

Masjid Bilal

Castlehill – Newlands West

The Masjid is indeed the best of places on earth. Rasulullah ﷺ said: *"The most beloved of places to Allah is the Masjid, and the most detested of places to Allah is the marketplace."* (Muslim)

The Masjid serves as a community upliftment centre through which Muslims are empowered spiritually and intellectually. Great reward has been promised for those who establish and maintain a Masjid for the sake of Allah Ta'ala. Nabi ﷺ said: *"Whoever builds a Masjid for Allah, Allah will build for him likewise in paradise."* (Bukhari & Muslim)

Further encouragement to establish and maintain a Masjid is given in this Hadith: *"Whoever builds a Masjid for Allah, though it be the size of the nest of a bird, Allah will build for him a house in paradise."* (Ibn Majah)

The most recent project of Darul Ihsan Centre is Masjid Bilal in Castlehill, Newlands. The Masjid is ideally and strategically situated on the outskirts of Newlands West and adjoins a number of townships such as Lindelani, Westrich and Richmond Farm with access to the bigger, bustling townships of Kwa Mashu and Ntuzuma. Further, arterial routes interlead via freeways into Durban and Pinetown. A massive shopping mall is planned for construction across the Masjid. It is envisaged that the Darul Ihsan



Masjid Bilal complex will spearhead the activities of the Centre in the area and serve the greater community of these townships in terms of various Islamic and humanitarian activities.

Some of the activities that are envisaged at this centre include:

- **Siyaphambili Madrasah** - Meaning 'moving forward' - an education concept for basic/primary learning of the Deen

- **Basic Islam** - a ten day course for male reverts with full boarding and lodge.
- **Learn the Deen (Females)** - Currently eighty female reverts attend classes at Sea Cow Lake - it is planned to move the entire project over to the Bilal Masjid complex whereby many more can attend the classes.
- **Teach the Deen** - Supported by

'Learn the Deen' where women from the different areas are selected to continue studies in becoming teachers consequently resulting in the establishment of 'more' Siyaphambili Madrasahs, Insha Allah.

- **Skills Development Programme** - where a variety of skills training such as computer literacy classes, tuition, etc. will be offered to empower people.
- **Women's Empowerment Centre** - to educate and empower our sisters in the various skills of cooking, sewing, etc. A fully fledged kitchen is designed specifically for this project.
- **Muslim Empowerment Fund (MEF)** the empowerment and humanitarian wing of Darul Ihsan - which activates projects like the 'Feed the Needy' where fresh meals are prepared and distributed to the needy.

A humble appeal for your generous contribution towards the completion of this project which is envisaged to offer a host of services for the local community - Insha Allah. No amount is small for the cause of Deen. Secure your reward in the House of Allah now!

We request your sincere duas for the success of this project that Allah Ta'ala make it a means of Hidayat for the Ummah.

Please make your contributions to:

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Ramadan - The beneficial scorcher

Mufti Zubair Bayat

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.

The Ramadan countdown has begun. Just a few days remain for the arrival of the Holy month of Ramadan. The very name of Ramadan evokes a feeling of expectant joy and pleasure in the heart of the believer. A restlessness overtakes the believer in eager anticipation of the Holy month. Sometimes, this feeling even turns to fear and anxiety. "O Allah, will I see Ramadan this year?"

Allah Ta'ala alone knows who will live to see Ramadan. The reassurance comes in the form of a fervent Dua, "**O Allah bless us in Rajab and Sha'ban and let us make it to Ramadan.**" The Dua for this must continue with vigorous fervour - "O Allah! Let us reach Ramadan!"

Message of Ramadan

Khalid Baig

"We observe Ramadan every year. Do we also listen to it? Ramadan is the most important month of our calendar. It is a tremendous gift from Allah in so many ways."

Ramadan Is Here Make it your best!



Ramadan is a Special Month

Maulana Maseehullah Khan (R)

In the month of Ramadan Allah Ta'ala has protected us from our routine of negligence and indifference. It is as if Allah Ta'ala is saying, 'O My Banda (slave)! Why are you so deeply engrossed with your farming? Submit yourself to My Door! O My Banda (slave)! Why are you rooted to your shop busy buying and selling (making you oblivious of your Creator)? Submit yourself to My Royal Court, to the Masjid! O My Banda (slave)! Why are you busy mending shoes and sewing clothes? Come to Me! Free yourself from everything and come to My Door!'

Useful health guidelines for Ramadan

Dr Farouk Haffejee

This article provides useful advice on how to avoid some common problems encountered in Ramadan. If followed, it would enable one to fast comfortably and enjoy fully the spiritual benefits of Ramadan.

The countdown for Ramadan begins - Making everything to the "T"

Mufti Zubair Bayat

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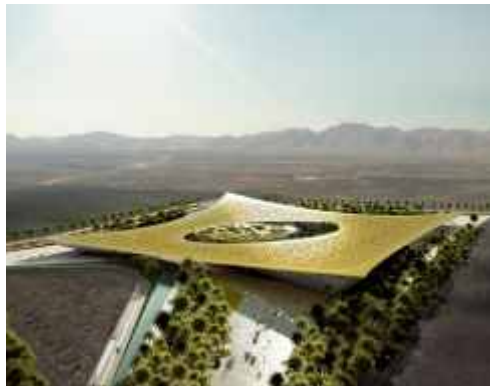
Qur'an Oasis in Madinah

MADINAH — The Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Salman, approved the establishment of an iconic Qur'an Oasis project in Madinah.

This was announced by Prince Sultan bin Salman, president of the Saudi Commission for Tourism and National Heritage.

“The oasis will be an integrated world-class cultural and knowledge landmark that showcases everything pertaining to the holy book,” he said.

The King also approved the allocation of 200,000 square meters of land along King Salman Road near Prince Muhammad International



Airport to implement the project in coordination with the Ministry of Islamic Affairs and in partnership of the private sector.

The Oasis project will display more than 3,000 rare manuscript copies of the holy book.

World News

Chemical weapons allegedly used 45 times

THE HAGUE: Experts from the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) - the world's watchdog - tasked with destroying chemical weapons are probing reports that toxic arms have been used 45 times in Syria since late last year.

Ahmet Uzumcu, its director general, said there was “a huge list of allegations” of the use of toxic arms reported to the operations hub of the OPCW.

In the “second part of 2016, 30 different incidents, and since the beginning of this year, 15 separate incidents, so 45,” he told a reporters, brandishing a list of several pages which he chose to keep confidential.

They include the April 4 sarin gas attack on the opposition-held town of Khan Sheikhun. “All these allegations are recorded by our experts, who follow this every day from our operations center,” Uzumcu said.

“The mission, if it goes ahead, will not be an easy one. The Syrian regime had enough time to erase whatever traces were left (of the chemical attack). It will have time to do that until the watchdog arrives in Syria,” said Hamdan Al-Shehri, a political analyst and international relations expert.

“The regime has been condemned for using chemical weapons against



civilians, and this was proven by the British and the French, who conducted tests on samples taken from the victims. The question is, will there be any accountability based on the results of the new mission,” Al-Shehri added.

The OPCW is currently trying to ensure it is safe enough to deploy its fact-finding team to the town for further analysis, after Uzumcu said last week that “incontrovertible” test results from OPCW-designated labs on samples taken from victims showed sarin gas or a similar substance had been used.

The regime of Syrian President Bashar Assad has “already stated that it would support this mission, actually it has invited us to go via Damascus,” he said.

“The problem is that this area is controlled by different armed opposition groups, so we need to strike some deals with them to ensure a temporary cease-fire, which we understand the Syrian government is willing to do,” he added.

Israel inflicts 'apartheid regime' on Palestine

Report by UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia says world's ignorance has 'encouraged Tel Aviv.' The UN accused Israel of imposing an “apartheid regime” on the Palestinian people - the first time a UN agency had levelled such an allegation.

A report commissioned by the Beirut-based UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) said Israel had “established an apartheid regime that dominates the Palestinian people as a whole”.

UN Under-Secretary General and ESCWA Executive Secretary Rima Khalaf said the “ignorance of the international community, over the past decades, has encouraged Israel to continue its abuses of international law.”

At a news conference in Beirut Khalaf said the report “clearly and frankly” concluded that “Israel is a racist state that has established an apartheid system that persecutes the Palestinian people.”

The report said there was “overwhelming evidence” of Israel's guilt of the “crime of apartheid”.

It added that the “strategic fragmentation” of Palestinians into



four groups - Palestinian citizens of Israel; Palestinians in East Jerusalem; Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip; and Palestinian refugees or exiles - allowed Israel to carry out its apartheid policies.

A two-state solution cannot be applied until the “apartheid regime” is dismantled through international pressure, Khalaf said.

The report was prepared by Richard Falk, an international law and human rights expert and a former UN human rights rapporteur for the occupied territories, and Virginia Tilley, a political science professor and an expert in Israeli studies.



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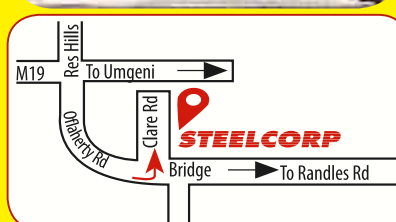
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The Islamic Centre Starwood is a branch of Darul Ihsan Centre. In this issue we interview Maulana Huzaifa Noor, who is the Imam of the Sunford Masjid in Phoenix and the manager of the Islamic Centre on the achievements and challenges of Muslims in this locality.

Can you give us a brief geographic history of Phoenix and Muslims living there?

Phoenix is a well-populated, diverse locality, situated Northwest of Durban, Kwa-Zulu Natal. It was established in 1976. It has a total population of approximately 200 000 residents. Muslims make up approximately 10% of the population.

How long are you residing in Phoenix and what is your observation as an Alim in this community?

I am residing in Phoenix for the past 30 years. Alhumdulillah, the community of Phoenix has grown in leaps and bounds in many respects. Religiously there is a greater awareness of Deen amongst the people. Enthusiasm for learning and practicing Deen is on the rise.

What are some of the major achievements of the Muslims of Phoenix?

Islamic Centre Starwood (Phoenix)



The achievements of Muslims in Phoenix are primarily the establishment of Masjids, Musallas, Maktabas, schools and Madrasahs for young Muslims and several community organisations and charity forums. The establishment of a fully-fledged Muslim School and Hifz Academy are amongst the many achievements of this community. Phoenix had the honour of hosting the KZN provincial Ijtimia in 2010 which was well organised and received by the community. Alhumdulillah, numerous Ulama have settled in Phoenix and serve the community selflessly.

What are some of the challenges faced by the Muslims of Phoenix?

Like other communities, the scourge of drugs is a serious challenge within the Muslim community of Phoenix, leading to crime and other societal complications. There are also a

number of ideological challenges that are targeting the youth and vulnerable. Economic instability within many families also remains an issue. General lack of Islamic knowledge and values. In order to safe guard and protect our Iman and beliefs, close association with the Ulama is of paramount importance.

Can you give us a background of the Islamic Centre Starwood?

Residents of Phoenix who required social and welfare assistance would travel long distances in order to get help. There was a need to establish a centre in Phoenix to cater for the needs of the people that is convenient and accessible. With the guidance and duas of the Ulama of Phoenix, the Islamic Centre Starwood was established by Darul Ihsan in February 2012 thereby filling this void. However, there remains much room for extension of the services and activities for the community.

What are the services provided by the centre?


The office renders financial assistance to eligible recipients. Assistance is provided in the form of rental, food vouchers, metro bills, household necessities, medicine, clothing, stationery, school uniforms, sandwiches to schools and many other areas. Social and marital counselling, learner support, spiritual upliftment, motivation, etc is also rendered. There is also a focus on empowerment to help, guide and fund people to a position of self-sufficiency. Visits to schools, hospitals, homes, etc. are also conducted. Outreach programmes for feeding, education, youth adventures, workshops, etc. are co-ordinated from the office. The esteemed Ulama of Phoenix utilise the office as a convenient venue for their planning sessions and other meetings.

How can one access these services?


Our office is located in Starwood, Phoenix opposite the Phoenix Plaza.

Office hours are Mon to Friday - 8:30 - 12:30 or you can contact us 031 5003122

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Sleeping and waking up early



Our sleeping pattern plays a major role in our ability to function effectively during the day.

The time after Fajr is the most blessed part of the day. Starting the day off by performing your Fajr Salah sets you in the right frame of mind to maximise the benefit of the day. However, in order to rise in the early hours it is imperative to sleep early as your body requires an adequate amount of rest.

Aisha (RA) said about the Prophet ﷺ: *“He used to sleep early at night, and get up in its last part to pray, and then return to his bed.”* (Bukhari)

With the busy daily routines that we have today, it is easy to slip into a cycle of sleeping late and waking up late. Due to our failure to wake up early, one day extends into the next with tasks left incomplete. Break that cycle today! Wake up early and sleep early to be energetic and successful.

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Hazrat Abdullah ibn Amr رضي الله عنه reported that Rasulallah ﷺ said "He who recites Subhanallah 100 times in the

morning and another 100 times in the evening is like one who performed Hajj 100 times!" (Tirmizi)

The most sacred verse in the Noble Qur'an

Hazrat Ubay bin Ka'b رضي الله عنه reported that Rasulallah ﷺ said to him: 'O Abu Mundhir! Do you know which verse in Allah's Book is the greatest?' I replied: "It

is Ayatul Kursi." Thereupon Rasulallah ﷺ patted me on the chest and said: "Rejoice by this knowledge, O Abu Mundhir!" (Riyadus Saliheen)

A Beautiful Description of Taqwa

Hazrat Umar رضي الله عنه once asked Hazrat Ubayy bin Kaab رضي الله عنه regarding taqwa.

taqwa, Walk as if you are on a thorny road i.e. be wary and careful of your actions and thoughts, Don't disregard minor sins, for mountains are made up from small pebbles.

Hazrat Ubayy bin Kaab رضي الله عنه replied with a couplet: Protect yourself from major and minor sins, this is

(Tafseer Qurtubi)

Futile Arguments

by Hazrat Maulana Yunus Patel Saheb (R)



It seems as if everyone has something to argue about these days. Arguing is a waste of precious time and a diversion of shaytaan, from carrying out good deeds or rendering services to Deen.

The person whose heart is connected with Allah Ta'ala does not have the time for arguments, for fights, for unnecessary quarrels and for wasting time over useless, futile activities.

Rasulallah ﷺ said: "I guarantee a house in the outskirts of Paradise to the one who forsakes argument even when he is in the right."

If we are mindful of this Hadith and have Yaqeen (conviction) on the words of Rasulallah ﷺ, many arguments would not even surface.

We do not have to worry about arguing with every other person. We have got no time to argue with people. Only that person will go around arguing with people who has got the time. ...He has got the time to waste, therefore he will go around arguing.

Differing with Respect

Allah Ta'ala states in the Noble Quran: "Obey Allah and the Nabi ﷺ and do not dispute with one another lest you falter and your strength departs from you."

(Surah Anfal V.46)

Islam is a balanced and moderate way of life. Accordingly our Deen allows for academic differences of opinion regarding laws and rulings as long as these are within the required parameters. Such differences are praiseworthy and a form of blessing as they accommodate the different temperaments of people and creates ease and flexibility amongst them.

Unfortunately, due to intolerance and ignorance some make these differences the basis for disputes and quarrels and sow confusion in the ranks of the general Muslim public. They adopt a dogmatic, rigid and uncompromising position that causes tension and friction among Muslims. Some regard everyone else as deviated and regard only themselves to be

correct and authentic.

In an even more dangerous approach, some boldly and publicly condemn other Ulama and scholars.

Every Muslim should endeavour to practice on Islam to the best of his ability and seek guidance from a reputable Alim or Mufti. If uncertain about a matter, refer to the scholars that one has confidence in, seek their guidance and practice upon it.

At no point should anyone feel that he is better or his opinion is more correct than that of others. This thinking is the result of pride which is a destructive malady that needs reformation. Avoid being judgmental of others as you are not aware of their circumstances. You will not be answerable about the actions of others but will be questioned about your own.

That we shall differ, is not the issue. The issue is, how we respond to a difference of opinion and what should be our relationship with someone of a different opinion.

May Allah Ta'ala make us from those who promote love, understanding and harmony.

The dignity of a Muslim

Abdullah Ibn 'Abbas رضي الله عنه narrates that Rasulallah ﷺ looked at the Ka'bah and said: "La ilaha illallah, how pure you are, and how sweet is your fragrance, and how great is your honour! However the honour of a Mu'min (believer) is

greater than yours. Indeed, Allah Subhanahu wa Ta'ala has made you respectable; (likewise) the wealth, the blood, and the honour of a Mu'min has been made respectable; and Allah has forbidden us to suspect him of wrongdoing."

(Majma-uz- Zawaid)



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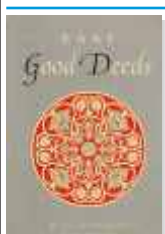
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Annual Iftar Provision

Iftar arrangements are made for certain venues in the greater Durban area such as Lindelani, Westrich, Newlands East, etc. where a genuine need exists. The Iftar is served as a complete meal that includes savoury platters and other delicacies. This is a great opportunity to feed the fasting and reap the rewards that are promised

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Q & A

Q I have read that one can only miss his fast if one is a traveller at sehri time. What will be the ruling of an individual who is travelling abroad but his flight is after sunrise time (meaning he is still at home at sehri time)? If that person needs to fast, how will he do Iftar because different countries have different iftar times?

A A person who is not travelling at the time of Sehri must observe the fast. One who is fasting whilst travelling makes Iftar according to the local time of Iftar (sunset) wherever one is.

Q Can one insert Vicks into the nostrils whilst fasting?

A This should be avoided whilst fasting. One may however use vicks externally and apply it to the forehead and chest etc.

Q If one masturbates in Ramadan will the fast be Qadha or does one have to pay Kaffarah as well? What is the ruling if one masturbates during one fast of Ramadan? If there is Kaffarah - what is it?

A Firstly, it should be remembered that masturbating for both males and females is Haraam (forbidden)

in Islam and an evil act. Masturbating whilst fasting is an even more serious offence and deprives one of the blessings of Ramadan as it causes the fast to break. There is only Qadha for this, no Kaffarah. One should make abundant Taubah and Istighfar and firmly resolve never to do this again.

Q I would like to know, if a person was in Saudi Arabia when Ramadan began and started a day earlier. He is making Eid in South Africa. If Ramadan is 30 days here in South Africa it would mean he is keeping 31 fasts altogether. Some say he should skip one fast and have Eid a day earlier. Please can you give me some guidance regarding this?

A If one commenced the fast a day earlier in another part of the world and was then spending the end part of Ramadan elsewhere where the people around you will still be fasting their 30th day of Ramadan then one will fast with the people (on your 31st day) and make Eid thereafter with the people locally even if it means that one fasts 31 days.

Q Is it permissible to pay for the fasts that I missed for an entire Ramadan due to Nifas (post-natal bleeding)?

A No, Fidyah (paying for the fasts) will not suffice. The missed fasts should be made-up after Ramadan when you attain purity and can manage fasting.

In terms of who can pay Fidyah, Allah Ta'ala has granted permission to people who have no hope of ever fasting like those who are very old, chronically/terminally ill, etc., to compensate each fast by feeding a poor and needy person (two meals a day).

The Jurists have equated this amount to that of Sadaqatul Fitr (money given before Eid day to the poor). This could be given at the beginning of Ramadan or at the end (Shaami). This money cannot be discharged before Ramadan.

Those who have hope of recovery and can manage the fast later must make Qadha of these after Ramadan whenever they can manage. Fidyah given in such a case will not suffice.

Q I'm recently married and my mother in law wants to gift me with gold bangles but she asked if I've paid Zakah yet for this year. I replied no, as in Ramadan is my set date." She said that she just paid Zakah on them recently (few months ago) and suggested keeping the bangles in her possession for me (until after Ramadan) and then "officially" gifting and handing over to me.

My question is, if I accept the gold bangles now, is it correct that I will not have to pay Zakah on them; as it hasn't been in my possession for a full year? Should I simply accept the gift after Ramadan?

A There is a general misconception with regards to the concept of one lunar year. The simple explanation is that the threshold for being liable to discharge Zakah is that one must have net-Zakaatable assets (i.e. Zakaatable assets minus liabilities) equal to the value of Nisab at the beginning of the Zakaatable year as well as at the end. Thus, if Zakaah is compulsory on the person, then he should discharge Zakah on 2.5% on the full amount of these assets he has at the end of his Zakaatable irrespective of whether all this wealth was in his possession for a complete year or not.

Hence if you were gifted these bangles before Zakah calculation date, you will pay Zakah on these.

Q is Zakaat payable on a provident fund? Must it be paid even before it matures and the person doesn't have any access to it?

A Pension/Provident Funds and RA's

Funds are entered into either voluntarily (where one has a choice of opting into or out of the fund) or involuntarily (where company lawists that one has to have a pension/provident fund).

In an involuntary (compulsory) pension/provident fund the money kept aside is not yet your wealth according to the Shariah, but rather a gift or favour from your employer that will be made completely over to you in the future. A gift is only complete when complete possession and control has been handed over. Therefore, if this was a compulsory fund then there is no Zakah payable. When one receives the wealth, then at the end of that Zakatable year Zakah will be paid on whatever wealth remains thereof. The entire amount in this case is Halaal as it is a gift from the employer to you.

However, if the fund (non-Islamic pension/provident or RA) was entered into voluntarily, then Zakah is only paid on your total accumulated contributions at your Zakah calculation date. Further, whatever amounts accrue over and above yours and your companies contributions in non-Shariah compliant Funds, is impermissible or at least doubtful and must be given away in charity without the intention of reward.

In Shariah compliant Funds that were entered voluntarily, the entire current market value of the investment is Zakatable as a precautionary measure since it is difficult to ascertain the net-Zakatable assets of the fund.

This answer is not in any way an endorsement of any Shariah Compliant Fund/Company. It is only the answer on the assumption that the Fund is Shariah compliant.

Q I have calculated my Zakah on the 1st Ramadhaan 1437/2016, the amount I have

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Q & A

to pay is R5000, is it permissible for me to pay my Zakah within the next 12 months or do I have to discharge my Zakaah immediately?

A Zakah should not be delayed. Life is not guaranteed nor does one know what one's financial position will be in the future. We

advise that if one cannot pay the Zakah at once then one should try and pay it in advance gradually.

Q Is Zakah payable on retirement annuities?

A Retirement Annuities are Zakatable.

If it is a conventional non Shariah compliant annuity, then Zakah is payable on your total accrued contributions only as the growth should be given away in charity to the poor and needy without the intention of reward.

If you do not have the liquid to pay the Zakah, you can delay payment to the time you receive this money. However, in this case once you receive the wealth you should pay Zakah for all the previous years as well and you should also make a bequest that if Zakah on this amount is outstanding and unfulfilled at the time of your

demise then it should be paid from your estate.

However, if the fund is Shariah compliant then the proceeds over and above your total accumulated contributions are permissible.

Zakah is paid on your proportionate share of the Zakatable assets of the fund. If this cannot be determined then it is safest to pay on the full current value of your share.

Q I would like to know, for a lady performing Taraweeh Salah, I only know around 14 Surahs, can I repeat the Surahs in Taraweeh Salah?

A Yes, you may repeat the Surahs. Hence, if you read from Surah Feel to Surah Naas in the first ten Rakaats then these may be repeated in the second 10 Rakaats.

Q On completion of the Quran recitation in Taraweeh the Trustees give gifts to the Huffaaz.

They specify that the reward of the Huffaaz is from Allah Ta'ala and their gift is "hadiyya" & it's from their heart. Please advise whether it is permissible to use the gifts?

A Ulama have considered it as impermissible to receive a remuneration for reciting the Quran Shareef and leading the Taraweeh Salah.

Generally, since there is the general perception and knowledge that some form of remuneration or gift will be given, hence even if the Hafiz did not ask for a remuneration per se it is best that he dispenses of such gifts.

Q What is the ruling for those who have missed entire Taraweeh Salah from past years? Does Qadha have to be made for them like missed Fardh/Witr?

A There is no doubt that one has deprived oneself from tremendous reward and emulating the Sunnah. However, there is no Qadha for missed Taraweeh and Sunnat Salah once the time has elapsed. Hence once the Fajr time enters one should make Taubah and Istighfar.

Q I would like to find out if a woman is allowed to wax or thread unwanted hair?

A it is permissible for women to remove the hair from their arms and legs etc. by waxing and threading. However one should ensure that in doing so one does not reveal one's Satr to strangers (from navel till below the knee), if this is undertaken by other females. One cannot have these removed by strange males.

NB: One is obliged to conceal the area between the navel and the knee even in front of women and

Mahrammale relatives except the husband.

Q A girl wants to attend a non-Muslim wedding even after parents telling her it's not permissible she still wants to go because she says it's her close friend and the parents are totally against her attending the wedding. She says she will only go for half an hour to show her face?

A It is not correct to attend such a function. We suggest that she take a gift beforehand, wish them well and politely excuse herself from attending the function.

Need a Quick Response ?

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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.

Collection of Kajoor Pits

To encourage Zikr of Allah at home, Darul Ihsan Centre is presenting a Zikr container that includes +/-360 treated kajoor pits, a cloth (to place the

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beads on) and a laminated card of the prescribed duas.

This project is known as "Zikr @ home" and is ideal for families and businesses.

Johannesburg

Maulana M S Ravat
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We call on you to please accumulate your kajoor pits this Ramadan and forward to/call Darul Ihsan offices.



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What's Happening at Darul Ihsan Centre

Feeding outreach at the Nsimbini Primary Pchool

Darul Ihsan Centre, in its continuing outreach to the community, provided hot meals for learners at the Nsimbini Primary School in Cato Manor.

On Thursday, 16 February 2017 the Centre's Relief Team, together with eight female volunteers, facilitated a lunch-time feeding of 1,200 learners at the school.

The request for the meals came from the Principal of the school, Mr



B P Ndlovu, who said the school is situated in a poverty stricken area with a high unemployment rate.

Natal Settlers Memorial Home outreach

Darul Ihsan Centre - through its Muslim Empowerment Fund - provided hot meals and soft drinks for all residents and staff members of the Natal Settlers Memorial Home in Umbilo on Tuesday, 17 January 2017 and 12 April 2017

The Memorial Home - established about 75 years ago - is an old age home and a frail care centre for almost 380 senior citizens.

At the Home there is a specialized area for the care and nursing of people affected by cerebral palsy.

The Operations Coordinator of the Home, Ms Sandra Welton, residents and staff members expressed their



appreciation and thanked Darul Ihsan Centre for providing the meal.

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

Azmate Sahaba Programmes in Greytown, Howick and PMB

Azmate Sahaba campaign continues with 2 programmes held by local Ulama in Greytown and Howick respectively. These programmes are well

attended and received by the Muslim community. For more on this campaign please visit www.darulihstan.com

Darul Ihsan Centre facilitates 'Marriage Workshop' in Cape Town

The 'Made in Heaven' marriage workshop series continued in Strand, Cape Town were a series of interactive workshops were held and completed. This was a follow-up of the Pre-Marital workshops that were held in Strand late last year.

The workshop consisted of 5 modules which were presented every second Saturday over the period 25 February to 22 April 2017. A group of 50 ladies attended the workshop and were presented with certificates on completion of all 5 modules under the expert tutorship of Muallima A Peer, a facilitator for

Darul Ihsan Centre in Cape Town. Muallima Peer received a great amount of positive feedback with requests from many community members for more workshops to be held in Cape Town.

Darul Ihsan Centre thanks our facilitator and her volunteer associates for their efforts. The Centre also thanks its sponsors, donors and well-wishers for making such national outreaches possible.

We request your duas that Allah Ta'ala grant success to all current and future projects of Darul Ihsan Centre, Aameen.



Darul Ihsan Centre - Overport

'Drug Awareness Drive' in Ladysmith

The 'Drug Awareness Drive' ('DAD') of Darul Ihsan Centre held a community programme in Ladysmith on Friday and Saturday (10th and 11th February 2017).

A group of seven Ulama members of Darul Ihsan Centre, including the Ameer Mufti Zubair Bayat, left Durban and proceeded to Ladysmith in the early hours of Friday morning. The first programme was at the Ladysmith High School where about 1 500 learners were addressed on the harms of drug and substance abuse.

Ulama members presented Jumuah talks in seven Masajid in Ladysmith,



Dundee and Bergville addressing the congregation on the harms of drugs and solutions for the community.

Five Madrasahs were visited in the afternoon by the Ulama and children were given talks on the topic.

Weekly Feeding

Darul Ihsan Centre conducts weekly feeding in the following areas:

Chatsworth, Greyville, Phoenix, Sea Cow Lake and other areas and institutes on request.

Join our feeding outreaches by contributing even a minimal amount - Your R10 provides a full meal for one person. Call us or make a direct deposit through EFT.

"And they are those who give food - in spite of their own need , to the needy, and the orphan, and the captive, [saying in their hearts], 'We only feed you for the sake of



Allah, and we desire nothing in return from you, not even a word of thanks'. " (S 76 V 8-9).

"You shall not attain righteousness until you spend out of what you love (in the way of Allah). Allah knows whatever you spend." (S 3 V92)

Marriage registration – FREE service

The Darul Ihsan Centre offers a free service of registration of marriages in accordance with the South African Marriage Act. In terms of the Act, for a marriage union to be recognised and legal, the marriage must be registered by any office of the Department of Home Affairs, or court or an authorised marriage officer appointed by the Department of Home Affairs.

Two Ulama at the Centre, Mufti Zubair Bayat and Moulana Ahmed Kathrada are registered Marriage Officers (MOs) and are able to register marriages in accordance with the Marriages Act.

PROCEDURE:

For marriage registration purposes, the following requirements must be adhered to:

a) An Ante-nuptial Contract excluding the accrual system must be drawn by an attorney. Cost in drawing up an ANC Contract may vary (You may contact Darul Ihsan for advice).

b) Both spouses must be South African citizens (possessing the green coded ID Document). Marriage officers are not permitted to register a marriage of any one or



both spouses being of foreign origin. In such a case, only the Home Affairs may register the marriage.

c) In the case where any one or both spouses being married (registered) previously, then a court decree of divorce must be produced.

At the time of registration, the following documents are required:

a) Both spouses must be present with the original ID documents.

b) Accompanied with three passport size photos of each spouse.

c) First page of the ANC Contract identifying the Protocol No.

In order to fast track the procedure, a "Marriage Registration Details" form is emailed for completion, thereafter a date is fixed for the actual registration. This Form is downloadable from Darul Ihsan's website.

Dealing with anxiety

QI have recently been diagnosed with anxiety as there was no medical explanation for my symptoms. How I should go forward in dealing with this anxiety according to Islamic guidelines, as I do not want to get caught up in medication and therapy?

AWe are inspired by your question and commend you for seeking your solution to this challenge in 'Islamic guidelines'.

Anxiety and worry are caused by overwhelming conditions and challenges. A Muslim has the perfect answer to anxiety - a concept or state called Tafweeth - which means to resign all affairs to Allah Ta'ala. Once a person develops this state then, irrespective of the trials experienced, a capacity is acquired to move forward with belief and commitment. A true believer is convinced about Allah Ta'ala's divine plan, wisdom and help in all aspects of life. The Greatness and

Recognition of Allah Ta'ala becomes the central focus of life.

To support the concept of Tafweeth you will need to meditate over Allah Ta'ala's greatness, be steadfast on obedience and regular with Zikr and other spiritual exercises. A holistic spiritual plan is the best response to the worries of the world. Allah Ta'ala says in the Quran, "Listen attentively, only in the remembrance of Allah will the heart find contentment." (Surah Ra'd)

However, to acquire this it requires a constant and steadfast effort that encompasses a lifetime. This ability is most effectively acquired by consulting a reputable and authentic spiritual guide. The guide, who is qualified and experienced will be able to identify and diagnose a condition and make recommendations.

We make dua that Allah Ta'ala guide and assist you and us in the quest for Him.

And Allah Ta'ala Knows Best

9 points to ponder from Surah Hujurat

- 1 "Fa Tabayyanu": Investigate: when you receive an information, lest you harm people out of ignorance.
- 2 "Fa Aslihu" - Make settlement: between your brothers as believers are brothers.
- 3 "Wa Aqsitu" - Act justly: whenever there is a dispute try for settlement and act justly among both parties as Allah loves those who act justly.
- 4 "La Yaskhar": Don't ridicule people, perhaps they may be better than you to Allah.
- 5 "Wa La Talamizu": Do not insult one another.
- 6 "Wa La Tanabazu": Do not call each other with offensive nicknames.
- 7 "Ijtanibu Kaseeran minaz-Zan": Avoid negative assumptions, indeed some of the assumptions are sins.
- 8 "Wa La Tajassasu": Do not spy on each other.
- 9 "Wa La Yagtab": Do not backbite each other. It's a major sin equivalent to 'eating your dead brother's flesh.'



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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.

Mass murders indicate impunity

THE front-page article "Concern over rise in murders" (The Mercury, March 9) refers.

Crime, killings, murder and especially mass murders are a very real phenomenon in South Africa.

Many citizens and communities are expressing that they are losing faith in the SAPS.

Police Minister Nathi Nhleko's allusion that "those kind of ructions" are pre-1994 reinforces the need for enhanced law enforcement.

Mass murders - be they political or otherwise - are indicative of impunity on the part of perpetrators who believe that they will get away.

Rampant crime needs to be addressed with the contempt it deserves - on a daily basis, not only as and when tragic "heightened" situations arise.

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 Islamophobic (anti-Islamic) comments and anti-Islamic sentiments made in the mainstream media and interacts positively with media portals conveying the Islamic perspective.

Quebec mosque attack barbaric

THE article "Quebec mosque shooting claims 6 lives" (The Mercury, Tuesday, January 31) refers.

Darul Ihsan Centre unequivocally condemns the attack on Muslims in North America.

The senseless and barbaric killing of six innocent Muslims and eight wounded - five of them critical - on the Sunday night attack at a Quebec mosque is a dastardly act carried out at the time of prayer. We offer our most sincere condolences and prayers to the families and friends who lost their loved ones and the speedy recovery of the wounded.

We trust that justice would be carried out by the authorities upon those responsible for this heinous crime.

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