



In times of uncertainty, let hope prevail...

As citizens of this beautiful country there is great trepidation about the uncertainty that plagues our nation. South Africans are familiar with challenges coming from a colonised past and an unforgettable history of apartheid. Those times were braced by the brave masses and the nation prevailed.

Some twenty five years later, when uncertainty and fears rumble in the corridors of power, faith teaches us to accept these realities and adapt to them as best as possible. These are inevitable and unavoidable occurrences which we must embrace with courage and conviction.

Let us affirm our belief that when people bring change within themselves it will give effect to change on the ground. The power of perseverance, reformation and



collective concern should not be underestimated. It has dismantled oppression in the past and will solve our current challenges as well.

The people of this land must rekindle the spirit that calls for us to collectively stand for the poorest of the poor, to end the

plight of the needy, to raise the bar of justice, to act with honesty, mercy, compassion, forgiveness - to reignite the feeling of genuine concern for one's fellow citizens. The spirit of Ubuntu (true brotherhood) must prevail. **What I want for myself I should wish for my brother.** (Hadith)

Every citizen of this country should commit to how I can benefit my neighbour, my street, my community, my city and my country.

The time has come for us to mobilise, initiate, volunteer and assist. Our actions speak louder than words.

Nothing can be achieved without prayer and every citizen must engage in excessive repentance (istighfar), reflection, and commitment to serve the creation.

Whilst we are experiencing a period of uncertainty, this is also a time to be grateful, cherish what we have and invest in our land for the generations to come. Let's give effect to the adage, "A society grows great when people plant trees in whose shade they know they shall never sit."

Abundant recitation of Takbeer Tashreeq

The great renown scholar Hazrat Mufti Taqi Usmani (Hafizahullah) has alluded to a profound point regarding the recitation of the Takbeer Tashreeq - the recitation of the Takbeer is generally recited on the days of Tashreeq for 23 Salaah, between the 9th and 13th of Zul Hajj. This is

an incumbent practice for males and females.

Mufti Taqi Usmani has mentioned that when taking a closer look at the Hadith Shareef, it is understood that apart from the specified days of Tashreeq, which is Wajib (incumbent), this practice

is desirable from the beginning of the month of Zul Hajj.

The Takbeer should be recited in abundance whilst a person is conducting his normal activities and routine of the day. It is established that the Sahabah would practice on this.

Hazrat Abdullah bin Umar رضي الله عنه, the son of Hazrat Umar رضي الله عنه use to recite the Takbeer aloud in the Bazaar where all would hear him. This practice of the Sahabah should be revived and hopefully we shall also reap it's blessings and benefits.

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Deadly drug problem in South Africa

South Africa is fast becoming a drug capital of the world. Lethal drugs from around the world are reaching our shores. South Africa has the dubious distinction of having the largest illegal drug market in sub-Saharan Africa. This poses a major threat to our youth and society.

According to the Central Drug Authority, the substance abuse rate in South Africa among teenagers is spiralling out of control. In fact, one in two schoolchildren have already experimented with drugs. A study published in a prominent Medical Journal found that more than 60 % of teenagers aged 18 years regularly drink alcohol.

Given this backdrop, ideally, the best success in this battle comes from early education. As it is much easier to work with an educated community, people will understand the damages, hazards, problems and issues brought on by substance abuse.

Darul Ihsan Humanitarian Centre, through its Drug Awareness Drive,



has developed a sustained awareness programme that highlights the perils of this scourge and its impact on our lives. Our education programmes are held nationally and are being constantly enhanced so our message and assistance can reach as many people as possible. Hands-on guidance, counselling and support is provided. We call on all South Africans to become proactive by supporting this noble initiative and adding your voice to saving our future

Save a life - call us today to know how you can support.

*Drug Awareness Drive - 'DAD'
Project of Darul Ihsan Centre*

Hajee Mahmood Essack - Durban
Demise - 11 July 2019

The late Hajee Mahmood Essack served at Darul Ihsan Centre during the latter years of his life. He undertook certain administrative duties and worked with promptness and efficiency. May Allah Ta'ala accept his efforts, grant him Jannatul Firdous and the family patience on their loss. Aameen.

Reaping the reward of Hajj

Rasulullah ﷺ said, "One who performs Wudhu and proceeds to attend Fard Salah (with congregation) receives the reward of a Haji in the state of Ihram, and if he leaves for Salatud Duha (Chast Salah), he gets the reward of performing Umrah."

(Abu Dawood)

Rasulullah ﷺ said, "One who attends the Masjid for the purpose of learning or teaching (Islamic) knowledge, receives the reward of a Haji who performs a perfect Hajj."

(Tabrani)

Rasulullah ﷺ said, "Whoever recites Subhanallah 100 times in the

morning and 100 times in the evening is like one who performed Hajj 100 times."

(Tirmizi)

These are simple day to day actions that can be easily accomplished by every Muslim and the great rewards of Hajj and Umrah can be enjoyed. True love for Allah Ta'ala and the blessed lands is to practice on such actions that bring the rewards of pilgrimage, though one may not physically be able to undertake the journey.

NB. These optional acts do not suffice for the fulfilment of the obligatory Hajj.

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World News

Haj goes smart

MAKKAH — Saudi Arabia's Ministry of Haj and Umrah is rolling out a bundle of smart systems to facilitate the travel of pilgrims from around the world and ensure that the rituals are performed with ease.

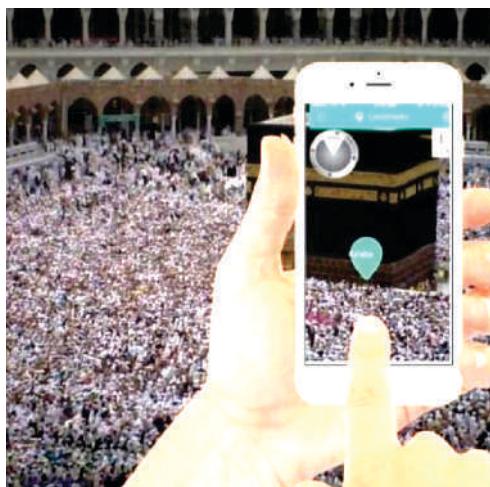
This includes an integrated electronic tracking system for the external pilgrims, which applies from the initiation of contracts on housing, transportation, and catering until the pilgrims depart from the Kingdom.

According to the ministry, the system "allows for transparency and monitoring capability to follow-up the implementation and the extent of adherence of each party".

The e-track system for the domestic pilgrims brings under its umbrella the various service programmes offered by the companies and agencies providing services to the domestic pilgrims.

On May 29, the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman launched the "Guests of God" service programme, as part of the Kingdom's Vision 2030.

The programme consists of over 130 initiatives, prepared by more than 30 government agencies. It will



have three strategic objectives - facilitate the hosting of more pilgrims and their access to the Two Holy Mosques; provide quality services for Haj and Umrah pilgrims, and enrich their religious and cultural experiences.

Earlier this year, the Ministry of Haj and Umrah announced plans to start issuing electronic visas for pilgrims, allowing them to apply online and receive their visas within minutes.

Besides the annual Haj seasons, Saudi Arabia receives a large number of Umrah pilgrims. According to the ministry, the number of Umrah visas issued reached 7,650,736 with the number of pilgrims arriving in the Kingdom until the end of last week being 7,393,657.

Two-thirds of global drug deaths now from opioids

GENEVA - Opioids, which include both heroin and legal pain relievers, were responsible for around two-thirds of drug-related deaths in 2017, a new UN report revealed on Wednesday. The number for global opioid users contained within the World Drug Report, some 585,000 people, is more than double the previous estimate.

The study from the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), also shows that the negative health consequences associated with drugs are more severe and widespread than previously thought, with around 35 million people suffering from drug use disorders and requiring treatment services.

Higher figures attributed to improved research and data

Some 11 million people injected drugs in 2017, 1.4 million of whom are living with HIV, and 5.6 million with hepatitis C. UNODC explains the significantly higher figures are due in part to improved research and more precise data, including more knowledge of the extent of drug use from new surveys conducted in India and Nigeria, two of the most populous countries in the world.



Only one in seven receive treatment

Not enough people with drug disorders are being adequately treated, with the study showing that just one in seven people with disorders are getting the help they need. Effective treatments, based on scientific evidence and in line with international human rights obligations, are not as available or accessible as they need to be, the report states. It calls on national governments and the international community to step up interventions in order to address this gap.



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Parents can help make a marriage

An argument erupted in the early hours of the morning between husband and wife.

Enraged in anger the wife yelled, "Enough is enough! I can't take this anymore, nor can I stay in this house for another minute with you!"

The husband also exclaimed in anger, "I also don't wish to see your face anymore! When I return from my office, I don't want to see you here, take your things and leave!"

The wife then decides to call her mother and complains by saying that she had enough, life has become unbearable in that home, it's as if living in hell and that she will be home soon with all her children.

Her mother stops her right there, reprimanding her she says, 'Don't even think of stepping out of that home! Your elder sister did the same, she acted emotionally by rushing home, look at her, she is sitting here with a divorce. Now I will not tolerate this drama from you! Approach your issue intelligently and reconcile with your husband immediately!'

When a red flag was shown to her by her mother, she broke out into tears. After some time, she calmed down, her tears made her heart feel much lighter. Pondering over the argument, she realized that not all was the husband's fault; it was

partially her fault as well.

She now freshens up, goes into the kitchen and starts preparing her husband's favourite meal along with a sweet dish. She also planned to apologize to him later and realized after all this home is her true home.

When the husband returned that evening from work, she greeted him with a smile as if nothing transpired earlier that morning. The husband surprised with her behaviour sits on the dinner table and partakes of the appetising meal. Thereafter whilst having the sweet dish he says: "My dear, sometimes I do go overboard! I get angry and say things, don't take it to heart, after all, I'm only human. You are the best wife in the world."

The husband expressed his gratitude to his wife and was truly regretful for what he did. The wife was now making dua for her mother. Due to her firm and timely advice, she was forced to make a 'U-turn'. Otherwise, her emotional reaction could possibly have destroyed her home.

Lesson: Parents should avoid being emotive in their children's lives and deal with every situation on its merit. The guidance of a parent can go a long way in helping the child work through the critical stages of marriage.

From the Social Department

Important facts about the Noble Ka'bah

The Noble Ka'bah is also known as Baytullah (The House of Allah). It is the first building which was constructed for humanity to worship Allah. It acts as the Qibla, the direction to which all Muslims pray five times a day.

Regarding the Noble Ka'bah, Allah mentions in the Quran in Surah Al-Ma'idah: *"Allah has made the Noble Ka'bah, the Sacred House, a source of stability for people."* (5:97)

The Noble Ka'bah has been built or renovated on several occasions throughout history. The most famous constructors of the Noble Ka'bah are;

1. The angels who originally constructed it
2. Adam ﷺ
3. Ibrahim ﷺ with the help of his son Ismail ﷺ
4. The Quraysh who constructed the Noble Ka'bah during the era of Jahiliyah (this was witnessed by the Prophet ﷺ when he was 35 years old)
5. Abdullah bin Zubair ؓ who reconstructed the Noble Ka'bah in 65 AH according to the desire of the Prophet ﷺ.

Directly above the Noble Ka'bah, at its zenith, there is a corresponding place in the heavens called the Baytul Ma'moor which holds the same status there as the Noble Ka'bah does here on earth. Each day seventy thousand angels engage in worship there and none of them get a second opportunity to present themselves there again. The Baytul Ma'moor is such a sacred and honoured place that Allah takes an oath on it in the Holy Quran in Surah Toor: *"And I swear by the Baytul Ma'moor."* (52: 4)

Hadhrat Abdullah bin Abbas ؓ reports that the Prophet ﷺ said: *"One hundred and twenty mercies descend upon the Noble Ka'bah every day and night; sixty for those performing Tawaaf, forty for those engaged in Salah*

and twenty for those who are merely looking at the Noble Ka'bah." (Bayhaqi)

- The north corner of the Noble Ka'bah faces towards Syria, Jordan and Palestine; the east corner (where the Hajar al-Aswad is) faces towards Oman, India and Malaysia; the south corner (Rukun Yamani) faces towards Yemen, Mauritius and Kenya; and the west corner faces towards Egypt, Morocco and Spain.
- The covering of the Noble Ka'bah is known as the Kiswah and was first placed by the Ismail ﷺ. During the era of Abdullah bin Zubair ؓ the Noble Ka'bah was damaged by catapult fire in 64 AH when the army of Yazeed-bin-Muawaiya laid siege to Makkah. A fire ignited and set alight the kiswah of the Holy Noble Ka'bah. The wooden portions of the Noble Ka'bah were burned which necessitated its demolition and reconstruction. Abdullah bin Zubair ؓ reconstructed the Noble Ka'bah upon the foundations of Ibrahim ﷺ, thus fulfilling the desire of the Prophet ﷺ, as the construction done by the Quraysh was about three meters short as they had run out of lawful earnings to finance the completion of the building.
- When Hajjaj-bin-Yusuf had assumed the governorship over Makkah, he informed the Ummayyad Khalifah Abdul Malik Ibn Marwan regarding the construction of Abdullah bin Zubair and that he had changed the Noble Ka'bah to something that was different to how it was in the lifetime of the Prophet ﷺ. The Khalifa gave permission to change it again and in 73 AH it was changed to its previous state. However, when Abdul Malik came to know the Hadith of the Prophet ﷺ of how he had desired the Noble Ka'bah to have been on the original foundations of Ibrahim ﷺ he was remorseful about that which transpired.

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Nahr-e-Zubaida (The Canal of Zubaida in Makkah Mukarramah)

Zubaida bint Ja`far ibn Mansur was the amongst the most well-known of the Abbasid princesses. Zubaida was the daughter of the Abbasid Khalifa Mansur's elder son, Jaffer, the cousin and wife of the richest and most powerful of the Khalifas, Haroon al-Rashid, the fifth Abbasid Khalifa. It is said that Zubaida's palace 'sounded like a beehive' as she employed one hundred female maidens who had memorized the Qur'an.

During her travels for Hajj, she witnessed the water shortage that the Hujjaj suffered from in the dry desert. She had spent over 2 million dinars on improving the water supply of Makkah and the surrounding province. This included the construction of an aqueduct from the spring of Hunayn, 95 kilometres to the east, as well as the famed "Spring of Zubaida" on the plains of Arafat. The canal is a remarkable feat of engineering and construction at such a time when no modern technology was available and thus, it was named after her - Nahr-e-Zubaida (The Zubaida Canal).

The canal was built on a path that pilgrims walked through between Makkah and Taif. She called prominent engineers and surveyors from different parts of the world to build this canal. After surveying the

entire area, they decided to bring the canal from the Hunayn valley where a water spring from the mountains provided water to the residents for irrigation. The area was rocky, the land was barren and dry, and the weather very hot. It was very difficult to sustain a canal on the surface of the earth, so the engineers planned to make a subterranean canal in the form of a tunnel (aqueduct), with water stations raised above the ground at different intervals, where from people could meet their water needs.

At the orders of Zubaida, the entire area of Hunayn valley, which contained a spring and other sources of water was bought. To bring the water through the mountains was nothing less than a Herculean task, which required a large number of workers, enormous funds and expertise for cutting the mountains and digging the barren and rocky hills. After several years, the canal was brought down to Jabal-e-Rahmah (the Mountain of Blessings) in Arafat, and then to Mina and Muzdalifa.

Earthquake

In 245 AH, an earthquake in Makkah caused several cuts and cracks to the canal but they were immediately repaired at the request of the sitting Khalifa. Later, several

rulers made additional improvements to the canal.

With the passage of time, the canal seriously suffered from a lack of repair and maintenance, and consequently, the supply of water stopped. In addition, over the span of several centuries, new sources of water had been made available to meet the water needs and therefore no attention was given to restore the canal.

Recent renovations

In 1295 AH, a committee was formed by the Saudi Government to look after the repair and maintenance of the canal. The committee was able to regulate its water. However, unfortunately in 1344 AH, a huge flood in the Numan valley damaged the canal and its water supply stopped for three months. King Abdul Aziz, who took over in 1343 AH, had it repaired but at the beginning of 1400 AH, the water of the canal stopped completely due to certain reasons and could not be restored.

In recent times, the rulers of Saudi Arabia took special interest to meet the water needs of the pilgrims. This, however, did not leave the great canal forgotten. The Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia, Abdullah, in 2001, gave the instruction to revive

the canal to substantiate the water supply to Mecca and save the remarkable heritage of the Muslim Queen.

At any cost

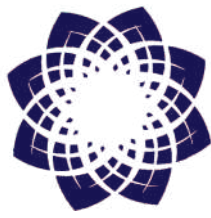
"Do it even if it costs a dinar for every axe stroke"

These were Zubaida's words when her treasurer explained that it would cost a fortune to build a water canal.


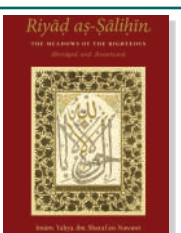
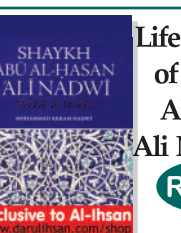

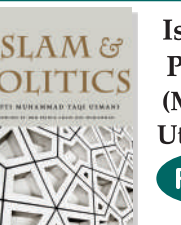
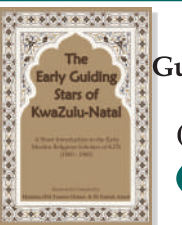

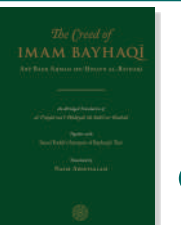
On the bank of River Dejlal (now called River Tigris), a crowd had gathered outside the beautiful palace of the queen, awaiting her audience. The queen appeared on the balcony and very gracefully addressed the crowd: "Today I close all the account books on the canal. Those who owe me money need not pay back. And those whom I owe, will be paid immediately and double the amount." Saying this, she ordered that the account books be thrown into the river and said: "My reward is with Allah."

The project cost approximately 5.950 kilograms of gold, which came from Zubaida's own fortune and jewellery.

King Abdul Aziz had also created a charitable trust under Zubaida's name.



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It is permissible to utilise the skin of the Qurbani Animal for one's personal use, e.g. as a Musallah or to make a pouch, etc. However, if the skin is sold, it is not permissible to use the income thereof for oneself. It is Wajib to give this money in charity. Sale of the skin without the intention of donating/ giving the money in charity, is not permitted. (Durrul Mukhtar)

It is not permissible to give the skin in lieu of any services rendered. (Durrul Mukhtar)

Since many choose to donate the skin of the Qurbani animal to a charitable cause, it is imperative that the skin is given to a reputable and reliable recipient or organisation, bearing in mind that the monies accrued must be donated to, or spent on the poor and needy and not on Masjid, Madrasah or any other such initiations for their running expenses.



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Umm Haram Bint Milhan (RA)

Umm Haram Bint Milhan (RA) was the maternal aunt of Rasulullah ﷺ. He would often visit her and would sometimes take a nap in her house. One day, Rasulullah ﷺ came to visit her and she provided him with food and started grooming his head. Rasulullah ﷺ fell asleep and a short while later woke up smiling. Umm Haram (RA) asked,

“What makes you smile, O Messenger of Allah?” He replied, “A group of my Ummah were shown to me (in my dream) fighting in the way of Allah, sailing in the middle of the seas like kings sitting on their thrones. “Umm Haram added, “I said, ‘O Messenger of Allah! Make dua to Allah to make me one of them.’” So Rasulullah ﷺ supplicated to Allah for her and then laid his head down (and slept). Then he woke up smiling (again). (Umm Haram added): I said, “What makes you smile, O Messenger of Allah?” He said, “A group of my Ummah were shown to me (in my dream) fighting in the way of Allah.” He said the same as he had said before. I said, “O Messenger of Allah! Supplicate to Allah to make me one of them.” He replied, “You will be among the first ones.” (Bukhari)

Many years later, subsequent to the demise of the Prophet ﷺ, when the borders of Islam had reached Syria and beyond, Mu'awiyah ؓ who was the governor of Shaam at the time was facing a growing problem of Byzantine attacks on the coastline of Shaam. These Byzantines were using Cyprus as a launch point. He sought permission from the second Khalifa, Umar ؓ to launch a naval attack against Cyprus to end these attacks by the Byzantines. Umar

(RA) did not accede to this request due to the dangers of the sea and the inexperience of the Muslims in naval warfare.

During the rule of Uthman ؓ, Mu'awiyah ؓ proposed that it was necessary to attack Cyprus to which Uthman ؓ agreed due to the Byzantine threat. Mu'awiyah ؓ prepared a fleet to be sent to Cyprus and 'Ubadah bin Saamit ؓ was appointed as the leader of the Muslim navy. This would be the first naval attack in Islamic history.

Umm Haram (RA) was 'Ubadah bin Saamit ؓ' wife and she volunteered to accompany him on this perilous journey. Thus the supplication of Rasulullah ﷺ for her many years ago had finally come true.

After defeating the coastguards that attacked the Muslims as they approached the island, the Muslim ships landed on the coast of Cyprus. When the Muslim disembarked, Umm Haram (RA) was riding a horse that suddenly got frightened and jumped violently causing Umm Haram (RA) to fall off and die because of her injuries in the path of Allah. As for Cyprus, sources indicate that its inhabitants decided to negotiate peace and signed a treaty with the Muslim state.

Umm Haram (RA) was buried where she fell in Cyprus and today, there is a Mosque adjacent to her grave that was built by the Ottomans in her honour. Up until today, people from all over the world visit her grave when they visit Cyprus and it is one of the most important places for Muslims in Cyprus. She strove in the path of Allah and was honoured with the fact that hundreds continue to visit her grave every year.



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.

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.

Dear Honourable Premier

Darul Ihsan Humanitarian Centre congratulates you on your appointment as Premier of KwaZulu-Natal post the 2019 General Elections.

We wish you every success and strength in your Premiership for the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead in our province.

Darul Ihsan Humanitarian Centre is a Public Benefit Organisation (PBO 930028504) actively involved in community work with regards to social welfare, education, poverty alleviation and relief.

Our organisation places special emphasis on the empowerment, education and upliftment of women of all ages in our society.

We are also on a 'first-call' basis with the eThekweni Disaster Management Team when it comes to matters of emergencies, etc.

Your esteemed self, officials and all office members are most welcome to visit our main office at 53 Joyce Road, Sea Cow Lake, Durban.

Once again, congratulations and God bless for the best performance of all affairs with regards to our province.

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Q & A

Q If Qurbani was made with the intention of Isale Sawaab (reward for the deceased), then can the one who slaughtered the animal partake of it, or should the entire animal be given in charity?

A Since this is a Nafl (optional) Qurbani, one may consume the meat.

Q Can a sheep without a tail be slaughtered for Qurbani?

A Classical Hanafi texts state that an animal that has 1/3rd or more of the tail cut off, cannot be considered for Qurbani as this is such a defect that makes the animal ineligible for Qurbani.

However, some Ulama do not consider the tail that has been removed for medical and health reasons to be a defect in the animal and hence, such an animal shall for Qurbani.

One should make a concerted effort to make Qurbani of an animal that conforms to the specified requirements, especially when these are easily available. If there are no sheep with tails available in a certain place, then goats could be acquired or one could purchase a share in a cow or bull.

Q I intend slaughtering a cow for Qurbani and sell shares in it to others intending Qurbani. I have provisionally sold shares in the same animal and have received payment for one share. Other shareholders have confirmed their shares but have not yet paid. Please advise what is the status of the milk? Can I consume or sell it? Can I keep it for personal use?

A It is not permissible to take benefit from an animal specifically bought for Qurbani before it is slaughtered, be it the milk, wool or otherwise. If such an animal is milked or sheared then the milk or wool should be given in Sadaqah or proceeds from its sale should be given away in charity to the poor and needy, as per the market value.

Q Why is bathing and clipping nails not allowed for one performing Hajj (during the 5 days of Hajj)?

A Bathing is allowed. However, using scent and fragrance is not allowed due to one being in the state of Ihraam. Hence, if one does take a bath then one should not use any substance that has fragrance. A person in Ihraam cannot clip nails or remove hair as this is the injunction of the Hadith. This requirement remains till the person comes out of Ihraam.

Q If someone does a sacrifice for a special need like for the safety of their travel or for the

wellbeing of their children or for business prosperity, etc. can the one who does this sacrifice also eat that meat?

A This appears to be Sadaqah which differs from Udhiyyah/Qurbani. The meat of a Sadaqah sacrifice cannot be consumed by the one making the sacrifice. It should be given out in charity to the poor and needy.

Q My husband will be making one Qurbani, will it still be compulsory for me to make another Qurbani in our house?

A Qurbani is Wajib on each individual if the individual possess wealth equivalent to Nisab during the days of Qurbani. If your husband is making a Qurbani then this will suffice only for him. If Qurbani is Wajib on you or others in the house, then it is compulsory for each one to make a Qurbani.

Q If we want to fast on the Day of Arafah, which day should we fast? Last year I heard that we should fast when the Saudis fast and not on the day of Arafah in South Africa?

A It is Mustahab (desirable) for those not performing Hajj to fast on this day (the 9th of Zul Hijjah) according to their own calendar. The 9th Zul Hijjah falls on different days in different countries according to the sighting of the moon. In such cases, Muslims of each country should observe 'Youmul 'Arafah' according to the lunar dates of their own country.

Q Are the first 10 days of Zul Hijjah better than the month of Ramadan? We learnt that the days of Ramadan are the best days?

A There is a difference of opinion among the commentators of Hadith regarding whether the first ten days of Zul Hijjah are more virtuous than the last 10 days of Ramadaan. The preferred opinion of Muhaddith Abdul Haq Dehlawi (Rahimahullah) is that the first 10 days of Zul Hijjah are more virtuous because of the Day of Arafah, and the nights of the last 10 nights of Ramadan are more

significant because of Laylatul Qadr. As Muslims, we should use all these opportunities to the best of our ability. And Allah Ta'ala knows best

Q Is it necessary for Ihram to be white?

A The Ihraam does not have to be white, although white is preferred.

Q Is wearing of the niqaab (face cover) compulsory for women? Is it a cultural thing? Please explain in detail.

A This is a misconception that this and other Islamic practices are cultural things.

In this age of obscenity and immorality, it becomes imperative for a woman to safeguard her chastity. Scholars have explained that in such an environment a woman should adequately cover herself - this includes concealing the centre of beauty and attraction which is her face.

The laws of Hijab, which include loose unattractive attire, covering the face, segregation of men and women and avoiding emerging in public without necessity are established in the Quran. (Surah Ahzaab - Verse 30-31)

However, in another verse of the Qur'an, Allah Ta'ala says: O Prophet ﷺ tell your (pure) wives, daughters and the women of the believers that they should draw their shawls over them (cover themselves fully). (Surah Ahzaab - Verse 59)

Allamah ibnul Katheer (RA) says that Ali bin Abi Talha (RA) narrates from Hazrat Abdullah ibnu Abbas ؓ, "Allah Ta'ala commanded the women of the believers, when they go out of their homes out of need, they conceal their faces with a long sheet from over their heads leaving only one eye open to see the way. (Tafseer ibnu Kathir)

From this, we understand that the first requirement of Hijaab (concealment) is that a Muslim woman should avoid being seen in places where there are men and her presence becomes noticeable. However, if she has to leave her

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Q & A

confines due to some need or necessity then she must do so with proper Islamic attire.

Muhammad bin Sireen (RA) says, "I asked Ubaidah As Salmani (RA) about the meaning of this verse and the nature of Hijab. He demonstrated it by covering his face with a sheet from above his head." (Tafseer ibnu Katheer)

In another verse, Allah Ta'ala says, "And when you ask anything from them (the pure wives of the Prophet ﷺ), ask them from behind a curtain." This rule applies to the entire Ummah and not only to the pure wives of the Prophet ﷺ. (Surah Ahzaab - Verse 53)

Hazrat Asma (Radiyahallahu Anha) said: "We used to keep our faces covered in the presence of males." (Ibn Khuzaimah, Al-Mustadrak)

Hazrat Aisha (Radiyahallahu Anha) said: "While travelling with the Prophet ﷺ in a state of Ihram, men on horseback used to pass by us. As they approached (our conveyance) we drew our Jilbaab garments over our faces until such time as they passed. Only once they had passed us did we expose our faces." (Abu Dawood, Ahmed, Baihaqi)

For further details on this subject refer to Ma'ariful Quraan Vol.7 - P. 207 -227 (English)

What to do on the day of Arafah 9th Zul Hijjah

The 9th day of Zul Hijjah is known as Youmul Arafah (The Day of Recognition) for various reasons. It is regarded to be the best day of the year and one in which many virtues are combined.

The following are established practices from the Hadith which every Muslim should endeavour to fulfil on this great day.

Fasting on the day of Arafah - The fasting of this day has great significance and is highly recommended. Nabi ﷺ said "I have hope in Allah Ta'ala that the fast of Arafah will be an atonement for the (minor) sins of the past and the forthcoming year." (Tirmizi)

Seek forgiveness and sincere repentance - Nabi ﷺ said, "There is no day in which Allah sets free more souls from the fire of hell than on the day of Arafah. On this day Allah draws close to the earth and by way of exhibiting His Pride remarks to the angels, 'What is the desire of these (servants of mine)?' (Muslim)

Nabi ﷺ said, "Apart from the day of

the Battle of Badr there is no day on which the Shaytan is seen to be more humiliated, more rejected, more depressed and more infuriated, than on the day of Arafah, and indeed all this is only because of beholding the abundance of descending mercy (on the day) and Allah's forgiveness of the sins of the servants." (Mishkat)

Acceptance of Dua - This is a day for abundant dua. It is advisable to set aside time in this day for dua so dua can be made in earnest. Try to make as many duas as possible by remembering family, friends, the Ummah and humanity at large. Nabi ﷺ said, "The best dua is the dua on the Day of Arafah, and the best of what I and the prophets before me have said, is

لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ لَهُ الْمُلْكُ، وَلَهُ الْحَمْدُ، وَهُوَ عَلَى كُلِّ شَيْءٍ قَدِيرٌ

"There is none worthy of worship except Allah, He is Alone and has no partner, to Him belongs the Universe and to Him belongs all praise, and He has complete power over all things." (Tirmizi)

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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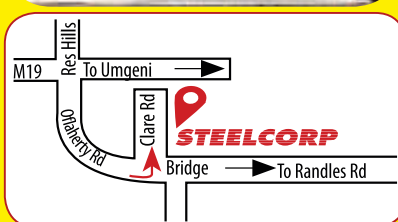
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What's Happening at Darul Ihsan Centre

Youth excited by 'Adrenaline Day' programme

Youth of the Ummah (YOU) - the youth wing of Darul Ihsan Humanitarian Centre - held a successful "Adrenaline Day" on Wednesday, the 19th of June 2019 at 'Infinite Adventures' located in the heart of the Valley of 1000 Hills, Durban.



Lunch and refreshments were also provided. The day was thoroughly enjoyed by all and many returned physically exhausted, yet spiritually uplifted.

Alhamdulillah, the youth group returned safely to Masjid Taqwa at approximately 15:45 pm.

Some comments made by parents of the participants were,

"The boys really enjoyed the day. The paintball was the highlight of the day."

"(My son) spoke passionately about the many activities including how amazing the Moulanas in charge were."

A group of 70 participants aged between 12 and 18 years, accompanied by 5 facilitators spent the day out in the sunshine in an absorbing programme that entailed an obstacle course, rock climbing, archery and the highlight of the day, paintball. The team departed at 07:30 am from Masjid Taqwa in Sea Cow Lake. Before departure, advices were delivered to the participants regarding the etiquettes of being a Muslim.

Throughout the day Islamic guidance and motivation was delivered to the participants as well as a dedicated programme to Islamic Spirituality and challenges facing the Youth which was conducted after the Zuhr Salaah.

Blankets for 136 children at Kwa-Makhuta

Every year Darul Ihsan Humanitarian Centre - through its 'Sponsor-a-Blanket' project - distributes thousands of blankets to needy communities throughout South Africa in a campaign to bring 'warmth' during winter.



In a recent blanket distribution outreach on Sunday, 26 May 2019 the Relief Team of Darul Ihsan - in conjunction with learners and educators from the Orient Islamic School - distributed blankets to 136 children at the KwaMakhuta Islamic Centre's Madrasah.

Parents also attended the blanket distribution event and they, together with Sheikh Abdul Latiff of the Madrasah, expressed their sincere appreciation at the distribution of blankets for the children particularly in view of low temperatures experienced in the area.

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

'Goodie Bags' containing packets of potato crisps, biscuits and sweets were also handed to all the childrer at the Madrasah - bringing much excitement to them.

Iftaar 2019 Programme

Since 2014 Darul Ihsan Humanitarian Centre (DHC) has been arranging Iftaar meals at masjids and musallahs in the greater Durban region.



This Ramadan prepared meals, savouries, dates (kajoor) and bottled water were delivered to venues at Lindelani, Phoenix, Malagazi, Kenville, West Ridge, etc. Additional food items were also sponsored and DHC facilitated in timeously transporting the meals to these venues.

These and other outreaches throughout the year are an ongoing drive of DHC made possible through the generous support of the Muslim community.

We express our deep gratitude to all the sponsors and the dedicated team of DHC for their efforts and support.

All musallees at these venues sincerely appreciate the meals provided for iftaar.

Sponsor A Kajoor Pack and Eid Biscuit Distribution Campaign

Darul Ihsan Humanitarian Centre annually embarks on a campaign to provide and distribute kajoor (dates) packs and biscuits to families and institutions throughout South Africa and to certain neighbouring countries.



With the grace of Allah Ta'ala, for Ramadan 1440/2019 almost 16 000 kilograms of dates were distributed to needy families, Maktabas, Masajid, Darul Uloom, correctional centres throughout South Africa. The Centre - through facilitation with officials in Maputo - also distributed 500 kilograms of dates in Mozambique.

Muazzins, Maktabas, institutes and needy families in Durban, surrounding areas such as KwaMakhuta, Insimbini, Pietermaritzburg, Estcourt, Ladysmith and Isnembe near Tongaat.

The Eid Biscuit Campaign also increased its tally to over 2 000 biscuit tubs that were distributed to

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

'Feed the Needy' provides food relief at informal settlements

Darul Ihsan Humanitarian Centre - through its 'Feed the Needy' initiative - provided meals for residents at three informal settlements over the weekend.



On Saturday 18 May 2019 the Relief Team - together with volunteers - delivered hot-packed meals to 460 women, children and men residing at the Rainbow Ridge informal settlement in Clare Estate, Durban. Volunteers also provided and distributed fruit, cupcakes, ice lollies and crisps - which brought much excitement to the children.

Some 420 hot-packed meals were distributed to the residents of both settlements - including soft drinks, sweets and crisps.

On Sunday 19 May the Relief Team and volunteers - together with three families who also volunteered for community assistance - visited the Banana City informal settlement situated on the border of UKZN Westville campus and the Palmiet Road Informal Settlement in Clare Estate.

Ms Thembi Duze, a representative of Banana City Informal settlement and Ms Thuli Masondo of the Palmiet Informal Settlement thanked all for providing the food relief.

Made in Heaven marriage workshop held in Durban

The Social Department of Darul Ihsan Centre, in its ongoing campaign to educate, inform and empower our communities, hosted a marriage enrichment workshop in Durban on Saturday, 22 June 2019. The programme was held for males with a focus on how men can play an active role in improving the marriage relationship.

Two presentations covering aspects of Fiqh, rulings and general marriage challenges with advice and strategy on how to navigate and embrace the common issues were work-shopped.

Participants appreciated the interactive workshop as they acknowledged the realities that spouses are dealing with in these challenging times.

Library & Research Centre

- Darul Ihsan maintains an Islamic Library at its Sea Cow Lake, Overport and Starwood offices.
- Classical and contemporary works can be accessed from the library in English, Arabic and Urdu. Sections include Fiqh, Seerah, History, Hadith, Tafseer, Aqaaid, Education, Tasawwuf and general information.



- Members of the community, students and scholars are welcome to utilise the library for research purposes by prior appointment with the Centre.

'Comfort' for patients at the R K Khan Hospital

Many patients that travel to the ARV and HIV Clinic at the R K Khan Hospital in Chatsworth, Durban leave home in the early hours of the cold winter mornings to find a place in the long queues for medical attention.

The Relief Team of Darul Ihsan Humanitarian Centre - through its 'Feed A Patient' project has been providing biscuit packs, snacks and bottled water on a weekly basis to patients awaiting medical attention at the clinic and other such healthcare institutes in Durban and surrounding areas.

On Thursday, 4 July 2019 the Centre's Relief Team visited the Clinic at the RK Khan Hospital to also provide some 'winter warmth' in the form of the distribution of blankets to the patients. On arrival at the Clinic the Relief Team was welcomed by the Manager of the ARV Clinic, Sister Barbara Samuel and her team.

The Relief Team of the Centre, through its 'Sponsor A Blanket 2019'

campaign, distributed blankets to 100 patients at the clinic - many who leave their homes as early as 4 AM to come for treatment at the clinic.

The patients expressed their sincere thanks to all members of the Relief Team for the blankets.

Sister Samuel and Sister Sally Ramnarain also assisted in coordinating the distribution of the blankets to the patients. They personally thanked Abdul Saeed Shaik, Head of Operations and Manager of the Relief Team of Darul Ihsan Humanitarian Centre, for the kind gesture and asked him to convey their deep gratitude to the Centre for the blanket outreach.

"Thank you so much for the beautiful blankets. Our patients were truly blessed today. May the Almighty bless your organisation and your humanitarian work."

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



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Running a business from a dwelling without electricity posed many security risks with criminals constantly breaking into my premises.

Alhamdulillah, the assistance you rendered towards the electrical lighting installation at my dwelling not only enhanced the business but also allowed me to trade for

extended hours with greater security.

Further, when I experienced difficulty in paying for my annual business permit fees and school fees for my daughter your organisation, once again, came to my rescue.

My business has gone through difficult times yet I have managed to sustain it with the noble help from Darul Ihsan.

With hard work, long hours, assistance from Darul Ihsan and blessings from Allah I can now provide for my family.

May Allah continue to provide Darul Ihsan with the ability and blessing to assist and help others in need just as they had done for me.

*Jazakallahu Khairan
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Hazrat Abu Hurayrah ؓ narrates that Rasulullah ﷺ once made Dua:

اللَّهُمَّ اغْفِرْ لِلْحَاجِّ وَلِمَنْ اسْتَعْفَرَ لَهُ الْحَاجُّ

"O Allah, forgive the sins of the Haaji and forgive the sins of the one for whom the Haaji seeks forgiveness." (Mustadrak lil Haakim)

Hazrat 'Abdullah ibn 'Umar ؓ reports that Rasulullah ﷺ said the following to a returning Haji:

'Qabilallahu Hajjaka, wa Ghafara zambaka, wa akhlafa nafaqatak'

May Allah accept your Haj, may He forgive your sins and may He replace your expenditure.

May Allah Ta'ala elevate the ranks of

those who lost their lives in hajj this year and may he crown the Hajj of all Hujjai with complete acceptance

The Haji should display

The Haji returns as a new born baby free of all sin. He has a renewed strength of Iman and should accordingly mould his life in keeping with this guidance by adopting the following:

1. Ensure that he is steadfast upon his five daily salaah, for men in congregation in the Masjid.
2. Show a fresh commitment of obedience and devotion in his conduct, transactions and social interaction
3. Through good character and conduct, become a beacon of guidance to his family and community
4. Become more charitable and helpful to the needs of others
5. Continue making dua for the Muslim Ummah and make this a regular practice.

Zul-Hijjah - Its Importance

Zul-Hijjah marks the end of the Islamic calendar and hosts the greatest gathering of mankind - the Hajj

Rasulullah ﷺ said: *"There are no days in which Ibadah is more beloved to Allah Ta'ala than the first ten days of Zul-Hijjah. The fast of each day is equivalent to the fast of one year and the Ibadah of each night is equivalent to the Ibadah of Laylatul Qadr."* (Tirmizi)

Recommended for those making Qurbani

It is Mustahab (recommended - not compulsory) for those making Udhiya (Qurbani) to abstain from

We wish the Muslim Ummah a joyous Eid-ul-Adha and all the Hujjaaj a Hajj Mabroor

removing any hair of the body and from clipping the nails from the first of Zul-Hijjah until completing the Qurbani.

Takbeer-e Tashreeq

It is Wajib (compulsory) to recite the Takbeer once after every Fard Salah beginning from Fajr of the 9th Zul-Hijjah till Asr of the 13th Zul-Hijjah.

NB: Women should also read the Takbeer (in a soft voice).

Fasting on the 9th

It is highly rewarding to fast during the first nine days of Zul-Hijjah, especially the 9th (Day of Arafaat).

Brotherhood of Islam

It has been narrated by Abdullah ibn Umar ؓ that Rasulullah ﷺ has said:

"A Muslim is a brother to another Muslim, thus he should not oppress him, nor should he hand him over to an oppressor. Whoever fulfils the needs of his brother, Allah will

fulfil his needs; whoever frees a Muslim of difficulty, Allah will free him of a difficulty from the difficulties of the Day of Resurrection, and whoever conceals the faults of a Muslim, Allah will conceal his faults on the Day of Resurrection." (Bukhari)

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