the economy.

Nabi ﷺ encouraged empowerment of the un-employed

It is reported from Hazrat Anas bin Maalik ؓ that an Ansari came to beg from Nabi ﷺ who asked him, 'Do you have anything in your house?' The person replied, 'Yes, I do have a shawl, part of which I spread out below me and the other part of which I use to cover myself. I also have a cup which I use to drink water in.' Nabi ﷺ then commanded him to bring both these items to him, which he did. Nabi ﷺ took both these articles in his hands and announced, 'Who will buy this from me?' A person in the gathering said, 'I will buy them for one dirham.' Nabi ﷺ then asked, 'Who will offer more than one dirham for these items?' Nabi ﷺ posed this question two or three times. Another person then said, 'I am prepared to buy them for two dirhams.' As a result, Nabi ﷺ handed the two items over to that person and took the two dirhams and handed it over to the Ansari to whom Nabi ﷺ said, 'You should purchase food for one dirham and hand this over to your family members and buy an axe with the other dirham and bring it to me.' As a result, the person did exactly this. Nabi ﷺ took the axe in his hand, attached a handle to it and then said, 'Go and cut wood from the trees in the wilderness, (cut and sell) and do not come back to me before fifteen days are over.' As a result he went and carried on cutting and selling wood and came back after fifteen days during which time he had saved ten dirhams which he brought with him. Nabi ﷺ then advised him to go buy some grain and cloth,' and then said to him, 'this (working and eating from its proceeds) is better for you than coming on the day of Qiyamah with the stamp and mark of a beggar on your face.'

Social Department

- Are you experiencing marital discord?
- Do you need help with a family dispute?

Then call Darul Ihsan Social Department on 08611 44726 or email: social@darulihisan.com

Ramadaan - A Remarkable Month

O Mumineen! Certainly the magnificent and blessed month of Ramadaan is upon us. Throughout the Mubarak month of Ramadaan the bountiful blessings and mercy of Allah Ta'ala descends upon us without limit.

Every second of the days and nights of Ramadaan are full with gracious and generous rewards, unparalleled and unprecedented. No other second, minute, hour, day, week or month of the Islamic year can compare with the glorious month of Ramadaan.

Ramadaan is a month when the excessive recitation of the Noble Quran is encouraged. It is a month when the quintessence of Allah Ta'ala's mercy is showered upon a Mumin's being. It is a month when the Dua of a Mumin becomes his armour and a shield from sin.

Welfare Dept.

“ I thank the entire Darul Ihsan members for the help that was given to me and my family. I was so desperate, and Allah made me turn to Darul Ihsan.

May Allah reward the entire Darul Ihsan members in this Dunya and Akhirah.
May you all grow from strength to strength,
(Sister in Islam)

Youth Camp -Impressions of our youth-

“ The camp was good & spiritually uplifting. It is good Islamic fun all in a healthy environment. Got to make new friends and meet people. I feel it is a must for every youngster to attend these camps as it teaches us to have fun in an Islamic and good environment.”

Feeding Update

The Muslim Empowerment Fund regularly feeds people at several venues around Durban.

In the last two months the following areas were covered:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Kwa Mashu Poly Clinic | 2. Tafta Homes - Kings Hall |
| 3. Anna Conradie Service Centre | 4. Ixopo Village School |
| 5. West Park School - Malvern | |

**Wish to receive our free sms's and e-newsletters?
Then sms your details to 083 786 0788
or email disc@darulihisan.com immediately!**

Q & A

Q Does smoking invalidate the fast?

A Smoking nullifies the fast. Both Qadha and Kaffarah become Waajib.

Q Will the use of a medical inhaler nullify my fast?

A You are advised to make use of the asthma pump at the time of Sehri and Iftaar. However, if you require to urgently use the pump while fasting then you should do so. In this case, the fast will be nullified and a Qadhaa fast must be kept. There is no Kaffarah in this instance.

Q Is it permissible to apply oil to the head whilst fasting?

A It is permissible to apply oil to the head. The fast will not be nullified. (Fatawa Raheemiya)

Q I am writing exams during Ramadhan and find it difficult to concentrate whilst hungry. Can I delay my fast until after Ramadhan?

A It is not permissible to delay the fasts in this instance. You may however consider delaying the exams which in many instances is not impossible. Keep your fast and pray to Allah Ta'ala to make it easy for you. (Fataawa Raheemiya Vol. 2. pg 34)

Q If I have a wet dream whilst fasting is my fast still valid?

A Yes, the fast is still valid. However, when gargling the mouth or cleaning the nose during the Ghusl one should be careful not to allow the water to go down the throat or above the nasal bone. (Shaami)

Q Does vomiting break the fast?

A The fast will break if: a. A person vomited a mouthful involuntarily and swallowed it or a part of it by his own volition. b. If one had voluntarily (induced) vomited a mouthful whether swallowed or not. (Fatawa Hindiyya - vol. 1, pg. 203/4). The definition of “mouthful (vomit)” is that which one cannot hold back in one's mouth without difficulty.

HOMOSEXUALITY - ARE MARRIAGES IN DANGER?

★Letter from a distraught sister to the Ulama

I am a young Muslim girl, who writes to you, not to criticize, nor through anger or disdain, but through a heartfelt concern and worry for my fellow Muslimah sisters regarding the topic of homosexuality in our community.

It has gone past the point of just a few isolated incidents and is now a full blown Fitnah (trial), ravaging the homes of innocents.

Indeed experience is the best teacher, and I have been a student of its bitter lessons. Just a few short months back, I was ecstatic and excited, eagerly anticipating my marriage to my “prince charming.”

Little did I know that the “prince” was in fact a “princess.” The marriage happened, followed by the abuse, the evidence of his affair with his gay partner, the denial, the breakdown and finally the divorce.

It was a divorce I welcomed and had been denied as his family feared the revelation of their son's truth. It was not a truth unknown to them, but rather a problem they hoped marriage would fix. Of course it did not, I played the role of a beautiful curtain, veiling the truths of their home and I returned to my own home untouched.

The memories still send shudders through my heart. At the beginning of the marriage I turned to Allah in dua, “O Allah, turn my husband's heart towards me, bless us in this marriage.”

By the third month I could bear no more and my dua evolved to, “O Allah, You have knowledge over all, if there is any good in this keep me in it, but if not then O Allah take this from me and me from this.” Alhumdulillah, I am free of the lies, deceit, fitnah and abuse.

There have been five more cases of Talaq due to this same reason. These five are the only people I know of and those brave enough to speak up. How many more women have lived or are living the nightmare? Only Allah knows best.

Parents must be encouraged not to lie about the true nature of their sons, but rather to seek real help for them. By hiding their faults, they are indirectly enabling and encouraging them, giving the message that ‘do what you choose, just don't let anyone see you or find out.’

Whatever happened, has happened. It is the Will of Allah. The test is from Allah, the ultimate and only Judge is Allah.

I cannot change the destiny of anyone, yet if through greater awareness even one Muslimah can be saved from a false marriage then I ask you to please bring due attention to this matter and help this Ummah to find its feet and stay firm on the fertile soil of true and pure Islam. (letter edited)

Darul Ihsan Comment:

This deep hearted cry should be an eye-opener to all that we are facing serious challenges in our community. The accursed and perverted act of homosexuality is rife, and Muslims are not immune. Parents must be alert, give their children the best upbringing and be honest and truthful about the problems confronting them.

Marriage is a central point in anyone's life; and therefore, it is stressed that prospective parties should conduct some investigation into the background of the partner they seek to marry. This becomes more imperative when abnormal challenges such as homosexuality are on the rise.

Basic principles of giving preference to piety over other factors and to know the background and history of the person and his or her family must be adhered to. There should be honesty and good faith from both sides. May Allah grant safety and protection to all. Aameen.

N.B. Darul Ihsan has prepared an article “Homosexuality - the Accursed Act” which is available free of charge from our offices and also available as a download from our website.

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Gems of Ramadaan

Taqwa (Allah Consciousness)

Every Ibaadah draws a person closer to Allah Ta'ala and strengthens Taqwa. However, fasting has a special ingredient to enhance and increase Taqwa, and the closeness to Allah. Allah Ta'ala declares that: "Fasting is for Me and I will reward it." This signifies a special bond between the fasting person and Allah Ta'ala.

Sadaqah (Charity)

The month of Ramadaan is closely connected to the giving of charity. Nabi ﷺ was the most generous among the people, especially in the month of Ramadaan. Nabi ﷺ advised that the best charity is that which is given in the month of Ramadaan. (Tirmizi)

Hazrat Jibrael (AS) would meet Nabi ﷺ every night during Ramadaan and listen to him reciting the Noble Quran:

“And when Jibrael met with him, then he would be more generous than the wind (sent by Allah with rain) in readiness and haste to do charitable deeds.” (Bukhari)

Good Deeds

'Hasten towards good deeds since Ramadaan has the ability to mould one to everything good and virtuous.' Ramadaan is perhaps the most fertile and beneficial time of the year to invest in good and shun evil. It is indeed an excellent training programme for the next eleven months.

In fact, Ramadaan should be like a race course where family members compete in the Ibaadah of Allah e.g. recitation of the Noble Quran, Zikrullah, etc.

Benefits of the Last Ten Nights of Ramadaan

The entire month of Ramadaan is full of blessings, however, in the last ten nights of Ramadaan, Allah Ta'ala has further granted this Ummah tons of more virtues, blessings, forgiveness, etc.

The I'tikaaf (seclusion) in the Masjid for males and in a room at home for females is indeed the crowning glory of Ramadaan. It is an excellent form of Ibaadah. In addition, the seeking of Laylatul Qadr (Night of Power) in the last ten nights is highly significant. It is better than a thousand months (just over 80 years) of Ibaadah and should be searched for with great eagerness.

May Allah make this Ramadaan the best Ramadaan of our lives.

The Magnificent Month...

Nabi ﷺ witnessed nine Ramadaans after migrating from Makkah to Madinah.

In the nine Ramadaans some important events took place:

- Fasting was made compulsory in the second year of Hijrah.
- Nabi ﷺ experienced six military expeditions; among them the Battle of Badr.
- Nabi ﷺ gave the hand of Faatimah ؓ in marriage to Ali ؓ.
- Nabi ﷺ married Hafsa bint Umar ؓ and Zainab bint Khuzaimah ؓ.
- Nabi ﷺ's daughter Ruqaiya ؓ passed away.
- The major idols of the pagan Makkans i.e. Al lat, Manat and Sawa were destroyed.
- Masjid al Dhirar (Masjid of Mischievous) was destroyed.
- Nabi ﷺ received delegations from a number of Arab tribes across the Arabian Peninsula

(Ma'a Rasul Fi Ramadaan by Shaikh Athiyah Muhammad Salim)