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An *Hajm*

The Rising Star
Number 5

November 2011
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FOREWORD

From the President



Bismillahir Rahmanir Rahim, Inal Hamdulliha Nahmadu Wanusali ala Rasulil Karim – Ama Bad

All praises to Allah (SWT) for having bestowed favors and blessing to our Jamat to celebrate 12 years since its inception and 10 years to the adoption of the constitution. I would like to extend my heartiest congratulations to all the members of the Jamat, we all make the Jamat and therefore each and every one of us has played a role in the success of this Jamat to date. May Allah (SWT) reward you all abundantly and continue to give you the ability and Tawfiq to serve the Jamat in various capacities - Ameen.

The current Executive Committee established goals that it believed are the needs of the Jamat and has worked tirelessly to achieve them. Alhamdulillah, there has been an increase in membership and attendances to Jamat functions and activities. With the will of Allah, we had the pleasure of the company of our fellow brothers from NMJ-NA led by their Chairman, at our Summerfest last year. Inshallah, we intend to enhance this brotherhood with our closest sister Jamat to the benefit of all. The efforts by the Media Committee last year generated interest in our kids to create art work for our very own Islamic calendar consisting of their art works instead of photographs of mosques. The Jamat will only be a “True Jamat” when we all have a sense of belonging to it. It is therefore my sincere request to all to continue your active involvement in the activities of the Jamat, so that we may further enhance and build upon the foundation that has been laid.

The services offered by the Jamat are in accordance to the needs of its members, Alhamdulillah, we are blessed here in Canada with the Education, Medical and Welfare services being provided by the Government. However, we see needs in socio-religious activities such as Burial, Marital, Islamic values and Social get-together. Alhamdulillah, the Jamat has acquired twenty burial rights to an Islamic Cemetery. With the Tawfiq from Allah (SWT), the Executive Committee, Community Service and the Trustee Board have worked hard to achieve this objective. To strengthen and position our Jamat to be the focal point of providing such socio-religious services, we ought to walk the talk of the Jamat being the “Mai-bap” and involve it in providing such services.

I would like to thank all the members of the Editorial Board for their efforts in putting before us the 5th Edition of *Ar-Najm*. They have done a remarkable job in preserving our history for the benefit of future generations.

Last but not the least, my heartiest appreciation to all the members of the Executive Committee, the Trustee Board and the respective Sub-Committees; Community Service, Education, Sports, Volunteer, Youth and Website for their efforts in sincere service to the Jamat. I would also like to take the opportunity to say Jaza-kallah to the Elders for their guidance and advice. We are all working “LILAH- for the sake of Allah”, I therefore pray to Him to reward you all abundantly, Ameen.

May Allah (SWT) safeguard our Jamat and grant us the Tawfiq to take it to higher levels for the benefit of future generations, May He also continue to bestow in our hearts the love of serving the Community, Ameen ■

Wassalaam

Moledina Varvani

President NMJ-Canada

Editorial



Bismillahir Rahmanir Raheem

All praise be to Allah (SWT) the Creator of all humankind, the most forgiving, the most merciful and whose bounties are endless.

When the Executive Committee approached the Editorial Board to come up with the next issue of *An Najm*, it was not an easy task fulfilling the steps of our previous Editors, as the standards set have been very high right from the First Issue. However, the dedication and hard work from the entire Editorial Board lessened this burden. It is now with great pleasure and pride that the Editorial Board of NMJ-Canada presents the Fifth Issue of *An Najm*, "The Rising Star".

The Jamat has come a long way celebrating its tenth year anniversary; but one might ask, what has the Jamat gone through in this past decade. It has been a rollercoaster ride with many ups and a few downs. From the time of the Elections in March 2001, to the first function in June 2001, to the adoption of the constitution in November 2001 and to the registration with the Government of Canada in March 2002, the Jamat has gone through many milestones and memorable moments which we have tried to capture in this issue. NMJ-Canada would not be where it is today without the blessings of Allah (SWT) and the tremendous sacrifice and dedication of the many individuals, the leaders, the elders and members - young and old - who have served the Jamat diligently over the past decade. Their commitment and passion has brought the fruits that we see today. Great leaders are almost always great simplifiers. You have to have a vision, it has got to be a vision you articulate clearly and forcefully. You cannot blow an uncertain trumpet.

We all believe in Allah (SWT) and we have full faith that He will guide us towards the right path. When we delegate a certain task, we have to have trust that it will be completed without interference. When we keep an optimistic attitude and an open mind, everything will be positive for us. When we make a commitment, we are not just making it to the community at large, but to ourselves as well. We have to ensure that we fulfill our obligations with a clear mind and avoid any outside influences in order to feel self-satisfied.

I wish to thank all my Editorial Board members for their full cooperation and assistance; the Executive Committee for their valuable input; all the writers for their interesting articles; all the sponsors and advertisers for their generous contributions and all the members for their continued moral support .

I would also like to express my sincere gratitude to the first Editor of *An Najm*, my father Abdulkader Yakub, for his valuable guidance, advice and encouragement. I hope I have been able to live up to his standards. I also wish to thank my mother Zubeidabai Abdulkader Yakub and my mother back in Kenya, Lutfunissa Abdulrazak Salyani, for their everlasting duas and encouragement. Finally, I would like to thank my best friend and companion, Mohamed Zahir Salyani for the Cover Design, for having taken most of the pictures for this magazine and for his support, backing and persuasion.

Reaching out for a better life begins at home, by making a change in yourself and those around you. Who knows, you may end up achieving the impossible ■

Mariam Salyani
Editor in Chief

Nasserpuria Memon Jamat Mombasa



Dear Brothers and Sisters

Assalamu 'alaykum and greetings from *Paanjo Ghar* our beloved Memon Villa. It gives me great pleasure to pen my thoughts for NMJ-Canada's publication, *An-Najm*.

Foremost, I thank Allah (SWT) for giving me yet another opportunity to serve our Jamat as its Chairman for the two year term 2011-2013. We express our heartiest congratulations to the founders, presidents, officials, committees and members, past and present of NMJ-Canada for its ten years of constitutional existence, keeping the Memon community spirit alive and building it from strength to strength in Canada.

I would also like to deeply appreciate the support that the Jamat in Canada has been extending to their deserving brothers and sisters in Mombasa over the years, and we expect that gesture to expand in size and scope, more-so towards the upliftment projects that the Welfare plans to undertake for the benefit of our underprivileged.

Past attempts and discussions towards global unity may have been hindered by our own local challenges and limitations in dialogue and communication. However, what may have been a lofty aspiration then is now looking more realizable given the explosion in social networking communication technologies and global connectivity.

Collaboration involves synergy. In the global NMJ framework, we need to initiate community cohesion projects to enhance our solidarity, establish mechanisms for a sustained cultural identity and language, and explore mutually beneficial ideas for socio-economic welfare, governance, health, education, immigration and resettlement, youth development and more for our members worldwide.

Beyond our Jamat and looking at the bigger picture, we need to encourage our members to positively engage in cross cultural endeavors and nation building within their own local societies and neighborhoods, armed with the Memon spirit of enterprise, selflessness, dedication and humility all packaged within Islamic values, etiquette and ethics.

As it is, during my third term, I do not have any specific or new vision. I simply want to carry on with the vision of our predecessors from whom we have inherited so much wisdom, foresight, a sense of dedication, selflessness, humility, tolerance, patience and perseverance and the blessings of a united community. Look at it from any aperture, we are left with nothing to brag about! In fact, our past is so rich in all these traits that we cannot but stand in pride as heirs to this phenomenal treasure. Thus, if at all I have a vision, it is to preserve this legacy. This is a monumental task and my performance in this direction; I have no hesitation to say will have to depend very much on your kind support and co-operation, which I am sure will not be denied.

But lest I am misunderstood as being somebody who wants to live in the past, let me hasten to inform you that I am fully aware of the dynamics of a fast changing world. Like anybody else I, too, would like to move with the times; but as a do, I would move with caution without losing sight of the attributes of our rich past, grounded in our traditions, culture and religion. And that is because, I firmly believe that your present and future are never complete without your past.

Finally, I am greatly indebted to you all for being instrumental in giving me yet another chance to serve and on my part I shall do my best to justify your trust.■

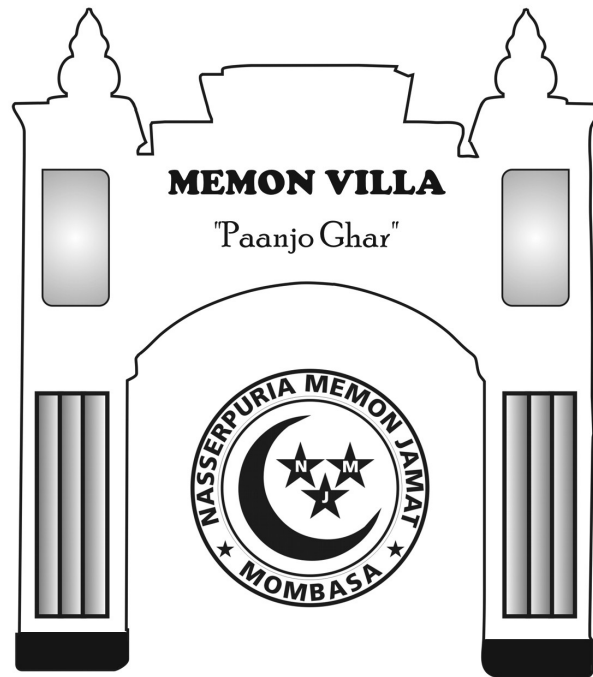
OSMAN KADERNANI
CHAIRMAN

Nasserpuria Memon Jamat, Mombasa

congratulates

Nasserpuria Memon Jamat, Canada

*on completion of a decade
of its constitutional existence*



education | health | religion | socio economic welfare | culture | unity

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Assalamualaikum Waramatullahi Wabarakatuhu.

It gives me immense pleasure to address the members of NMJ-Canada through this issue and congratulate them on the 10th anniversary. May Allah (SWT) reward abundantly all those who have played a role in keeping the Jamat together since its formation, Ameen.

I have not had the opportunity of coming across “The Rising Star” before, but judging from the calendars by the children early this year, the current publication, undoubtedly will be a treasure. Jazakallah for giving us this opportunity.

With the world becoming a global village, we face many challenges in preserving our religious beliefs, culture and values that those of us in our 50,s and above have always taken for granted. Our religious ideologies are also facing challenges and are subject to vicious "open ended" debates. These challenges are faced by us here in Kenya and I salute you and those before you, who have taken up the fight to keep our “family” together imparting our culture, values and language while surrounded by all sorts of influences and discriminations. May Allah (SWT) keep us united and steadfast in our beliefs, Ameen.

Allhamdulillah, our Jamat in Nairobi has grown to some 1,500 members and although attendance is an issue, we have in the last ten years taken major strides through various activities in securing facilities for the Jamat with the generous contributions from all Nasserpurias worldwide. In addition to regular Nyaz/lunch, Hujjajis farewell and Nikkah functions, we have managed to stage a cyclathone, a whole night event to collect funds for the ladies hall construction, medical camps including blood donation, a Qira'at competition and general social activities.

- Acquiring from Mombasa Jamat the plot at Hombe Road. Jazakallah to all those who played a role in bringing this “saga” to its fruit full end. Efforts are being made by the Trustees to find a suitable use of this property, Inshallah.
- The Jamat is currently identifying and appraising the possibility of a “Memon Estate” that will accommodate all Memons living in Nairobi. This will consist, Inshallah, of all facilities whilst providing own shelter and investment opportunities.
- A piece of land within the Estate in South C purchased with the borehole fund. The Jamat intends to Inshallah, build a block of flats to let at reasonable rents. All the income from this will go towards the maintenance of the Bilal Mosque. Contributions towards this Sadakat Jaria are most welcome.
- Rohan Bai Manzil, a block of five flats built in 2010. The funds from these have already assisted our children to higher education and will Inshallah continue doing so.
- Ladies Hall and “Cabro” works. The ladies hall allows them ample room and ability to conduct their own activities. The paving of the grounds of the Villa have greatly erased the inconveniences experienced earlier.
- We also have, Alhamdulillah, a block of three flats to accommodate the Imam and Muazzin whilst the third is rented out and income generated for the Mosque upkeep. A block of five flats, whose income is equally shared by the Welfare, Education and Mosque.
- We have for the last two years put in efforts to revive the Memon Sports Club. Alhamdulillah, apart from Volleyball our youngsters are actively taking part in Soccer and showing enthusiasm for indoor activities. Various tournaments have been staged and have generated keen interest.

Allhamdulillah, we have managed some of the above and Inshallah will achieve what we have planned for, with the financial support from everyone, however attendance at Jamat functions is a major challenge that we face today. Our Jamat consists mainly of the youth who have Mashallah, shown courage by taking up various positions and are actively involved.

Once again thank you for the opportunity and may Allah (SWT) guide us in our deliberations and maintenance of unity and brotherhood within the Nasserpurians and Muslims at large, Ameen ■

Wassalam

Esmail.A. Elias
Chairman, NMJ Nairobi



With Compliments
&
Best Wishes To

**NASSERPURIA MEMON JAMAT
CANADA**



On The Occasion of

The 10th Anniversary
Since The Adoption Of The Constitution

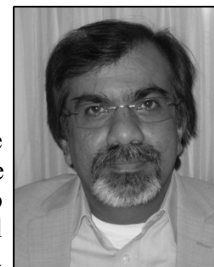


FROM

**NASSERPURIA MEMON JAMAT
NAIROBI**



Nasserpuria Memon Jamat, UK



Assalaamualikum warahmatulahi wabarakatuhu

Firstly, on behalf of the members of NMUK, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the President, the Executive Committee and the members of NMJ-Canada on the 10th Anniversary since the adoption of the constitution. On this special occasion, we share your joy and happiness and pray to Allah (SWT) to continue guiding you to more progress in the noble task of providing very useful social and welfare activities for our brothers and sisters there and, Inshallah, make you a stronger unit. Ameen.

I would also like to take this opportunity to applaud the EC for their efforts in delivering this special edition of *An Nsgm* to commemorate this milestone in history. Further, I would like to express my profound gratitude to the Committee for inviting me to share our thoughts and experiences with you. I believe this recognition is not only a token of goodwill but an honour for the UK Jamat and me personally and has effectively and officially now also established a link between our two units and paved a way of extending cooperation to realise the common goals we aspire to achieve. We should look together and face the challenges jointly to lighten the task of running our organisations and especially retaining our identity as Nasserpuria Memons.

Here in the UK, we have been established for over 25 years. In this period, our structure of the Jamat has been that of providing 3 or 4 gatherings per year in the hope of maintaining social contact and recognition of fellow Nasserpuria Memons so that we can celebrate joyous occasions together and in the event of death or other such misfortune we would come to the aid of one another. This structure may have been adequate for the first generation of settlers who migrated here already having benefitted from a fully functional society with a centre, Memon Villa, being the hub of all community life and where all aspects of social, culture and tradition revolved around and which gave them a sense of belonging and strong identity.

We now have a situation where the migration has virtually stopped and a large number of our membership consists or will consist of second and successive generations. Unlike the previous generation, the youngsters that are born and raised here have been sheltered from this communal activity and their exposure to our culture and tradition has been limited making it very difficult for them to understand what we stand for and connecting with other Nassepuria Memons, outside the UK, resulting in a diluted identity of their parents.

The MC in UK accepts that time has come for this structure to be re-examined, reinforced and extended, wherever possible, to include the needs of our younger members so that they are an integral part of our Jamat. The absence of our own Centre or hall and the size of our community and its geographic spread make this task extremely challenging. Having identified that our youngsters need more exposure to communal and cultural activities and because we are limited in numbers to meaningfully provide this on our own I am hoping that we can form a partnership with the Canada Jamat in achieving this together.

I feel it would be mutually benefit to both our units to organise joint festivals on certain occasions. We can also look at an exchange programme where we would alternatively organise and host each other's youngsters on holiday and sporting excursions. This would serve to strengthen the bonds between these youngsters and make them understand our brotherhood and, Inshallah, will also widen the prospect of alliances between the boys and girls of our Jamat. The importance of the latter should not be underestimated as, I believe, this is the most important factor which will give continuity to our identity and our language.

I am very pleased to say that our most successful activity over the years has been the collection and disbursement of Zakaat. Alhamdulillah, most of our members understand the difficulties and hardship our brothers and sisters in East Africa face and persistently and compassionately channel their Zakaat through the Jamat which is then forwarded, mainly to the Nairobi and Mombasa Jamats, for onward distribution to the needy there. We feel this exercise also helps, to a degree, in raising awareness amongst the youngsters and will, Inshallah, draw them closer in ties with the Kenya Jamats.

In conclusion, I would like to say that as Nasserpuria Memons, we have a very intricate relationship with each other that has been interwoven over many generations resulting in a bond and closeness such that the mere mention of one's name gives an instant recognition to the other. I feel this inheritance of identity should be cherished and guarded by us all.

Best wishes once again ☑

Wassalam

Amin Issak Kasmani
Chairman, NMUK

The believers are but a single Brotherhood. [Al-Hujurat, 10]

The Nasserpuria Memon Jamat - UK

*would like to extend heartiest
congratulations*

&

best wishes to

Nasserpuria Memon Jamat - Canada

*as they commemorate
the 10th Anniversary
of the adoption of the Constitution.*

O mankind! Surely We have created you from a single pair
of a male and a female,
and made you into tribes and families
that you may know each other.

Verily the most honored of you in the sight of Allah
is (he who is) the most righteous of you.

And Allah has full knowledge
and is well acquainted (with all things) [Al-Hujurat, 13]

*On this auspicious occasion, we ask Allah (SWT) to bless
NMJ - Canada
with peace, unity, and prosperity, Ameen.*

Nasserpuria Memon Jamat North America

51 Regal Drive, Monmouth Junction NJ 08852



FOREWORD BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE NASSERPURIA MEMON JAMAT NORTH AMERICA

The Chairman of NMJ-Canada has requested me to write a Foreword to *An-Najm* to commemorate the 10 years of the Jamat. I am honored by his request and comply with the greatest pleasure. NMJ-Canada is a vibrant community of Memons living in Canada and most of the families have roots in Mombasa Kenya - "panjo ghar". During a recent trip to Canada (at the invitation of the NMJ-Canada), I had the pleasure to revive *junyū yaadhu* with some familiar faces from Kenya as well as create new bonds with new relations and friends. I also had the opportunity to introduce my children to a larger Memon community and they were amazed to see how many Memons live in North America.

We were also honored by the Executive Committee's visit to Memonfest 2010 - *masti maja me time nikryo* as we prayed, played and dined together. It was fun to see the Canadian Memons participate side by side with the U.S. Memons especially during the Amazing Race. We still speak fondly of Brother Abubaker Goralwalla's forage at Martin's supermarket looking for the pricing of the various items on his list! And Brother Nadeem Salyani's voice made the last night at Memonfest 2010 truly memorable!

My committee and I have had the pleasure of working with the NMJ-Canada Executive Committee in the recent past, and we have only positive feedback to give. The NMJ-Canada committee members are a fun-loving group with the greater Jamat's good in mind and continue doing a wonderful job!

During these interactions of the two Jamats, we continue to realize that *pa hikra anyu ne hikra thi ne roje*.

It is with warm and pleasant memories and best regards that I congratulate the President, Committees and all members of the Canadian Jamat on the celebration of the 10-year anniversary. Inshallah we will see many more in the future ■

Wasalaam,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Salyani'.

Mohammed F. Salyani
Chairman – NMJNA

Heartiest Congratulations To



ON CELBRATION OF 10 YEARS

Since The Formation Of The Constitution



From The
Families Of: Late Mohammed Amin Ebrahim Varvani
&
Late Hassan Abdulkader Harunani

With Compliments & Best Wishes To

WASSERPURIA MEMON JAMAT CANADA

On Publication Of The 5th Issue of: *An Najm*

From Families Of:

Mr & Mrs Bashir Musa Varvani
&

Mr & Mrs Nazir Mithwani



“Service to the Community is Service to Allah (SWT)”

THE TEAM

1. Mohammed Shafi Kasmani – Convener
2. Mohammed Goralwalla
3. Abdulmajid Hathyani
4. Osman Parpia
5. Moledina Varvani – President NMJ-Canada

THE GOALS

1. Increase membership through outreach to other Nasserpuria Memons in Canada
2. Revive the Seniors’ Group for members over the age of 55
3. Own, operate and manage our own Kabrastaan and Burial Services
4. Form a long-term Ghusl and Kabrastaan Maintenance Committee
5. Establish matrimonies under the umbrella of NMJ-Canada

WHERE DO WE STAND

Alhamdulillah by the grace of Allah (SWT) we have seen a 12% increase in membership over the past 2 years. All our brothers and sisters coming together and actively participating at our Jamat events is indeed a beautiful sight to see.

Not only that, Alhamdulillah for the first time ever, the Jamat has acquired Burial Right for 20 graves through a project initiated by Dar-us-Salaam and the Islamic Society of Toronto. We have Alhamdulillah paid off the amount owed for the 20 Burial Rights and now wait to finalize a concrete plan for not only the management of these Burial Rights but also for the Burial Services.

WHERE ARE WE HEADED

We first wish to thank the Executive Committee for giving us this opportunity to selflessly serve the Jamat and its members. It is through their motivation and the guidance of Allah (SWT) that we have been able to achieve these few notable milestones.

We wish to encourage other members of our Jamat – young or old – male or female - to come forward and provide a helping hand as well. Service to the community has no age and knows no gender. Let us remind ourselves – it is in giving that we receive ■



“Accumulating concepts and ideas will make you an intelligent person, but to be a great person you must utilize that intelligence to have a beneficial impact on our society.”

sCARonyms

Submitted By: Sister Sameera Salyani

BMW – Big Money Wasted

CHEVROLET – Can Hear Every Valve Rattle On Long Extended Trips

DODGE – Drains Or Drops Grease Everywhere

FORD – Fix Or Repair Daily

GM – Get Mechanic

HONDA – Hold On, Not Done Accelerating

JEEP – Just Expect Every Problem

KIA – Kills In Accidents

MAZDA – Most Always Zipping Dangerously Along

SUBARU – Still Usable, But All Rust Underneath

TOYOTA – The One You Ought To Avoid

**WITH BEST WISHES & COMPLIMENTS TO
NASSERPURIA MEMON JAMAT CANADA**

On The Publication Of The 5th Issue of

An Hajm

From The Family Of 

LATE HAJI ESSA KASMANI

The Views of Our Youth



Shafreen Bagha



Hamza Varvani

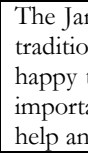


Madeeha Varvani

How important is the Jamat to you?



The Jamat is important to me because whenever I attend a function it reminds me of the social gatherings that happen in Kenya. It reminds me of the importance of our traditions and culture when we meet our Jamat members on a regular basis.



The Jamat is very important to me because I get to see my friends and family. I get to learn about my culture and traditions like my mother tongue-Kutchi, calling for Adhan, etc. We get to be together in happy times and not so happy times. We get to share food and be together with our elders from whom we learn a lot. The Jamat is every important for any Nasserpurian because it is our identity, our forefathers left us with responsibilities to continue to help and strive for our fellow members

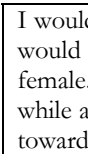


In my opinion as a youth I think we need the Jamat to keep in touch with our family & extend family.

If you were to hold a position in the Executive Committee, what improvements would you make



Increase the number of activities for teens such as game shows, like Who Wants to Be a Memonaire. This activity when it was last held proved to be very popular with all the members, especially the teenagers. Organize debates on contemporary issues affecting the teens, poetry and speech, drawing competitions, skits portraying the important lessons that should be learned and followed in life. A get-together where we can have fun activities such as relay races, board and indoor games, sporting activities such as flag football.



I would add some activities for the youth and kids like soccer in the summer, painting, and sledding in the winter. I would also add an activity to raise money for the Jamat like jewelry classes and soccer coaching for both male and female. The speeches made by different renowned speakers are great and very helpful to understand our religion while also preserving our culture. I would encourage the youth to participate and volunteer more and I would work towards having our own community center.



I would hold the position of Assistant Secretary. I would try and have more activities for kids.

According to you, what development has the Jamat made in the past 10 years



When I first attended the Jamat's function, I was a child and few people attended, but as the years passed, the attendance increased. I have also witnessed a number of new events that have been introduced this year. Bringing the members together and uniting them has been a remarkable achievement on the part of the Jamat.



There has not been much change, but I would like us to have our own community centre. To build this, I would suggest bake sales, private parking and always try to save money.



More people have come and more variety of functions are being organized

How often should Jamat organize activities/events and why?



The Jamat should organize a function at least once a month because the more we get together with our own families the better for us. Not only does it improve our communication with each other, but it creates a comfortable home like atmosphere which many people miss here in Canada.



The Jamat should organize a function twice a month so that we can meet more often and get to know our own extended family better.

Have you ever volunteered at a Jamat function and if so how?



I have volunteered in quite a few Jamat's functions. When I have volunteered I have mostly helped out with setting the tables, washing the dishes or cleaning up



It has been a great pleasure to serve in the Jamat, to set up the place ready for the functions and also clean up after. I love being one of the Muadhins for the Jamat and one day my dream is to lead the prayers.



What kind of issues are important and need to be addressed

Some of the teenagers are bored during functions. It will be great to have activities or functions dedicated to the youth. It would also help if people came on time so that we could start and finish on time. Little children need to be kept busy with art and craft or games for them. We need more volunteers to help; we need more plays/skits, talent shows, speech competition from which children or adults can learn morals or stories or even just laugh. This will give the children confidence in performing in front of the crowd and also bring out their talents.



The fact that people always come late so the program is congested and sometimes, some event do not take place since there is no time.

What is your view point of the Jamat's vision



In brief, I believe the Jamat's vision is to provide an environment where we can foster and strengthen our Memon brotherhood. If we are to keep our culture and traditions alive then it is extremely important that we have this vision, especially in this country where there are many adverse influences that one can fall a victim to.

In the next 10 years, what kind of activities would you like the Jamat to offer

Some activities like soccer, skiing, basketball. Have our own sports teams, learn the Adhan and Qira'at, bake sales/ jewelry making for the women. These activities will not only motivate me, but others as well.



Who has been your role model in the Jamat and why



My role model in the Jamat is Zahra Admani. She is a hard working member and is always ready to accept any challenge and she always puts others before herself. I also admire the patience that she has.

What is your first reaction when you are told there is an upcoming event



Up till recently I used to be **indifferent**. With due respect, I felt that our activities lacked excitement and ideas. However, it is the feeling that I am going to meet my OWN brothers and sisters that lures me to come over. It also is **Exciting** because it gives me an opportunity to re-acquaint myself with my old friends.

I feel **Unhappy** because it becomes boring since there is not much happening. We need to organize some events for everyone to participate.



When I come to know there is a Jamat function I get very **Excited** and **Happy** because I will be able to meet with my family and friends.

What has been your best moment in the Jamat in the past 10 years



The best moment I have experienced in the Jamat was this year at the recent summer festival when I was given the opportunity to lead my team during the telematch. It was exciting because, although we lost in all the matches the competition between me and my age mates was intense.

The best moment was when I first participated as Ali in the Mind Your Language play, it gave me great confidence and also made the crowd cheer. The other time was when I won in the Qirat Competition in my age group. I felt great.



I felt that the 2010 Summerfest /Fungo function was the best because got to meet with my friends from the U.S and I liked the location of the picnic with the lake.

How is your social interaction with your age mates in the Jamat as compared to school



My social interaction with all of my friends is the same. The age mates that I interact with in the Jamat go through the same stuff that I do and we can relate, so when we talk with each other we do not really hide anything. After all we are mostly around the same age, so we like to let loose and make most of the few hours we have to see each other and have fun.

Do you have any comments you would like to make

I would like to say that we are all family one way or another, we need to stand beside each other through thick or thin, and this way we can improve and grow our Jamat for it to continue passing on the traditions and culture for many more generations to come.



Yes, I would like to congratulate the Jamat for the upcoming 5th edition of *Ar-Najm* and to all the people who put their timeless effort into it.



On the authority of Abu Hurairah that the Prophet said:


"Whosoever removes a worldly grief from a believer, Allah will remove from him one of the griefs of the Day of Judgment. Whosoever alleviates a needy person, Allah will alleviate his lot in this world and the next. Whosoever shields a Muslim, Allah will shield him in this world and the next. Allah will aid a servant so long as the servant aids his brother. Whosoever follows a path to seek knowledge therein, Allah will make easy for him a path to Paradise."

Related By Muslim



With Compliments & Best Wishes

TO: NASSERPURIA MEMON JAMAT - CANADA



On Publication Of The 5th Issue of *An Najm*

FROM Dr. Mohamed Hussein &
Mrs Sabira Mithoowani & Family



...Kuro Haldo Aawyo Ai

Compiled By: Sister Sameera Salyani

The Jamat has organized various programs and events since the last issue of *An Najm* in June 2008 and all have been of great success with majority attendance, Alhamdulillah. The following are the event highlights.

2-DAY SUMMER FESTIVAL June 28 & 29, 2008

Day 1: June 28, 2008

The highlight time of the year was back; the anticipated two-day summer festival. Saturday evening started out with a recitation from the Holy Qur'an by Br. Suhail Varwani after which our very talented MCs Sr. Azba Hathiyani and Sr. Zahra Admani began the program with some humour and surprises.



Our Mc's
in
dialogue

Benefits of the Youth Journalism Club, winner of the function report and the launch of the 4th issue of *An-Najm* constituted an important aspect of the announcements for the evening.



Launch of
An Najm

The winners of the first World Memon Essay Competition were also announced as follows:

Category 1 - "What can I do to improve the welfare of the society at large"

1st Place - Junaid Warwani

2nd Place - Mohamad Yusuf Mithwani

Category 2 - "Is Khilafat possible in this modern day and age"

1st Place - Swaleha Elyas Shamsudin Noormohamed

2nd Place - Late Assad Ebrahim Salyani

Thereafter, our youngsters led by Tasneem Warwani presented a beautiful *Nasheed* followed by an equally lovely *Nazm* by Br. Nadeem Salyani written by Br. Zahir Salyani.

A little bit of wistfulness, a lot of happiness and abundant pride and joy filled everyone's heart as all eyes turned to watch, "**Niche Yadaash Jo Rasto**", a movie compiled by Br. Abdulhamid Hathiyani, Br. Ghulamhabib Yakub and Br. Suhail Varwani depicting our history as Nasserpuri Memons from Sindh to Canada. After a delicious dinner, Br. Zahir Salyani brought to us an engaging and hilarious skit entitled "**Bhantar Mantar**" based on the popular TV Show, "Mind Your Language". Br. Nadeem Salyani with his 'students', Yasin Admani, Hassan Bharadia, Madiha Hathiyani, Hamza Varvani and Nahla Varvani, sent everyone into fits of laughter with their brilliant acting and dialogs.



Bhantar Mantar in progress

Day 2: June 29, 2008

The first event scheduled for the morning was a mind boggling "**KhazanaKhazana**" Family Challenge Treasure Hunt which was one by the Noorani and Warwani families. Simultaneously, back in the Community Centre, the Ladies Committee had set up a bazaar and organized a dessert competition which everyone enjoyed thoroughly. Once the delightful BBQ Lunch was done with, Sr. Hawa Noorani recited some verses of the Holy Qur'an, after which the gents busied themselves with an indoor Telematch. The day wound up with presentations and tokens of appreciation to the winners and participants.



Indoor Telematch

FUNGO SUMMER PICNIC

August 10, 2008

The day was filled with fun, fun and tons of fun as everyone contributed to the success of the day. Variety of snacks to munch on, coupled with the company of entertaining games made up the wonderful ingredients of a lavish and beautiful day.



*Our boys,
participating
in a balloon
game*

IFTAR & QIRA'AT

September 13, 2008

Narrated Abu Huraira: The Prophet (PBUH) said, *"Whoever observes Fasts during the month of Ramadan out of sincere faith, and hoping to attain Allah's rewards, then all his past sins will be forgiven."* - (Book #2, Hadith #37), Sahih Bukhari.

We were blessed once again with the opportunity to come together to have Iftari under one roof. "As is the norm, the program began with a recitation from the Holy Qur'an."

Qira'at recitation was held for children over 5 years of age and Mashallah, how soothing it was, to listen to the various verses of the Qur'an, each recited with eloquence and dedication.

Thereafter, Br. Sabir Yakub, presented a very enlightening Islamic lecture which had everyone's apt attention.

Like always, our program concluded with Isha Salah and Taraweh in congregation.

EID-UL-FITR

October 4, 2008

Well, what better way to celebrate Eid than with our extended Family

The function started off with a recitation from the Holy Qur'an by our youngster, Yasin Admani. This was closely followed up with a *Nazm* on Eid, poetically written by Br. Zahir Salyani and recited flawlessly by Br. Nadeem Salyani. An illustrative demonstration of unique soccer skills by invited professional soccer players ensued leaving most of us in awe of their extraordinary talent.

The Jamat President then announced a scholarship of \$ 500 for any deserving student who wished to pursue post-secondary education. Following a luscious dinner, all the kids lined up excitedly to receive their Eid gifts which were very generously contributed by the family of Elder Abdulkader Yakub.



Distribution of Eid gifts

EID-UL-ADHA

December 13, 2008

The harsh winter weather certainly did not put us off from celebrating our 2nd Eid event of the year as our members flocked in to the Community Centre to be greeted with recitation from the Holy Qur'an by Br. Nabil Hathyani. Br. Mohammed Kadernani was the man running the show this time, and first on the agenda, were two *Nasheeds* on Eid beautifully recited by Madiha Hathyani followed by Br. Nadeem Salyani. Elder Abdulrahim Goralwalla then

presented a brief, yet informative talk about the rights and virtues of Hajj which had all of us captivated. We were not done yet as, for the first time ever, a game of Kabaddi, popularly known in Kutchi as **Hutootoo**, was played amongst the male members of our Jamat. Certainly a good mix of archetypal and unique events to entertain for a cold evening! The President wrapped up the evening with promises of more fun, togetherness and entertainment.

LAST RITES & RIGHTS

January 31, 2009

Allah (SWT) says in the Holy Qur'an, *"Every soul will taste death, and you will only be given your [full] compensation on the Day of Resurrection. So he who is drawn away from the Fire and admitted to Paradise has attained [his desire]."* (Ale-Imraan 3:185)

The correct procedure for *Ghusl* of a deceased was demonstrated in this gathering, which not only was a reminder of our temporary stay in this world, but also made us aware of our deeds and actions which will eventually determine our fate in the Hereafter.



Demonstration of the Ghusl procedure

QUIZ COMPETITION

February 28, 2009

The tallest tower in the world? The current President of South Africa? The largest land area? That is right! You had to know it all if you were attending this Quiz Competition event. The event kicked off after Maghrib prayers and recitation of the Holy Qur'an followed by a Pot-Luck dinner. The competing teams comprised primarily of our young kids, performed exceptionally leaving the rest of us to truly believe that knowledge is indeed the gateway to success.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

March 29, 2009

Like every other, this AGM was no different having commenced right after Asr prayers. After hearing the reports of the previous year, members of the Jamat provided their views and opinions in regards to moving ahead. The President also informed the members about the formation of the Constitutional Review Board, comprising of Br. Zulfikar Hathiyani, Br. Abdulhamid Hathiyani, Br. Osman Parpia, Br. Nadeem Salyani and Sr. Naseem Mithwani, and requested the members to approach the Board with their recommendations.

CHALLENGES BEING FACED BY IMMIGRANTS

April 18, 2009

The evening began with a recitation from the Holy Qur'an followed by a talk about "Challenges being faced by Immigrants". What kind of hurdles do new immigrants really face?

What are the best ways to overcome them? What kind of adjustments need to be made to make easier? How should they deal with the cultural shock and what kind of social changes do they need to make especially for the kids? These were some, if not all of issues addressed which was definitely a huge help to all the new immigrants. The event was concluded with a pot luck dinner that gave everyone the taste of a variety of home dishes.

GENERAL GET-TOGETHER

May 16, 2009

The evening was organized by the Sports and Ladies Committees. Among the many games played, the one that caught everyone's attention was the **Wii-Challenge** which brought the outdoors: indoors. The Ladies Committee were neck to neck with the Sports Committee in their organizational skills by presenting a Swahili Dishes program, whereby one could learn and taste the very exotic Swahili dishes prepared by the Ladies of our Jamat.



Members enjoying a game of Checkers

FUNGO PICNIC
August 16, 2009

Fungo time calls for lots of *masti, majaa* and *khenu peenu*. This indeed was the agenda on the beautiful day as we all gathered at Thomson Memorial Park for a day of togetherness, before embracing the coming month of Ramadhan.

With all the time-tables of the day kept aside, the day was spent in random activities such as a game of dodge-ball, cat and mouse and some circle time among the Ladies, whilst the Gents indulged themselves in ball games. The children too had formed their own groups, playing all the games their minds could think of.



The ladies enjoying the sunshine

Of course we cannot do without BBQ on a beautiful sunny afternoon spicing it up with nachos and salsa and cooling it off with refreshing watermelons



Yummy: tandoori on the grill!!

IFTAR FUNCTION
August 29, 2009

The holy month of Ramadhan had arrived, and once more we all gathered to spend a day of fasting and Iftar together.

The evening began with a recitation from the Holy Qur'an. A beautiful *Nazm* about the status of parents and an Islamic lecture constituted the first half of the function. The 7th annual Qira'at competition was then held among our children who were categorised by their age. Yasin Admani prevailed as the overall winner of the "Iqra" Trophy donated by the family of Elder Mohamed Bashir Hathyani.

After dinner the winners of the second World

Memon Essay Competition were also announced and they were:

Category 1-"Our World in Chaos: Applying the Islamic Obligation for Leadership to Today's issues"

1st Place - Nargis Yakub

2nd Place - Rehana Ibrahim Mithwani

Category 2 - "Where are you from...Where are you going"

1st Place - Mohamed Yusuf Hussein Mithwani

2nd Place - Nabil Mohamed Yasin Bharadia

The lovely day ended with congregational prayers of Isha as well as Taraweh.

EID-UL-FITR

September 26, 2009

Laden with abundant joy and excitement, the innocent hearts of our children accompanied by their Parents filled the Community Centre once again for yet another Eid Function." After recitation from the Holy Qur'an, the events of the evening streamed through flawlessly starting with a Juggling Clown artist who implanted even wider smiles on the faces of our children.



Entertainment all the way through

After giving our prostrations for Maghrib, to Allah (SWT), a blanket of nostalgia descended upon all, as we sat to have dinner in the Memon Villa style in "thaaris" and volunteers serving water and "chaas". Above all, the exact taste of our traditional "deg ji Biryani" brought alive fond memories of our roots. A very big *Ahsante* to Elder Khairunbai Hathyani for her effort.

The nostalgia remained as more memories slithered in, courtesy of our guest from Mombasa, Elder Abdulkader Salyani, whose melodious, soothing and golden voice, had everyone tapping their feet and drumming their fingers. He even recited a *Nazm* written by Br. Zahir Salyani.



Halo mare hikri thaari me khayje



Our guest, Abdulkader Salyani entertaining us all

The next item on the agenda was an informal interview conducted by Br. Abdulhamid Hathyani with Br. Zahir Salyani and Br. Shabbir Bagha, after which Br. Nadeem Salyani recited a soulful *Nazm*. During the President's speech, he presented a token of appreciation to the facilitators, Br. Abdulmajid Hathyani and Br. Ghulamhabib Yakub, who were always at service during all functions. Did we forget the kids in this tangy adult entertainment? Certainly not as we got them all lined up to receive their Eid gifts, once again, courtesy of Elder Abdulkader Yakub and family.

DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

November 7, 2009

The gathering on this day was a crucial and critical one as the heads of the Jamat and the Development Committee presented to the members, "The Memon Villa-Vision 2020" project. It was a project where the dream of having our own place of assembly and complex, was being put forward to make it a reality. Every detail was looked into and suggestions, comments and ideas were all duly noted and given much thought and consideration. Unfortunately, due to unavoidable circumstances, this project failed to materialise, BUT the dream still remains alive and healthy!

EID-UL-ADHA

December 5, 2009

Hajj was Alhamdulillah complete and Muslims all around the world were celebrating Eid and so were we. After Isha Salaat and Qur'an recitation, the program began with the SGM which constituted the discussion of the adoption of the revised constitution and By-Laws. After the proceedings were complete, Alhamdulillah, dinner was served and the rest of the evening was spent bonding and relaxing with the extended family.

TRUSTEE BOARD ELECTIONS and KISMAT JO PAYYO

January 26, 2010

The first task of the year for the Executive Committee was to get 5 members elected onto the Trustee Board. Alhamdulillah, Br. Shabbir Bagha, Br. Abdulhamid Hathyani, Br. Shafi Yakub, Br. Sherali Kasmani and Br. Mohamed Kadernani accepted the responsibility. Once the formalities were complete, members were treated to a Tech Game Show, thanks to the Technical expertise of Br. Ghulamhabib Yakub and Br. Nadeem Salyani. This one entitled **Kismat Jo Payyo** – an imitation of the widely known "Wheel of Fortune". A very good attempt; certainly got the members excited and feeling light after the formal discussions.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

March 26, 2010

It was not only the time for reviews and suggestions, but also the moment to hand over to a new elected committee.

After the exhausting session of report readings, members finally elected a new committee that comprised of the following:

President - Moledina Varvani
 Vice President - Sadik Admani
 Secretary - Nadeem Salyani
 Treasurer - Sabir Yakub

Assistant Treasurer - Abubaker Goralwalla

The affairs of the Jamat were then handed to this fresh committee, together with abundant duas and blessings from all.

EVENT OF THE WEEK-END

May 22, 2010

A Roman philosopher once said, "Every new beginning comes from some other beginning's end", and so our new Executive Committee, fresh off the board, began their first function full of energy and enthusiasm and hope of living through the same achievements of the past committees, if

anything, doing better.

The function started with a recitation of the Holy Qur'an by Madeeha Varvani followed by a General Meeting to fill the vacant seats of the Assistant Secretary and Committee Member at the end of which Sr. Naseem Khandwalla and Br. Issak Warwani were elected respectively.

A good meal begins with hunger, and indeed so, as the dinner menu filled everyone to the brim and prepared them to be blown off their feet with the entertainment that followed.

The Education Committee put forward one of their many to come Projected Tech Game Shows - this one entitled, **"Toji Muji Soch"** based on the concept of "Family Feud" contested between the Bhawars and Bhenrus. Participant or audience, everyone had a shot at the questions posed but at the end of it all, it was the Bhawars who went home as eventual winners.

2-DAY SUMMER FESTIVAL *July 31 & August 1, 2010*

Day 1: July 31, 2010

What better way to start an occasion than with seeking the blessings from the Almighty Allah (SWT). After the opening recitation from Hamza Varvani, Br. Sabir Yakub was invited to enlighten us on "Ramadhan: A Training institute for generations".

A motivational, as well as hilarious skit entitled **Paanji Jamat – An Extended Family** was next on the agenda, where Br. Nadeem Salyani, Br. Junaid Warwani, Br. Ahmed Goralwalla, Br. Aadil Nathani and Br. Osman Parpia exhibited their extraordinary acting skills with Sr. Parveez Warwani providing a well versed voice in the background. It would be unjust not to mention the brain behind the skit, Elder Nazir Abdulshakur Bachani from Mombasa - who scripted the play on very short notice.



Acting skills on display

Later, a mouth-watering Hakka style dinner, with appetizing deserts, kept some hungry stomachs very satisfied.

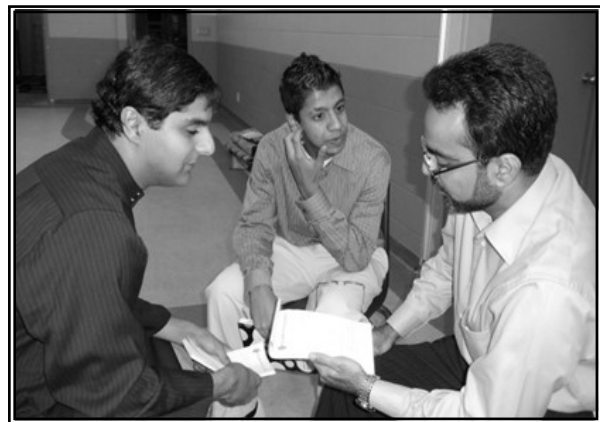
Br. Naushad Harunani from Florida, US, then stepped up to use his oral prowess to get members to dig into their pockets and support the Jamat in return for some auction items.

The concluding episode of the evening was a hot topic debate organised by the Education Committee and contested between the Ladies and Gents teams.

The motion for debate was **"Thanks to social networking on the web there is no more face-to-face interaction"**.

Our efficient Judges Br. Abdulhamid Hathiyani and Sr. Jamila Kadernani declared the opposing team of Br. Kassam Varvani, Br. Zaid Yakub and Br. Shah-e-Noor Yakub as the rightful winners of the floating **"Maahira"** trophy.

The President wrapped up the evening welcoming the newly joined members and thanking all those who contributed to the evening's success as well as showing gratitude to all the members from USA and NMJ-NA led by their Chairman Br. Fayyaz Salyani.



The Gents team in opposition



The Ladies team in proposition

Day 2: August 1, 2010

The glorious sunshine soared everyone's spirits as our members took a long drive to Sibbald Point Park for another day expected to be fun and entertaining.

Muhogo and Viazi on the grill got the day started *kabisa kama Mombasa*-style followed by a thrilling and thoroughly enjoyable Telematch for the Gents, Ladies and Children organized by the ever-energetic Sporting Events Committee. The amusing races and hurdles topped with the zeal to win by the participants attracted all the attendees who watched and cheered with absolute pleasure.



The Old and Gold days method of bar-be-que

Tired people, plus empty stomachs equals BBQ lunch. The mini Kababs and flavoured Chicken had everyone licking their fingers to the last and why not? It was **Mamadi Recoda Catering** after all!!



Ummm Lunch Time

The remaining time was then dedicated to various activities. The Gents took on each other with a friendly game of cricket followed by soccer, the Ladies entertained themselves and later simply relaxed in front of the calm lake waters, the seniors leisurely chit chatted with each other and the Kids?? Well who need worry about them, when they have all the space to play?

Three cheers to Br. Sadik Admani and Br. Osman Parpia for expertly convening and co-ordinating this event.



Ladies enjoying themselves



The President handing tokens to the Telematch winners

IFTAR

August 21, 2010

The month of forgiveness and blessings, the month of perseverance and strength, the month of Ramadhan had arrived, giving us an opportunity to come together and collectively open our fasts with the name of Allah (SWT).

Zulfa Kassam Varvani opened our Iftar program with a dua and recital of a Ramadhan *Nasheed* which was followed up close by congregational recitation of Surah Yaseen. Br Shah-e-Noor Yakub and Br. Yasin Admani then moved everyone with a Qira'at recitation of the Holy Qur'an, bringing ample contentment to all hearts.

Br. Abdulhamid Hathyani and Sr. Taiba Hathyani conducted an informative discussion panel for our young children about Ramadhan and Islam. The discussion provided a deeper insight on the challenges faced by our children in schools and other social gatherings while fasting, which made everyone, particularly the parents appreciate the efforts made by our young Muslims.

It was then time for Maghrib and it truly was a blissful sight to finally see everyone opening their fasts and enjoy a meal together after which we all gathered to close our program with Salaatul Isha and Taraweh prayers led by Br. Shah-e-Noor Yakub.

EID-UL-FITR
September 18, 2010

The joyous occasion of Eid-ul-Fitr was celebrated with much enthusiasm and fun especially among our children. After Ramla Yakub recited the opening dua, the kids had tons of fun in competing in various games. Meanwhile the adults, on a serious note, were occupied in a General Body Meeting to discuss the Kabrastaan Project opportunity at hand. After much deliberation the Executive Committee received the go ahead to purchase 20 Burial Rights graves for the use of Jamat members.

Thereafter a beautiful Nazm on Hajj, written by Br. Zahir Salyani, was recited by Br. Nadeem Salyani after which an impressive farewell, plenty of duas and blessings was given to our Hujajees, Br. Ghulamhabib and Sr. Nargis Yakub. A Nazm on the virtues of Hajj was recited by Br. Nadeem Salyani and written by Br. Zahir Salyani.



Farewell to Hujjajee, Br. Ghulamhabib Yakub



Farewell to Hujjajee, Sr. Nargis Yakub

Following a lovely dinner, the kids all lined up to receive their Eid gifts donated by various families. Finally, the President wrapped up the evening with his address.

EID-UL-ADHA
November 28, 2010

The second Islamic Holiday of the year was celebrated with a unique spice of its own. The Education Committee began the show with **Magga Ji Cher Chaar**—a Triple Trivia in the form of Sudoku, Word and Crossword Puzzle.

The Sports Committee then kept pace with an

exciting evening of **Carom Tournaments** for the Gents and Musical Chairs for the Ladies and children. Sandwiched between the two was the welcoming back of Hujajees with a soulful *Nasheed* written by Br. Zahir Salyani and recited by Br. Nadeem Salyani. Celebrations were not over yet, as the Ladies could not leave without their hands decorated with Mehndi. The Volunteers, Br. Farouq Nathani and Sr. Nafisa Nathani ensured that this was an evening for all to remember!



Eid is sure a lot of fun

MEHFIL - E - QIRA'AT
February 20, 2011

This event opened up with congregational prayers of Dhur Salaat followed by an appetizing lunch. Once again, the Education Committee presented to us something to remember, the 8th Annual Mehfil-E-Qira'at Competition. Participants were categorised into five age groups. Each category had a winner, but among them our young overall winner Zulfa Kassam Varvani was selected as the most eloquent recite and was awarded the floating "Iqra" trophy.

In the absence of the President, The Vice-President, Br. Sadik Admani addressed the members. Br. Shah-e-Noor Yakub finally added icing with his mesmerizing Qira'at recitation.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
April 30, 2011

It was once again time to review the achievements of the past year and ponder upon the future steps and course of direction that should be taken by the Jamat. Among the many points of discussion was the important Kabrastaan Project Burial Services Plan presented by Br. Shabbir Bagha (Trustee Board Chairman) and Br. Moledina Varvani (President). Alhamdulillah, fruitful discussions took place and motivated the Executive Committee to work even harder for their second year in office.

2-DAY SUMMER FESTIVAL
July 2 & 3, 2011

Day 1: July 2, 2011

The function began with congregational offering of Asr Salaat followed by a recitation from the Holy Qur'an by Br. Nabil Hathyani and the translation by Br. Suhail Musa Varvani from Minnesota.



Our Mc's for the festival

Sr. Naema Admani and Sr. Sarah Kasmani surprised everyone with their entry as MC's particularly with their unorthodox presentation of the agenda. They began by inviting upfront the world renowned Sheikh Abdul Hakim Quick for an enlightening Islamic talk based on, "Reflections of the Youth of Islam and the Future" which created a height of interest among everyone, particularly our youth.



Sheikh Abdul Hakim Quick



A token of appreciation for the Sheikh

Following a luscious dinner, the President welcomed and thanked all for being a part of the 10-year anniversary celebrations of the Jamat. Br. Nabil Hathyani was presented with a token for having completed the Hifz of the Qur'an.

After Maghrib Salaat, Br. Junaid Warwani introduced the Education Committee presentation in the form of a 'one of a kind' high-tech and electrifying, quiz game show entitled, "**Who Wants To Be A Memonaire**". This was hosted by Br. Issak Varvani and Sr. Nargis Yakub for the Gents and Ladies teams respectively.



Lock kardiyajay? Final Answer?

In the end, it was Br. Mohammed Hussein Azam Salyani, Br. Mohammed Kadernani and Br. Abdulhamid Hathyani, who proved that be it, Kutchi, Sports or General Knowledge, they can answer it all.

Memons got talent was certainly demonstrated in between the game shows, when our juniors, Ramla Yakub and Shaymaa Yakub recited beautiful *Nasheeds*. Before winding up, important announcements were made regarding the launching of our magazine, *An-Najm*, 5th Edition, NMJ-Canada Annual Scholarship and the NMJ-Canada website.

Day 2: July 3, 2011

Grateful to the Almighty (SWT) for granting us the warm temperatures and lovely sunshine throughout the day, we all gathered at Darlington Provincial Parks' scenic picnic site for a day promising to be thrilling. Brought back by popular demand, the highlight event of the day was **Family Fun in the Sun** organized by the Sporting Events Committee. From water balloons to needlework - eating doughnuts to coins in the flour - wheelbarrow races to five-legged races, this extremely amusing and fun-filled episode was not only enjoyed by the young, but also our seniors who were seen to be cheering and rooting for their favourites.



Council of elders enjoying the day

Kudos to Br. Ghulamhabib Yakub, Br. Abubaker Goralwalla and Br. Nadeem Salyani for directing and co-ordinating the various events for the Gents while Sr. Nargis Yakub and Sr. Zahra Admani were second to none for their efforts on the Ladies side. The Volunteers, Sr. Nasreen Varvani and Sr. Fatma Admani were on their toes making sure there was a continuous flow of grilled Muhogo and Makai. The **Mamadi Recoda** kababs and chicken for lunch and the traditional “**Radhela Batata**” popped a question to many minds “wait! are we in Mombasa?”

With a couple more hours at hand, the Gents swiftly organised themselves into teams to take on our traditional game of Volleyball followed by Cricket, whereas the Ladies took some leisure strolls around the park and the children kept on having a blast with freedom of their own.



Enjoying the cool Watermelon

A beautiful end to a beautiful weekend indeed...thanks to Allah (SWT) and the efforts of the Co-ordinators Br. Shoaib Yakub and Sr. Fatima Shoaib Yakub!

IFTAR PROGRAM

August 18, 2011

Once more Allah had presented an opportunity for us to break our fasts collectively.

After opening the function with a recitation from the Holy Qur’an, the Gents and Ladies, in their respective sides gathered around for a shared recital of Surah Yaseen. Soon to follow, was an enlightening talk on five different prophets of Allah (SWT) by five of our young girls who fluently provided some history, teachings and quests of the messengers of Allah (SWT). Hats off to Zulfa Varvani, Madiha Varvani, Shahira Bagha, Ramla Yakub and Zainab Yakub for a job well done.

Br. Nadeem Salyani, delivered a beautiful *Nazm*, about Ramadhan written by Br. Zahir Salyani.

The meals, generously donated by various families, was well enjoyed. The program ended with Salaatul Isha followed by Taraweh prayers led by Br. Shah-e-Noor Yakub.

SOCCER MATCH

SEPTEMBER 9, 2011

MEMONS took on the Mississauga soccer team for an exciting friendly but CUP game played at a night-lit Huron Park Soccer Field. On the sound of the referee’s whistle, the game began with all the zeal and zest; after all, the NATHANI Champions Cup - donated by the Family of Br. Farook Nathani - was at stake for the very first time.



Our Soccer Team

Shining in our new Jerseys, MEMONS clearly showed that Soccer is in their blood. They tackled, defended, saved and scored giving us a 3-1 win at the final whistle thanks to goals from Yasin Admani, Abdulshakur Mamdani and Nadeem Salyani.

EID-UL-FITR

SEPTEMBER 10, 2011

An auspicious day, a lovely turnout, colourful events and Jam-packed exciting action completed the wonderful package for the Eid Mela program. The first half of the function saw the Gents

and Ladies engage in different activities. The Sports Committee organized an exhilarating Table-Tennis tournament for the Gents and the Youth Committee organized a humorous game of **Dumb Charades** for the Ladies. So what were the kids doing? Bouncing themselves with full excitement in the first time ever held, Bouncing Castle.



Our Mc's for the Evening

The President had a few announcements. As soon as dinner was over, Br Sabir Yakub stepped up once again to enlighten us on our Post Ramadhan etiquette. It was time for dinner, but before that, a couple of announcements and an address from the President were all part of the agenda.



Figuring out the clue for dumb charades

This was then followed by the Youth Committee presenting a game show entitled "**Islamic Jeopardy**" which was created and hosted by Br.

Osman Noorani. His efforts surely did not go to waste as the show raised the success of the evening even higher. To add to the success of the evening, a bake and dessert competition were held and the winners were Nahla Kassam Varvani in the Youth category and Sr. Zainab Salyani Haq in the Adult category. Mehndi application, and the distribution of Eid gifts for our young ones added an extra charm to the evening. ■



Patently waiting for their Eid Gifts



Presentation of Gifts

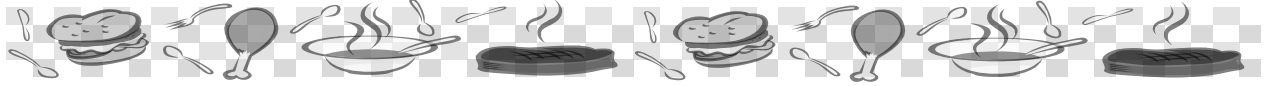
MEMON DIASPORA - WORTH MENTIONING

In 2004, NMJ-Canada published The Memon Diaspora, a unique publication that captures our history, culture and traditions. Alhamdulillah, this book has been received very well by Memon Jamats worldwide. It is being used as a reference by many, and very recently, in 2010, some chapters have been translated in Urdu and published in Memon Samaaj, Karachi's Memon publication. It is also listed under Memon publications on www.memonpoint.com.

A great achievement for our Jamat.

Congratulations to the authors of Memon Diaspora - Sisters Nargis Yakub, Shaheen Bagha, Fatima Noorani, Shaheena Yakub and Azba Hathiyani ■

FOOD GRAMS



Submitted By: *Sister Sameera Salyani*

Rearrange each line of letters to form a common dish/item of food of our culture. Then, drop the numbered letters into their corresponding numbers down below to form a familiar phrase or line of words relating to us.

YOAKIL — 1 — — — 2

RIABNYI — — 3 — — 4 —

ATBAAT HMAC — — — — 5 6 — —

IMHAC AAKP — 7 — — — 8 — —

AAITKM IASNI 9 — — — — — — 10 —

HJBAIA — — 11 12 —

OSSMAA 13 14 — — —

EJAKERH — — — 15 16 —

RAPLMUA 17 — — — 18 —

LUPOA — 19 20 —

TERSBEH 21 — 22 — —

DUDAL — 23 24 —

ORNODITA AIMN 25 — — — — — — 26 —

IYTAKMA — — — 27 — — 28

Now form the familiar phrase or line relating to us

10 5 21 13 15 3 8 19 18 28 7 17 22 27 2 26

12 1 9 11 20 25 6 23 4 16 24 14

Answers on Page 83



Assalamu Alaikum,

On behalf of the website committee, I would like to thank the Executive Committee for giving us the opportunity to serve the Jamat. In this day and age the website is a very important tool, which keeps us in touch with all that is happening around the world. Our information and events can be viewed by just clicking www.nmjcanada.com on their keyboard.

Our mission is to bring more exciting items and more information for all age groups. Alhamdulillah, we have begun posting videos of our current events and this year we posted the Ramadhan Time Table for Jamat Members. We have also included some Ramadhan Nazams and live prayers from Haram Mecca. Inshallah, we are also working on the current layout to make it easier to surf.

This would not have been possible without the help of my committee, who has been working with me hand to hand. I would like to say a big thank you to Br. Osman Parpia and Br. Ebrahim Goralwalla. I would also like to thank the family of Br. Abdulkader Yakub for hosting the website and Br. Ghulamhabib Yakub for having designed the layout. My thanks also go to my better half Mariam Salyani, who has always supported, encouraged and stood beside me. Lastly I would like to say a big Asante Sana to all members of our Jamat for their continuous support ■

Wassalaam,
Mohamed Zahir Salyani
Webmaster NMJ-Canada

Profile:

Abdulkader Yakub



Compiled By: Sr. Mariam Salyani, Sr. Naema Admani & Br. Junaid Warwani

Whenever the subject of 'insurance' came up in any context among our people in Kenya and here in Toronto, the person who immediately came to mind for professional, expert and honest advice on the subject was always 'Abdul Yakub'. Abdul (full name Abdulkader) was born on April 3, 1938 in Mombasa, Kenya in the Harunani family. He was among the third generation of the family born in Kenya. His father, Yakub Haji Ebrahim and his mother, Nurbai d/o Haji Sidik MiyANJI were also born in Mombasa. Abdulkader had 4 siblings born before him - Ahmed, Halimabai, Abdulaziz and Rabiabai - and 2 siblings followed after him - Zebunnisa and Zohrabanu. They all lived and were brought up in the same house, in "Mwembeni", together with three other families.

Abdulkader started his primary education at the age of 8 at Kikowani Primary School for 7 years and 4 years later completed the secondary education ('O' Levels) at Technical High School. His ambition at that time was to go for Mechanical Engineering at Nairobi University from where he had already received the admission, but circumstances changed and his fate turned towards insurance. He then joined the Jubilee Insurance Co. as a Trainee Clerk in 1957 (starting salary of KSh 150.00 per month) and at the same time studied insurance by correspondence with the Chartered Insurance Institute of London.

In 1961, Abdulkader went to London for further studies in insurance. At that time he was the second person in the Mombasa community to go



for further education in England. After graduating as Associate of the Chartered Insurance Institute (ACII), he returned home via South Africa. He traveled by ship across part of North Africa, sailing

December 1961: London, England

westbound through the Atlantic Ocean and reached Durban, South Africa, where he spent 2 weeks touring the country. He then continued his journey from

Durban, sailing on the Indian Ocean through the east coast of Africa and finally into Mombasa. Abdulkader says he can never forget the experiences he had of traveling in South Africa and particularly seeing for himself some of the aspects of peoples' daily lives at the time of the 'Apartheid' regime in the country. He also had the honour of being a guest speaker at the prestigious Oriental Club in Durban, where some of the prominent politicians and leaders of the country had given talks in the past.

Before returning from England in 1962, Abdulkader had the pleasure of watching England vs. Pakistan cricket Test match at Lord's Cricket Ground in London. The greatest moment for him was that he watched the game from the Members' Gallery and met the players as well. A rare treat indeed!

Abdulkader continued with Jubilee Insurance for some time and went back to England in 1964 where he spent 3 more years for the advanced fellowship studies in insurance. In July 1967, he returned to Kenya and joined the Kenya National Assurance Company (KNAC) in Nairobi to set up the Life Insurance Department. After doing the market survey and feasibility study, the KNAC entered the life insurance market in March 1968. A year later, to coincide with the opening of first branch office in Mombasa, Abdulkader was assigned to give series of insurance lectures, both in English and Swahili, at various locations in the Coast Province. Abdulkader says lecturing in Swahili was a daunting task for him but a memorable experience nevertheless. He once gave a lecture to the villagers and local chiefs in Shimba Hills, "under the shade of a tree". He also played an active role in opening 17 more branch offices of KNAC throughout Kenya which he visited on regular basis.

In August 1968, Abdulkader married Zubeidabai d/o Haji Ahmed Haji Kassam Harunani (Madressawalla) in Mombasa. Their first child, Mariambai, was born in September 1970. Then came Ghulamhabib, born in March 1974; and then the third child, Farheenbanu, born in April 1975. All the 3 children were born in Nairobi.

Abdulkader performed his first Hajj with his parents in 1958 when he was 20. They traveled on this pilgrimage by ship from Mombasa and stayed in Mecca & Medina for over 3 months. After Hajj, in Mecca, Abdulkader had the rare opportunity of entering inside the 'Kaabah'. His memories of the holy places as they were 50 years ago are still quite vivid. He performed his second Hajj in 1975 with his wife and then both of them traveled to Pakistan and India before returning home. While in Mecca, Abdulkader's father passed away in Mombasa which was a very heartbreaking moment for him. A few years later his mother passed away in July 1982.

In Nairobi, Abdulkader was one of the pioneers in establishing the Jamat in 1969. Serving the Jamat has always been part of life in Abdulkader's family. His late father, Yakub Haji Ebrahim (fondly called 'Yakubmama' by every 'jamatilo' in Mombasa), was the Treasurer of the Jamat for almost 10 years. Abdulkader was a strong supporter and an active member of the Nairobi Memon Jamat as well as the Memon Sports Club during his 22 years in Nairobi. He served on various committees of the Jamat, notably the Managing Committee and the Home Affairs Committee for several years and also on Education, Funds Raising and Project committees. Abdulkader is being remembered in the Nairobi Memon Jamat as a man of "wise decisions", among other things.

In the mid-70s, it was a turning point in Abdulkader's life in Nairobi. He had been suffering from severe back pain for several years and despite extensive therapies and medications, he did not get better. His pain meanwhile became chronic and the only option was surgery, although not a guaranteed cure. In March 1977 the family made a painful decision to go for the surgery and Abdulkader braved himself for it. Finally, he went through a major surgical procedure in which 2 herniated discs (slipped discs) in his lower back region were excised. Alhamdulillah, the surgery was very successful and Abdulkader was back 'on the road' after a few months. However, he was restricted from certain activities and was 'banned' from playing any field games, for life! His interest for sports, particularly Cricket and Soccer did not diminish though. He enjoyed watching these games and still loves to watch, preferably 'live'.

From 1967 to 1989, Abdulkader worked in Nairobi in various capacities before reaching the General Manager level at KNAC and later at Jubilee. He traveled extensively overseas to attend insurance conferences and seminars. He was a member of the Finance and Underwriting Committees of the Board. Within the Kenyan

insurance industry, Abdulkader was a prominent member and a key player. He was Vice-Chairman, Insurance Training & Education Board; Chairman, Life Registry Association of East Africa; Member, Medical Fees Committee and Constitution Committee of Life Offices Association and member, Council of Kenya Insurers team as well as Treasury team for drafting the Insurance Act of 1984. When Abdulkader was leaving Kenya to immigrate to Canada, the Chairman of Council of Kenya Insurers, in his special tribute to Abdulkader, had this to say, "Abdul Yakub's departure will be a great loss to the Kenyan Insurance industry".

During his working life in Nairobi and more so as a senior executive with the government owned insurance company (KNAC), Abdulkader had the privilege of interacting with Kenyan Ministers and other high ranking officials. He says he cannot forget the honor he had of meeting the Late President Kenyatta, the former President Moi and the current President Kibaki (then Finance Minister). He also had the pleasure of meeting His Highness the Aga Khan in Nairobi. This face to face meeting with the Spiritual Leader of the Ismailis naturally made his friends very jealous!!



Abdulkader being introduced to the Aga Khan

In June 1989, Abdulkader immigrated to Canada with his wife and 3 children and settled in Toronto. Initially he worked for Sun Life and Allstate insurance companies for a few years. He then joined the CAA (Canadian Automobile Association) Insurance Company and set up a new insurance sales department at their head office to sell auto and home insurances to its members. He worked very hard, as usual, and received numerous rewards and awards for his outstanding performances and achievements and for his 'Top 3' rankings consistently every year. When Abdulkader retired from CAA in 2003, this is what the Director of Insurance (Sales & Service) said about him, "Abdul's good nature, knowledge, dedication, Integrity and sense of humor have earned him the friendship and respect of all those who have worked with him. He will be greatly missed".

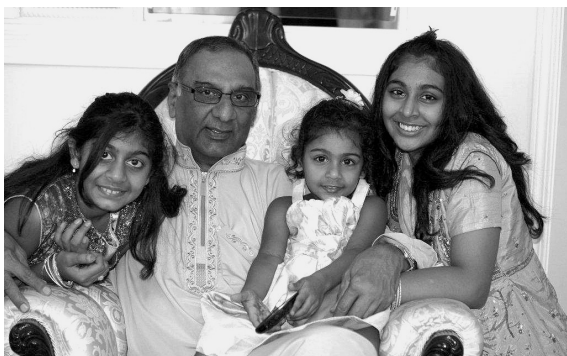
Abdulkader's insurance career began in 1957 when he was 19. He remained in this profession only, having worked in Kenya, England and Canada, for 46 years before retiring in 2003. He however tries to keep up with what is going on in the insurance market, particularly in the Auto and Home insurance sectors.

Soon after arriving in Canada in 1989, Abdulkader felt the need to establish the Jamat for Nasserpuria Memons. There were a few families already living here. In 1990, Abdulkader and few other families initiated the idea of 'Jamat gatherings' and organized "Yaseen" sessions which were held every month on rotation basis at different homes. These sessions continued for some time but finally ended due to some unforeseen circumstances.

In July 1994, Abdulkader's eldest daughter Mariam, got married to Mohamed Zahir Salyani s/o Late Abdulrazak and Lutfunnissa Salyani. Zahir came from Mombasa with his mother and stayed back and settled in Toronto with his wife Mariam. Their wedding was the first ever in the Jamat to be held in Toronto.

Life took a major twist once again in Abdulkader's family when his wife Zubeidabai was diagnosed with breast cancer in 1996 which involved an immediate surgery to remove the cancerous cells. Abdulkader was always there to take her to hospital appointments and therapy sessions and continues to do so to the present day.

Two years later, in February 1998, Abdulkader's youngest daughter Farheen got married to Ahmed Bachani s/o Mahmoud and Shamim Bachani. Ahmed also traveled from Mombasa for the marriage after which both him and Farheen traveled back to Mombasa. They returned to Toronto a year later and settled here. They now have 3 adorable children – Faiqah, Fadia and Fareeha – making Abdulkader a proud Nanabapa.



Abdulkader with grand-daughters, Fadia, Fareeha and Faiqah

Abdulkader's family had another milestone and a proud moment in their life in April 1998 when his only son Ghulamhabib graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Electrical and Computer Engineering from Ryerson University. A few months later, in July 1998, the whole family traveled to Mombasa for Ghulamhabib's marriage to Nargis d/o Abdulkayum and Zulekha Bachelani.

In March 2001, Nasserpuria Memon Jamat-Canada was formed and a few months later the Constitution Committee, comprising of Br. Abdulkader Yakub, Br. Abdulrahim Goralwalla and Br. Abdulhamid Hathiyan, was appointed to draft the constitution of the Jamat. This Committee worked day and night and came up with a 'draft' constitution which was presented at the Jamat meeting on November 10, 2001 and was adopted with an overwhelming majority. The Jamat was then officially registered with the Government of Canada in March 2002. Following this historic milestone, the Jamat decided to publish its own magazine and appointed Abdulkader as the first Editor-in-Chief. Abdulkader set the ball rolling and got his full Editorial Board on the fast track to meet the short deadline. Sure enough, three months later, the First (Souvenir) Issue of Jamat's own magazine - "*An Najm*" (The Rising Star) - was published in August 2002. This being a historical event, Abdulkader made sure that the Jamat's first publication was of high standard and quality.

The first Media & Communications Committee of the Jamat was formed in January 2003 and Abdulkader was appointed its first Chairman. This Committee also worked tirelessly and published the Second Issue of "*An Najm*" (Abdulkader was also the Editor-in-Chief), The Memon Diaspora, Jamat's Constitution in booklet form, Perpetual Prayer Timetables, Pocket Islamic Calendars and various other publications to assist the members.

In June 2007, Abdulkader served on the Interim Committee which comprised of four senior members of the Jamat. This committee managed and administered the affairs of the Jamat for several months before the full executive committee was later elected.

Among the several donations made to the Jamat by Abdulkader and his family, one is the trophy in memory of his late father, Yakub Haji Ebrahim. The trophy – "Yakub Haji Ebrahim Memorial Trophy" – is a floating trophy which is being presented to the winner of the Speech Competition organized by the Jamat from time to time.

One of Abdulkader's hobbies is his passion for traveling and seeing different parts of the world. He does thorough research about the places he wants to visit and makes his own plans and itineraries. His travels so far have taken him to nearly 30 countries around the globe, namely, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Belgium, Canada, Canary Islands, Egypt, France, Germany, Holland, India, Italy, Jordan, Kenya, Liechtenstein, Malaysia, Mexico, Mozambique, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Africa, Switzerland, Tanzania, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Uganda, United Kingdom and USA. And he has not stopped as yet. He is presently working on his next trip abroad but has not disclosed when and where!

Abdulkader is one of the pioneers and senior members of our Jamat. He is very active, very punctual and never misses any of the Jamat's functions other than when he is not in town. Recently he had a right shoulder injury

(rotator cuff tear) for which he went through extensive non-surgical treatment for almost a year and then ultimately the surgery early this year. By the Grace of Allah (SWT) and with the continued prayers of all the well wishers, he is feeling much better now. His physical absence from the Jamat's functions and meetings was, no doubt, felt for quite some time while he was on medical treatment but he himself never lost sight of what was going on in the Jamat!

Abdulkader's dedication and love for the Jamat, his readiness to serve in any capacity, his continued support for any of the Jamat's projects and activities - be it monetary or otherwise, his respect for others, his unselfishness and impartiality and above all his invaluable advice and guidance at all times is a testimony which has earned Abdulkader the highest respect in the Jamat. We all pray for his continued good health and long and prosperous life.....Ameen ■



Heartiest Mubarak & Best Wishes To:

Nasserpuria Memon Jamat Canada

**ON THE OCCASION OF THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY
SINCE THE ADOPTION OF THE CONSTITUTION**

**&
PUBLICATION OF THE 5TH ISSUE OF:
*An Najm***

FROM: Abdulkader Yakub & Family

12 Brando Avenue, Markham, Ontario L3S 4H2

Tel: (905) 472 6605

Speak a Good Word

Submitted By: Brother Sabir Yakub

All praises are for Allah, the creator and sustainer of the universe, the All-knowing, All-wise. Peace and blessings be on the last prophet and messenger, who was sent as a mercy to the mankind and the Jinn. The best of the speech is the word of Allah and the best guidance is the guidance of the Prophet (SAW). As to what follows...

I would like to take this opportunity to share some thoughts on a subject that has a tremendous effect on our day to day lives. We engage in talking and communication, but do we realize the impact our words have on us, our families and our communities?

The purpose of this article is a reminder for us to reflect and think about how we use our faculty of speech. It is indeed a unique blessing Allah has bestowed on us.

In a hadith narrated by Imam Bukhari and Muslim, Abû Hurayrah (RA) relates that Allah's Messenger (peace be upon him) said: "Whoever believes in Allah and the Last Day should speak a good word or remain silent." [*Sahîh al-Bukhârî* and *Sahîh Muslim*]

The importance of this hadith:

This hadith discusses how our faith manifests itself and affects the way we relate to others.

This hadith establishes an important concept; **Faith manifests itself in the outer actions and deeds**. It is not sufficient for someone to declare belief in Allah and the last day, the actions have to attest to that belief.

Some people say; "our hearts are clean". Well, if the heart is clean then how come the actions and words cause problems and tensions in our relationships? A clean heart produces clean action.

Whoever believes in Allah and the Last Day...

This is a conditional sentence. Failing to fulfill the conditions is a sign that faith is incomplete and hence improvement is needed.

Belief in Allah entails the knowledge, understanding and conviction that whatever we do we seek Allah's pleasure. We expect rewards from Him.

Belief in the last day entails the conviction that the words we utter are being recorded by the two Angels and we are accountable for what we speak.

Speaking a good word or remaining silent:

This is an encouragement to speak what is good and beneficial; at the same time it is a warning, cautioning us to be careful in what we say, lest we say something that is harmful or false.

It is part of a Muslim's faith to speak the truth and to say things that bring about benefit to others. Allah says: "O you who believe! Fear Allah and speak a word that is right. He will set right for you your deeds and forgive you your sins. And whoever obeys Allah and His Messenger has certainly attained a great achievement." [*Sûrah al-Ahzâb* : 70-71]

Allah informs us in the Qur'an some of what constitutes good in our speech and benefits other people. He says: "No good is there in much of their private conversation, except for those who enjoin charity or that which is right, or bring reconciliation between people. And whoever does that seeking Allah's pleasure, then we shall grant him a great reward." [*Sûrah al-Nisâ'* : 114]

When we have nothing beneficial to say, silence is golden. Once, Mu`âdh bin. Jabal asked the Prophet (peace be upon him) to inform him of some good work that would admit him into Paradise and distance him from the Hellfire. The Prophet (peace be upon him) mentioned to him the virtues of many good deeds, then said: "Shall I inform you of the foundation of all of that?"

Mu`âdh said: "Certainly."

The Prophet (peace be upon him) took hold of his tongue and said: "Restrain yourself from this."

Mu`âdh then asked: "O Prophet of Allah! Are we held to task for the things that we say?"

The Prophet (peace be upon him) replied: “May your mother be bereaved of you, O Mu`adh! Does anything topple people headlong into the Hellfire save the harvests of their tongues?” [*Sunan al-Tirmidhî* and *Sunan Ibn Mâjah*]

We should avoid speaking ill of others. We should rather remain silent unless we are seeking justice for some wrong that has been perpetrated against us. Allah says: “Allah does not like that evil should be mentioned in public except by one who has been done injustice. And Allah is all-hearing, all-knowing.” [*Sûrah al-Nisâ'* : 148]

Our tongues are like double-edged swords. They can work for us or against us, both in this world and the Hereafter. We are accountable for what we say. Allah tells us: “He does not utter a statement except that there is an observer by him ready to record it.” [*Sûrah Qâf* : 18]. This is referring to the two angels sitting on our shoulders.

The Prophet (peace be upon him) said: “Indeed a servant will speak a word pleasing to Allah that he thinks to be insignificant, but because of it Allah raises him by many degrees. And indeed a servant will speak a word displeasing to Allah that he thinks to be insignificant, but because of it, He will consign him to the Hell-fire.” [*Sahîh al-Bukhârî*]

As a reminder for us all, we must be conscious of what we want to say and be aware of the effects of our words on us and the people around us. Is our tongue going to bring about love, affection and harmony within our families and friends? Or hurt?

The Prophet (peace be upon him) said: “A man might speak a word without thinking about its implications, but because of it, he will plunge into the Hellfire further than the distance between the east and west.” [*Sahîh al-Bukhârî* and *Sahîh Muslim*]

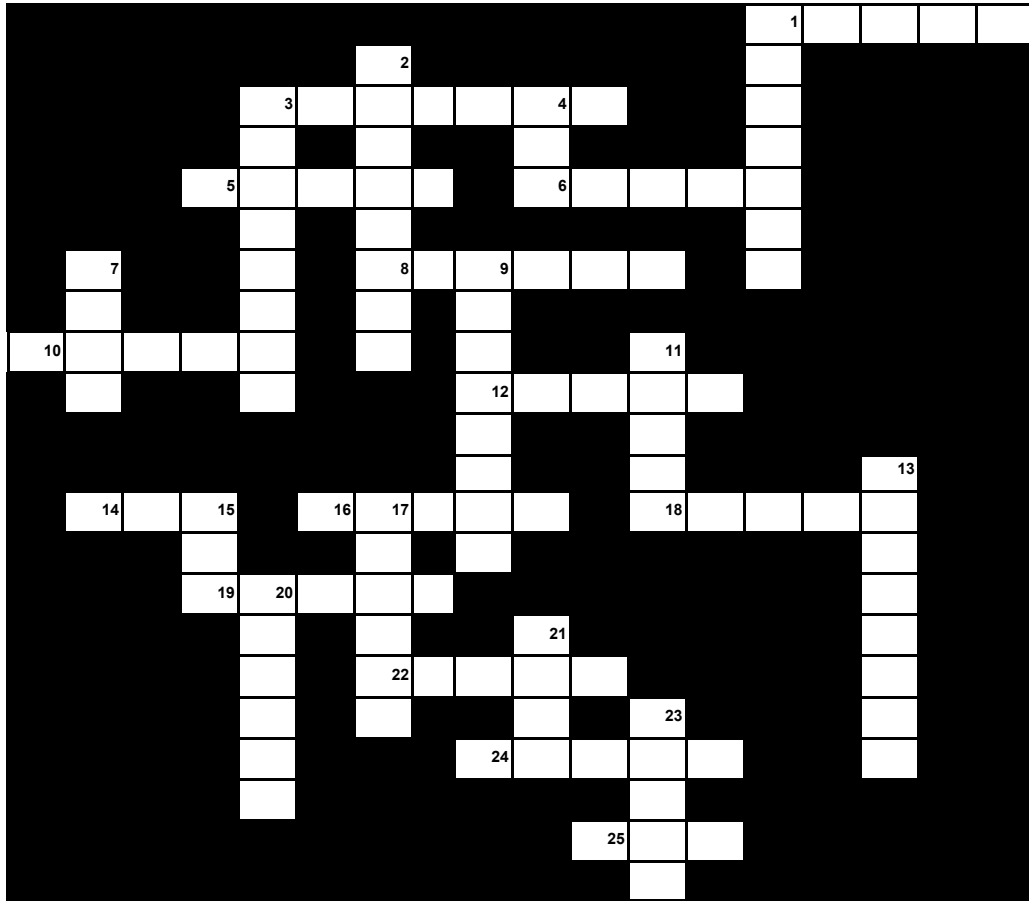
Al-Nawawî comments on the meaning of this hadith, saying: “This hadith encourages us to guard our tongues. A person who wants to speak should think upon what he is about to say before he utters it. If there is some benefit to it, he may speak it; otherwise he should refrain from doing so.”

Therefore, we must be vigilant not to speak falsehood. We must also think about what we are saying and the possible consequences of our words before we go ahead and speak ■



ISLAMIC CROSSWORD

Submitted By: Maliha and Madeeha Varvani



ACROSS:

- 1—He was the Fifth Generation of Prophet Adam(AS)
- 3—He was the Boy Prophet
- 5—He was appointed as the Prophet of Israel
- 6—Creator of the Universe
- 8—The Brave Boy
- 10—He was Merciful to the Animals & Fed His Food to them
- 12—The most Patient Man
- 14—The Builder of the Ark
- 16—He was the brother of Prophet Ismail (AS)
- 18—He was entrusted Allah's own She-Camel
- 19—He was given the Book of Zabur
- 22—The Pious Man
- 24. He was the Brother of Prophet Musa (AS)
- 25—He was sent to the People of Sodom who practiced homosexuality

DOWN:

- 1—Allah's Best Friend
- 2—He was the Uncle of Mariam(RA), the blessed virgin
- 3—He understood the Language of Birds
- 4—He was the First Baby to Talk
- 7—He was the First Man Created
- 9—The Seal of the Prophets
- 11—He was Swallowed by a Whale
- 13—He was among the Best and those who observed Patience
- 15—He was sent to the People of Aad
- 17—Prophet Musa(AS) married His daughter
- 20—He was the Son of the Uncle of Prophet Elias
- 21—The Son of Yukabid
- 23—He was thrown in the Well

Answers on Page 83

WITH BEST WISHES & COMPLIMENTS TO
NASSERPURIA MEMON JAMAT • CANADA
On The 10th Anniversary
Since the Adoption of the Constitution
&
Publication Of The 5th Issue Of *An Hajm*
From the Family OF
ABDULKADER HUSSEIN SALYANI
Mombasa, Kenya

With Compliments & Best Wishes To
NASSERPURIA MEMON JAMAT CANADA
On Publication Of The 5th Issue Of

An Hajm

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or Sahira Nathani 0732817917

Sporting Events Committee (SEC)

OUR MISSION

Organize activities that promote unity, connect with other communities, and enhance communication



MEMBER FEEDBACK

Feedback from over 80 Members shows Top 3 Interests in our Jamat are: Soccer, Basketball and Swimming

OUR ACTIVITIES

Member Feedback Drive - May 2010

Outdoor "Tele-Match" - August 2010

Friendly Soccer Games - September & October 2010

Carrom Tournament - November 2010

Weekly Soccer Practice - April to June 2011

Soccer Match against Dominion Voting Systems - June 2011

Memon Mastermind (With Education Committee) - July 2011

Family Fun in the Sun - July 2011

Friendly soccer game against Mississauga Stars - July 15, 2011

NMJ-Canada team soccer shirts printed - September 9, 2011

Competitive soccer game against Mississauga Stars for the Nathani Cup
Champion Trophy donated by the Nathani Family - September 9, 2011.

NMJ-Canada team won the trophy.

Table-tennis tournament - September 10, 2011

Friendly soccer game against ISL U18 - September 18, 2011

OUR TEAM

Habib Yakub - Coordinator

Nadeem Salyani

Nargis Yakub

Abubaker Goralwalla

*Success of This Team is in the Commitment and
Dedication of Each One of us.*

The Elected Members



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Moledina Varvani – President
Mohammed Sadik Admani – Vice President
Nadeem Abdulkader Salyani – Hon. Secretary
Zahra M Sadik Admani – Asst. Secretary
Sabir Yakub – Hon. Treasurer
Abubaker M Goralwalla – Asst. Treasurer
Mohamed Issak Warwani – Committee Member



TRUSTEE BOARD

Shabbir Bagha - Chairperson
Mohamed Shafi Yakub
Abdulhamid Hathyani
Mohammed Kadernani
Sherali Kasmani

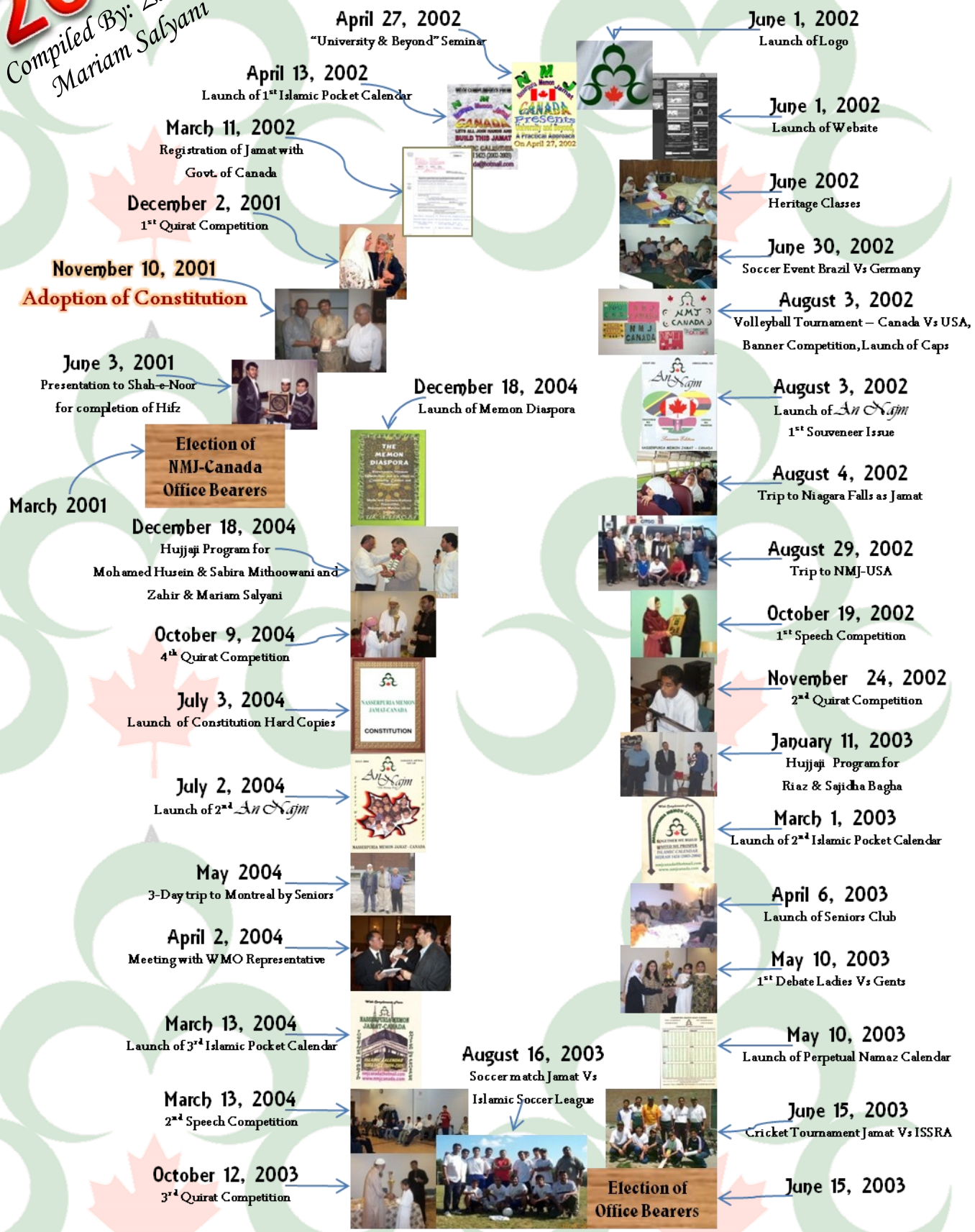


HON. AUDITOR

Mohamed Kassam Varvani

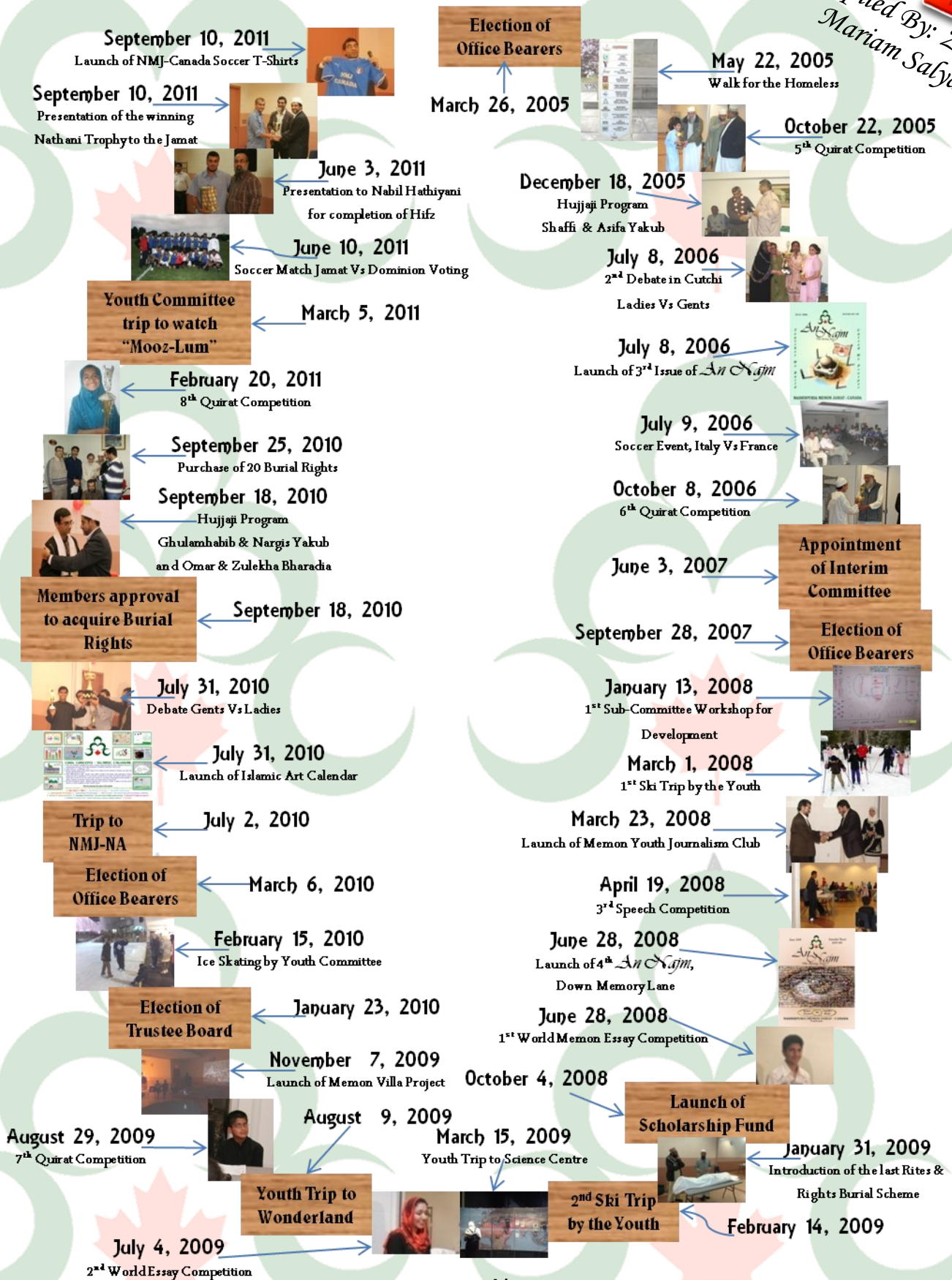
2001
 Compiled By: Zahir &
 Mariam Safyani

DECADE



DEFINER

2011
Compiled By: Zahir &
Mariam Sabyani



The Jamat over the Years



First Constitution Committee



...een your teeth and along the gum line. If it's not removed, cav-

Well... maybe they're more yet- lowish than pearly white...

Memon Jamaat enriches Toronto's diversity

(Toronto, ON) - As is internationally known, the beauty of Toronto remains that its multi-ethnicity is not only vast, it perpetually grows. On a very regular basis, people of cultures from all over the world select Toronto as their new home and add their cultural mark to the mosaic of Toronto.

The Nasserpuria Memon Jamat (Collective) of Canada is one such cultural group that has selected Toronto as its home and has firmly planted its roots here.

The Jamat originated in a village in Pakistan called Nasserpur, but many members relocated to Kenya and Tanzania in East Africa. Subsequently, in pursuit of better options for education and quality of life, Jamat members began migrating to North America, like Toronto.

Such youth training includes lessons on Islam, manners and the native Jamat language of Kutchi.

As the Jamat matures in Toronto it has become clear that various needs have to be addressed. To this end, committees have been set to attend to community concerns. Some of these include a Women's Committee and an Education Committee. In order to assure that diverse community voices are heard when making decisions, each committee must include at least one woman and one youth member. With such mechanisms, the community hopes to avoid mistakes that other communities have fallen prey to.

While the community is relatively new, they have already identified their ultimate goal: the establishment of a Mosque and community centre. With so much unmet academic and social needs, it is this young community's priority to bring their goals is simply a matter of time.

NMJ-Canada in the Paper





Launch of First Issue of An-Najm



Our Diaspora Authors



Cricket Scorecard

NAME	INNINGS	Runs	Wickets	Over	Rate	SR	W/O	W/M	W/D	W/B	W/L	W/NT	W/T	W/B	W/L	W/NT	W/T
ABDUL KADIR	1	25	0	10	2.5	125	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ABDUL RAHMAN	1	15	0	10	1.5	150	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ABDUL HAKIM	1	10	0	10	1.0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ABDUL KADIR	2	15	0	10	1.5	150	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ABDUL RAHMAN	2	10	0	10	1.0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ABDUL HAKIM	2	5	0	10	0.5	50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ABDUL KADIR	3	10	0	10	1.0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ABDUL RAHMAN	3	5	0	10	0.5	50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ABDUL HAKIM	3	5	0	10	0.5	50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ABDUL KADIR	4	10	0	10	1.0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ABDUL RAHMAN	4	5	0	10	0.5	50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ABDUL HAKIM	4	5	0	10	0.5	50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ABDUL KADIR	5	10	0	10	1.0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ABDUL RAHMAN	5	5	0	10	0.5	50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ABDUL HAKIM	5	5	0	10	0.5	50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ABDUL KADIR	6	10	0	10	1.0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ABDUL RAHMAN	6	5	0	10	0.5	50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ABDUL HAKIM	6	5	0	10	0.5	50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ABDUL KADIR	7	10	0	10	1.0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ABDUL RAHMAN	7	5	0	10	0.5	50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ABDUL HAKIM	7	5	0	10	0.5	50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ABDUL KADIR	8	10	0	10	1.0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ABDUL RAHMAN	8	5	0	10	0.5	50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ABDUL HAKIM	8	5	0	10	0.5	50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ABDUL KADIR	9	10	0	10	1.0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ABDUL RAHMAN	9	5	0	10	0.5	50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ABDUL HAKIM	9	5	0	10	0.5	50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ABDUL KADIR	10	10	0	10	1.0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ABDUL RAHMAN	10	5	0	10	0.5	50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ABDUL HAKIM	10	5	0	10	0.5	50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

NMJC Cricket Scorecard



2.3.2000



Launch of Second Issue of *Al-Najm*

Launch of Third Issue of *Al-Najm*

Trip to NMJ-USA

Acquiring of Burial Rights



The People behind the Scenes



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Message from The Trustee Board

Brother Shabbir Bagha - Chairman

Praise be to Allah, Lord of the Worlds and Peace Be upon His Messenger, Muhammad (SAW). On the occasion of the tenth anniversary of our Jamat's constitution here in Canada, I feel greatly honoured and privileged to present a congratulatory message and a brief report, on behalf of our Trustee Board, to the members of NMJ-Canada.

I would first like to begin by paying a tribute to the founding members and leaders of our community who with their far-sighted vision, commitment and zeal for the community decided to put Nasserpurians on the map of Canada. This vision has given us the opportunity to keep our uniquely Islamic Nasserpurian identity alive and thriving. I need not underscore the pain, the anguish and the mental stress which they endured in their efforts to unite our Jamat. Without their "tan, man nne dhan jo bhog", we may perhaps have not been able to celebrate our tenth anniversary. To them, deep from the bottom of my heart, I would like to say "Jazaak-Allah kheir and Asante Saanaa".

On January 16, 2010, brothers Abdulhamid Hathyani, Shafi Yakub, Muhammad Kadernani, Sherali Kasmani and I were assigned custody of the Jamats' immovable properties when we were elected as members of the Trustee Board in accordance with the requirements of the revised constitution. Besides other pertinent matters which needed to be addressed in our constitution, the need to amend it became more pressing after a property had been identified in late 2009 by the then Development Committee, headed by Br. Zulfikar Hathyani.

The model pursued by the Development Committee was ideal. It had the potential of further development that would have enabled our members purchase their own homes and more important give our Jamat the tangible recognition in terms of having its own self sustaining centre or "paanjo Memon Villa". A lot of planning and endeavour went into formulating this model. To prepare our Jamat for such a historic acquisition, our constitution had to be modified to include the establishment of the Trustee Board with a mandate to safeguard the assets of the Jamat. The continuity of such a vision is paramount if we are to realize our potential as a Jamat. While the specific project could not be realized at the time, I am happy to report that we have made some inroads in line with the vision and objectives of the aforementioned Development Committee.

Shortly after the Trustee Board's appointment, Allah (SWT) presented our community with an opportunity that could simply not be ignored. The Sunni Muslim Community headed by the Islamic Society of Toronto together with the Shia Muslim Community purchased a piece of land to be used as a graveyard for Muslims only. The advantage derived from this deal was that it came at a very reasonable price. Equally important is the fact that this whole project will be handled, Inshallah, according to our Islamic Sharia. It was very gratifying to note that our Jamat did not hesitate to grab this opportunity and on September 18, 2010 our members unanimously approved the purchase of 20 burial rites. Alhamdulillah, on September 25, 2010 the history records of NMJ-Canada were re-written when the cheque for the burial rites was handed to the Islamic Society of Toronto. For the first time since its inception, NMJ-Canada had something for its members...their final resting place! The Trustee Board has been instrumental in giving the Executive Committee support in acquiring these burial rites. The Trustee Board and the Executive will, Inshallah, soon provide our members with a detailed plan on the management and functioning of this project.

While NMJ-Canada does not have any sizeable tangible assets to speak of, the Trustee Board, being the custodian of the Jamat's assets, strongly feels that our Jamat has this invaluable or priceless Goodwill which is our members. Our membership is our life line. The varying skills that our members possess and the deep talent that runs through them only needs to be harnessed and exploited to the fullest extent and NMJ-Canada will be the source of inspiration to the rest of our sister NMJ bodies. We do not have to be big in numbers to achieve our goals and objectives. We have to have the talent, the ideals and the philosophies that can be translated into concrete and identifiable results that will not only unite and fortify our Jamat, but will also propel us to the highest pedestals of success.

However this achievement can only be possible through the concerted and relentless efforts of not only a visionary leadership but an active and committed membership too. Having spent ten years in building our base, we must now look into the future and see how we can secure it for our generations to come, Inshallah. We have no choice but to move forward. It is time. It is right. It is fair.

Before I conclude, I would like to thank all my members for their continued support and assistance in helping me discharge my responsibility from my unenviable position as Chairman of the Trustee Board. Without their support, I would not have been able to effectively perform my duties.

Finally, it is my fervent prayer to Allah (SWT) to give our Jamat and our entire NMJ fraternity the guidance to keep our NMJ torch burning with dignity and pride. Long live NMJ-Canada. Long live Nasserpurians all over the world. Ameen ■

THE VIEWS OF OUR LEADERS



Br. Abdulhamid
Hathyani
2001-2005



Br. Mohamed Zahir
Salyani
2005-2007



Br. Mohamed Bashir
Hathyani
June 2007-September 2007



Br. Zulfikar
Hathyani
2007-2010



Br. Moledina
Varvani
2010-To Date



You were the first elected President of NMJ-Canada in 2001. At that time, did you think Jamat was important and why.

As the first official President, I had seen a big need for a Jamat, long before it was formed. I remember having led a group back in the early 90's to Minnesota as "Jamatilas" on a sporting mission with other "Jamatilas". Although Canada has one of the best support systems in place, the culture here can be very powerful and influential and that is where the need for the Jamat important to establish a strong Jamat. This is where we differ from other Muslim organizations because we are all somehow related to each other. Therefore our activities need to reflect that and not just limited to dinners and lectures which are available in abundance in Toronto.



According to you, what is Jamat and how important do you think Jamat is.

Jamat is our extended family that shares the same language, culture and values which is really needed for our children to know our background, our history and to maintain our Kutchi language. We also need a Jamat to increase the bond amongst each other and infect in this community, Jamat keeps us united.



As an elder, please explain, how significant is having a Jamat.

Bismillahi rahmaane raheem. It is very important to have a Jamat. The Jamat is like a big family that takes care of its children and helps them grow, within which there are always ups and downs but the benefits are more. It is important for the elders and leaders to keep the Jamat united, anticipate future problems and address them now, so it is easy for us to resolve the issues later on.



When you first came to Canada, did you think having a Jamat in Canada was important and what are your thoughts now, has that changed.

Absolutely, without a doubt in my mind. Having grown up in a Jamat (Memonvilla), even though I did not school at Memonvilla some of the best friendship's, social circle and sporting activities I had were with Memons and at Memonvilla. The spirit of Jamat was inculcated in me right from my early years and I enjoyed every aspect of it. I therefore find it every essential for the upbringing of my kids and would like them to equally if not more enjoy spirit and experience of the Jamat.

I still feel the same and Alhamdulillah, it has been 8 years and I am seeing the same spirit being inculcated in my kids as they are always thrilled and excited being around their fellow Memons. I will never forget the day when my daughter, Madeeha, who was 3 yrs then, while on our way to Pleasant View Community Center inquired " what time will we reach Villa". In her mind you meet your extended family in Villa. May Allah (SWT) continue to instill the love for the Jamat in their hearts, Ameen.



In the previous Executive Committee, you were the Hon. Secretary, after which you became the next President. How did you deal with that change?

It was my pleasure serving the Jamat as the Hon. Secretary and as the President. I had never worked in the Jamat prior to becoming a Secretary, so that was a huge challenge for me, but Alhamdulillah, I learnt quite a bit, even when I got the opportunity to serve as President, that was a major leap. I realized what responsibility really meant and I learnt how to handle things calmly and humbly, and speak less, listen more. I got a lot of advice from our elders.



When you first realized that the President's position is not being filled, and an Interim Committee is to take over, what were your thoughts at that time.

First I must say I was disappointed that no one was ready to take over the leadership and work for the Jamat. We had approached a few individuals but they turned down our request. This is our Jamat and if we do not work for it who will. The Jamat was in a state of "ICU" as a member put it. I thought about the situation and said to myself, if something is not done, this Jamat could break and so, as an elder I approached the other elders and Alhamdulillah, we had a good understanding of the situation and decided that we, as elders had to step in and fulfill our responsibility. Hence the four of us, Abdulkader Yakub, Abdulrahim Goralwalla, Amir Sokwalla and myself were appointed as the Interim Body, and I was later requested by them to be the Ameer of the Jamat.



You were approached by the Interim Committee to become the President, what was your reaction at that time.

I felt very honored that the elders of the Jamat thought I was worthy to take up this position. When they approached me, I had no intention of taking up the position, but I could not turn them down. That is one thing I have been trained to do and that is to respect the elders. For that reason I had no choice but to accept.

Please elaborate the progress the Jamat has made in the past 10 years.



In my opinion the progress this Jamat has made is its sheer existence even after 10 years of challenges it has gone through and the challenges it continues to face in this part of the world, pertaining to logistics, weather and social issues. It is always a big challenge in doing anything let alone forming a Jamat when the numbers are few and for this we have to sincerely appreciate all those involved in the formation of the Jamat in Canada right from its inception, may Allah (SWT) give them all Jaza-e Kher, Ameen. It is my dua to Allah (SWT) to increase the love for one another amongst us so that the purpose of the existence of the Jamat is realized to its fullest potential, Ameen.

What are the achievements made by the Jamat in the past 10 years?



There have been lots of achievements in the past ten years. Every new initiative, every program has been an achievement. There are too many to mention here and I am sure these have been mentioned elsewhere.

As the First President, what difficulties did you face and how did you overcome them.



This Jamat has gone through an extremely rough initial phase, the effects of which are still being felt. In order to attract Allah's help, as a leader, one had to treat all with respect and fairness. At one time we were hanging by the thread, and I must commend the four elders of the Jamat namely Kursumbai Noorani, Mohamed Bashir Hathiyani, Khaironbai Hathiyani and Zubeidabai Yakub for their unwavering support without which we may not be celebrating the ten years at this time. We had to restart from scratch and penniless with challenges being imposed our way. I must commend my committee of Ghulamhabib Yakub, Zahir Salyani, Mohamed Kadernani and later joined by Amir Sokwalla, who worked tirelessly during these unsettling and difficult times. Alhamdulillah, the fruits of that hard work can be seen today with these 10 year celebrations.

The other challenge was what type of Jamat were we going to establish? Were we going to be another "dinner club" or a fully fledged religious-socio-cultural organization that was futuristic in thought and progressive in action. Our aim was to build a strong foundation based on the Islamic principles of unity, equality, respect and transparency and commitment to our membership. There were strong currents at that time to see the Jamat fail, but Alhamdulillah, I am thankful to Allah (SWT) for letting us play that important role in the establishment of our Jamat.

HEARTIEST MUBARAK & BEST WISHES TO NASSERPURIA MEMON JAMAT CANADA

On The 10th Anniversary
since the Adoption of the Constitution
&
Publication Of The 5th Issue Of

An Najm

FROM

HATHIYANI FAMILY

Another big challenge was to build a framework that would not only serve our members but the community at large, eventually leading us to a Masjid and Community Centre (Memon Villa) of our own. Through consultations, research and available expertise, we comprehended local challenges and circumstances we could potentially face in the future and Alhamdulillah, for the first time developed a structure that could address the unique needs of our community. We placed special focus on our elders and formed a seniors group; our youth by establishing a youth portfolio; and our women - a very productive but unrecognized force in our Jamat, with a separate and independent ladies committee. Other committees were formed to focus on important issues that included religious, educational, culture and heritage, welfare, medical, immigrant, burial and other needs of our community. Development of a website, and the establishment of a gathering place for our Jamat at either no or minimum cost were some of the strategies in which a lot of "tan, man ane dhan" had gone into developing them. I soon realized that to be effective and true to myself, the Jamat's interest had to come first before anybody else, and for that I had to pay a big price with some of my relations. I learnt that we do not need to be scared of differences as those could be transformed into a powerful force to be creative, helping us to fashion a new sense of cooperation and coherence in our Jamat and to do so required intensive efforts to build cultural habits that would see diversity as an opportunity rather than a burden. It was important for us to build a culture based on our Islamic principles. We had gone through a rough phase and so we embarked on a concerted effort to emphasize our positive values; that our functions were devoid of gossip; that we respected our elders, our leaders and our guests. That each one of our members was important and treated equally, that we were inclusive in our decision making and gave credit where it was due leaving our differences aside. We were conscious that these were signs of good governance and values that required hard work to develop.

Another big challenge was to get ourselves registered and be recognized as a non-profit and a charitable organization. That meant working on a constitution that would reflect our traditional values but was also futuristic in its vision. After long nights and tireless hours our three member committee comprising of Abdulkader Yakub, Abdulrahim Goralwalla and myself, presented a draft constitution which was later adopted by the Jamat at the first sitting with an overwhelming majority. This was followed by our registration as a non-profit organization that ushered in a new era and coming of age for our Jamat; that we were now Alhamdulillah, a legitimate and an officially recognized body. All praise is only for Allah (SWT) for having made this possible.



As a leader of the Interim Committee, all consisting of Seniors, what hurdles did you come across?

Yes we are seniors, but in our group we had a lot of experience and wisdom. First we had to understand the situation and running of the Jamat. Alhamdulillah we took full support and cooperation of the past leaders and continued with the daily activities of the Jamat. I must thank Abdulhamid Hathyani and Mohamed Zahir Salyani for their insights, cooperation and support during this time.



Organizing events is not an easy task. How did you manage that?

Alhamdulillah, I had a very passionate and hard working Executive team as well as the Sub-Committees who worked with zeal and enthusiasm.

Cont'd on Page 53

*On the authority of Anas bin Malik, the servant
of the messenger of Allah, that the prophet said :*

**"None of you [truly] believes until he
wishes for his brother what he wishes
for himself."**

Related by Bukhari and Muslim



The New Age

Submitted By: Aadil Nathani

Facebook, Twitter, Instant Messaging, Skype, Texting, Cell Phones, Video Chats, YouTube, even the internet were scarce and rare not too long ago. They were non-existent. Life was plain and simple. Now-a-days, many of us cannot live without those aforementioned things. They are a part of life. Social media and cellular devices have immensely impacted life.

Let us start off with social media in general. It is now the gate-way to communication. Facebook, Twitter, Skype and MSN are 4 major mediums of social media. As great as the inventions may be, they have pros and cons. Some ups to the age of social media is how easily we can communicate with people and how we can see what our family and friends are up to through messages, pictures or updates that they post. But it has many downsides to it, the major one being privacy. There have been many cases where social media have led to a total violation of one's privacy? Think about it, all your information, everything you ever say or do and any of your pictures are virtually accessible at the fingertips of any human on earth. What is so private about that? Your life is out in the open. Social media is an amazing creation, if used correctly and if we know how to keep ourselves safe on the net.

Next I would like to draw a little attention to our best friends; you know those things we cannot leave the house without and even in the house we cannot let them be. We take them everywhere, always with us. Yes I am talking about our little cell phones. Cell phones have had such an impact on society that I do not know what would happen if they suddenly disappeared. We can no longer live without cell phones. Even a weak signal gets us all upset. Imagine 15 or even 10 years ago, cell phones were for the most part restricted towards business men and women. Now all we do is text, 24/7. We could all be eating dinner together or spending time together but everyone will just be going off on their own gadget talking to others. Cell phones can be so useful, a great way to keep in touch with some people and let others know if you are running late or what not, but we have to learn how to use it wisely and not to overuse them.

We are living in a new age; the age of technology. Despite the hardships and issues that arise with the use of cell phones or social media, we just cannot seem to let them go. We cannot live without them. After living in about a decade or two in the era of technology, it is impossible for the world to function without them. Technology and communication will only grow and all we can really do is live with it and accept the fact that they are integrated in our lives.

I pray to Allah (SWT) to guide all humanity on the right path in this ever growing technological world, Ameen ■



OXYMORONS

Submitted By: Sister Sameera Salyani

What do you mean??

Notice anything strange about the group of words below?? It makes some sort of sense, yet it's riddled with contradictions. These are **oxymorons**.

Pretty Ugly	Open Secret
Seriously Funny	Clearly Confused
Plastic Glasses	Working Holiday
Act Naturally	Exact Estimate
Original Copies	Found Missing

CONGRATULATIONS & BEST WISHES TO:

NASSERPURIA MEMON JAMAT CANADA

ON ITS 10TH ANNIVERSARY
SINCE THE ADOPTION OF THE CONSTITUTION

&
PUBLICATION OF THE 5TH ISSUE OF
An Najm

FROM
FAMILY OF:

Late Abdulla Adam Admani

Heartiest Congratulations And Best Wishes To

NASSERPURIA MEMON JAMAT - CANADA

On The Occasion Of The 10th Anniversary

Since the Adoption of the Constitution

From The Family Of:

Late Abdulkader
Haji Khamisa Bagha

Shabbir Bagha – Cerified General Accountant

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On the other hand, what have been your best moments as a President and in general.

Every moment was an experience for me. I learnt from the young and appreciated the advice of our elders. Every success of our member and child is a proud moment for me because it reflects the success of our Jamat. Although, we were a new Jamat in its infancy, there were many firsts in the history of Nasserpuria all over. The heritage, culture and language classes for our children; “University and Beyond” a career focused seminar to guide our youth; the Diaspora that continues to receive international acclaim. Our volleyball and football teams came together. We had our first cricket team win against the West Indian test cricketer Larry Gomes’ team. A fulfilling moment was to see our seniors group meet consistently and make a historical trip to Montreal. Likewise, A fine moment was to see the whole Jamat collectively go to Niagara Falls in buses like one big family. An excellent moment was to also to see our children compete in the Qira’at, Debate, Speech and Quiz competitions, and the "Dhuniya Chaar Dinji Ai" and "Agya Wadho" Kutchi plays, were all the firsts that have truly been most memorable. It was a great moment when *An Nigm* was launched, our website fully developed and functional, our constitution adopted, our Jamat registered and recognized in a local paper on our activities and I can recall and continue for long but space does not allow me to do that. There have been many times I have felt elated, after my term as the President however I will highlight just a few. It was truly a visionary moment to see the Development Committee come up with a Vision 20/20 concept that later led us to the brink of acquiring a Community Centre, a Masjid along with housing for our members. It was “Memon Villa” in the making. Such things take a lot of thought, time and effort to develop and it is unfortunate this could not develop further. Another important issue was the focus on our youth, by encouraging them to further their education through scholarships, play a leadership role by organizing events such as the ski trip outside Toronto, involving them in charitable acts such as volunteering at the “soup kitchen” and launching for the first time our Youth Journalism Club where our own children became reporters. It was fulfilling to note that our focus was not just our youth locally but worldwide with the launch of the Nasserpuria International essay competition. It has also been good to see members come back to the Jamat. The funeral and burial project currently underway is another truly important milestone that will not only add value to the importance of the Jamat but will bring us closer as a familial entity. May Allah (SWT) bless all those who have worked hard in every way possible for the Jamat, Ameen!

What was your vision for the Jamat and has that been achieved.

Well as the President, my vision was to have our own centre. Previously, we were getting the Pleasant View Community Centre at no charge, but there came a time when fees were introduced and the availability was not frequent. Having realized that we really need our own place, we formed a Development Committee and they came up with some nice locations, but unfortunately it did not materialize.

Where do you see the Jamat in the next 10 years.

Inshallah, I hope to see a Masjid, Community Centre and a Mussafir Khanna for our Jamat and a place where we seniors could come and spend some time together and where our children come to play and study as a family. A place where we can spread our *deen* and be comfortable in practicing our culture. I would like to see our Jamat members understand each other better and cooperate for future progress.

This current committee is consisting of 7 members as compared to all previous ones, which had 5. How has that been advantageous.

It would be difficult to compare as I was not part of the 5 member committee for long. However if I could put a different dimension to this question, it has provided an opportunity to our younger members to be part of the team and Alhamdulillah, we are very fortunate to have three youngsters who have come forward to serve the Jamat, one of them is still doing her undergraduate studies. By no means is this a small achievement for Jamat to have youngster stepping forward to serve especially here in North America, where they have numerous choices of activities to preoccupy themselves with. In turn this has given the rest of us the opportunity to learn from them and experience their zeal and enthusiasm to serve the Jamat.

If you had to re-do your term, what changes would you make.

I would have the same vision with a stronger and more concrete ground work. I would like to bring some changes in our constitution and our membership form as well. In addition, I would strengthen and focus more on the Ladies Committee. Mashallah our Ladies have talent but it has not been brought out as yet.

What would you do different if you became the President again and Would you be willing to be part of a Sub-Committee. If so, which one and why.

I would not do anything different because my focus was on youth & women. I would also continue with the development of establishing a solid base for our Jamat. In fact, I would give more emphasis to these two important items, our youth & women and how we can establish ourselves with a permanent place. Alhamdulillah I have been part of various committees from the inception of the Jamat. If you want to serve the Jamat it is not necessary that you have to be part of a committee. I am always available to serve the Jamat in whatever capacity. It is for Allah’s sake and not for anyone.



What is the role of Sub-Committees and how significant are they in helping run the Jamat.

The sub-Committees play a vital role in the running of any organization more so in our Jamat as we are an "extended family". Certain essential activities and functionality of the Jamat need to be conducted by focused groups so as to ensure that these activity and functionality are well coordinated and executed. What is also more important is that the heads of these Sub-Committees sit in extended Executive Committee so as to Sync and blend with the overall objectives of the Executive Committee.



What was your major task as a leader of this committee?

We had to make sure that the Jamat's activities continued whilst we had to convince some members to take over the running of the Jamat. This was a difficult task as we as elders approached a few people without much luck. Finally, we received positive responses from Zulfikar Hathiyanani to take the lead with guidance from Zubeir Bagha and support from Kassam Varvani, Sidik Noorani and Zainab Salyani. Alhamdulillah, they did not let us down and accepted our request in serving the Jamat.



What were your goals at the beginning of your term and how far are you at achieving them.

The executive committee came up with the following goals after sitting a few sessions and we all thoroughly believe in them.

1. Enhancement of UNITY and community development
2. Outreaching to other communities and Organizations
3. Enhancement of services and communication to Members.

Alhamdulillah, it gives me immense pleasure and satisfaction in seeing members coming back to the Jamat and it is my Dua to Allah (SWT) to continue Enhancing our UNITY and give us the wisdom in realizing so, Ameen. Alhamdulillah we have continued to involve the Youth in all Jamat activities, so as to provide them with the platform for personal and community development. You might have noticed that we have started having them as our MC's for all functions and their involvement in organizing and conducting independent and team activities. Alhamdulillah it was a pleasure last year to join our NMJNA members in their summerfest and more pleasure to have them amongst us in our summerfest. Inshallah, this bond of brotherhood with the closest Jamat to us, will strengthen and benefit members of both Jamats. We are also very pleased to share cordial relationship and an increase in communication with the other Nasserpuria Jamats, namely Mombasa, Nairobi and UK. Alhamdulillah with the help of Allah (SWT) and the support of the Trustee Board, Community Service Committee and all Members of the Jamat we have acquired 20 Burial Rights within the Toronto Muslim Cemetery Corporation. This will Inshallah be the first of the many steps the Jamat will take to provide essential services to its members as the Jamat continues to enjoy Organic and Immigration growth.



What sources of finance did you rely on, to fund for the events held during your term.

The Jamat started penniless, so the understanding was that all activities and functions should not be a burden, but rather they should bring in revenue for the Jamat. There was also an understanding that most of our Jamat functions should have no charge, so all members could participate. That meant that the executive had to be creative in raising funds, keep the expenses low and not spend from the Jamat's kitty. I must mention and appreciate the unsung heroes of our Jamat, our women. Just to give one example; to cut down on expenses they would go to the extent of manually cleaning and saving foil trays to be re-used at the next function. There were many occasions where the committee had to dig deep into their pockets to offset the costs. Our members also donated generously when approached and without charging for most functions, we managed to add surpluses to our bank account year after year. Our Jamat, Alhamdulillah has been built through hard work and lot of sweat. May Allah (SWT) bless all those who have contributed in this *duniya* and the *akhera*, Ameen.



What kind of difficulties did you face in obtaining finance? For the various activities that were held, what was your source of income?

Yes it was a challenge, but my committee and I, would personally appeal to members even to the extent of getting outside sponsorship for some of our activities. Our members have a big heart and when approached personally with respect I never got a negative response. We used various ways of funding our programs and tried to ensure that no member of the Jamat was charged to attend any programs while at the same time the Jamat did not incur a loss.



Any words of wisdom you have for our youth, our future.

Before I share any words with the youth it is important for our adults to realize that the youth are our future and try as much as we can to involve them in our planning, decision making and implementing Jamat activities. If we do not make our Jamat value added for our children and our youth, I am afraid we could see diminishing involvement and lack of interest from them defeating the very purpose we have of the Jamat. To the youth, I must say that most of your parents came here for your future, education and success. Their strength as well as your forefathers have been our religion, culture and familial ties and the Jamat is trying hard to maintain those values. It is for you to partake and be proactive to make this Jamat a better community and a better extended family. A humble request therefore is to please not let yourself, your parents and your extended family down. May Allah (SWT) guard us, guide us and forgive us all our shortcomings and accept all the efforts however minute they may have been, Ameen! I personally seek forgiveness from Allah (SWT) and from every one of you if I have wronged anyone in any way, Jazakallah-u-khairan

What advice would you give to our future Presidents? Any other comments you would like to share with the members



My advice to the future President would be to take guidance from the elders of the Jamat. Be fair and just to everyone do not look at the family or position he or she holds.

My humble request to members is please attend and participate in functions and activities especially for your children. Do not look at who the President is or Executive member, keep your personal differences aside. I would also like to encourage the members and especially the youth, to take up positions in the Jamat. It may not be easy, but it is not difficult either. Always keep in mind WHAT CAN I DO FOR THE JAMAT and not WHAT CAN JAMAT DO FOR ME. Jazakallah

What advice would you give to the younger generation



We have to instill in the young members the importance of Jamat as they have not grown or seen the benefits from it. The leaders have to create that "maahol" and environment to attract all. We need to involve them more and give them more responsibilities. For the leaders I would like to stress that Jamat is a trust, and we have to treat it accordingly. Tomorrow we are answerable to Allah (SWT) for the "Amanah," the trust and responsibility he has given us. Our leaders should respect our elders and our past leaders who have sacrificed a lot. During the Interim period, we approached Past Presidents and other members and continuously took their advice and help. Nobody is perfect and we may not be experts at everything, so we should also take advice from those who have the experience or knowledge. Mashallah, we have a lot of educated and experienced men and women in our Jamat. The Jamat is "mai baap" and therefore we cannot say I will listen to this child and ignore the other. My advice is to work together collectively as one big family for the betterment of each member and for future generations. "Life is all about give and take. Give more than you take." May Allah (SWT) give Jaza-e-khair to all those who have served our Jamat in every capacity official or non official, past, present and those who will serve the Jamat in the future, Ameen. I would like to congratulate all members of the Jamat on this occasion of ten years celebration. Mubarkis to all

What message would you give to anyone having thoughts of becoming the President of NMJ- Canada.



It is a noble cause. Be truthful to Allah (SWT) and to yourself and He will help you. If you are not fair and try to play politics than you will get into trouble. I pray to Allah (SWT) to protect our Jamat for the years to come. Let not go to waste, the sacrifices made by our elders and everyone that has served the Jamat during hard times. Jazakallah

Any advice you would like to share with our upcoming leaders.



To strive in upholding the UNITY of the Jamat. As we learn from the teachings of our beloved Prophet (SWA), Abu Musa (May Allah be pleased with him) reported: Messenger of Allah (PBUH) said, "The relationship of the believer with another believer is like (the bricks of) a building, each strengthens the other." He (PBUH) illustrated this by interlacing the fingers of both his hands.[Al-Bukhari and Muslim]■

**With Compliments & Best Wishes To
NASSERPURIA MEMON JAMAT CANADA**

IN THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY

Since the adoption of the Constitution

&

PUBLICATION OF THE 5TH ISSUE OF

An Najm

FROM THE FAMILIES OF

LATE MOHAMED YUSUF SALYANI

&

LATE BAHA-UL-HAQ

OUR CHILDHOOD IN KENYA - SO TRUE

Submitted By: Brother Abdulkader Yakub

To the wonderful kids who were born in Kenya and survived the '30s, '40s, '50s, '60s.....

First, we survived being born to mothers, some of whose husbands smoked heavily while they carried us. They took aspirin, ate whatever food was put on the table, and did not get tested for diabetes. They were mothers who did not check their blood pressure every few minutes!

Then after that trauma, our baby cots (cribs) and bassinets were covered with bright coloured lead-based paints. We were put in prams and sent out with "ayahs" to meet other children with "ayahs", whilst our parents were busy doing other things.

We had no childproof lids on medicine bottles, doors or cabinets. And when we rode our bikes we had no helmets, not to mention the risks we took hitchhiking or going out on our own. As children, we would ride in cars with no seat belts or airbags. We even sat on each other's laps, including the driver's! Riding in the back of a station wagon on a warm day was always a special treat.

We shared one soft drink with four friends, from one bottle and no one actually died from this. We would share a "dosa" and dip a "chapatti" into someone else's plate of curry without batting an eyelid. We ate jam sandwiches or pickle on bread and "chapattis"; raw mangoes with salt and red chillies that set our teeth on edge; and drank orange squash with lots of sugar and water in it. And we were OK.

We ate at roadside stalls, drank water from tender coconuts ('madaaf'), ate everything that was supposedly bad for us, from 'mogo' and 'makai' to "bhel puri" to "bhajias" and "samosas" to potatoes packed with red chillies, but we were not overweight because we were always outside playing!

We would leave home in the morning and play all day during the holidays; we were never ever bored and we were allowed freedom all day as long as we were back when the streetlights came on or when our parents told us to do so. No one was able to reach us all day by cell phone or phone. And we were OK.

We would spend hours making paper kites, building things out of scraps with old pram wheels or cycle rims, inventing our own games, playing traditional games like hide and seek, kick the can and rounders. Playing with marbles was our favourite pastime. We would ride old cycles and then ride down the hill, only to find out we forgot the brakes. After running into the bushes a few times, we learned to solve the problem. We swam with an inflated tube which we got from somebody who was replacing their car tires. We ran barefoot without thinking about it; if we got cut we used tincture of iodine which made us jump! We did not wash our hands ten times a day. And we were OK.

We did not have Play Stations, Nintendo's and X-boxes. No video games at all, no 99 channels on cable, no DVD movies, no surround sound, no cell phones, no personal computers, no I-Pods, no internet or internet chat rooms, no TV....Period.

We did not have parents who said things like "what would you like for breakfast, lunch or dinner". We ate what was put in front of us, and best of all, there was never any leftovers. We polished the lot! We had friends, great friends, whose parents we called Uncle and Aunty, and we went outside and found them.

We fell out of trees numerous times, got cut, broke bones and teeth, and there were no compensation claims from these accidents. The fruits lying on the ground that we shook from the tree above, we ate them without ever washing them first. And we were OK.

We took bath using a bucket and mug and used Lifebuoy soap. We did not know what conditioners meant. We made up games with sticks and tennis balls. We rode cycles everywhere with a friend who sat on the carrier or across the bar to school or the pictures, not cinema. Or we walked to a friend's house and knocked on the door or rang the bell or just walked in and talked to them!

Not everyone made it into the teams we wanted to. Those who did not had to learn to deal with the disappointment. Imagine that! The idea of a parent bailing us out if we broke the law was unheard of. They actually sided with the law! We had freedom, failure, success and responsibility; and we learned ourselves how to deal with it all!!

This is the generation which has produced some of the best adventurers, risk takers, problem solvers and inventors ever. The past 50 years or so have been an explosion of innovation and new ideas in every aspect of our lives.

Those were the good old days for those of us who, with the blessings of Allah (SWT), have had the luck and good fortune to grow up as kids in Kenya before the lawyers and the governments regulated our lives; ostensibly for our own good, that changed the whole spectrum of our future. And that future, again with the blessings of Allah (SWT), was to be in Canada, the vast land of opportunities in abundance ■

WISDOM OF THE AGES

Submitted by: Sister Sameera Salyani

Follow the instructions carefully, ONE LINE AT A TIME. Be sure to do exactly what it says before moving to the next instruction. You can keep track of your answers by typing them into the white spaces provided beside each instruction. Sharpen your pencils -- some of this math cannot be done in your head probably!

- 1) Write down the number of the month you were born
- 2) Multiply it by 4
- 3) Add 13
- 4) Multiply the result by 25
- 5) Subtract 200
- 6) Add the day of the month on which you were born
- 7) Multiply by 2
- 8) Subtract 40
- 9) Multiply the result by 50
- 10) Add the last two digits of the year of your birth
- 11) Finally, subtract 10,500

IS YOUR ANSWER?? YOUR BIRTH MONTH, DAY AND THE LAST TWO DIGITS OF THE YEAR YOU WERE BORN

THANKS AND APPRECIATION

The Editorial Board of NMJ-CANADA wishes to express their gratitude to: Mohamed Zahir Salyani, Abubaker Goralwalla, Nadeem Salyani, Irum Macchi and Maliha Varvani for their contributions towards the Cover Design.

AL-QADR (DESTINY)

Submitted By: Sister Azba Hathiyani

“Who controls our lives? Why do we do things that we do? If Allah already knows everything that is going to happen, then why did He create the universe and this world to begin with? Are our decisions really our decisions?”

These are only a few of the questions we commonly ask ourselves. However, before proceeding any further, I will begin with *Verse 22 of Surah 57, Al-Hadid*, which states: “No calamity befalls on the earth or in yourselves but is inscribed in the Book of Decrees – (Al-Lawh Al Mahfooz) before we bring it into existence. Verily, that is easy for Allah.”

In the linguistic meaning, Al-Qadr refers to “setting, commanding, executing, and encompassing in due and precise proportions.” Islamically, it means “the ability of Allah.” As you may already know, Al-Qadr is one of the 7 articles of Faith. It is the fundamental Muslim belief of Allah’s complete and final control over the fulfillment of events or Destiny. We believe that Allah has created the universe and He is its Absolute Controller and Regulator. Everything in the universe has a predetermined set course, which we call Al-Qadr. Nothing can happen without the will and knowledge of Allah. Allah knows the present, the past, and the future of every creature.

On the other hand, it is also important to realize that the servants of Allah have freedom of will, and although we are commanded to obey Allah and worship Him, we are not forced to. It is up to humans to decide whether they will obey or disobey Him. As Allah says in *Surah 18 (Al-Kahf), Verse 29*: “...Then whosoever wills, let him believe, and whosoever wills, let him disbelieve...” Allah knows whether we will choose to obey Him or not because He is All-Knowing. However, this does not affect our freedom of will. Man does not know what his destiny is, and has the freewill to choose the course he will take. Man is not being forced – no one is standing in his way; it is entirely his own choice.

Now, some people may question that if Allah knows everything, then why does He test us? To this query, I would answer using the following analogy: all students, like myself, are required to write exams for the courses that they take, right? But can I instead argue that since my teacher knows my capabilities inside-out, then why does he/she need to test me? Think of it this way, if tomorrow is my exam, what will I do today? Will I ask questions about why the professor has to test my knowledge and why this and why that, or will I just have to start studying regardless of anything? By the way, if students do not want to study, it is their choice – it is not like the teacher is going to force them against their will or something. Yet, he/she will still be able to estimate the results of the students– the teacher will know roughly who is going to get what marks because he/she knows you and has observed you. Similarly, we are all travelers in this *duniya*, and we are all being tested during our short stay here. Allah knows what the outcome will be, but the choice on how we prepare for our exams is ultimately ours.

We need to understand that human beings have control over certain things in their lives, and no control over other things, and our test is how we react in both those areas of our lives. We have control over attitudes, intentions, feelings, goals, desires, and motivations. We choose to believe or not to believe. We choose right or wrong. We choose to control anger or loose it. We choose to love or hate people. However, we do not have control over natural disasters, for instance. We cannot change what other people do. We cannot prevent an accident from happening. We cannot choose our birthplace. We cannot make our body do what it cannot do.

So the question that arises is: “How does one balance the idea of God knowing absolutely everything with the idea that a human being has freewill? No human brain has been able to untangle this riddle satisfactorily.

The most satisfactory conclusion is that Allah knows everything and every possibility, but humans do not. Therefore, if a human chooses to do a particular thing, then there will be a particular outcome leading to one conclusion. If the human chooses a different course, then the outcome and conclusion will also be different. For example, if you choose to blindly cross the road, you may get hit by a car and die. But if you choose to look before you step out into the road, then you are likely to survive. The full answer to the riddle is part of Al-Ghayb, The Unknown. We are incapable of fully comprehending the Wisdom of Allah in Al-Qadr. Hence, the bottom line is that Allah knows what we will do, as He is the Controller and Regulator of the universe, but we are the ones responsible for the path we choose to take.

Believing in Al-Qadr is one of the central fundamentals of Islam. Let me tell you that Al-Qadr: perfects belief in Allah, because it is a matter ordained by Him; brings tranquility and peace to the mind, knowing whatever befalls you is already preordained by Allah; teaches humbleness, Allah gives what He wills and can take that away; acts as a motivation for believers to stay on the straight path, and strengthens them to face difficulties with a strong heart. May Allah (SWT) Guide us all to the Straight Path and may He enable us to sincerely believe in Al-Qadr along with the rest of the pillars of Imaan. Ameen ■

Laylatul Qadr

Submitted By: Madeeha Moledina Varvani

Laylatul Qadr Laylatul Qadr

Where can we find you o Laylatul Qadr

For the blessing that has been placed in you

We search, for your visit is too short for us to bear

Odd nights you bestow the blessing

*Begging
And
Pleading*

For the mercy from our Lord

That Jannaa is our final aboard

Laylatul Qadr Laylatul Qadr

Where can we find you o Laylatul Qadr

HA!
HA!
HA!

Humour & Laughter

Submitted by: Brother Abdulkader Yakub

HEARING PROBLEM

An elderly retired gentleman had been having severe hearing problems for some time. He went to the doctor who was able to have him fitted with a set of hearing aids that allowed the man to hear better than he had ever heard before.

A month later, the man went back to the doctor for a check up. The doctor said, *"Your hearing is perfect. Your family must be really pleased that you can hear again."* The man said, *"Oh, I haven't told my family yet. I just sit around and listen to the conversations. I've changed my Will three times."*

BITING NAILS

Two golden agers were discussing their husbands over tea.

"I do wish that my Elmer stop biting his nails. He makes me terribly nervous." Said one.

"My Billy used to do the same thing," replied the older woman. *"But I broke him of the habit."*

"How?"

"I hid his teeth."

"PROFESSIONAL" PICKPOCKET

A pickpocket was up in court for a series of petty crimes. The judge, in his judgement, said, *"Mr Banks, you are hereby fined \$200."*

The lawyer stood up and said, *"Thanks my lord. However, my client only has \$100 on him at this time, but if you'd allow him a few minutes in the crowd....."*

SMART DAD

A little boy went up to his father and asked, *"Dad, where did all of my intelligence come from?"*

The father replied, *"Well son, you must have got it from your mother, because I still have mine."*

BATHROOM SIGN

On the first day of school, the kindergarten teacher said to the class, *"If anyone has to go to the bathroom, hold up two fingers."*

A little voice from the back of the room asked, *"How will that help?"*

HAVE A LIFE AFTER DEATH

"Do you believe in life after death?" the boss asked one of his new employees.

"Yes, Sir," the employee replied.

"Well, then, that makes everything just fine." The boss went on. *"After you left early yesterday to go to your grandmother's funeral, she stopped in to see you."*

WRONG WAY

As an old man was driving down the freeway, his car phone rang. He answered and heard his wife's voice urgently warning him, *"Fred, I just heard on the news that there's a car going the wrong way on Interstate 94. Please be careful."*

"Its not just one car honey," said Fred, *"Its hundreds of them!!"*

WISH YOU WERE YOUNG

A married couple in their 60's are visited by a fairy who grants them both a wish.

"I want to travel around the world with my darling husband," says the wife. Immediately, 2 tickets for a luxury cruise magically appear in her hand.

The husband says, *"Sorry love, my wish is to have a wife 30 years younger than me."* So the fairy waves her wand and the husband becomes 92.



OLD AGE SYNDROME

An old man went to the doctor complaining of a terrible pain in his leg.

"I'm afraid its just old age," replied the doctor, *"there is nothing we can do about it."*

"That can't be," fumed the old man, *"you don't know what you are doing."*

"How can you possibly know I am wrong?" countered the doctor.

"Well its quite obvious," the old man replied, *"my other leg is fine, and it's the exact same age!!"*

BABY IN THE STOMACH

A 3-year old walked over to a pregnant lady while waiting with his mother in the doctor's office. He inquisitively asked the lady, *"Why is your stomach so big?"*

She replied, *"I'm having a baby."*

With big eyes, the boy asked, *"Is the baby in your stomach?"*

She said, *"He sure is."*

Then the little boy, with a puzzled look, asked *"Is it a good baby?"*

The lady replied, *"Oh yes. It's a real good baby."*

"Then why did you eat him?" The boy asked.



LATE FOR WORK

Tom had the problem of getting up late in the morning and was always late for work. His boss was mad at him and threatened to fire him if he didn't do something about it.

So Tom went to his doctor who gave him a pill and told him to take it before he went to bed. He took the pill, slept well and in fact beat the alarm in the morning. He had a leisurely breakfast and drove cheerfully to work.

"Boss," he said, *"the pill actually worked."*

"That's fine," said the boss, *"but where were you yesterday?"*

VACATION TIPS

Wife : *Where do you want to go on holiday this year?*

Husband : *Somewhere I've never been before.*

Wife : *How about the kitchen?*



Perseverance!

Submitted by: Tasneem Warwani

To fill in the blanks for the following story, you must unscramble each word. The words and the blanks have a corresponding number.

- (1) resyapr (2) iklagaw (3) pipdrte (4) neecald (5) lgthihsagf (6) opahpraced
(7) cadugien (8) whotuti (9) sudfeer (10) nayhaats (11) phel (12) decextep
(13) fevagor (14) loudhheos (15) givalle

Ali woke up one morning, got dressed and headed for Fajr (1) _____ at the mosque. While he was (2) _____ there, he came across a muddy patch where he (3) _____ and fell. Ali headed home, not wanting to be dirty for prayers. He (4) _____ up, changed, and set out once more. Again, he tripped and fell at the same muddy patch. Once again, he went home, cleaned up and changed. This time while he was walking there, he saw someone holding a (5) _____ near the muddy patch. When he (6) _____ the man, the man told him that he could help him get around the muddy patch without falling. With the (7) _____ of the man, Ali arrived at the mosque (8) _____ getting dirty. He asked the man to come inside and pray with him. The man (9) _____. Again, Ali asked the man to come pray with him. The man refused. Ali asked the man to come pray with him once more. The man refused saying "I can't pray or come inside. I am (10) _____." Confused, Ali asked Shaytaan why he would (11) _____ him get to the mosque. To this Shaytaan replied, "When you first tripped and fell in the mud, it was actually me tripping you. I (12) _____ you to go home, be too lazy to get cleaned and stay home instead. However, you once again set out and Allah (13) _____ all of your sins. I tripped you once more at the muddy patch. Again, you returned and Allah forgave the sins of all those in your (14) _____. If I had tripped you a third time, and you had returned, Allah would have forgiven the sins of ALL of the people in your (15) _____. I could not let this happen, so I led you to the mosque."

Moral of the Story: Shaytaan will do anything to keep you away from prayers and following the right path. Don't let him succeed and the reward will be worth it ☑

Answers on Page 83

**With Compliments & Best Wishes
to
NASSERPURIA MEMON JAMAT
CANADA**

On Publication of the Fifth Issue of

An Najm

From

Warwani Family



Submitted By: Brother Shoaib Yakub

In the name of Allah, the most gracious the most merciful. All praise is due to Allah (SWT) and all efforts are for the sake of Allah. We are grateful to Allah for providing us with the opportunity to serve the community as Volunteer Coordinators.

With no past experience, both myself and Farouq Nathani, were unaware of the challenges that lay ahead. Alhamdulillah, our job was made easy with the support and assistance from our families and the Executive Committee and their families, especially the expertise of sisters Nasreen Varvani and Fatma Admani. Our aim has been to fulfill our duties in the best manner. May Allah reward us all for our efforts and forgive us all for our shortcomings, Ameen.

It has been an interesting and enjoyable learning experience working with everyone. We are looking forward to the future in continuing to serve the Jamat, Inshallah.

Our Team consists of:

Shoaib Yakub: Coordinator

Farouq Nathani: Coordinator

Fatima Yakub

Nafisa Nathani

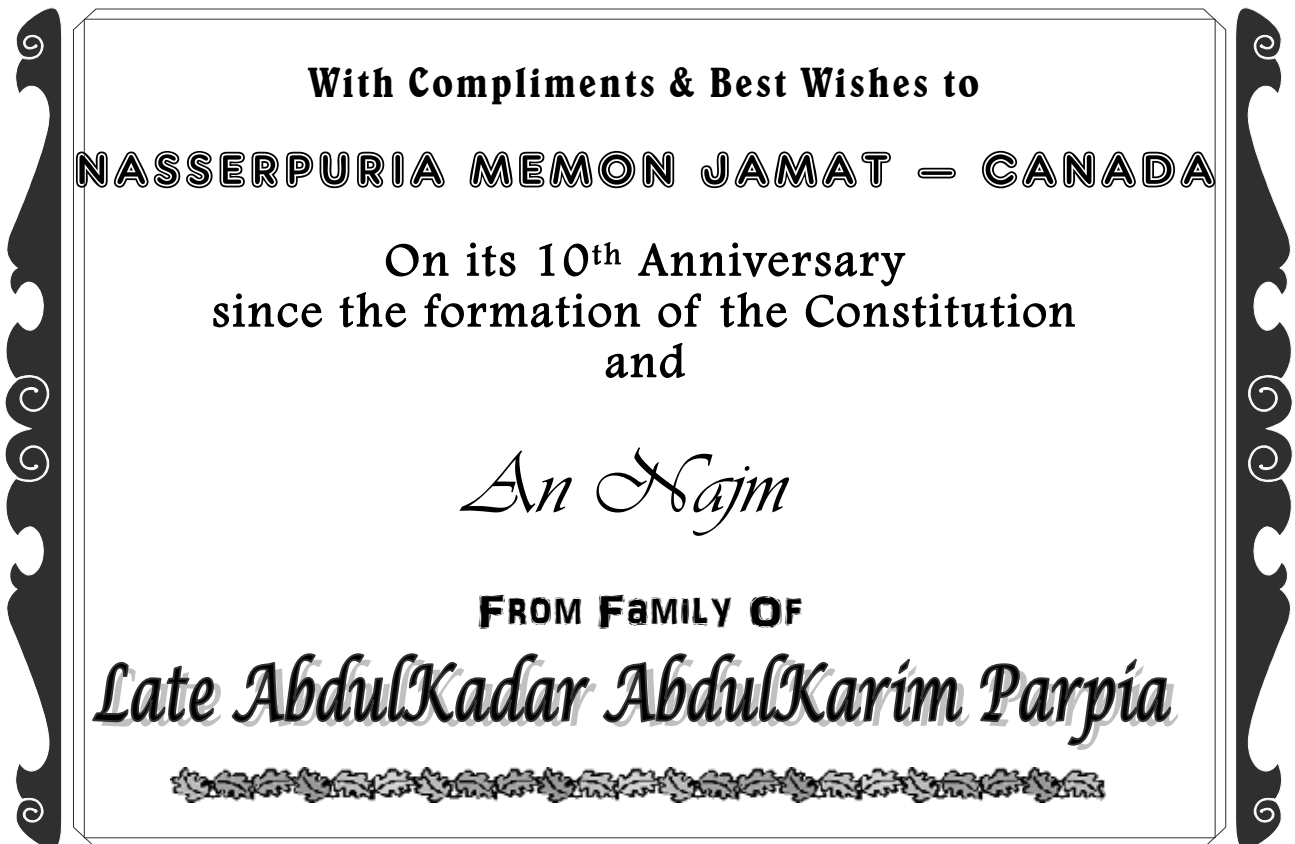
Nasreen Varvani

Fatma Admani

May Allah make us among those who have faith and do righteous deeds and counsel one another to follow the truth and be steadfast. Ameen ■



"Volunteers do not get paid, not because they are worthless, but because they are priceless"



The Etiquettes of Seeking Knowledge – An Islamic Perspective

Submitted By: Brother Mohamed Shafi Yakub

Islam is a way of life. The Qur'an provides guidance and the Hadith provides the road map relating to all aspects of life. Let's look at some references from the Qur'an:

"...and say: 'My Lord! Increase me in knowledge'....." (Surah Ta-Ha 20:114)

"...O mankind! We have created you from a male and a female, and made you into nations and tribes, that you may know one another. Verily, the most honorable of you with Allah is that (believer) who has At-Taqwa [i.e. he is one of the Muttaqoon (the pious)]. Verily, Allah is All-Knowing, All Aware.." (Surah al-Hujuraat 49:13)

"..and follow not other paths, for they will separate you away from His path." (Surah Al-An'aam (6):153).

By leading a life full of knowledge (seeking, applying, preserving and propagating) we can be confident that we are indeed practicing Islam in the manner it should be practiced.

What is knowledge? What is Education? Is there a difference between these 2 terms? How do we know we are getting the correct knowledge, from the correct source, correct quality and quantity? How are we to apply knowledge and for what purpose? Are we getting the right knowledge for the right reasons or are we just accumulating information. Within the scope of this article we cannot address all the intricate elements. We can look at the fundamental principles and etiquettes of knowledge.

Let's start by establishing the relationship between Education and Knowledge:

Education is more than the acquisition of information and memorization of mere facts and figures. **Education is a journey of life based on understanding.** Education is life long **experience** where qualities such as honesty, integrity and mental discipline play an important part, particularly in the early years.

From an Islamic perspective **Knowledge is Worship.** To be effective in our worship we must demonstrate **sincerity of our intentions** i.e. why are we in pursuit of knowledge. Is it to seek the pleasure of Allah, *subhaanahu wa ta'aala* or for worldly pleasures? The foundation of knowledge, and the comprehensive quality that guarantees the goodness of this world and the hereafter, is the love of Allah and His messenger.

Therefore we must ensure that we are demonstrating **sincerity of our intentions** and adhering to the worship and path of Allah by living within the boundaries of **Halaal and Haraam**. We can ensure this by adopting personal etiquettes, noble manners and qualities such as: forbearance, patience, showing humility in the face of truth, maintaining self-esteem which is free from tyranny, not get carried away in comfort and luxury, avoiding vain speech, being gently in speech and harsh words, exhibiting firmness and steadfastness especially in calamities and serious situations.

Sincerity is reflected in our truthfulness. What is truthfulness? It is important that we understand truthfulness before embarking on our journey to seek knowledge. "Truthfulness is speaking honestly in accordance with reality and belief. The opposite of truth is lying. While lying can take various forms, there are three main categories:

- ◆ Hypocrisy - A hypocrite is someone who opposes Islam but acts and speaks in favor of Islam.
- ◆ Ignorance - An ignorant person is someone with limited knowledge who professes to be a subject matter expert. As the saying goes: "...little knowledge is dangerous."
- ◆ Innovation - The subject of Bidha, from an Islamic perspective, is wide in scope and depth. The implications are severe. Therefore we should all endeavor to study this topic in its entirety.

We should always be careful not to speak (or act) in a manner which, to the listener (or observer) portrays a different meaning than your intentions. We should also be careful not to portray ourselves to be more knowledgeable from what we possess. Do not be afraid to say "I am not sure", "I do not know". When interacting with people we should be careful of the following:

- ◆ Lose trust from people's hearts.
- ◆ Decline in our knowledge due to our actions.
- ◆ Being disbelieved even when we are truthful.

Sincerity of our intentions is also reflected in our appearance. One's outer appearance leads to one's inner inclination. Therefore our dress code defines us, as it is one of many ways how we express ourselves. It should not be a reason for anyone to criticize us.

Sincerity of our intentions should be followed with appropriate methodology to ensure success. Let's look at some references from the Qur'an: *Surah-al-Israa (17):106*: "...A Qur'an which we have divided into parts.....and revealed it by stages." *Surah-al-Furqaan (25):32* ".....we have revealed it to you gradually."

From these references we can learn that if we seek to acquire knowledge quickly, we are bound to lose it. As well, 'overcrowding' our minds will result in lack of understanding.

Knowledge is a profession, and every profession has its experts. Therefore our methodology should be based on learning from a **proficient** teacher. It is also incumbent upon the seeker of knowledge to take into consideration his/her teacher's status, which is a token of success, acquisition and prosperity. Make your teacher an object of your reverence, honor, appreciation and courtesy.

The methodology should also include choice of companions and friends i.e. someone you can help and who will help you. Seek a friend who befriends you for virtue and NOT someone who befriends you solely for his/her welfare and/or for fun. There should be an agreement regarding objectives and intentions.

We have been given life for a defined timeline. Therefore we should preserve it, guard it and cherish it. We should learn to use our time in the most *Economic, Efficient* and *Effective* manner. We can achieve this through serious effort, adherence to study, and surrounding ourselves in the company of people **more** knowledgeable than ourselves.

In pursuit of knowledge we should strive for perfection through practice. There are 6 principles in pursuit of perfection: (i) excellence is asking questions; (ii) excellence in paying attention and listening (iii) excellence in understanding (iv) memorizing (v) teaching and (vi) implementing.

Once we have attained knowledge we should preserve it and constantly keep ourselves 'in check' by asking ourselves how much of the following signs we are following:

- ◆ Implementing.
- ◆ Avoiding undue praise, complements or display of pride and arrogance over others.
- ◆ Striving to increase modesty with the increase of knowledge.
- ◆ Demonstrating leadership and foresightedness at the same time avoiding the love of leadership which comes by focusing on fame and worldly pleasures.
- ◆ Demonstrating but not exhibiting knowledge.
- ◆ Avoiding disputes. Engaging in open and honest debates to ensure truth is uplifted over falsehood and correctness over incorrectness. The forum of open and honest discussion (debate) should be built upon sincere advice to one another, forbearance and spreading knowledge.

Let us conclude with the following Hadith and closing commentary:

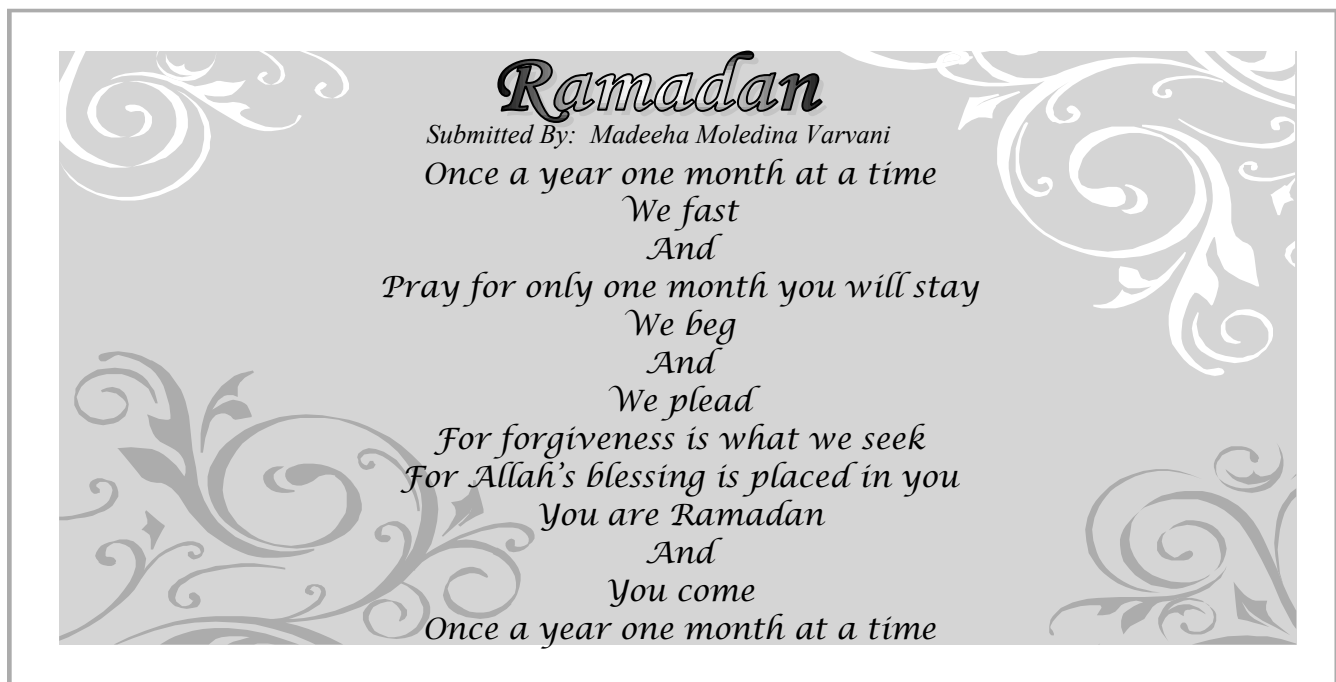
The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said: "When a person dies, all his deeds come to an end except three: sadaqah jaariyah (ongoing charity, e.g. a waqf or endowment), beneficial knowledge (which he has left behind), or a righteous child who will pray for him." (Reported by *al-Tirmidhi*, no 1376; he said this is a *saheeh hasan hadeeth*).

Life is a journey and pursuit of knowledge is a journey of life. When embarking on any journey we need a guide to guide us overcome obstacles we face along the way. Our guide should be Allah and we should seek refuge in Him. Do not panic when a subject becomes inaccessible or difficult to understand. Every failure is one step to success and every NO response is one step to a YES response.

Due to the nobility of knowledge, it increases if we share it (e.g. by teaching) and conversely it will decrease if we hold back and conceal it. However we should be careful not to give it away to those who do not deserve it. Knowledge is treasure – a gift from Allah. Through our piety and etiquette behavior we can preserve this gift, and Allah will preserve us – at times of ease as well as times of hardship ■

Foot note: I was inspired to write this article for *An Najm* after recently reading some books on the subject. I welcome comments and these can be sent to: shafi.yakub@sympatico.ca.

The following references are an excellent resource as well, with the appropriate references: <http://islamqa.com/en/search/knowledge/AllWords/t.q.a> and <http://quran.com>





MASHALLAH
Submitted By: Irum Macci

ENGAGEMENTS

FINACEE	FIANCE	DATE
Nasmat Noorani	Ebrahim Mohammed Goralwalla	June 2011

WEDDINGS

BRIDE	GROOM	DATE
Rubina Mohammed Hussein Kasmani	Arif Abdullah Khanani	25th May 2008
Rashida Munir Kasmani	Mudassir Salyani	13th December 2008
Zainabai Mohammed Yusuf Salyani	Anwar Baha-ul-Haq Chaudhary	12th February 2009
Sameera Abdulgani Mamdani	Nadeem Abdulkader Salyani	18th April 2009
Aisha Sadik Bagha	Abubaker Mohammed Goralwalla	2nd May 2009
Nashina Abdullah Mohamed Gani Noorani	Shah-e-Noor Mohammed Shafi Yakub	1st August 2009
Naseem Mohammed Hussein Mithoowani	Farhaan Tufeil Khandwalla	11th October 2009
Reyhana Sadiq Admani	Aamir Saleem	4th August 2010
Mariam Abdulkayum Bachelani	Hassanali Hatimali	24th December 2010
Azba Abdulmajid Hathiyani	Yasin Salehmohammed Parpia	1st July 2011

BIRTHS

MOTHER	FATHER	CHILD NAME
Amina Hassan Khandwalla	Hassan Mushtaq Khandwalla	Junaid
Sameera Nadeem Salyani	Nadeem Abdulkader Salyani	Aasiya
Shazma Fayyaz Khandwalla	Fayyaz Khandwalla	Mohammed Rafiq
Aisha Abubaker Goralwalla	Abubaker Mohammed Goralwalla	Yunus
Shahista Osman Parpia	Osman Parpia	Hamza
Fatima Sabir Yakub	Mohammed Sabir Yakub	Hiba

Tips on how to finish the Qur'an in a month

Submitted By: Zainab Yakub

Tip 1: Establishing An Intention

Through his words and actions Rasulallah (SAW) has taught us how important it is to make an intention for anything you do. Once you establish your intention to recite the full Qur'an, remember to keep renewing it. Before, whilst and after reading, keep on renewing your intention to ensure that you are seeking Allah's (SWT) help.

Tip 2: Do Not Be Overwhelmed

For most people, as much as they intend to read the full Qur'an they are overwhelmed by the number of pages they have to read. Eliminate negative thinking and put your trust in Allah (SWT). Remind yourself that you are fully capable of reciting the full Qur'an in a month.

Tip 3: Planning Ahead

Before starting to recite, it is important to set aside some time everyday to plan how much you want to read. For example, reading 1 or 1 and a half *juzz* every day. Try to use all your spare time in reading the Qur'an. We should also plan our other activities like cooking, resting and working in such a way that we have enough time to read Qur'an.

Tip 4: Understanding Qur'an

Read the translation of the *juzz* or *surah* as well. Have a basic understanding of the topic or message you are reading about. This will make understanding the Qur'an more interesting.

Tip 5: Seize The Moment

Seize every moment to be with Allah (SWT) through your recitation; one of the best times to read Qur'an is in the morning after *suhoor*. Rasulallah (SAW) used to ask Allah (SWT) to bless his *ummah* in the early hours of the day. Research shows that early morning study has a better effect on students' performance during the day.

Tip 6: Qur'an After Salaah

Reciting 6-8 pages after each of your 5 daily prayers. You can add Qiyamul-layl as a sixth prayer. By doing this at the end of Ramadan you will have completed a full Qur'an, you might even finish a little earlier.

Tip 7: Remain Steadfast And Consistent

Once you are set on how much you want to read a day, stick to that plan. Do not try to work around it. Remind yourself of the greatness of the month of Ramadan and its virtues. Do not be willing to compromise your Qur'an time with anything else.

Tip 8: Make Dua

Nothing can be achieved without the help and guidance of Allah (SWT). When making intention to complete the Qur'an, make dua to Allah (SWT) to make recitation easy and successful, Inshallah.

With the help of Allah (SWT) and the guidelines of these tips, we will Inshallah be able to fulfill our intention of completing the recitation of the Qur'an in a month. Let us make dua for all of us and for all Muslims all over the world.

May Allah's mercy and blessings be upon us throughout the year, Inshallah. May all our good *amaals* & duas be accepted, our wishes fulfilled and all our sins forgiven. May Allah (SWT) grant us the strength to help those less fortunate than us and may He grant us all good health and protect us and our families from the evil doings of *shaytaan* and our *nafs*, Ameen ■



COURTROOM ONE LINERS !!!!

Submitted by: Brother Abdulkader Yakub

"Now Dr Smith, isn't it true that when a person dies in his sleep, he does not know about it until the next morning?"

"How far apart were the vehicles at the time of the collision?"

"Were you present when your picture was taken?"

"You were there until the time you left, is that true?"

"How many times have you committed suicide?"

"Was it you or your younger brother who was killed in the war?"

"Did he kill you?"

"Were you present in court this morning when you were sworn in?"

"You don't know what it was, and you don't know what it looked like, but can you describe it?"

"The youngest son, the twenty-year-old, how old is he?"

HEARTIEST MUBARAK & BEST WISHES TO
NASSERPURIA MEMON JAMAT CANADA

On The Occasion Of The 10th Anniversary
Since the Adoption of the Constitution

&
Publication Of 5th Issue Of

An Najm

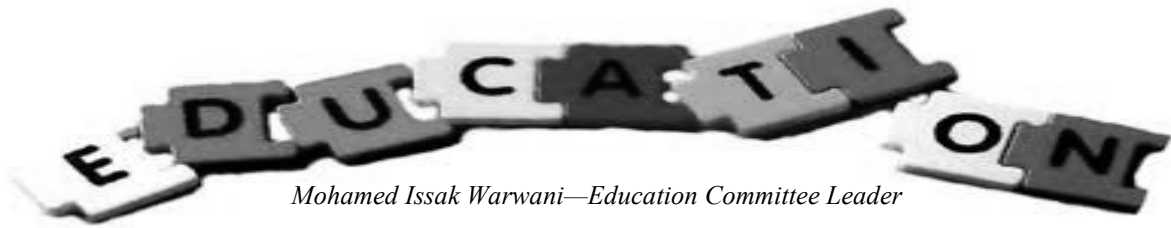
FROM:

Family of Late Abdulrazak Hussein Salyani

PAKISTAN

KENYA

CANADA



Mohamed Issak Warwani—Education Committee Leader

I would like to begin by extending my sincere appreciation and gratitude to our President, Br. Moledina Varvani, and the Executive Committee for giving me the honor of heading the Education Committee. By the Grace of Allah (SWT), my team and I have worked hard and put in our utmost dedication to serve the purpose of this committee and Alhamdulillah, the Education Committee has been one of the most active in holding activities within the Jamat.

We have had several interesting, educational as well as fun activities lined up to cater for all the members in our Jamat. The various game shows that have been held; such as "**Toji Muji Soch**" (an NMJ spin off of "Family Feud"), and "**Memonaire**" (An NMJ spin off of "Who Wants to be a Millionaire"), provided entertainment and gave the youth and elders in the Jamat an opportunity to work together as a team. These activities bring about togetherness in our community and build the bridges that exist between members of different age groups. We have also had our youth present skits, which have been a great source of entertainment as well as an educational opportunity for learning real life lessons for all our members.

On the other hand, we have held activities such as debates amongst our members and we have also had various highly qualified Scholars present us with talks on various relevant topics in Islam. These activities have been highly educational for our members and have given us all a chance to reflect on our daily lives. Mashallah, the Mehfil-e-Qira'at competition gave us a chance to witness our young children display their inspiring talents in the recitation of the Quran.

With special thanks to our sponsor, the Education Committee also has an initiation of offering a \$500 scholarship every year, to those who have completed their Secondary education and have been admitted to a post-secondary institute. This encourages the youth to participate in Jamat activities and be able to benefit from it. The participation and the dedication of our youth in the Jamat gives us hope that our community will prosper and reach great heights in the near future, Inshallah.

All this would not have been possible without the utmost dedication of all the members of the Education Committee:

- ◆ Br. Issak Warwani (Coordinator)
- ◆ Sr. Sameera Salyani (Secretary – 2011)
- ◆ Sr. Zahra Admani (Secretary – 2010)
- ◆ Sr. Parveez Warwani
- ◆ Sr. Mariam Bachelani (2010)

And finally, I would like to thank all the members, young and old, who supported and participated in the activities to make them a success, and I pray that we all continue working together and take our Jamat to a new level, Inshallah ■



"Education costs money, but then so does ignorance"

GRADE 12



NAME	YEAR OF GRADUATION	POST SECONDARY STUDIES	PROGRAM OF STUDY
Mohamed Osman Noorani	2008	York University	Political Science
Fazila Macci	2008	University of Toronto; Scarborough Campus	Concurrent Education
Naema Admani	2010	Schulich School of Business; York University	Bachelors in Business Administration (BBA)
Junaid Warwani	2011	University Of Toronto; St. George	Bachelor of Science; in Engineering Sciences
Nurain Yakub	2011	University Of Ontario Institute of Technology (UOIT)	Nursing (Collaborative)
Zaid Yakub	2011	University Of Toronto; Scarborough Campus	Bachelor of Arts; Major in Political Science

GRADE 8

NAME	YEAR OF GRADUATION
Shafreen Bagha	2009
Tayba Hathiyani	2009
Sarah Kasmani	2009
Adil Nathani	2009
Yasin Admani	2010
Khadija Kasmani	2010
Hawa Noorani	2010
Hamza Varvani	2010
Maliha Varvani	2010
Hamza Bagha	2011
Hassan Bharadia	2011
Nahla Varvani	2011
Zainab Yakub	2011

SENIOR KG

NAME	YEAR OF GRADUATION
Sarah Bagha	2008
Shaymaa Yakub	2008
Khairunissa Bharadia	2011
Owais Hathiyani	2011
Mohamed Varvani	2011



UNIVERSITY GRADUATES

Fatima Noorani



2010
Early
Childhood
Assistant;
Humber College

Zahra Admani



2011
Honours Bachelors of
Business
Administration (BBA) -
Specialist in
Management &
Accounting (Co-op
program)
University Of Toronto

Azba Hathyani



2011
High distinction with
an Honours Bachelors
of Science degree -
Major in integrative
biology & double
minors in Health
studies & Linguistics
University Of Toronto

Shaheena Yakub



2011
Bachelors of Science
with Honours
University of
Toronto

HIFZ GRADUATION



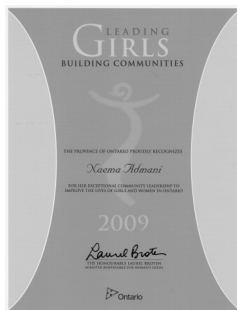
Islamic Foundation of Toronto Full-Time Hifz School Hifz-ul-Qur'an Diploma to certify that Nabil Hathyani has completed the requirements of the Full-Time Hifz School and awarded the title of Hafiz-ul-Qur'an - June 19, 2011. May Allah (SWT) Guide him with the ability to demonstrate perfectly the teachings of the Holy Qur'an and the Sunnah of Prophet Muhammed (SAW).

Nabil Hathyani

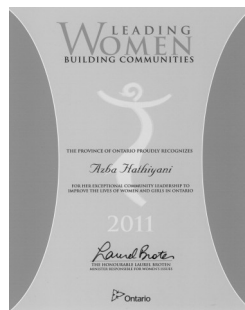
ACHIEVEMENTS



Naema Admani
2009



Award from the Honourable Laurel Broten (Minister Responsible for Women's Issues) on behalf of the Province of Ontario in recognition for exceptional community leadership to improve the lives of women and girls in Ontario.



Azba Hathyani
2011

The Power of Patience

In the name of Allah, Most Gracious, Most Merciful.

“O ye who believe! Persevere in patience and constancy; vie in such perseverance; strengthen each other; and fear Allah; that ye may prosper.” (Qur’an Chapter 3: Al-Imran, Verse 200)

Have you ever felt like no matter how hard you tried, some things just did not seem to work for you? And at that time, did you feel like the whole world has turned against you, and you are all alone? Did you want to just hide under the covers and never get up? Chances are, we have all felt this way at some point in our lives...but the fact that you are reading this article means that you can read, you are educated, and most important...you are alive, which means that whatever it was that let you down, did not destroy you. Why? Because you did not give up!

Life is a journey, full of tests and trials, which come our way only to make us stronger and smarter. It is up to us to decide how to overcome the obstacles and learn from them. Most of the famous and successful people in the world were not born that way; they became successful through their struggles and accomplishments, because they did not give up. If they can do it, why can't we?

There are many exemplary and role model figures in the world who were successful because of their drive and determination never to give up, but the best among them when we think of struggles, perseverance, and determination, is our beloved Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him). He was orphaned at an early age, he worked as a shepherd, and he did not know how to read or write. Yet, Allah chose him as His last messenger and revealed the Holy Qur'an to him, the only book which remains unchanged to this day and is a complete guide to the Islamic way of life. He also lost his sons in infancy, was rebuked when he preached Allah's message to the Meccans, and had to leave his home town of Mecca to migrate to Medina to escape the persecution of Muslims by the Meccans. Why did our Prophet bear all this hardship? He did it for us – the Muslim Ummah. He was patient, he persevered, did not give up and never lost faith in Allah. The result? Today Islam is the world's second largest religion, with 1.57 billion adherents, making up 23% of the world population, and Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) is still regarded by many, Muslims and non-Muslims, as the world's most influential person.

Alhamdulillah, we are privileged to be raised as Muslims because our way of life itself, teaches us to be patient. Our belief that there is none worthy of worship except Allah and Muhammad is the messenger of Allah signifies that the only purpose of life is to serve and obey Allah, and this is achieved by following the teachings and practices of Prophet Muhammad (pbuh). Everyday we are surrounded with challenges that may distract us from our purpose of life, but with patience and perseverance, we can discipline ourselves and overcome these challenges. It is Allah's way of testing us and our faith in Him. If one prays for patience, Allah does not give them patience – He gives them the opportunity to be patient ■

*Patience requires discipline
Discipline demands integrity
Integrity builds strong characters
Strong characters build prosperous communities*

A Contribution by: Sister Nargis Ghulamhabib Yakub

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_countries_by_Muslim_population

The Reward of Charity

Submitted By: Ramla Yakub

One day while Omar was coming home from a party he thought of something. "What if I sell some of this candy and get some money for myself", said Omar to himself. "Then I can buy a toy". So Omar went from one friend to another selling his candy. After he sold all, he went to the toy store. On his way there he decided to take a short cut through the woods. He saw an old man wearing rags and searching the garbage can for food. When the man saw Omar, he stopped looking in the garbage and looked at him. Omar thought of giving the man his money and remembered that if he did so, he would not have any money to buy the toy he wanted. It was getting late and Omar did not have time to go to the toy store, so he headed straight home.

When he got home he was very hungry, so he went to the kitchen to see what his mum had cooked for dinner. When he did not see anything he thought that may be his parents were going to surprise him by taking him out for dinner. So he went to say salaam to his mum. When he got to her room, he saw her coughing and trying to sleep. After getting her a glass of water, he realized there was nothing to eat for dinner that night, since his mum could not cook. He would have to go to bed without dinner that night. After getting a glass of water Omar went to bed.

Laying awake in his bed, Omar realized that the poor man he had seen earlier that day was probably feeling very hungry the same way he felt at that moment. Omar remembered the teachings of the Prophet Mohamed (SAW) and realized it was up to him to help the poor man. In a Hadith narrated by Imam Bukhari, Allah's Messenger (SAW) said, "...whatever you spend (for Allah's sake) you will be rewarded for it..." He also remember the ayah of the Qur'an, "Those who spend (in charity) of their goods by night and by day, in secret and in public will have their reward with their Rabb (Allah). On them there shall be no fear nor shall they grieve." (Qur'an, 2:274).

The next day he talked to his mum about what had happened and she told him that if he helped the poor man, Allah (SWT) would give him lots of rewards. So he went to look for the old man to give him some money as sadaqah. Omar looked in so many places but could not find the man anywhere. So he decided he would go to the toy store and buy the toy he wanted. When he got to the toy store, he saw the same old man he was looking for. Omar went to the man and gave him the money. Omar did not get the toy he wanted but he felt happy that he had just helped someone that needed his help. The best part was that Allah (SWT) was happy with his actions ■

Heartiest Mubarak & Best Wishes To

NASSERPURIA MEMONJAMAT - CANADA

On Their 10th Anniversary

Since the Adoption of the Constitution

&

Publication Of The 5th Issue Of

An Najm

From

Essak Kaderdina Kadernani & Family

Customers, In Business or In Life

Submitted By: Sister Zainab Salyani-Haq and Brother Mohammed Shakeel Salyani

We all know that the demand and supply aspect is what creates equilibrium pricing and thus the whole world of economics comes to reality which then puts the needs and wants into place as per demands. Life too is a give and take relationship...

With the first cry one makes on entry into the world, a demand has been placed, a desire fulfilled, as the demand is met, and there begins the customer provider relationship. It takes a while by the time we achieve financial stability or financial success to actually go and purchase according to our needs or wants. However, our parents are already in the process of making us a customer by fulfilling our desires/needs from the clothing aspect, feeding, hygiene, education, e.t.c. What does the provider get as profit for the effort? Just that one sweet smile, that one step, that one hug, the acknowledgement and appreciation, that is their satisfaction.


Each one of us have been a customer in our lives, whatever the age and know the process of buying and selling in exchange for money, be it from buying a candy, to a house or a vehicle etc. We have all undergone and felt the process of being a customer at some point in time. We have had good experiences and bad ones as well - from being deceived by the fancy wrapper or being satisfied with the contents despite the wrapper being unattractive. Such experiences have made us consider revisiting the vendor or opting for a different one or even stop purchasing that item.

On the other hand, putting ourselves in the place of the vendor, our utmost goal is customer satisfaction, approval and return, (not solo), by having publicized our commodity. The sure way to achieve this is by ensuring quality control and supply on demand. With such said, let us reflect the same to the 'business' relationship in our real lives. Here, we assume the family is a business market, with parents as vendors and children as customers. Beginning with being vendors, do we deliver what our customers, the child is demanding? Or do we lie and brush off the request made? Or do we end up delivering a substandard request? As an example, when a child has requested for something, we either deliver it immediately or divert the child to another focus. Each action delivers a message to the child on the exact way to respond when requested from the parent to deliver, whether it is to wake up for prayers in the morning or getting to bed early. For the parent, it becomes a nightmare to ensure the child accomplishes the simplest of tasks. Remember, the child will deliver the same way as the parent delivered, he is still a part of the customer-vendor relationship. Indeed, the child, at a later stage will find alternate ways to request for the same item and simultaneously the parent now starts looking for other tricks to make the child forget. With time, all tricks are exhausted and frustrations set in.

At this point in time the million dollar question erupts: **WHO** is to blame for that child's behaviour? Not forgetting, the child is also asking the same question: **WHO** is to blame for my parent's behaviour? As the parents continue to assume they have authority to do as they please, they tend to forget that the child has grasped every action and deed. They fail to acknowledge that they are the ideal role model for their children. Their behaviour with their spouses, in social circles, in business dealings e.t.c, directs them on how to portray themselves, therefore, the aspect of children delivering to their parents needs and demands is up to the parents themselves.

As age sets in, the parents now move to the receiving end. They become the customers, the child the vendor. As such, the child should ask him/herself how best to satisfy his customers' needs and demand, with the best quality, non - compromised and even better than what the parent issued when they were the vendors, that is business after all!! Everyone wants to be ahead, right? What is his profit or gain? Immeasurable blessings, which, regardless to mention, will advance him by leaps.

Now coming down, let's look at marital relationships. The request placed by our spouses and delivered on a timely basis and to their satisfaction plays a major positive role in the bonding of relationships. Contrarily if the same is not met, dissatisfaction sets in, correspondent delivery is impaired, a vicious circle kicks in and eventually there is a mountain out of an ant hill..and the relationship goes dwindling. Again the question arises: **WHO** is to blame? No one would later admit to be a component of the failing "business" relationship, yet it is none other than you and me to blame!! It started with customer dissatisfaction, remember?? An old proverb: "That which ignites outside, cools in the home. That which ignites in the home has nowhere to cool...."

In conclusion, life is short. Family and beloved ones are Allah's given gifts, and their satisfaction and reciprocation is what real happiness is all about. It all begins with providing the best, and ends with receiving even better. The goal in life is not monetary achievement, that is just a component of life. Remember.... Life is a give and take....



With Compliments & Best Wishes To
NASSERPURIA MEMON JAMAT - CANADA
ON PUBLICATION OF THE 5TH ISSUE OF

An Hajm



**And whoever desires the hereafter and strives
for it as he ought to strive and he is a believer;
(as for) these, their striving shall surely be
accepted.**

Al-Isra Verse 19

FROM FAMILY OF

LATE ABDALLA OSMAN MUSANI

MY FIRST EXPERIENCE IN CANADA

Submitted By: Sister Nashina Yakub

After a long wait of two and a half years following our civil marriage, and one and a half years following our Nikkah, I finally received my Visa confirmation in February, 2011.

I was very excited at the news and my family was overjoyed. Having spent most of my life in Kenya and Uganda, I was elated, and terrified at the same time, at the thought of travelling over 7,000 miles away from home. My journey to Canada began on March 11th, 2011. My father-in-law came to pick me and we travelled from Mombasa to Nairobi after which we flew to Toronto. The flight was long and tiring but my excitement did not go down.

I landed at Toronto Pearson International Airport on March 16th, 2011. It took us about two hours to complete the immigration process and clearance with customs. When we finally stepped out of the airport, I realised how cold it was. My in-laws were waiting for us outside, with a winter coat for me. After our short meet and greet, we headed home. I was amazed to see the roads and the signs and the fact that people are actually following the traffic signals. I felt relaxed when I reached home.

It took me a few days to get over the jet lag and fit into the new routine. Within my first week here, we had a family gathering at our place and I was introduced and welcomed into the family. In the second week, I went with my husband to Durham College to inquire about courses and admission processes. I found out about the Academic Upgrading course which helps students attain credits they need to get into post-secondary institutions or fulfill requirements by employers. Since I had been away from school for three years, I found that this course would be very helpful for me and I signed up for it. I took up the college preparation course and also started with my admission into the Pharmaceutical and Food Science Technology program. By then, I was used to the roads and the bus system and I could travel to and from college on my own. It was a great feeling to be back in the school environment and amongst books.

After the unpacking and getting settled into the new environment, we went to the Ontario Science Centre where I learned a lot and had plenty of fun as I love sciences.

At home, a lot of people came to welcome and greet me. The Jamat's President, Mr. Moledina Varvani, the Vice-President, Mr. Sadik Admani and the Treasurer, Mr. Sabir Yakub also came to welcome me to Canada and the Jamat, and also to invite me to my first Jamat function. I felt very special.

Another thing that amazed me when I came here is that women go to masjids and actively participate in related activities. I went for my first Juma'a Namaaz and it was an amazing feeling. I was introduced to many people there and I enjoyed interacting with them and made new friends.

My first Jamat function, after I arrived, was three and a half months later and it was the AGM meeting. I was taken by surprise as in Mombasa, ladies are not invited to the Jamat AGM meetings and they do not participate in them. The meeting took longer than intended and in the next function I attended, I was officially welcomed into NMJ-Canada.

It has now been 6 months since I arrived here, and Alhamdulillah, have settled in well. I feel at home here and for this, I thank, first of all, Allah (SWT) for this life and all that He has given me, and all that He has not given me, my husband who has been my greatest support through the transition, my in-laws who have done everything possible to make me feel comfortable and relaxed, and the Jamat as a whole for giving me such a warm welcome and making me feel at home ■





Submitted By: Zahra Admani

The Youth are the future of our Jamat. Keeping this in mind, the NMJ Canada Youth Committee was formed, in 2008, with the purpose of encouraging the participation and involvement of our Young members. Having migrated away from our roots (Kenya), it is important for us as a Jamat to make our children understand the importance of our Nasserpurian culture and our Kutchi language, and the need to maintain them through generations. Hence the importance of a Youth committee that not only brings together the youngsters, but also gives them a chance to get to know and work with the rest of the members in our community.

As the Youth living in Canada, our team can relate to the concerns our young members may have for participating in the Jamat activities. The Canadian culture and the current "times" may not be the same as our traditional Nasserpurian culture, and that brings in the role of the Youth Committee that holds activities which bring together both the Canadian and the Nasserpurian culture, forming a bridge between the two diversifications to cater to the Youth of our Jamat.

The Youth Committee also greatly promotes the notion of giving back to community at large and have participated in various events such as raising funds for the Pakistan Flood Relief, participating in the Islamic Foundation Soup Kitchen, and participating in the interfaith program with the Islamic Foundation of Toronto for planting trees at the Bob Hunter Memorial Park.



The Youth and Volunteers at the Islamic Foundation Soup Kitchen



Joining in the Tree planting event with Islamic Foundation of Toronto's Interfaith program

We have also had the opportunity of holding activities that are fun and create an enjoyable environment for not just the youth, but the adults as well. This gives them all a chance to come together as teams and get to know each other as members of Nasserpurian community. During the 2010 Eid-ul-Adha program, we had the ladies and children event full of fun and exciting games such as passing the parcel, musical chairs and dumb charades. We also managed to raise some funds for the Jamat through the sale of desert items and mehndi application. Our team has also liaised with other committees such as the Sports Committee in organizing events such as the exciting telematch at the 2011 Summer festival.



Telematch at the 2011 Summerfest



Islamic Jeopardy in progress

Alhamdulillah, we have accomplished quite a lot within the last year and a half, and hope to Inshallah materialize our future plans of conducting more fun and exciting activities that will capture the interest of the Youth and build their enthusiasm to participate in the Jamat. We look forward to working together with the rest of our Jamat in bringing together our Youth and building a sense of community amongst them as well as further bridging the gaps between the "culture" diversifications to build a unified Jamat ◻

The Youth Committee consists of:

- ◆ Sr. Zahra Admani (Chairperson),
- ◆ Sr. Azba Hathiyani,
- ◆ Br. Osman Noorani,
- ◆ Br. Nabil Hathiyani.

Our Newest Members:

- ◆ Shaheena Yakub
- ◆ Fazila Macci

LOYALTY

Submitted By: Tayba Hathiyani

***“Lack of loyalty is one of the major causes of failure in every walk of life” – Napoleon Hill
(American Author, 1883-1970)***

Loyalty can be defined as faithfulness, or fidelity to a person, country, faith, group, or cause. It is often traced back to the French origin, which is then traced to the Latin word “*legalis*”. *Legalis* is derived from the words “*Lex*” or “*Leg*” and is also the origin of the word “*legal*”. So the very first meaning of the word loyalty had an associate with law and legality. This is why, in the 1911 Encyclopedia Britannica Eleventh Edition, loyalty is defined as the “allegiance to the sovereign or established government of one’s country”. This perhaps explains why loyalty is so often viewed as a binding or obligatory aspect.

Living in the west, one may marvel to whom loyalty comes first, their country or their faith. Are they known as Muslim Canadians or Canadian Muslims? A Muslim is a person who submits to the will of Allah and believes that no matter what happens, good or bad comes from Him. We put our trust and assurance into any commandments that we are given and we follow them with the best of our ability. Islam is not only about praying five times daily or fasting for a month once a year. It is rather a complete way of life that teaches us our morals and values and how to run life daily. We do not conciliate our values of faith. If the Canadian Law required us to compromise with our faith, we would always put Islam first and foremost.

For example, if the Canadian Law were to say that all female citizens are not permitted to cover their heads, we would not compromise and conciliate our Islamic values for this law. Moreover, we would not only follow the Islamic Law, which states that all women must cover their heads but we would also fight for our rights to do so. This is why one may call themselves a Muslim Canadian first rather than Canadian Muslim. Nonetheless, we are very fortunate that just like our faith Islam, the Canadian Law stands up for values, justice, equality and respects all the rights that a citizen would be privileged to have.

Self-loyalty is the most vital type of allegiance one should have prior to looking at being faithful to others. It is an attitude which helps an individual stay factual, when asked to do something they might not believe in. One could visibly offer to not collaborate, but that comes with a price many are not willing to pay. A more refined answer would be to offer an alternative. Self-loyalty is determined by one’s personal hierarchy of values, beliefs, opportunities and expectations. One’s perceptions of loyalty also play an important part.

Perhaps one can say that staying loyal, when challenged in personal beliefs such as abandoning what you believe in, starts with feeling that you are of significance and have enough power to counter that challenge. This is intricate for many, as one may be taught to give up their ideas when someone powerful wants their own dreams to prosper. Maintaining a sense of self – loyalty means that one has the drive and courage to defend and fight for the circumstances that allow you to do what you believe in. When an individual manages to obtain self-loyalty, a significant sense of dignity is also achieved without which, it is easy to ‘sell –out’ and not know who’s side you are on.

In today’s society, loyalty is a harder perception to grasp. Various groups, especially the teens, their acquaintances are more crucial rather than one’s kin. Islam tells us that we are not even allowed to say “*oof*” to one’s parents; rather we have to take care of them with the preeminent care that we have available. Unfortunately, this concept is often ‘brushed off’ in the west. Many parents that age are frequently placed in seniors homes around cities since their children have too much work and no time on their hands to take care of them.

In the Imam Bukhari collection of hadith, it is mentioned that “none of you will truly believe until you love for your brother what you love for yourself”. When we are faithful to a person, we are commonly really enduring, careful, pleasant and sincere, towards them. We do everything it takes to keep them protected and secure. We would perceptibly want for them everything we want our self to have. If we want someone to treat us with respect and loyalty, we would have to treat them that way as well.

The prophet (SAW) was always loyal to his companions, and his companions always loyal to him. His companions would always listen, act upon and practice to what the prophet Muhammad (SAW) said and demonstrated. They loved the prophet (SAW) more than their own souls. Abu Sufyan, the prophet’s great enemy once said “In this world I have never seen a person with friends who loved him this much.” Abu Sufyan later on accepted Islam and he would follow the prophet (SAW) everywhere. He would even sit on the doorstep of the prophet with his son just to watch the prophet enter and exit. This is the love that the companions had for our prophet, peace be upon him.

Loyalty is a vital source in everyone’s life. It defines our morals and values. Many lessons can be derived from one’s life. When an individual lacks loyalty in their life, there will be failure in every walk they take.

“The greater the loyalty of a group toward the group, the greater is the motivation among the members to achieve the goals of the group, and the greater the probability that the group will achieve its goals.”- Rensis Likert ■

THE RESCUE FRIENDS

Submitted By: Shaymaa Yakub

Once upon a time, there was a bear named Aisha. While she was walking in the woods, she bumped into her brother Maalik, the owl. He said, 'Assalamu alaikum!' and waved to her. She waved back at him. While they were walking, they saw a big head. They were scared. They went closer and closer. Then they saw Haajirah, the raccoon. Aisha and Maalik waved to her and said; "Assalamu alaikum!" Aisha want to find Haajirah said, hungry. I am Haajirah said, later then. alaikum!" Then wash her food she discovered frozen! There the squirrel. He a l a i k u m ! " skating on the noise from the skating but then saw Suhailah, in a clam! She She made dua Qaasim opened claws. Suhailah swam to the surface. She said, "Jazakallah Qaasim." Thank you for helping me. Aisha and Maalik saw what happened. They brought Suhailah a blanket and then they went to Aisha's house to get warm by the fire ■



REBUS PUZZLE

Submitted By: Sister Sameera Salyani

A REBUS is a picture representation of a name, work, or phrase. Each "rebus" puzzle box below portrays a common word or phrase. Can you guess what it is?

HEAD
HEELS

Answer: Since the word HEAD is *over* the word HEELS, the answer to the puzzle would be HEAD OVER HEELS! Get it? That's great! Now wake up your brain by having some more fun with the teasers below!

ECONOMY

1.
2. blame
3. blame

M1LLION

ANSWERS ON PAGE 83

MOUT JEE TAYAARI KARIO

Bha Mohamed Ebrahim Goralwalla

A kro insaan mari viyo ta biyo insaan hunjey gam mey potey jo grebaan phari vijhee. Akro samajdaar insaan hunjee hin harkat ke nari ne chuee ke agar murdey ja hat harkat karna wa ta hu tojey zulam se potey jo kafan phari gini vee ne tokey chuee vee ke tu mijhee mot se itro gusso ko khae to. Aau agar akre deen pehla ahee viyoe ta too akrey deeh baadmey achney. Mijhi mot te ta tu roe to magar poteji mot ke bhuli vine to. Kaal toje saath hij theentho. Insaan jadhey murdey te mittee ujhanta ta u ee sochee ne roon to ke kaal mijhey mathey bhi biya mitti ujhna. Rooh je parindey ke aamal jo paband kari gino varna hee udee viyo koe ke bhee na thee signo.

SABAQ

Jadhey paa koiji Namaz-e-Janaza parhu ta hee sochi gin kay akrey deen panji bhi Namaz-e-Janaza parhaini. Jadhey koi key dafnayo ta hi sochi gino ke akre deen paankey bhi heenj dafnaina. Marele mathey roon je bajaee potey jee mout ji tayaari kario.

Dua

Dua aye ke Allah, SWT, paa ke imaan je saath rakeh ane imaan se saath uthai, Ameen ◼

Heartiest Mubarak & Best Wishes to
Nasserpuria Memon Jamat-Canada

Since its Formation

PEACE AND BLESSINGS:

Family of Late Haji Ebrahim Haji Mohamed Goralwalla

The Story of Jesus/Isa (AS)

Submitted By: Zulfa Kassam Varvani

Bismillahirrahmanirahim – In the name of Allah, the Most Gracious the Most Merciful. Isa (AS) or Jesus was a messenger of Allah (SWT). His life was a miracle from the day he was born. His mother, Maryam or Mary, was a pious woman. Today I am going to explain Prophet Isa’s life.

It begins with a pious lady named Hannah and her husband Imran. Hannah prayed to Allah (SWT) for a child. She vowed that the child would spend its life serving Allah. So He gave her a beautiful baby girl and she was named Maryam or Mary. Hannah was sad and said “O Lord! You have given me a girl – but only a boy can do priestly work.” But Allah (SWT) accepted Maryam and she grew up in purity serving Him. All the priests felt it would be an honor to be her guardian.

Maryam grew up in the loving care of Zakariyya (AS) who was the chief priest. Whenever Zakariyya (AS) visited Maryam he was always surprised to see fresh food and water spread on the table. He would ask “O Maryam! Where did you get this food and water from ?” Maryam would answer “Allah gives to whoever He pleases”.

One day Maryam was alone in her prayers. Suddenly an angel came in human form. He said to Maryam “I am here to announce that you are going to have a holy son.” “How should I have a holy son, when I am untouched by a man?” she wondered. The angel said “Your Lord has said it is easy for Him. We have appointed him a sign for men. It is a thing decreed.”

When Maryam gave birth to the baby, Allah (SWT) had told her to name him Isa ibn Maryam (or Jesus son of Mary). When Maryam returned with Isa, fingers were pointed at her, but she just pointed at the baby. The people wondered “how can we talk to a baby?” Thereupon, Isa (AS) performed his first miracle.

He said to the confused people “I am the Servant of Allah. He has given me the Book and made me a Prophet. His blessing is upon me wherever I go and He has commanded me to be steadfast in prayer and give alms to the poor as long as I shall live. He has made me kind and dutiful towards my mother. He has rid of me arrogance and wickedness. I was blessed on the day I was born and blessed I shall be on the day of my death and may peace be upon me on the day when I shall be raised to life.”

The people were shocked by the miracle of the baby. As he grew up, Allah (SWT) gave him the power to perform many miracles such as making clay into birds with just one breath, giving sight to the blind, curing lepers and raising the dead to life.

The people of Israel rejected him and only a few responded to his call. One day his disciples asked for food from the heaven. “Have fear of Allah” warned Isa (AS) “if you are true believers”. But they did not listen to him. So Isa (AS) prayed to Allah for food from the heavens. Angels brought the food – as a unique miracle.

Isa (AS) continued his mission for several years but only a few answered his call. The people of Israel wanted to kill him on a cross, but Allah (SWT) saved him and they crucified another man to appear like him.

There are sayings of Prophet Muhammad (SAW) that Prophet Isa (AS) will return before the Day of Judgement. Isa (AS) was born in Bayt-Lahm (Bethlehem) and lived in Nasariya (Nazareth) and from there he ascended to heaven ☐



“Empty pockets never hold anyone back. Only empty heads and empty hearts can do that”

Prophet Dawud

Submitted By: Madeeha Moledina Varvani

Writing a report is a challenge, but the best thing that comes out of it is what you learn about your topic. My topic is Prophet Dawud (AS).

Besides being a prophet, Dawud (AS) was also a messenger. A prophet cannot be a messenger, but a messenger can be a prophet. A messenger is someone who is given the Book. Dawud (AS) was one of the five that was sent to us. He was given the Zabur (palms). The reason Dawud (AS) was given the Zabur is because he was blessed with a melodious voice by Allah (SWT). That was not the only blessing Allah (SWT) gave him. Prophet Dawud (AS) was also granted a whole kingdom. He was able to understand the language of the birds and animals. But Dawud (AS) also had a difficult life as his tribe was tortured and slaved among the tribe of Goliath (Philistines). Dawud (AS), who feared and fought in the name of his lord, the lord of the universe Allah (SWT). Prophet Shamwill (AS) declared Talut their king. Talut admired Dawud's bravery and urge to fight the mighty warrior. He strongly refused, but Dawud (AS) did not agree and argued that Allah (SWT) had saved him from a bear and a lion. Reluctantly, Talut agreed, so Dawud (AS) went and killed Goliath. His army ran to get revenge. Dawud (AS) married the kings daughter as had been promised earlier.

They settled peacefully and after a short time, Talut died and Dawud (AS) took over as king, for the people had not forgotten what he had done for them.

Dawud (AS) was tested many times. Angels had been sent, and they pretended that they were in a fight over some sheep. Another time two men came with an argument to Dawud (AS) about a garden and some sheep, and Dawud (AS) and Suleiman took part in this incident.

On the day of Prophet Dawud's funeral, it was extremely hot, so Suleiman asked the birds to cover the people and Dawud (AS) until the funeral was over. This was the first miracle that the people had witnessed of Prophet Suleiman. Dawud (AS) is still greatly remembered.

This is my summery about Prophet Dawud (AS) ■

[[From Bukhari]] 3.854: Narrated Abu Huraira: Allah's Apostle said, "If the people knew what is the reward of making the call (for the prayer) and (of being in) the first row (in the prayer), and if they found no other way to get this privilege except by casting lots, they would certainly cast lots for it. If they knew the reward of the noon prayer, they would race for it, and if they knew the reward of the morning (i.e. Fajr) and `Isha prayers, they would present themselves for the prayer even if they had to crawl to reach there.

Eid

Waking up so early
As excitement fills the air
Getting ready for this big day
wearing my finest
Eating some dates
Before walking to the mosque
saying takbirat all the way
Praying
And wishing
A Happy Eid is what you say
Smiles and laughter echo my ears
As I lie in bed
remembering this Eid day

Submitted By: Madeeha Moledina Varvani

Answers to:

ISLAMIC CROSSWORD

ANSWERS From Page 36

ACROSS

(1) IDRIS (3) SHAMWIL (5) ELIAS (6) ALLAH (8) ISMAIL (10) YAHYA (12) AYYUB
(14) NUH (16) ISHAQ (18) SALEH (19) DAWUD (22) YAQUB (24) HARUN (25) LUT

DOWN

(1) IBRAHIM (2) ZAKARIYA (3) SULAYMAN (4) ISA (7) ADAM (9) MOHAMMAD
(11) YUNUS (13) DHULKIFL (15) HUD (17) SHUAYB (20) ALYASA (21) MUSA (23) YUSUF

FOOD GRAMS

ANSWERS From Page 28

KALIYO	KHEERAJ
BIRYANI	MALPURA
BATATA CHAM	PULAO
MACHI PAKA	SHERBET
MAKATI SINIA	LADDU
BHAJIA	TANDOORI MANI
SAMOSAS	KAYMATI

Familiar phrase is:

NASSERPURIA MEMON JAMAAT CANADA

Perseverance!

ANSWERS From Page 62

(1) PRAYERS	(9) REFUSED
(2) WALKING	(10) SHAYTAAN
(3) TRIPPED	(11) HELP
(4) CLEANED	(12) EXPECTED
(5) FLASHLIGHT	(13) FORGAVE
(6) APPROACHED	(14) HOUSEHOLD
(7) GUIDANCE	(15) VILLAGE
(8) WITHOUT	

REBUS PUZZLE

ANSWERS From Page 79

GROWING ECONOMY

NO ONE TO BLAME

ONE IN A MILLION

FAMILY WORD SEARCH

Submitted By: Sister Zainab Salyani-Haq

G	A	D	C	F	M	W	A	S	T	E	F	A	A	L	L	Y
O	S	R	E	D	N	A	P	S	E	R	A	I	D	C	E	B
R	A	L	I	O	N	E	M	T	W	O	P	T	H	K	U	B
A	E	N	O	N	K	E	B	D	S	R	N	E	A	K	H	A
L	T	W	O	H	A	R	U	N	A	N	I	S	A	E	E	L
W	E	N	I	N	D	H	O	P	L	N	T	Y	A	I	B	L
A	A	A	B	S	E	T	T	Y	Y	I	I	Y	O	U	A	A
L	I	L	L	S	R	T	T	A	A	I	N	E	N	I	C	W
L	D	A	A	L	N	O	N	E	N	W	A	C	I	N	H	D
A	A	S	A	V	A	B	M	A	I	Y	H	A	N	B	E	N
X	R	Z	A	N	N	W	V	H	G	N	C	F	A	E	L	A
I	A	C	A	J	I	R	K	X	O	K	A	L	Y	M	A	H
N	H	D	T	H	A	D	S	O	R	Q	B	W	I	P	N	K
A	B	U	M	V	G	W	R	X	S	N	Y	J	H	Z	I	B
S	L	K	J	A	I	A	H	E	G	F	M	E	T	T	D	C
U	M	O	N	P	N	R	B	S	D	N	T	J	A	U	I	V
M	A	C	C	I	S	I	O	I	D	A	R	R	H	E	W	M
F	O	U	R	S	I	N	A	M	S	A	K	Z	Q	A	H	A

- ADMANI
- BACHANI
- BACHELANI
- BAGHA
- BHARADIA
- GORALWALLA
- HARUNANI
- HAQ
- HATHIYANI
- KADERDINA
- KADERNANI
- KASMANI
- NMJ
- KHANDWALLA
- MACCI
- MAMDANI
- MITHWANI
- MUSANI
- NATHANI
- NOORANI
- PARPIA
- SALYANI
- SOKWALLA
- YAKUB
- VARVANI
- NMJ



JUST 10 YEARS AGO

Submitted By: Sister Sameera Salyani

(before the "computer age")



- An **application** was for employment
- A **program** was a television show
- Windows** were something you hated to clean
- A **keyboard** was a piano
- A **cursor** used profanity
- Memory** was something you lost with age
- Compress** was something you did to garbage
- Log on** was adding wood to a fire
- A **hard drive** was a long trip on the road
- A **mouse pad** was where a mouse lived
- Cut** you did with scissors
- Paste** you did with glue
- A **web** was a spider's home
- And a **virus** was the flu!!!

WOW, HOW TIMES HAVE CHANGED !!!



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