

# Paigaam

Eid  
Mubarak  
*From The Paigaam Team*

# Shocked

## Government reject Islamophobia definition

***"If we don't act now, to tackle  
Islamophobia, which Muslim's life will  
be next? Will it be mine?" Naz Shah MP***

Full article on Page 7

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# PAIGAAM READER'S

Comment

## Is Eid for sale?

**REWIND** thirty years and you see a simple Eid full of family, affordable clothes and best of all no gimmicks. Eid was a day to rejoice together, eat merrily and, if you were lucky enough, mount a nice little windfall through the 50p Eidi.

Modern-day Eids have become so commercialised it has even stacked itself on supermarket shelves. It all seems to be as commercialised as any festival of any faith, driven by a greedy capitalist company exploiting religion for personal profit.

Supermarket aisles are lined with Ramadhan necessities that then part-way through the month morphs into the 'Eid Mubarak' aisle.

On one-hand it does have a pleasant taste. In a time when Islamophobia is rampant and Muslims keep getting told "you don't fit in" to suddenly find

every shopper is being greeted with 'EID MUBARAK' as they enter the store makes it feel like a right kick up the Islamophobes jacksie. Yay to that.

But the other side is slightly more distressing. The commercialisation of Eid has wondered into greeting cards, elaborate gifts, party hats and crackers, non-alcoholic wine bottles and an awful lot more, the true message of Eid is leaving us.

Eid used to be about praying an extra prayer and recognising that this was the day to continue our progress as worshippers. Yes, it was a time for families to rejoice, but not lavishness, not extravagance. The month-long fasting and charity made

us humble and we intend to continue with the good we started.

Then comes this day of merriment and we forget all



about the pangs of hunger that reminded us of those with less or the prayers that brought tears to our eyes in gratitude and the want for forgiveness.

It could just be that we remember childhoods as better than our adult lives and 30 years ago wasn't much different.

Sure the pockets had less and, therefore, this was the factor that made items more simple rather than an ardent desire to embrace piety. Come to think of it our extravagance may stretch decades.

In any case, why not make our Eid this year one that shines the light of Ramadhan rather than dimming it into obscurity. Why not make it what it is meant to be regardless of how we spent the distant or recent past and establish not customs but faithful practices.

If you're brave enough, strong-willed enough and able to control your desires, a simple Eid based on love and compassion may well stop our Eid from being nothing more than a product for sale in a retail window.

Got something to say? Want to share a thought or a view? Send in your reader's comments to [paigaam@imws.org.uk](mailto:paigaam@imws.org.uk) Maximum 350 words

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## 'Tis the season for community Iftars

**T H E R E ' S** nothing like a bit of nosh to get people together and sprinkle in a reason just makes it all a tad bit more worthwhile. So there's no surprise that community Iftars, when Muslims break their fast, have been more popular than ever spreading across the length and breadth of the country.



Batley had its annual More In Common Iftar the size of which was phenomenal again. The PKWA and charity Purpose of Life held weekly iftars, Darul Ilm in Dewsbury organised their own with invited dignitaries and Islam Dewsbury held one too.

You don't have to go far before ones in Wakefield, Bradford, Huddersfield and Leeds pop up in your social media timelines.

And then there's the Iftar at St Paul's Cathedral, British Library and the open air Iftars which stretched out in front of masjids and police stations up and down the country.

The Iftars have acted as a chance for people of other faiths and no faith to have an opportunity to know more about Ramadhan and experience the breaking of the fast and observe prayers.

There are simply too many and too varied to cover them all but if the videos and images circulated are anything to go by then it seems a lot of people enjoyed a lot of company and food.

## Venue change doesn't stop hundreds attending the Iftar



Photo credit: @TracyBrabin MP

**A LAST** minute venue change due to the weather didn't stop hundreds of people attend the Batley Iftar this year.

The Iftar was planned to be held in Batley's Memorial Gardens, as per the previous two years, but an unfavourable weather forecast meant organisers More In Common had to move the event just the day before to Upper Batley High School.

The Iftar took place in the school's large gymnasium with around 700 people attending.

Recitation from the Quraan, followed by translations in English, from children began the evening, which then opened with speeches from Kim Leadbeater and Qari Asim.

Students from Batley Girls' High School performed a short original sketch written by Mohamed Saloo for the Batley Iftar. The comedy sketch used a quiz scenario to dispel some of the common misconceptions about fasting across the wider community.

Batley Poets took to the stage next with Jem Tovey, Tahera Mayet, Justine Young,

Mohammed Barber, Jackie Darnborough and Bilal Saloo. A memorable poem about cake by Bilal burst the room with laughter and became one of the all-time Batley Iftar memories.

Children from Warwick Road, Windmill Primary and Purlwell Infant schools joined together to sing Maher Zain's One Big Family. The applause reverberated the walls of the school gym with a beautiful rendition of the song from a diverse group of children who really are our tomorrow.

Moulana Aftab and Khatija Lunat shared some thoughts before faith leaders stood defiantly together on stage as the call for prayer was said.

After the breaking of the fast and prayers, the hundreds of attendees headed to the school's bistro where free food met personal picnics for a delightful feast.

Whilst the rain came down outside, inside it was a time to share, reflect and laugh together, a glimpse of what communities actually are instead of the regular narrative that leaves us all deflated.

## Champions Mount FC take the silverware in stunning style

**MOUNT** Pleasant FC became league title winners of the open-age Championship Division in the Heavy Woollen Sunday League. The team ended the season with an unbeaten home league record, and a solid defensive record saw an average of conceding just one goal per game.

The team got off to a strong start to the season, blitzing teams and playing some beautiful passing football. The club told Paigaam "We went into the winter break with 28 points out of 30, putting us in a strong position in the title race".

In the second half of the

season, they came across some challenges with a lot of injuries, but the strength and depth of the squad showed as they continued to get the results.

Club top scorer Abdullah Mayat also picked up the golden boot as top scorer in the league.

The team spirit and footballing quality saw Mount FC manage to finish the season as champions, seeing off any challenges, including local rivals Snowdon FC, beating them home and away.

Captain Faheem Mira said, "It's been an incredible year for us. We've been playing in open age football for eight years now and

have made a lot of progress.

"In our first four seasons, we gained four consecutive promotions to take us to the top divisions with an ambition to compete against some outstanding teams.

"Over the years, our players have had the opportunity to test their abilities against some of the best teams and against players of semi-pro standard, which has been great.

"But now came the time for



us to win some silverware. And this was the year. Our squad has been the strongest it's ever been, with togetherness about the players. It's been a very proud moment for us to win this league title together, and I'm sure the lads will cherish this forever".

# Government reject APPG definition of Islamophobia

**THERESA MAY** has rejected a definition of Islamophobia that would allow Muslims the right to challenge the everyday hate and abuse they encounter.

The All-Party Parliamentary Group on British Muslims (APPG) launched their definition last November, which was produced after consultation with legal experts, MPs and Muslims Groups.

Over 750 Muslim organisations had called on the government to adopt the definition, which states "Islamophobia is rooted in racism and is a type of racism that targets expressions of Muslimness or perceived Muslimness".

The definition not only represents Muslims but also those who encounter Islamophobia, like Sikhs, but are not of the Muslim faith.

The Labour Party, Liberal Democrats, and Greens had already pledged their support.

In Scotland, all the political parties, including the Scottish Conservatives, have agreed to support use of the definition in an effort to combat hate crime.

But the UK government has decided to establish their own definition of Islamophobia, a year after saying there wasn't a need for one.

Communities Secretary,

James Brokenshire MP said the government will not be adopting the APPG definition because it "raises practical and legal challenges". He said "The APPG proposal defines Islamophobia as "a type of racism", which is not in line with the definition enshrined in the Equality Act 2010."

Instead, the Communities Secretary announced an Anti-Muslim Hatred Working Group who will look to build the definition of Islamophobia.

But just days after the rejection an ITV News report exposed 110 accusations of Islamophobia and racism from Conservative Party Members, 19 of which were fresh allegations.

Baroness Sayeeda Warsi has been openly criticising her party amid the rampant Islamophobia and racism from party members. She told ITV News, "Last month, I spent four weeks speaking to the party privately and I started by asking them to bring to the table the number of complaints that they had received - and that I too would bring to the table the number of complaints that I had received to try and at

least understand the scale of the problem.

"The fact that the party refused to do that, and the fact that we have these revelations today that



workplaces, our communities.

"This debate about how we define Islamophobia is long overdue, because unless we define it, we can't understand it which means we're not tackling it".

Bradford MP Naz Shah spoke passionately recounting the murders of Mohammed Saleem in 2015, Mohsin Ahmed in 2015 and Makram Ali in 2017, all who were killed by far-right activists for being Muslims.

Ms Shah emotionally read out some of the hate comments she has received as a Muslim, adding "Muslim lives have been lost both globally and here in the UK because of Islamophobia. If we don't act now, to tackle Islamophobia, which Muslim's life will be next? Will it be mine?"

Muslims across the UK remain in a state of vigilance and remain targets for far-right groups. Ms Shah's final comment rings true in the minds of Muslims across the country, who had thought this definition after the decades of being verbally and physically abused would be a light at the end of the tunnel. But for now, that does not seem to be the case.

this issue is widespread and deep, clearly shows that the party has got something to hide."

She added, "The party have to first and foremost acknowledge the extent of the problem. They then have to be transparent about the process that is being adopted."

Speaking about the debate on Islamophobia in parliament, the co-chair of the APPG, Wes Streeting MP said, "Hatred against religious communities in this country is on the rise and the Muslim community bear the brunt of that."

He added that Islamophobia "begins with simple prejudice every day in our schools, our

## Event covers spiritual and physical issues of Ramadhan

**JUST** a week before the start of Ramadhan a special programme was organised to help with questions around fasting and health.

Organised by the IMWS Islamic Affairs team, the event on Saturday 27 April had the privilege of hosting a question and answer session with leading Islamic scholar Mufti Yusuf Sacha sahib DB.

The programme, planned for brothers and sisters, began with a talk on zakat by Moulana Marghoob sahib. He spoke of

the importance of giving zakat and the rights of those closer to you through family links. ML Marghoob also talked about the local need for financial help including through zakat. He mentioned Ihsan Compassion Fund who are a local charity collecting donations, including zakat, for local people. More about ICF can be found in last months Paigaam.

Dr Misbah Mohammed delivered a presentation about the impact of diabetes on fasting. Dr Misbah is

a consultant in diabetes, endocrinology and weight management. He went through the effects diabetes can have on people whilst fasting, giving



advice on taking medication at appropriate times and the potential need to adjust the amount of medication, emphasising for patients to consult their diabetes practitioner.

Mufti Sacha Sahib led on the Q&A that included questions

around the impact of injections, medicinal sprays and eye drops on the fast. The questions covered a range of topics both about Ramadhan and general Islamic practices.

Attendees were intrigued and keen to experience the depth of Mufti sahib's knowledge and found the event extremely beneficial.

IMWS would like to thank all the speakers for taking their time out to attend and deliver a very important programme for the community.

# IMWS begin initiative for a stronger working partnership with affiliates

**THE IMWS** has taken the initiative to engage in a series of meetings with the affiliated organisations to develop a better understanding and engage in joint projects, which will benefit the membership as well as the local community at large.

The first meeting was held at the end of April with the management committee of Masjid-e-Mahmoodiyah, Taylor Street.

IMWS Chair, Dr Imtiaz Patel, was accompanied by five IMWS elected members who met the management committee at Taylor Street for some open and frank discussions. The brothers from the masjid explained their committee structure in detail and how their committee operates. They also explained how they work jointly with other areas on various projects, listing MPIT, Mount Pleasant and ICWA, Warwick Road, as examples.

During the meeting, the masjid committee expressed their favour towards IMWS and said the ongoing support they give would continue.

However, one question they presented to the IMWS delegation, which their members are frequently asking them, is about the ten-pound member-fees paid to the IMWS. Their members want to know what they get in return for the ten pounds.

The IMWS delegation went through the benefits members receive. It was suggested that IMWS publish the benefits of being a member in a future issue of Paigaam.

It was also suggested that the IMWS publicise the work done by them through Paigaam and use other social media platforms so that members understand better

what their membership entitles them to and what the Society is doing.



encounter, which showed how a relatively recently formed masjid committee has developed their vision and progressed to meet the needs of their local community. Feedback from the meeting will go toward building a stronger Society generally and help to develop a more directional organisation working side-by-side with its affiliates for the betterment of the community.

The modern-day holds new challenges both for the evolution of the IMWS and its affiliates as well as what Muslims face in the public eye. It is important now more than ever for the joint work we do to really make a difference.

IMWS is in the process of organising similar meetings with other area committees after the holy month of Ramadan.

Another suggestion made by the masjid committee was to hold regular meetings between area chairs, the IMWS Chair and a few elected members. These would allow ideas to be generated and shared.

The meeting was a promising

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## It's India V Pakistan at Batley's ground



**NOT** got tickets for India V Pakistan? Well you can pop down to Batley Cricket Club who will be screening the game LIVE on a big screen.

You can also watch the U15s match versus Undercliffe CC whilst you're there.

There's also Girls softball cricket, cricket skills and games and an Under 9's tournament.

Food and drink will also be on offer and entrance to the ground is free.

It all starts at 10am on Sunday 16 June.

## Elections hit local Labour strongholds

**MAY'S** local election showed a national trend of voters opting away from Labour and Conservative candidates with the Libdems and Greens making significant gains. But locally Labour strongholds came under threat from independent candidates.

Dewsbury East produced the shock result with former UKIP candidate Aleks Lukic winning the seat by just 71 votes for the Dewsbury Borough Independents. Veteran Eric Firth who became a councillor in 1994, lost his seat in 2006 before successfully coming back the following year.

Batley West had a closer run than previous years as Paul Halloran from the Batley

Borough Independents came within just over 600 votes of Labour's new councillor Yusra Hussain. It's the closest the ward has been in more than a decade.

Across Kirklees, Labour lost three wards and gained two, but managed to maintain their majority on the council. Cllr Sahbir Pandor was re-elected as leader of the Labour group and expected to become leader of the council.

But the results locally show dissatisfaction within the electorate with their present councillors. If Labour want to maintain their hold they are going to have to be more representative of local wards rather than singing from the Kirklees hymn sheet.

## Your MP's say

This Month Dewsbury's

**Paula Sherriff MP**

**EID MUBARAK TO ALL READERS!**

In spite of the ongoing furore over Brexit, I've been busy in Parliament and the constituency, raising issues that matter to local people.

After hearing from several local headteachers, I've been working to raise concerns about school funding, and I was pleased to welcome Shadow Secretary of State for Education, Angela Rayner to the constituency to hear more about their struggles.

In the coming weeks, I've arranged for a meeting of concerned headteachers with Schools Minister, Nick Gibb MP. Government ministers need to hear first-hand the financial difficulties being experienced by many local schools due to government education policy.

I've also been questioning ministers about resources to protect our places of worship in light of abhorrent attacks seen recently around the world, and have been assured by West Yorkshire Police that they are paying particular attention to religious institutions during this time.

As Shadow Minister for Mental Health, I was proud to support Mental Health Awareness Week, highlighting areas where we need to do so much better in supporting people with mental ill health, and promoting good health and wellbeing in the constituency and beyond.

I am very excited that, on Friday 21 June, I will be holding my first Health and Wellbeing Fair at the Howlands Centre in Dewsbury.

We'll be joined by a number of organisations, all of which either offer support for mental and physical health conditions, offer advice on healthy living, or provide a service which improves health and fitness. There will be local charities, health organisations, and local leisure and sport clubs – so why not come along and learn about the types of services on offer in the local area?

Where: Howlands Centre, Dewsbury, WF13 1LD. When: Friday 21 June, 11am – 2pm. If you'd like more information, please get in touch - paula@paulasherriff.org.uk

**Next Month Batley & Spen's  
Tracy Brabin MP**

# Standing together following Sri Lanka

**ANOTHER** terror attack claiming more innocent lives shocked the world as news broke of the Easter Sunday attacks in Sri Lanka. The attacks on churches and hotels claimed the lives of 250 men, women and children.

The horrors of attacks on places of worship and innocent lives were felt locally as communities came together on the steps of Batley Town Hall.

Organised by North Kirklees Inter-Faith, a group of different faith leaders from North Kirklees, the gathering was addressed and hosted by Moulana Irfan Soni and the Reverend Mark Umpleby.

Speeches from Tracy Brabin MP, Cllr Gwen Lowe the Mayor of Kirklees and community leaders including IMWS' Vice Chair Mohammed Laher addressed the crowd.

Batley and Dewsbury have a small Sri Lankan community who came and shared their feelings and fears following the terror attacks. Images and

messages were relayed back to friends in Sri Lanka for them to see how in a town thousands of miles away they were being remembered.

In a statement from Dr Imitiyaz Patel, Chair of IMWS, he said, "It is horrifying to hear once more of

these senseless attacks on innocent men, women and children who had left their homes this morning to perform an act of worship.

"The act of terrorists regardless of what they say is always aimed at creating division and hate between communities. We must not let that happen.

"We stand side-by-side with our Christian friends, as we do with all people



regardless of faith, race or ethnicity, against those who commit these horrifying acts".

A week after the Easter Sunday attacks representatives from Muslim organisations in Batley and Dewsbury, including the IMWS, visited local churches during morning service to offer their condolences and to show we all stand together against hate and terror.

## Car crash claims aid workers lives

**TRIBUTES** have been paid to two aid workers who sadly lost their lives in a car crash whilst providing aid in Mozambique. Late Farook Jassat from Maputo, Mozambique, and Ummah Welfare Trust's Basharat Hussain from Rochdale were involved in the accident whilst delivering aid.

Brother Farook had just recently worked with the IMWS in providing aid to the victims of cyclone Idai. Following the IMWS appeal some of the funds were

donated to brother Farook who worked in the region as an aid worker, to help the victims of the cyclone in one of the poorest regions of the continent.

His dedication to the cause, as that of brother Basharat, was unrelenting and the tragic incident has left a gap in humanity.

Close friend Qari Ziyaad Patel paid tribute saying, "I have the fondest of memories with marhoom Farook Jassat.

"We have lost a legendary humanitarian in the

line of duty. A sad day for the Ummah and the humanitarian fraternity at large.

"We have lost one of our best."

The team had completed distribution in Buzi and were en route to Beira when the accident happened.

IMWS would like to send our deepest condolences to the family of the bereaved. May the Almighty accept their efforts, elevate their position in jannah and give patience to their loved ones.

## Out with the old!



**WELL** it might look like a hollow hall at the moment but we can confirm work is progressing well on the new Al-Hikmah sports hall, on its way to be ready for its reopening on Saturday 7 June.

The wooden floor is out and works on the painting and lights has begun. The new Tiger Turf floor will be laid soon.

As a special reopening offer prime time slots can be booked for a reduced price of £20 per hour from 7 June – 16 June, then moving to £40 per hour as a regular price.

You can book slots by calling 07968222886.

Watch the IMWS website for more updates!



## A new hope for the old shopping centre



**LEFT** mostly empty for decades, the old shopping centre in Batley had long since lost its appeal to any business, with Candyman's the last remaining store closing-up in 2014. But now a new vision could revive the old arcade to a host of new opportunities.

Z&F Properties Ltd has been working to renovate the arcade on Alfreds Way and will have 24 units when work is completed. The New Batley Plaza will add another dimension to the growing town centre, which is fast heading back toward a thriving hub.

Paigaam were told by Z&F Properties that the Batley Plaza will have two floors with the upstairs being a food court. Around ten units have already

been taken by interested retailers whilst work is still on-going, showing good promise that all the units will be filled.

The Plaza is expected to be open for business in around eight months and a phase two, which will see units come above Iceland and Asda, will take the total number of units to around 40.

Z&F Properties are also the team behind the successful Bradford Plaza.



## Here comes the Great Get Together!

**PEOPLE** across the country will be holding Great Get Together events this month as part of the More In Common initiative. The Great Get Together weekend this year falls from 21 June to 23 June, but some are happening in the run-up.

More In Common launched the events weekend a year after the murder of Jo Cox MP, who was killed by a terrorist in 2016. They serve to bring local people together to get to know each other and build new friendships across diverse divides.

The first event has already taken place with the Batley Iftar last month.

Batley Bulldogs will be holding their annual Jo Cox Memorial match on Sunday 16 June.

Admission will be free with the doors open with things to do from 12pm. The match starts at 3pm and is a great opportunity for people who have never been to a rugby match to experience one.

A schools event is also planned before the weekend of activities takes off.

Then kicking off the weekend, the Batley Bake Off will be held at Upper Batley High School on Friday 21 June from 10am – 11:30am.

A Community service and picnic will take place at the Memorial Gardens in Batley on Saturday 22 June from 11am – 1pm, followed by Cake on the Cobbles in the Market Square from 1pm – 4pm on the same day.

More events are being planned across Batley and will end with the Run for Jo on Sunday 23 June where runners will take part in a 6.5km and a 2.5km run around the grounds at Oakwell Hall.



## Women and girls get a taste of soft-ball cricket

**APRIL** saw the launch of the first taster session of Softball Cricket for women and girls, which was held at the Al-Hikmah sports hall. Organised by Local coaches in partnership with Yorkshire County Cricket Club and English Cricket Board, the sessions attracted over 20 participants, many of whom had never played cricket and were keen to find out more about the game and give it a try.

The session was delivered by level 1 and 2 ECB qualified female coaches and was split into some quick practice drills followed by a game of Kwik Cricket.



For the first part, the ladies were able to use professional level factory equipment to practice skills such as bowling, batting, fielding and catching.

The game that followed allowed these skills to be put to use. Organisers said "there was brilliant interaction between ladies and girls within our local community and strong family bonds between mothers and daughters, with some good friendly competition going too.

Many were interested in developing further, which was great news for the coaches who said, "There was good positive feedback with some ladies wanting to learn and understand the game further. From this, we intend to make the first women and girls softball team in the area to play teams from other areas".

Feedback included, "Really well organised and a good introduction",

" Well organised session I had lots of fun, plenty of the skills to pick up, friendly coaches", and "Good and fun session enjoyed the atmosphere, really friendly. Learnt some new rules about cricket".

For any girls and ladies that were unable to attend the first taster, there are four sessions remaining and the coaches are encouraging more to participate.

You can find out more about soft-ball cricket for women and girls on Page 4 of this issue.

## IMWS Women's Committee

# Enlightening Ladies Ramadhan Workshops

**THIS RAMADHAN** the IMWS Women's committee was fortunate enough to work with amazing learned sisters from the local community to help deliver a variety of amazing and much-needed workshops. The sessions addressed topics from salaah, wudhu and ghusal to Ramadhan and the humble miswak.

### Meaningful Prayer (Salaah) workshop

Back by popular demand, the Meaningful Prayer workshop was delivered, with the aim of reconnecting hearts and perfecting postures, during Salaah.

The practical and theory workshops, covering Khushoo in Salaat, were skillfully delivered by local learned sisters.

Khushoo' means calmness, serenity, tranquillity, and that the heart stands before the Lord in humility and submission.

The practical workshop was very engaging, easy to follow and all the positions in salaah were demonstrated – an excellent way of refreshing this knowledge. The theory workshop was very uplifting with techniques to help focus before starting salah, relaxation and understanding the meaning of Surah Al fatiha and Att'tahiyat were all useful in attaining khushoo.

A participant commented, "Both the practical and talks were brilliant. Really helped me to correct my namaz - much needed and highly recommended."



### Miswak the forgotten Sunnah and Ramadhan duas

A unique and well-attended workshop was delivered to revive the forgotten Sunnah of using a miswak in daily life. Everyone knows about the miswak but most never use it for the lack of knowledge. So issues were addressed and things like how to prepare a miswak once opened from the packet (peeling the bark to reveal bristles), holding, directions of how to use miswak and storage were demonstrated.

Besides the oral benefits of using a miswak, including shiny bright teeth and clean breath, numerous other benefits of using a miswak were articulately explained, some benefits were so amazing, one wonders why it's not used more.

In addition to helping with digestion, eyesight, headaches and memory, the humble miswak, if used before reading salah, will multiply the reward 70 times! Lots of beneficial duas and tips were also shared for

the month of Ramadhan.

Feedback from participants included, "A very useful workshop and a great time to start using the miswak, especially in Ramadhan. I will be using the miswak at home now and hoping to get one for the kids too. Now I know how to use a miswak properly, I will be able to show my kids as well."

### Female hygiene course

A new workshop was delivered with a view to addressing issues related to female personal hygiene, ghusal and wudhu. The course clearly demonstrated how to do wudhu and ghusal correctly and when ghusal and wudhu were necessary. A great opportunity was then provided for participants to have a Q&A session to help answer some niggling queries.

IMWS Women's Committee would like to thank all our volunteers and learned sisters for helping to deliver such amazing and invaluable workshops throughout the Ramadhan period.

## Land and property sale at Al-Hikmah Centre



**IN LIGHT** of many fake social media messages that have been going around and a lot of misinformation circulated by a few individuals, the management committee of IMWS would like to put the record straight.

About five years ago we were approached by some of our members who live in the neighbourhood of the Al-Hikmah Centre. They wanted to acquire a piece of land (approximately 0.8 acre) and the two-bedroom cottage with a view to construct a masjid on the Al-Hikmah grounds. Following this approach a Special General Meeting (SGM) was called during which it was agreed by way of majority that the said land and the cottage will be sold to the interested members. Valuations for the land and the property were carried out by professional surveyors and a price of £250,000 was agreed with the group of members who subsequently organised themselves as Al Ehsan Trust.

The price was the amount they agreed to pay to the Society, once the planning permission for the new masjid was granted by the local authority. IMWS agreed to facilitate the planning application but Al Ehsan Trust was solely responsible for the cost to secure the successful outcome. It was also agreed that IMWS will reserve the right to restrict the car parking facility as the Society has many events that take place during the day and sometimes in the evening too.

The proceeds of the sale will be ploughed back in to the IMWS account and will be utilised for the benefit of the community in the future. We are very tightly regulated by the Charity Commission and would like to assure our members that no trustee will personally benefit from the proceeds of sale.

Hence to conclude we would like to inform the members that the price agreed for the sale of the land and the cottage is £250,000 and NOT £300,000 as some individuals have suggested.

# Jaliyanwala Bagh or Amritsar Massacre had been a “Shameful scar” on Britain’s history – Theresa May

Comment



**IT HAS** been a centenary anniversary of Jaliyanwala Bagh massacre otherwise known as Amritsar Massacre in April 1919. The massacre took place on 13 April 1919 in Jaliyanwala Bagh which is a large public park with walled gardens and five entrances situated in the city of Amritsar.

All over India the protest British rule was gathering pace and the Indian people wanted the British out of India. Especially in Punjab, the situation was deteriorating rapidly, with disruptions of rail, telegraph, and communication systems. The movement was at its peak before the end of the first week of April 1919, with some historians recording that “practically the whole of Lahore was on the street.” Many officers in the British Indian army believed that a revolt was imminent, and they prepared for it. The British Governor of Punjab Michael O’Dwyer is said to have believed that these were the early and ill-conceived signs of a conspiracy against the British Rule in India along the line of 1957 revolt.

In the meantime, two popular leaders of the Indian Independence Movement Satya Pal and Saifuddin Kitchlew were arrested by the British and were moved to a secret location. Civilians gathered at the Jaliyanwala Bagh to protest the arrest and some also gathered at the park to celebrate the Sikh festival of Baisakhi. On the very same day by the order of the Governor General O’Dwyer, an Acting British Indian army commander known as Bragadier-General Reginald Dyer banned all form

of public meetings in Punjab. On hearing that a large crowd had assembled at Jaliyanwala Bagh General Dyer went with soldiers from the 2nd and 9th Gurkha Rifles to the Jaliyanwala Bagh. They entered the park blocking the main entrance behind them and took up position on a raised bank. On Dyer’s order the troop opened fires with automatic machine guns on crowd without warning for about ten minutes until their ammunition ran out directing their bullets on the largely towards the few open gates through which unarmed people were trying to escape.

The casualty number amounted to more than 1500 injured and 1000 dead according to the Indian National Congress estimate. According to Dyer 200 to 300 people died. Whatever the number was it was certainly more than 1000 dead. This “brutality stunned the entire nation”, resulting in a “wrenching loss of faith” of the general Indian public in the intentions of the UK. The ineffective inquiry, together with the initial accolades for Dyer by the House of Lords, fuelled great widespread anger against the British among the Indian populace, later leading to the non-cooperative movement of 1920–22.

Dyer was initially lauded for his actions by conservatives in Britain and became a hero among many of the people who were directly benefiting from the British Raj for example, members of the House of Lords. However, he was widely criticised by liberals in the House of Commons and in July 1920 a committee of investigation set up by the

British Parliament censured him. Both the Secretary of State at the time Winston Churchill and former Prime Minister H.H. Asquith, openly condemned the attack, Churchill referring to it as “unutterably monstrous”, while Asquith called it “one of the worst, most dreadful, outrages in the whole of our history. No penal or strict disciplinary action could be given because his actions had been approved of by his military superiors, but he was disciplined by being removed from his current appointment, being turned down for a proposed promotion, and was prohibited from further employment in India. As such, he was forced to retire from the army and returned to England, where he died in 1927.

However, it was not forgotten by one Punjabi civilian Udham Singh who saw the massacre as an insult on all people of India. He himself was witnessed the massacre and was wounded during this unfortunate event. Somehow, he arrived in Britain with intention of avenging the event of Jalyanwala Bagh. Udham Singh somehow managed to purchase a gun and on 13 March 1940 he assassinated the former Governor-General O’Dwyer at Caxton Hall in London. Singh was hanged for the murder on 31st July 1940.

As it was a centenary anniversary the massacre was discussed in the House of Commons again in February in detail and prime minister Theresa May said that it had been a “shameful scar” on Britain’s history, but her statement fell short of being an apology.

## Remember our charity appeals are all year round

AS RAMADHAN comes to an end the IMWS would like to thank all the donations that have come in to make a difference to so many lives. In the next issues we'll be giving more information on the amounts donated to the appeals in Ramadhan.

But remember some of the IMWS charity appeals last all year round. Our aid appeals for Gaza and Syria are collected at the Al-Hikmah Office throughout the year. These appeals go to provide aid to some of the most persecuted people in the world and are appeals that need constant support.

Our South Gujarat Project appeal is also collected throughout the year. This appeal gives back to an area where the organisation's founders and members come from and go to help improve lives of people who have no other means. The self-employment, housing and scholarship projects have given hope to so many people and helps to establish families able to support themselves.

As we come to the end of Ramadan do donate your Sadaqatul Fitr which our local scholars have set at £3.12 per person. The same amount is also used per fast for anyone paying fidya.

# So this was Ramadhan and what have we learnt?

## PRE-RAMADHAN

jitters like "Will we manage the long fasts? And Will the samosas run out?" have ended and a more pressing talking point now is the future and how we intend to live it.

Another Ramadhan fading into the distance should knock on the door of our mortality harder than a sledgehammer crashing through a vulnerable wall. Comments like "didn't this Ramadhan go so fast" receiving replies like "isn't this year just zooming by" should, in all honesty, make us realise the shortness of life and that we need to be more focused on acts of our faith and being a better person.

Fasting not only clears the stomach but allows the mind to function with clarity. The daily rituals of running around like a headless chicken are replaced by a more calm and relaxed existence. Time wasting gadgets put to one side, or at least reduced, to devote to worship. Teenager's and parents sharing a civil conversation and eating



being politely and see how it changes hearts and minds. We see so much hate around us and targeted toward us. We may not be able to defeat it all, but you'll be surprised how many friends we'll make just with a smile and being pleasant.

together #Bliss.

Undoubtedly, the month leaves with an intention to be a better Muslim.

So take it a step further. Why not carrying on with our five daily prayers, reciting Quraan and frequenting the masjid.

Take heed of the lectures that informed us to develop a better character and better conduct with our fellow human beings.

Our shortcomings, and at times greed in material pursuits, shine brighter than tree lights dangling off a wedding house roof. Rather than follow the magnanimous ways of the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), we live life chasing material glory.

Greet your fellow human

As a community our kindness is unquestionable from charity donations to fundraising for food banks. This shows the real side of our community, which we can all be proud of.

So as we embark on a new chapter of our existence, let's keep checking if we have kept up with our noble intention. Checking our worshiping and character remain, to bring out that better Muslim from within.

A final point is that we are generally quite quick to point the finger at others. What we fail to realise is three fingers are pointing right back at us. If you thought this article was for someone else, read it again.

## What's on your Eid plate?

EID is a time to come together and there really is nothing like traditional favourites to bring the family together. We asked for some suggestions of the common, well biryani, and weird foods that will sit on your Eid plate this year.

Abdul told us his favored biryani is slow cooked basmati rice, home fried onions, saffron, ghee, succulent mouthwatering morsels of Lamb, added with crispy jersey potatoes and garnished with slices of free range eggs, and finally, carefully added with gorwa (yogurt sauce) to

personal satisfaction

"This isn't just ANY Biryani, this is My Mums home-made Biryani" he added with a touch of satire on a present supermarket campaign.

We do apologise if you're fasting and that's made your mouth water.

Nazneen kept it simple and peculiar with tomato salad as did Ali who said on Eid he likes to get stuck into a "chicken and mayo salad and also a galaxy dessert".

Fatima said "Lots of sugary foods no doubt!" adding, "Chicken samosas replaced by sugary semolina ones for a start".

Whilst Farida told us of her fried chicken and even kindly provided a recipe - to follow in a future issue.

Adam listed "biryani, Jado (sweet rice), fish fingers, chips, fish cakes, soft drinks and desserts (a variety of) in the afternoon and a BBQ in the evening". Adam may well need to consider more fasting.

Bilal said lunch is biryani "but in the evening it's a subway sandwich".

And finally, Umm Ibrahim Ahmad shared a far more sophisticated pallet with "Biryani,



chicken tikka and kheer for dessert, are the common things we have on Eid. And the unusual we might have is a Kaleji dish, which is kidney".

Of course, we did get the "we go out for a meal" and many many repetitions of biryani, but we thought we'd spare you from too many dishes.

Feel free to send in your Eid plate pics and we might even feature a collage in the next issue.

# At least 31 masjids destroyed by China

**A REPORT** released last month said at least 31 masjids and two major Islamic shrines have been partly or completely destroyed in Xinjiang, China, since 2016.

The report published by Guardian and Bellingcat is based on analysis of satellite imagery and said 15 of the masjids and both shrines appear “to have been completely or almost completely razed”.

China’s aggression on the Uighur Muslims, who live in Xinjiang, has shocked the world with millions of Muslims being forced into detention camps, or

re-education camps as Beijing calls them. Stories emerging from these camps talk of torture and people being forced to give up their faith.

In February the Independent ran an article about how Muslim in Xinjiang had been forced to eat pork and drink alcohol during the country’s lunar New Year holiday.

The latest report shows as well as masjids being razed to the ground, others had guesthouses, minarets and domes removed from them.

According to campaigners and researchers, authorities have bulldozed possibly thousands of masjids as part of a campaign against the minority Muslim community. But a lack of records of these sites — many are small village masjids and shrines — difficulties police give journalists and researchers travelling independently in Xinjiang, and widespread surveillance of

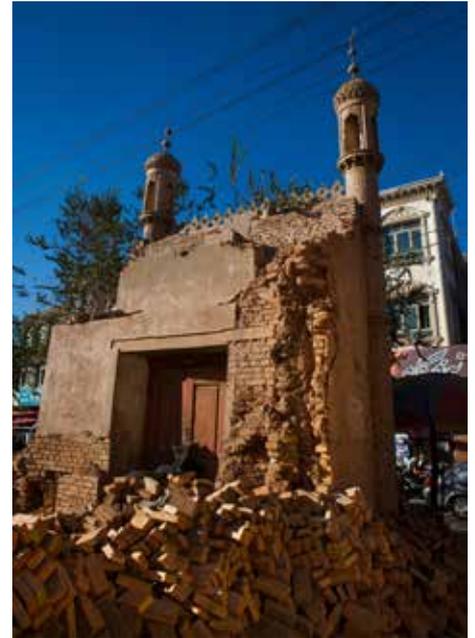
residents have made it difficult to confirm reports of their destruction.

A former resident of Hotan, Xinjiang, told the Guardian, “If the current generation, you take away their parents and on the other hand you destroy the cultural heritage that reminds them of their origin ... when they grow up, this will be foreign to them”.

“Mosques being torn down is one of the few things we can see physically. What other things are happening that are hidden, that we don’t know about? That is what is scary,” he added.

Sadly, whilst the Uighur look to the world for help, little

is happening. Media coverage is thin on what has been said to be the biggest detention camps of a faith group since the Holocaust.



## THE LEGAL SLOT by Baser Akoodie (Solicitor)

### Equal pay comparability - Supermarket workers win important victory

**IN** Asda Stores Limited v Brierley, the question before the Court of Appeal was whether or not thousands of women who worked at Asda’s retail stores could compare themselves with male members of staff who worked at the company’s distribution depots for the purposes of their equal pay claim. The depot workers, who unlike their retail colleagues had the benefit of established union representation and collective bargaining agreements, were paid a higher salary.

Where a person making an equal pay claim and their chosen comparator both work in the same establishment, a comparison can be made between them no matter what their respective terms of employment. Where the claimant and their chosen comparator work at different establishments, however, they will be treated as working at the same establishment if common terms of employment are observed.

The female retail staff argued

that although they worked at different establishments, they performed work of equal value to depot-based workers and should receive the same hourly pay, contractual allowances and bonuses. Asda contended that the roles were not comparable because they were fundamentally different, having evolved separately over time. The physical environment of its depots was very different from that of its stores and the two categories of workers had profoundly different functions and skill sets.

An Employment Tribunal (ET) carried out a detailed analysis of the differences and similarities between the terms of employment of the two groups and found that the retail workers could compare themselves with the depot workers for the purposes of the Equality Act 2010.

The Employment Appeal Tribunal (EAT) subsequently rejected Asda’s challenge to that ruling. It took a different approach, finding that Article 157 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union conferred an unconditional right to equal pay both on those who carry out like work and on those who perform work of equal value. The fact that the retail and depot workers had their pay and conditions determined by a single source – the Executive

Board was responsible for differences in pay and could, subject to the overarching control of Asda’s parent company Wal-Mart, have corrected any pay inequality – was sufficient to permit a comparison to be made. Asda’s argument that there must also be a single establishment, collective agreement or statutory framework was rejected. The better view of the law was that the comparison could be made using the established hypothetical test which enables comparisons between workers who do not and never would work in the same location.

In dismissing Asda’s challenge to that outcome, the Court of Appeal found that the ET had reached the correct result whilst disagreeing with aspects of its reasoning. In posing itself the question whether there were common terms and conditions generally between the retail and distribution workers, it had conducted wholly the wrong exercise. The issue for the ET to decide was whether broadly common terms applied to retail and distribution workers, regardless of where they worked. Given that no retail workers were in fact employed in depots, or distribution workers in stores, that question was necessarily

hypothetical.

Detailed argument and evidence going into minute comparisons between the terms which applied to the two sets of workers were thus irrelevant and the preliminary issue could have been resolved on the straightforward basis that the chain’s terms for retail and distribution workers both applied wherever they worked. The Court noted that it would be no credit to the law if the kind of elaborate and confusing exercise that the ET had been encouraged to undertake were required in order to establish whether the statutory comparison could be made.

Although the Court reached its decision without the need to refer to EU law, it too would have found that the pay terms of the claimants and their chosen comparators were determined by a single source.

This issue having been resolved, the next step is for an ET to determine whether or not the work of the retail staff is of equal value to that of their distribution colleagues and, if so, whether any difference in pay can be justified on objective grounds.

The content of this article is provided for general information only. It is not intended to be relied upon as a comprehensive statement of law or to apply in every particular and individual set of circumstances. Please take independent legal advice.



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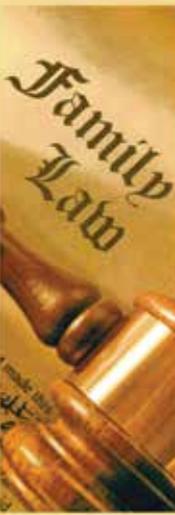


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## Keep the healthier you after Ramadhan

Ramadhan is full of spiritual and physical benefits. At the start of it, we often wonder how we'll last the month but by end we feel healthier, lighter, more alert and altogether better. All this because we eliminate so many bad habits and increase our overall physical movement. So why not head to a healthier lifestyle and a healthier heart after Ramadhan. Here are 10 tips to help.

### Give up smoking

If you're a smoker, quit. It's the single best thing you can do for your heart health.

Smoking is one of the main causes of coronary heart disease. A year after giving up, your risk of a heart attack falls to about half that of a smoker.

You're more likely to stop smoking for good if you use NHS stop smoking services. Visit the Smokefree website or ask your GP for help with quitting.

### Get active

Getting – and staying – active can reduce your risk of developing heart disease. It can also be a great mood booster and stress buster.

Do 150 minutes of moderate-intensity aerobic activity every week. One way to achieve this target is by doing 30 minutes of activity on 5 days a week. Fit it in where you can, such as by cycling to work.

### Manage your weight

Around 60 per cent of people end Ramadhan with the same weight they started. Those Iftars are heavy, but there is a controlled diet and now is the time

to reconsider what we eat.

Being overweight can increase your risk of heart disease. Stick to a healthy, balanced diet low in fat and sugar, with plenty of fruit and vegetables, combined with regular physical activity.

The NHS Choices website has a BMI calculator and a 12-week NHS weight loss plan to help.

### Eat more fibre

Eat plenty of fibre to help lower your risk of heart disease – aim for at least 30g a day.

Eat fibre from a variety of sources, such as wholemeal bread, bran, oats and wholegrain cereals, potatoes with their skins on, and plenty of fruit and veg.

Cut down on saturated fat

Eating too many foods that are high in saturated fat can raise the level of cholesterol in your blood. This increases your risk of heart disease.

Choose leaner cuts of meat and lower fat dairy products like 1% fat milk over full-fat (or whole) milk.

### Get your 5 A Day

Eat at least 5 portions of a variety of fruit and vegetables a day. They're a good source of fibre, vitamins and minerals.

There are lots of tasty ways to get your 5 A Day, like adding chopped fruit to cereal or including vegetables in your pasta sauces and curries.

### Cut down on salt

To maintain healthy blood

pressure, avoid using salt at the table and try adding less to your cooking.

Once you get used to the taste of food without added salt, you can cut it out completely.

Watch out for high salt levels in ready-made foods. Most of the salt we eat is already in the foods



we buy.

Check the food labels – a food is high in salt if it has more than 1.5g salt (or 0.6g sodium) per 100g.

Adults should eat less than 6g of salt a day in total – that's about 1 teaspoon.

### Eat fish

Eat fish at least twice a week, including a portion of oily fish. Fish such as pilchards, sardines and salmon are a source of omega-3 fats, which may help protect against heart disease.

Pregnant or breastfeeding women should not have more than 2 portions of oily fish a week.

### Alcohol

This haram (forbidden in Islam) substance is haram for many reasons. It can cause serious problems with your health, including risks to your heart health.

If you have been drinking alcohol then now is the time to cut it out. Help can be available

from people like CHART Kirklees who are a confidential service that deals with addictions. You can contact them at 01484 353333 / 01924 438383 or email us on [Kirklees.referrals@cgl.org.uk](mailto:Kirklees.referrals@cgl.org.uk)

They can also help with other addictions.

### Read the food label

When shopping, it's common that Muslims read the ingredients or hunt down the 'suitable

for vegetarian' symbol on the packaging.

It's a good idea also to look at the label on food and drink packaging to see how many calories and how much fat, salt and sugar the product contains.

Understanding what's in food and how it fits in with the rest of your diet will help you make healthier choices.

So with Ramadhan coming to an end why not choose a better spiritual and physical way of life.

*More help can be found on the NHS Choices website.*

Source: NHS Choices

# Kids Corner

## Eid Mubarak



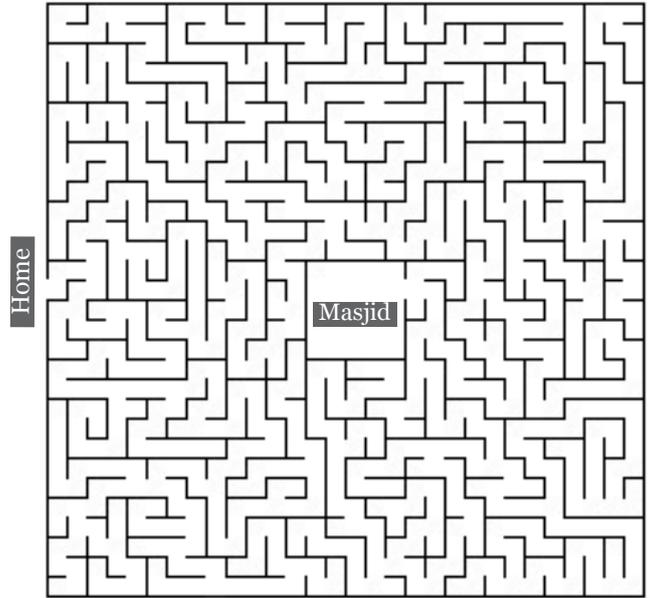
1<sup>st</sup> Prize sponsored  
by Pizza GOGO  
Pick up ONLY



1<sup>st</sup> Prize:  
1 large family size pizza.  
+ Trophy  
2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: Trophy  
3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: Trophy  
Trophies sponsored by  
**IMWS**

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| Biryani | Family  | Peace   |
| Clothes | Friends | Playing |
| Eating  | Hijri   | Sadaqah |
| Eid     | Masjid  | Salah   |
| Faith   | Mubarak | Shawwal |



Solve any puzzle and send it in to WIN a PRIZE!!!

### Winner!

1<sup>st</sup> Aaminah Bashir  
(Batley)

2<sup>nd</sup> Safiyah Khan  
(Ravensthorpe)

3<sup>rd</sup> Mariam S. Mamaniat  
(Batley)

Please collect your prizes from the  
Al-Hikmah Centre.

### Decode the sentence!

Crack the code to reveal a message

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### Terms and conditions apply

Name and address of winning entries will be published. Age limit 13.

Please send this page with your

name, address, postcode, age and telephone number  
before 20th June 2019 to:

Kiddies Competition, Al-Hikmah Centre,  
28 Track Road, Batley, West Yorkshire, WF17 7AA

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel. No.: \_\_\_\_\_



## કેટલાક પક્ષીઓના રટણો

-મહંમદ યુસુફ સુફી લાજપુરી, બાટલી.

હઝરત સુલયમાન અલૈ. દુનિયાની બધીજ મખ્લુકની બોલી જાણતા હતા. કુરઆન મજુદમાં પણ આ અંગેના ઈશારા જોવા મળે છે. જેમ કે, કીડીઓ સાથે કરેલ વાતચીત અને હુદહુદ પક્ષી સાથે કરેલ સંવાદ. આ બોલીઓના ઈલ્મને લાગતી ઘણી ખરી ચર્ચા મુફ્ફસિરો તફસીરકારકોએ કરી છે.

હઝરત સુલયમાન અલૈ. દરબાર ભરતા હતા ત્યારે જીન અને પશુ પંખીઓ પણ ત્યાં હાજર રહેતા હતા. તેમને જ્યારે ક્યાંક જવાનું થતું ત્યારે પણ તે સૌ સાથે રહેતા. કેટલીક વેળા પક્ષીઓ પોતાની બોલીમાં રટણ કરતાં ત્યારે તેઓ શું બોલી રહ્યાં છે તે હઝરત સુલયમાન અલૈ. પોતાના સાથીઓને સમજાવતા.

એક વેળા લટેરા નામનું પક્ષી જંગલમાં રટણ કરી રહ્યું હતું ત્યારે સાથીઓએ પૂછ્યું કે તે શું બોલી રહ્યું છે તે આપ અમોને સમજાવો. હઝરત સુલયમાન અલૈ. એ ફરમાવ્યું કે, આ લટેરા પક્ષી કહી રહ્યું છે, “ગુનેહગારો અલ્લાહતઆલાથી તમારા ગુનાહોની તૌબા માંગો.”

આ પછી સાથીઓએ એક વેળા વિનંતી કરી કે બધા પંખીઓ શું રટણ કરે છે? એના વિષે અમને સમજ આપો. તો હઝરત સુલયમાન અલૈ. એ કહ્યું કે, હુદહુદ પોતાના રટણમાં કહે છે કે, “જે કોઈ બીજા ઉપર રહમ કરતો નથી તેના ઉપર રહમ કરવામાં આવતી નથી.”

મોર પોતાના ટહુકામાં સમજાવે છે કે, “જેવી કરણી તેવી ભરણી.”

ચામાચિડીયું કહે છે “ભલાઈ કરજો કેમ કે ભલાઈનો બદલો મળ્યા વિના રહેતો નથી.”

કુકડો દરરોજ વહેલી સવારે કૂકડે કૂક પુકારીને કહે છે કે, “હે ગાફિલ લોકો ઉઠો અલ્લાહતઆલાની બંદગી કરો.”

ફાકતા એટલે કે ચકલી રટણ કરે છે કે, “અલ્લાહે આ દુનિયાજ પેદા ન કરી હોત તો કેવું સાફ થાત.” હઝરત સુલયમાન અલૈ. એ સમજાવ્યું કે તે એટલા માટે આવું રટણ કરે છે કે, લોકો તેને પિંજરામાં પૂરીને તેની આઝાદી જૂંટવી લે છે. તેને પોતાના કેદમય જીવનથી કંટાળો ઉપજે છે. તેથી તે આવા પુકારો પાડે છે.

ગીધ બોલે છે કે, “હે પરવરદીગાર! તું સૌથી મહાન છે. આકાશ અને પૃથ્વીનો રાજા તું જ છે. એ બધું તારુંજ રાજ્ય છે. તારા સિવાય બીજો કોઈ માબુદ નથી.”

સમડી જે ગીધની જાતનું બીજું પક્ષી છે તે રટણ કર્યા કરે છે. “અલ્લાહ સિવાયની દરેક સજીવ કે નિર્જીવ વસ્તુ ફાની, નાશવંત છે.”

પોપટ સદા બોલતો રહે છે કે, “ જે પોતાની ખ્વાહિશાત દબાવી શકતો નથી તેનું કદી ભલું થતું નથી.”

એક વેળા દરબારીઓએ પૂછ્યું કે, આ કાગડા કા કા કરીને માનવીને શું સમજાવતા હશે? હઝરત સુલયમાન અલૈ. ફરમાવવા લાગ્યા કે તેઓ સદા કહે છે કે, “ આ દુનિયાની મોજ મજા લૂંટનારા ક્યાં ગુમ થઈ ગયા? આ ફાની દુનિયાનું સુખ માણનારા દુનિયામાંથી વિદાય થઈ ગયા! બધાએ આખિરતમાં જવાનું છે. આથી પોતાની સાથે આખિરતમાં કામ લાગે તેવું ભાથું તૈયાર કરી લ્યો.”

પક્ષીઓની વાત ચાલે છે ત્યાં કીડી જેવા નાનકડા પ્રાણીની ભાષા વિષે પણ થોડી ચર્ચા કરી લઈએ.

એકવાર એવું બન્યું કે મુસાફરી કરતા કીડીઓની એક મોટી જમાઅત નજીક પહોંચ્યા તો એક કીડીએ કહ્યું કે, “હે કીડીઓ! પોતપોતાના ઘરોમાં ધુસી જાવ! તમને સુલયમાન અલૈ. અને તેમના સૈન્યો, લશ્કરો અજાણપણે કચડી ન નાંખે.” કીડીની આ વાત સાંભળી હઝરત સુલયમાન અલૈ. એ સ્મિત કર્યું (મુશ્કુરાયા). લશ્કરને આવતું જોઈ કીડી પોતાની સાથી કીડીઓ કે જે દર બહાર ફરતી હતી તેમને ચેતવણી આપી કે તમે જલ્દીથી તમારા દરોમાં પેસી જાવ. નહીં તો અજાણપણે આ લોકો તમને કચડી નાંખશે. કીડીનો અવાજ કોઈ ઈન્સાન સાંભળી શકતો નથી. જે હઝરત સુલયમાન અલૈ. સાંભળી સમજી ગયા એ આપનો મોઝીઓ હતો.

હઝરત સુલયમાન અલૈ. ને પણ પશુ પક્ષીઓની બોલી જાણવા સમજવાની શક્તિ આપવામાં આવી હતી. આધુનિક પ્રાણી શાસ્ત્રના વિજ્ઞાનીકો કહે છે દરેક પક્ષીઓની પોતાની ભાષા હોય છે. જે બોલીને તથા ઈશારાથી કે વિવિધ પ્રકારના હલનચલનથી તેઓ માહોમાહે વ્યવહાર કરતા હોય છે.

ખરેખર આ એક આશ્ચર્યજનક ઘટના અને ઈબ્રત હાંસિલ કરવાનો મોકો છે. “ જાનવર બોલે છે તો નસીહતની વાતો કરે છે. જ્યારે અશરફુલ મખ્લુકાત ઈન્સાન આજે પોતાની જબાનથી શું શું ઉચ્ચારી રહ્યો છે? કેવી કેવી વાતો બોલી રહ્યો છે? આ પક્ષીઓના રટણોથી આપણને જરૂર બોધ, નસીહત લેવાની જરૂર છે.”

અલ્લાહપાક સૌને આ બોધદાયક વાત ઉપર વિચાર કરી અમલની તૈફીક અતા ફરમાવે આમીન.

### કુછ અચ્છી બાતેં:

❖ સંબંધ છે નિભાવવા માટે, ક્યારેક મનાવવા પણ પડે અને ક્યારેક, માની જવું પણ પડે, ખુલાસો કરવો એ ગુનો નથી, ખોટી સમજણને પકડી રાખવી એ ગુનો છે.

❖ જીવન મેં સભી લોગ કિસી ન કિસી કે ભરોસે પર જીતે હૈ! હંમેશાં યહી કોશિશ કરીએ કિ જો લોગ આપ પર ભરોસા કરતે હૈ ઉન્કા ભરોસા કભી ટૂટે ના....

❖ સબ્ર એક ઐસી સવારી હય, જો અપને સવાર કો કભી ભી ગીરને નહીં દેતી, ન કીસીકે કદમોં મે ઔર ન કીસીકી નજરો સે.

## સંબંધોમાં સંઘર્ષ

-આબિદાબેન રાજપુરા, બાટલી.

દરેક રીલેશનશિપનું સમાજમાં આગવું સ્થાન છે. અને દરેક સંબંધોમાં ક્યારેક તો સંઘર્ષ થતો હોય છે. સંબંધ કે ઝઘડાની તિવ્રતા ઓછી-વત્તી હોય પણ કોઈનાય જીવનમાં એવું તો ના જ બન્યું હોય કે કદી કજીયો ના થયો હોય.

આપણાં સમાજમાં બાપ-દીકરા અને મા-દીકરીના ઝઘડા અંગે જોઈએ તો બાપ-દીકરા વચ્ચેના અણબનાવમાં ઝઘડાની તિવ્રતા વધુ હોય છે. જ્યારે મા-દીકરીના ઝઘડા મોટે ભાગે ટૂંકા સમયના હોય છે. આ બંને રીલેશનના ઝઘડાનાં કારણો પણ જુદા જુદા હોય છે.

સ્ત્રીઓ મોટે ભાગે ઝઘડો ટાળવાનું પસંદ કરે છે. (જો કે આમાં અમૂક સ્ત્રીઓ અપવાદ હોય શકે). તેમને લાગે કે કચકચ થાય તેવું છે તો તે અંગેનો ફેંસલો કરવાનું હાલ પૂરતું ટાળે છે. “પછી નિરાંતે બેસીને વાત કરીશું. અથવા ઠીક છે અત્યારે આપણે કામની વાત કરીએ ” એમ કહીને વાતને બીજે રસ્તે દોરી જાય છે. જ્યારે પુરૂષોમાં ધીરજ ઓછી હોય છે. (આમાં પણ અપવાદ હોઈ શકે) પુરૂષને તાત્કાલિક ફેંસલો જોઈતો હોય છે. ઝનૂન અને જજબાતને લીધે ઘણીવાર ગુસ્સો, આક્રોશ આવી જતાં પરિસ્થિતિ બગડતી હોય છે.

રોજીંદા જીવનમાં એવું પણ બનતું હોય છે કે, મા દીકરાનો પક્ષ લે અને પિતા દીકરી તરફ થઈ જાય છે. પિતા શિસ્ત અને સંયમ માટે સપ્તાઈનું વલણ દીકરા અને દીકરીમાં અલગ પ્રમાણમાં રાખતા હોય છે. આડે રસ્તે જઈ રહેલા પુત્રને રોકવા માટે પિતાનું સપ્તાઈ ભરેલું વલણ જરૂરી છે. પણ આવા સમયમાં મા જો પુત્રનો પક્ષ લે તો દીકરાની ખરાબ આદતને પ્રોત્સાહન મળે છે. જેમાં બધાનું નુકસાન થાય છે. તેજ રીતે સામાજિક સંસ્કારોનું મૂલ્ય સમજાવતી માતા દીકરીને ગમે તેટલા લાડ-પ્રેમ કરે પણ તેણીના બદલાતા વર્તનને તરત પારખી લઈને સપ્ત શબ્દોમાં તેણીને શિખામણ આપે છે. ક્યારેક ચોકીદારની જેમ દીકરી ક્યાં જાય છે, તેની બેનપણીઓ કેવી છે, સ્કૂલે કે કોલેજમાં શું થઈ રહ્યું છે તે વિષે સીધી કે આડકતરી રીતે માહિતી મેળવતી રહેતી હોય છે.

મા-દીકરી વચ્ચેના સંઘર્ષમાં તિવ્રતા થોડી ઓછી હોવાનું બીજું કારણ એ પણ હોઈ શકે કે માતા વિચારે છે કે, દીકરી થોડા વર્ષો જ મા-બાપ સાથે છે. મોટી થતાં સાસરે જતી રહેશે. એટલે ઘણીવાર સપ્ત બનવાને બદલે સમજાવીને માર્ગદર્શન આપવાનું પસંદ કરે છે. મા હંમેશાં કહેતી હોય છે કે “ અહીં તારા નખરા ચલાવી લઈએ છીએ, સાસરે આવું તારું વર્તન નહીં ચાલે.” દીકરી પણ એવું જ વિચારતી હોય છે કે, મા-બાપ, ભાઈ-બહેન સાથે થોડા વર્ષનું જીવન ઝઘડાઓના બદલે શાંતિથી પસાર કરી લેવું સાચું છે. દીકરો જ્યારે જુવાન થાય કે, તરત તેને પોતાના અધિકારો અને સત્તાઓનું ભાન થવા માંડે છે. બાપ-દીકરા જો ધંધામાં સાથે હોય તો તે પોતાના

નિર્ણયોને મહત્વ આપે છે. ઘરથી દૂર રહેતા કે નોકરી કરતા, જુદા ઘરમાં રહેતા દીકરાઓને આ સમસ્યા ઓછી નડે છે. ઘણીવાર પૌત્ર, પૌત્રીઓના શિક્ષણ, પહેરવેશ, ફેશન વગેરે અંગે દીકરાના ફેમિલી સાથે ધર્ષણ શરૂ થઈ જાય પણ હવે વડીલો પણ સમજી ગયા છે કે, તેઓ ફક્ત પ્રેમ આપી શકે છે પણ તેમના વિચારો, મંતવ્ય લાદી શકતા નથી.

## ભારતીય હાજીઓના કોટામાં વધારો

ચાલુ સાલે ભારતખાતેથી હજમાં જનારા હાજીઓના કોટામાં ફરીથી વધારો કરવામાં આવ્યો છે. સઉદીના કાઉન પ્રિન્સ મોહંમદ બિન સલમાન સાથે ફેબ્રુઆરીમાં તેમની ભારતની યાત્રા દરમિયાન થયેલી ચર્ચાને ધ્યાનમાં લઈને સઉદી અરેબિયાની સરકારે સત્તાવાર જાહેરાત કરી છે. જે મુજબ ભારતનો હજ કોટા વધારીને બે લાખ હાજીઓનો કરવામાં આવ્યો છે. પહેલાં આ કોટા એક લાખ ૭૦ હજાર હાજીઓનો હતો.

આ નવા કોટાના પરિણામે હવે ઉ.પ્રદેશ, પશ્ચિમ બંગાળ, આંધ્ર પ્રદેશ, બિહાર સહિત મોટા રાજ્યોમાં અરજી કરનાર તમામ લોકો હવે હજ અદાયગી માટે જઈ શકશે. ચાલુ સાલે તમામ હજયાત્રીઓ કોઈ પણ જાતની સબસિડી વિના હજમાં જશે. હાજીઓની સુરક્ષા, હેલ્થ, ટ્રાવેલિંગ વગેરે ઉપર પણ ધ્યાન આપવા બાબતે આંતરિક વાતચીતો થઈ હતી. ભારત ખાતેથી હવે પ્રાયવેટ ટૂર ઓપરેટર ધ્વારા હાજીઓ વધુ ને વધુ પ્રમાણમાં હજ માટે જવા લાગ્યા છે પરિણામે આ નવા કોટા અને હજ સબસિડી નાબૂદી પછી દરેક હાજીઓને એક સરખી સુવિધાનો લાભ પણ મળશે.

## ગઝલ

કુફ-શર્કના અંધારને દૂર કરી લે હવે,  
એક અલ્લાહના ઈકરાથી દિલ ભરી લે હવે,  
આખ્ખી દુનિયા તરસી રહી છે જેનું નામ લેવાને,  
તું પણ એક એ નામનું સ્મરણ કરી લે હવે,  
સૂર્ય પણ વહેંચે છે ચારો હાથે એ એનું સોનું,  
તું પણ તારા હાથનાં એ ખોબાને ભરી લે હવે,  
જોતો ખરો કોણે લીધો છે જન્મ ઘરતી ખોળે,  
પાવન નબીના એ હાથ ને તું પણ ગ્રહી લે હવે,  
એક અદ્ભુત શક્તિમાં દયા છુપાઈ છે ઘણી,  
એમાં ઝબોળી મન ને સુસ્પષ્ટ કરી લે હવે,  
જીવનની સમીસાંજ જ્યાં લઈ લે છે વિદાય ત્યાં,  
એજ અંતિમ શ્વાસમાં એ નામ ભરી લે હવે,  
પારકી આશમાં નિરાશા ઘણી હોય છે સેવક,  
ખુદનાજ બળથી નાવ તારી નાંગરી લે હવે.

-સેવક આલીપુરી, બાટલી.

## ચાલો આજે કંઈક નવું જાણીએ ! ! ! !

-રફીક અહમદ સભાસ

મુમકીન નહીં હર બાર વક્ત મહેરબા રહે, જિંદગીમે કુછ લખેં જિંદગીમે જીનેકા તરીકા શીખાતે હય

અહીં એક કહાણી બે વ્યક્તિને છે. જેમાંથી એક વ્યક્તિ કંઈ જોઈ શકતો નથી એટલે કે, તે આંધળો (દિવ્યાંગ) છે. જ્યારે બીજી વ્યક્તિ કે જે એક ઓફિસમાં કામ કરે છે. જ્યાં દરેક માણસ તેનાથી ચિડાતા હોય છે. અને તેને હર પળે કમજોર સાબિત કરે છે. અને પરિણામે તે વિચારે છે કે પોતે જિંદગીમાં કંઈ કરી શકતો નથી.

એક દિવસની વાત છે. જે વ્યક્તિ જોઈ શકતો નથી તે એક બિલ્ડિંગની નીચે ઊભો રહી ભીખ માંગી રહ્યો છે. તેણે એક હેટ (ટોપી) જમીન ઉપર રાખી છે જેમાં આવતા જતાં લોકો પૈસા નાંખી જાય છે. તો કોઈ પૈસા નાંખવા વગર ચાલી જાય છે. આજ બિલ્ડિંગમાં એક ઓફિસમાં બીજી વ્યક્તિ કામ કરે છે. સવારે આજ રસ્તા ઉપરથી પસાર થતાં તે જુએ છે કે પેલો આંધળો માણસ અહીં ઊભો રહી ભીખ માંગે છે અને તેની પાછળ એક બોર્ડ મૂકેલું હોય છે જેના ઉપર લખ્યું છે, “હું આંધળો છું અને જોઈ શકતો નથી મારી મદદ કરો.” આ વ્યક્તિની નજર જ્યારે જમીન ઉપર મૂકેલ ટોપી ઉપર પડે છે તો જુએ છે કે તેમાં ઘણાંજ ઓછા સિક્કા પડેલા છે. જે જોઈ તે કહે છે કે આ વ્યક્તિને મદદની જરૂર છે, પરંતુ આ શહેરમાં કમાલના લોકો છે. આ લાચાર વ્યક્તિને કોઈ મદદ કરવા તૈયાર નથી.

આ વ્યક્તિ પેલા બોર્ડ પાસે પહોંચે છે અને તેના ઉપર લખેલ લખાણને ભૂંસી નાંખે છે અને કંઈક બીજું લખાણ લખી ટોપીમાં સિક્કા નાંખી પોતાની ઓફિસે ચાલ્યો જાય છે અને પોતાનું કામ શરૂ કરે છે. હવે જ્યારે સાંજે ઘરે જવાનો સમય થાય છે ત્યારે વિચારે છે કે, કેમ નહીં પેલા આંધળી વ્યક્તિના રસ્તા ઉપરથી જાઉં અને જોઉં કે શું હાલત છે ?

જેઓ તે પેલા આંધળા માણસ પાસે પહોંચે છે કે, તરત જ તે દિવ્યાંગ કહે છે ભાઈ મેં આહટથી તમને ઓળખી લીધા છે. સવારે તમે જ અહીં આવ્યા હતા અને મારા બોર્ડ ઉપર લખેલ લખાણ ભૂંસી નાંખી કંઈક બીજું લખી ચાલી ગયા હતા. હું તમને પૂછવા માંગુ છું કે તમે બોર્ડ ઉપર શું લખ્યું છે ? જેનાથી જે કોઈ પણ અહીંથી પસાર થાય છે તે કંઈક ને કંઈક મારી ટોપીમાં નાંખી જાય છે, દાન કરી જાય છે. ઓફિસમાં કામ કરતા માણસે કહ્યું સવારે મેં જોયું કે બોર્ડ ઉપર લખ્યું હતું “હું આંધળો છું અને જોઈ શકતો નથી મારી કંઈક મદદ કરો.” મે તે ભૂંસી નાંખી અને લખ્યું “આજનો દિવસ બહુંજ ખુબસુરત (સુંદર) છે પરંતુ હું તે જોઈ શકતો નથી.” મેં ફક્ત એટલું જ લખ્યું હતું.

બીજી લાઈન અને પહેલી લાઈનમાં મોટો તફાવત છે. થોડી નવી સોય (સમજ) ના સાથે બીજી લાઈન લખવામાં આવી. આ કહાણી આપણને ઘણું શીખવે છે. પહેલી વાત જિંદગીમાં જે કંઈ મળ્યું છે તેને ખુશનસીબ મહેસુસ કરીએ, ઉપરવાળાનો આભાર

વ્યક્ત કરીએ. કહ્યું છે કે, કેટલાક લોકો પાસે તે પણ નથી. બીજી વાત અગર આપણે આપણી જિંદગીમાં થોડીક રચનાત્મકતા લઈ આવીએ તો આપણી લાઈફ બદલાય જશે. કામ કરતા રહીએ પરંતુ કામ કરવાનો તરીકો બદલતા રહીએ. **કર દિખાઓ કુછ એસા કે દુનિયા દેખના ચાહે.**

## IMWS ફરીથી પ્રસ્તુત કરે છે

ગપશપ ઈવનિંગ

આપણી સોસાયટી ફરીથી એકવાર લોકપ્રિય માસિક ગપશપ ઈવનિંગનું આયોજન શુક્રવાર તારીખ ૭-૬-૨૦૧૮ના રોજથી કરી રહી છે. જેમાં સોસાયટીના સભ્યો અને બિનસભ્યો સમાજને સ્પર્શતા પ્રશ્નોની ચર્ચા વિચારણા કરશે.

ગયા વર્ષ દરમિયાન દર મહિને રાત્રે ૮ થી ૧૦ વાગ્યા સુધી નિયમિત આ સભા યોજાતી હતી. જેમાં વિભિન્ન વિષયો પર ચર્ચાઓ થતી હતી અને ઉપસ્થિત સભ્યોને ચર્ચામાં ભાગ લેવા માટે પ્રોત્સાહિત કરવામાં આવતા હતા. ચર્ચાના વિષયો પૈકી ઈસ્લામોફોબીયા, આપણો સાંસ્કૃતિક વારસો, બ્રેકઝીટ, રાજકારણમાં ભાગ લેવાની જરૂરત અને બીજા વર્તમાન પ્રશ્નોની ચર્ચાઓ થતી.

આ ગૃપમાં યુવાનો અને વૃદ્ધો, વડીલો ભાગ લેતા જેથી ચર્ચાઓ વધુ રસપ્રદ થઈ જતી. ગૃપે એક મુશાયરાનું પણ આયોજન કરેલું જેમાં કવિઓ સાથે અન્ય લોકોએ પણ ઉત્સાહભેર રચનાઓ રજૂ કરેલી. ચાલો આપણે ફરીથી એવું વાતાવરણ તૈયાર કરીએ.

ગપશપ ગૃપની આગામી બેઠક રમઝાન બાદ **૭ જૂન ૨૦૧૮** ના શુક્રવારે સાંજે ૮ વાગ્યે રાખવામાં આવી છે. જેમાં હાજર રહેવા સૌને ભાવભીનું આમંત્રણ પાઠવીએ છીએ. ચા-પાણીની વ્યવસ્થા કરવામાં આવી છે. વધુ વિગત માટે મહમદ મુલ્લાં અને અહમદ ગુલનો ટેલીફોન નંબર ૦૧૯૨૪ ૫૦૦૫૫૫ ઉપર સંપર્ક સાધવા નમ્ર વિનંતી છે.

## ગઘેડા ઉપર સવારી કરી ઉમેદવારી પત્રક ભર્યું

ગયા માસમાં ભારતની લોકસભાની ચૂંટણી ચાલી રહી હતી ત્યારે બિહારના જહાંનાબાદમાં એક અપક્ષ ઉમેદવાર નામ મણિભૂષણ શર્મા ગઘેડા ઉપર બેસીને ઉમેદવારી પત્રક ભરવા ચૂંટણી અધિકારીની ઓફિસે પહોંચ્યો હતો. ગઘેડા ઉપર સવારી કરીને જાનવર સાથે કુર વર્તન કરવાના આરોપસર તેની સામે ગુનો નોંધવામાં આવ્યો હતો. ભારતમાં જ્યારે ચૂંટણીમાં ઉમેદવારી પત્રક ભરવા ઉમેદવારો ચૂંટણી ઓફિસે જાય છે, ખાસ કરીને કદાવર નેતા ત્યારે મોટી સંખ્યામાં તેના સપોર્ટરો પણ સાથે જાય છે. વારાણસીમાં જ્યારે નરેન્દ્ર મોદી ઉમેદવારી પત્રક ભરવા ગયા ત્યારે લાખો લોકોનો રોડ શો યોજવામાં આવ્યો હતો. ૧૨કરોડ રૂપિયાના ગુલાબના ફૂલની પાંખડીઓનો વરસાદ તેમના ઉપર વરસાવવામાં આવ્યો હતો. મીડિયાના રિપોર્ટ અનુસાર રોડશોમાં પૈસા આપી લોકોને એકત્ર કરવામાં આવ્યા હતા. આમ ચૂંટણીમાં બેફામ પૈસા ઉડાડવું સામાન્ય થઈ ગયું છે જે અંગે કોઈ ફરિયાદ પણ કરતું નથી.

## સોસાયટી અને એરિયા કમિટી વચ્ચે બેઠક

ચાલુ વર્ષે ઈન્ડિયન મુસ્લિમ વેલ્ફેર સોસાયટીએ નક્કી કર્યું હતું કે, સોસાયટી અને એરિયા કમિટી સાથે સોસાયટી તરફથી પાંચેક અને એરિયા ચાહે તેટલા સભ્યોની એક બેઠક કરવી. જેનો મુખ્ય હેતુ એરિયા અને સોસાયટી એક બીજાની કાર્ય પદ્ધતિઓને વધુ સારી રીતે સમજે અને કોમી કાર્યોને યોગ્ય રીતે અંજામ આપી શકે. તથા એક બીજાઓના સજેશનો, મુશ્કેલીઓ વગેરે તરફ ધ્યાન દોરી સહકારથી દરેક કામને આગળ વધારી શકે.

તે આધારે તારીખ ૨૯-૪-૨૦૧૯ના રોજ ટેલર સ્ટ્રીટ મસ્જિદ ખાતે મગરિબની નમાઝ બાદ એક મિટિંગનું આયોજન કરવામાં આવ્યું હતું. જેમાં સોસાયટી તરફથી પ્રમુખ સહિત પાંચસભ્યો અને મસ્જિદે મહમુદીયાના પાંચ યુવા સભ્યોએ હાજરી આપી હતી. એરિયાના સભ્યોએ ખૂબજ આદરપૂર્વક અમને આવકારી વાતાવરણને ઉષ્માભર્યું બનાવી દીધું હતું. એરિયાની કમિટી કેવી રીતે કામ કરે છે તેને ઊંડાણપૂર્વક સમજાવ્યું. ખાસ કરીને બીજા સાથે કેવી રીતે સંપર્ક સાધી કાર્યની ગુણવત્તા નક્કી કરવામાં આવે છે. માઉન્ટ પ્લેઝન્ટ અને વોરવીક રોડ સાથે સહકારપૂર્વક કરેલા કાર્યોની વિગતે જાણ પણ કરી હતી.

સોસાયટી અંગે કોઈ પણ પ્રકારની ગેરસમજ હોય કે એની કાર્ય પદ્ધતિની જાણ બાબતે પૂછાયેલા પ્રશ્નનો ઉત્તર આપતાં એરિયા કમિટીના સભ્યોએ જણાવ્યું હતું કે સોસાયટીના કાર્યથી અમને પૂરેપૂરો સંતોષ છે અને હરપળે સહકાર આપવાની ઈચ્છા રાખીએ છીએ. પરંતુ કોઈક વાર કોઈ સભ્ય અમને પૂછે છે કે, ૧૦ પાઉન્ડની મેમ્બર ફી આપું છું તેના બદલામાં મને શું મળે? સોસાયટીના સભ્યોએ સોસાયટીના કાર્યોની પૂરી લીસ્ટ રજૂ કરી હતી. એરિયા કમિટીના સભ્યોએ એ સાંભળીને નિખાલસ ભાવે જણાવ્યું હતું કે અમને આટલા બધાં થતાં કાર્યોની જાણ ન હતી. અને સૂચન કર્યું હતું કે, સોસાયટીમાં થતાં કાર્યોની નોંધ વિગતે વખતોવખત પયગામ અથવા પેમ્ફલેટ ધ્વારા એની જાહેરાત થતી રહેવી જોઈએ. જેથી સભ્યોમાં સોસાયટી પ્રત્યે કોઈ ગેરસમજ ન રહે અને સોસાયટીના કાર્યો અંગે લોકોમાં વધુ રસ પેદા થાય. એક બીજુ ઘણું અગત્યનું સૂચન કરવામાં આવ્યું હતું કે, સોસાયટી અને એરિયાના પ્રમુખો સહિત બીજા બે ત્રણેક પ્રતિનિધિઓએ વર્ષમાં એકાદ બે વાર મળવું જોઈએ. જેમાં એક બીજાની કાર્ય પદ્ધતિ અને લોક ઉપયોગી કાર્યો પર વિચાર વિમર્શ કરી શકાય.

ટેલર સ્ટ્રીટના યુવા કર્યકર્તાઓનો ઉત્સાહ ઘગશ અને નિખાલસતાથી તમામ એરિયા અને સોસાયટી સાથે મળી એકબીજાના સહકારપૂર્વક કામ કરવાની એમની નેમ જોતાં અમને લાગ્યું કે, આ યુવાનોમાં કેટલી પરિપક્વતા આવી છે. આજ પ્રકારનો ઉત્સાહ આપણાં યુવાનોમાં આવે તો આપણા દીનના અને સામાજિક કાર્યોને ખૂબ વેગ મળે. અને ખાસ કરીને મસ્જિદ મદ્રેસાઓનું ભાવિ ઉજ્જવળ અને વધુ કાર્યશીલ બને.

એમની સોસાયટી પ્રત્યેની લાગણી અમને સ્પર્શી ગઈ અને એક રચનાત્મક બેઠક થયાનો આનંદ થયો. હવે બીજા એક એરિયા સાથેની એજ પ્રકારની બેઠકનું આયોજન કરવામાં આવશે.

## અલ હિકમાહની જમીન વેચાણ અંગે ખુલાસો

હમણાં થોડાક દિવસોથી સોશયલ મીડિયા પર અલ એહસાન ટ્રસ્ટને મસ્જિદ બનાવવા વેચેલ જમીનની જૂઠી કિંમત દર્શાવવામાં આવી રહી છે. જેના કારણે સભ્યોમાં ગેરસમજ ઊભી ન થાય તે માટે એ વેચાણની સાચી હકીકત અહીં રજૂ કરીએ છીએ.

આજથી પાંચેક વર્ષ પહેલાં અલ હિકમાહ સેન્ટરની આસપાસ રહેતા થોડાક ભાઈઓના એક ગૃપે સોસાયટીનો સંપર્ક સાધી જણાવેલું કે, અલ હિકમાહની જમીનનો થોડોક ભાગ (લગભગ ૦.૮ એકર) અને બે બેડ રૂમવાળું કોટેજ સહિત ખરીદવા માંગે છે અને એ જમીન પર એક મસ્જિદ બાંધવાની ઈચ્છા રાખે છે. એમની માંગણીના આધાર પર સોસાયટીએ પ્રથમ એકઝ્યુકેટિવ કમિટીમાં ચર્ચા કરી એક એસજીએમ બોલાવવામાં આવી હતી. જેમાં માંગવામાં આવેલ જમીન કોટેજ સહીત વેચવાનું સર્વાનુમતે મંજૂર થયું હતું.

એની કિંમત અંગે સોસાયટીએ બે પ્રોફેશનલ વેલ્યુએશનના અભિપ્રાયના આધારે બે લાખ ૫૦ હજાર પાઉન્ડ નક્કી કરવામાં આવી હતી જે એરિયા ગૃપ અને સોસાયટીની સહમતીથી જમીનનો સોદો થયો હતો. જેની રજૂઆત એસજીએમમાં કરવામાં આવી હતી અને ચર્ચાના અંતે તેના ઉપર સભ્યોએ સહમતિ દર્શાવી હતી. તે પછી એરિયા ગૃપે અલ એહસાન ટ્રસ્ટ નામની સંસ્થાની રચના કરી હતી. મસ્જિદ બાંધવા માટેનું પ્લાનિંગ પરમીશન પાસ થઈ જવાની શર્તે એ નક્કી થયેલી જમીનની કિંમત રકમ બે લાખ ૫૦ હજાર પાઉન્ડ ચૂકવી વેચાણનો દસ્તાવેજ કરવાનું નક્કી થયું હતું. પ્લાનિંગ પાસ કરાવવાની જવાબદારી અલ એહસાન ટ્રસ્ટની રહેશે અને એ અંગે થનાર ખર્ચની પણ જવાબદારી અલ એહસાન ટ્રસ્ટની રહેશે.

અલ હિકમાહ સેન્ટર અનેક પ્રવૃત્તિઓના કારણે હંમેશા બીઝી રહે છે. એટલે કારપાર્કનો મર્યાદિત ઉપયોગ થાય એનો સર્વાધિકાર સોસાયટીનો રહેશે. જમીન વેચાણથી જે રકમ મળશે તેનો ઉપયોગ કોમ્યુનિટીની ભલાઈ માટે કરવામાં આવશે. એટલું યાદ રહે કે, સોસાયટી ચેરિટી રજીસ્ટર્ડ છે તેથી કોઈ પણ ટ્રસ્ટીને વ્યક્તિગત લાભ મળશે નહીં. વધુમાં સભ્યોને જણાવવામાં આવે છે કે જમીન વેચાણની કિંમત બે લાખ પચાસ હજાર પાઉન્ડ નક્કી થયેલી હતી. નહિ કે ત્રણ લાખ પાઉન્ડ. જે કેટલાક ભાઈઓ ગલત રીતે દર્શાવી રહ્યા છે. જેના કારણે સભ્યોમાં વિના કારણ ગેરસમજ ઊભી થઈ રહી છે. જેથી આ ખુલાસો કરી સત્ય હકીકત જણાવવાની નમ્રતાપૂર્વક કોશિશ કરવામાં આવે છે.

## سعودی شوریٰ کو نسل نے گرین کارڈ جیسے ”پری ولیجڈ“ اقامہ کی منظوری دے دی

سعودی عرب کی شوریٰ کو نسل نے غیر ملکیوں کے لیے اپنی نوعیت کے منفرد اقامہ کی منظوری دے دی۔ سعودی گرین کارڈ کہلائے جانے والے اس ”پری ولیجڈ اقامہ“ سے کفیل سسٹم کا خاتمہ ہو جائے گا۔ سعودی شوریٰ کو نسل کے 76 ارکان نے اس منفرد اقامہ کی حمایت جبکہ 55 نے مخالفت میں ووٹ ڈالے۔ سعودی عرب کے معاشی مستقبل کے لیے مفید سمجھے جانے والے اس نئے پرمٹ سے سعودی عرب تجربہ کار سرمایہ کاروں کو راغب کرنا چاہتا ہے۔ گرین کارڈ کی طرز کے اس رہائشی پرمٹ کا بنیادی مقصد سرمایہ کاروں کو سعودی عرب کی جانب راغب کرنا بھی ہے۔ غیر ملکیوں کو اس اقامہ کے باعث محدود پیمانے پر کاروبار کرنے اور اپنی مرضی سے آزادی کے ساتھ آمد و رفت کی اجازت ہوگی۔ یہ اقامہ رکھنے والے رہائشی اور سرمایہ کار طے شدہ ضوابط کے مطابق فیس ادا کر کے غیر ملکی کو اپنے خاندان کو ساتھ رکھنے، عزیز واقارب کو ملنے کیلئے بلانے، مزدوروں اور محنت کشوں کو بھرتی کرانے کے علاوہ جائیداد اور گاڑی بھی خرید سکیں گے جبکہ جب چاہیں سعودی عرب سے باہر بھی جاسکتے ہیں جس کیلئے انہیں کسی قسم کے کفیل کی ضرورت نہیں ہوگی۔

العربیہ ڈاٹ نیٹ کے مطابق اس اقامہ کی دو اقسام دائمی اور عارضی ہوں گی، عارضی اقامہ پروگرام مخصوص فیس ادا کر کے ایک سال کی مدت کیلئے حاصل کیا جاسکے گا جبکہ دائمی اقامہ غیر معینہ مدت کے لیے یا قابل تجدید ہوگا۔ اضافی مراعات کے تحت اقامہ ہولڈر محدود پیمانے پر سعودی عرب میں کاروباری سرگرمیوں میں بھی حصہ لے سکے گا، اس کے علاوہ کامرس، انڈسٹری یا پرائیویٹ سیکٹر میں ملازمت، سعودی عرب آمد و رفت میں آزادی کے تحت ارب پورٹ، بندرگاہوں اور بری سرحدی چوکیوں سے آتے جاتے وقت مخصوص امیگریشن کاؤنٹر استعمال کر سکیں گے۔ مزدوروں کو سعودی اقامہ کے لیے پرانا طریقہ اپنانا پڑے گا جس کے تحت دو سے تین سال کا ویزا کچھ عرصے بعد دوبارہ لینا پڑے گا۔ مجلس شوریٰ کی جانب سے منظور کیے جانے والے اس قانونی مسودے کی حتمی منظوری سعودی کابینہ دے گی جس کے بعد یہ قانون سرکاری گزٹ ”ام القریٰ“ میں شائع ہونے کے بعد ہی موثر ہوگا۔ پری ولیجڈ اقامہ کی شروعات 2017 میں ہوئی تھی، وژن 2030 جاری کرنے کے دوران سعودی ولی عہد شہزادہ محمد بن سلمان نے اس منفرد اقامہ کا تذکرہ کرتے ہوئے کہا تھا کہ یہ گرین کارڈ جیسا ہوگا لیکن گرین کارڈ نہیں ہوگا۔ یعنی اس اقامہ سے سعودی شہریت حاصل نہیں ہوگی۔ ایک انٹرویو میں شہزادہ سلمان کا یہ بھی کہنا تھا کہ سعودی عرب میں غیر ملکی شہریوں کو کاروباری سہولت کی فراہمی کیلئے گرین کارڈ جیسا نیا اقامہ نظام متعارف کرایا جائے گا جس سے اربوں ڈالر کا زر مبادلہ مملکت میں آئے گا۔ پری ولیجڈ اقامہ کے حصول کے لیے شرائط میں کارآمد پائپسپورٹ، مالی مستحکم ہونا، عمر کی کم سے کم حد 21 سال اور سعودی حکومت کی باقاعدہ اقامہ کا حصول شامل ہے۔ اس کے علاوہ کسی قسم کے مجرمانہ ریکارڈ کا حامل نہ ہونا اور جلدی امراض سے محفوظ ہونے کا طبی سرٹیفیکٹ

ہونا بھی لازمی ہے۔ یاد رہے کہ گزشتہ 3 سال میں اقامہ مہنگا ہونے، اور ٹیکسز میں اضافے کے باعث بہت سے پاکستانی وطن واپس آچکے ہیں۔

## قرآن کریم کو اب اشاروں کی زبان میں بھی سیکھیں

انڈونیشیا میں ایک گروپ نے سماعت سے محروم افراد کے لیے یوٹیوب پر اشاروں کی زبان میں قرآن سیکھنا کا عمل شروع کیا ہے۔ انڈونیشین گروپ نے ایک مقامی اسلامی تنظیم کے ساتھ ملکر یہ کام شروع کیا ہے، جس میں قرآن کریم کی تمام 114 سورتوں کے ترجمے کیے جا رہے ہیں۔ قرآن انڈونیشیا پر ویبکٹ نے رمضان المبارک شروع ہونے سے قبل اپنی پر جاری کی تھی، جبکہ اب تک مزید 4 سورتوں اور اذان کی ویڈیو بنائی جا پہلی ویڈیو یوٹیوب چکی ہے۔

## اسلام 360: قرآن حکیم سرچ کرنے والی دنیا کی پہلی ایپلیکیشن

انڈونیشیا میں بیشتر مسلمان قرآن کی 114 سورتوں کو آڈیو ریکارڈنگ کے ذریعے پڑھنا سیکھتے ہیں، تاہم سماعت سے محروم مسلمانوں کو قرآن سیکھنا چیلنج بن گیا تھا۔ نیویارک ٹائمز کو دیے گئے اپنی ایک انٹرویو میں سوریا نے کہا کہ میں اپنے بہت سے بہرے دوستوں کے لیے ادا اس رہتا تھا کیونکہ ہمارے پاس انہیں اسلام تک رسائی دینے کا کوئی طریقہ موجود نہیں تھا۔ انہوں نے بتایا کہ اس وقت سماعت سے محروم بہت سے مسلمان قرآن پڑھنے کے ساتھ بعض صحیفوں کو یاد بھی کر سکتے ہیں۔

## دنیا کے بڑے بڑے شہر ڈوب رہے ہیں، ورلڈ اکنامک فورم کی رپورٹ

بینکاک سمیت کئی بڑے بڑے شہر فلک شکن عمارتوں کے بوجھ سے ڈوب رہے ہیں، ورلڈ اکنامک فورم نے تشویشناک رپورٹ جاری کر دی۔ قدرتی وسائل کے بے دریغ استعمال نے زمین کو کھوکھلا کر دیا، تھائی لینڈ کا دارالحکومت بینکاک عمارتوں کے بوجھ تلے دھیرے دھیرے دھنسنے لگا، ماہرین کے مطابق 15 سال میں یہ شہر مکمل ڈوب سکتا ہے۔ ورلڈ اکنامک فورم کی تشویشناک رپورٹ میں بتایا گیا ہے کہ بڑی بڑی صنعتوں نے بینکاک کا زیر زمین پانی انتہائی بے دردی سے استعمال کیا ہے۔ بات صرف بینکاک تک محدود نہیں ایسے 7 شہر اور ہیں جو ڈوب رہے ہیں، انڈونیشیا کا دارالحکومت جکارتہ سرفہرست ہے، یہاں کی حکومت متبادل شہر کا منصوبہ بنا رہی ہے، آدھا شہر پہلے ہی زیر آب آچکا ہے۔ فلپائن کا شہر منیلا ماحولیاتی تبدیلی سے متاثر ہونے میں دوسرے نمبر پر ہے، چین کا شہر شنگھائی متاثرہ شہروں میں شامل ہے، نائیجیریا کا شہر لاگوس مسلسل سیلاب کی لپیٹ میں ہے۔ رپورٹ کے مطابق بنگلہ دیش کا دارالحکومت ڈھاکا بھی بارشوں اور طوفانوں کی زد میں ہے، امریکی شہر ہوسٹن میں تیل اور گیس کیلئے ڈرنگ نے زمین کی صورت حال بگاڑ دی۔ ویتنام کے شہر ہوچی منہ دریا کے ساتھ ساتھ ہے، یہ بھی ڈوبنے والے شہروں میں شامل ہے۔ عالمی موسم کی تبدیلی سے سمندروں کی سطح بلند ہو رہی ہے، بڑے بڑے ساحلوں اور بڑی بڑی عمارتوں والے شہر خطرے میں ہیں۔

## عید مبارک

## برطانیہ کے یونیورسٹیوں کے شہر کیمرج میں بننے والی یورپ کی پہلی

### ’ماحول دوست‘ مسجد

برطانیہ کے تاریخی شہر کیمرج میں ایک اور تاریخی رقم ہوئی ہے۔ یہاں برطانیہ اور یورپ کی پہلی ’یکوفریٹڈ‘ یا ماحول دوست مسجد تعمیر کی گئی ہے جسے اب عام نمازیوں کے لیے کھول ملین پاؤنڈ کی لاگت سے بنائی جانے والی کیمرج سینٹرل مسجد تقریباً بارہ 23 دیا گیا ہے۔ برس زیر تعمیر رہی۔ اس مسجد کے آرکیٹیکٹ کہتے ہیں کہ یہ 21 ویں صدی کے برطانیہ میں ’اسلام کا ثقافتی اپیل ثابت ہوگی۔

مسجد کی ٹرسٹ کے ترجمان ڈاکٹر عبدالکیم کہتے ہیں کہ ایک اندازے کے مطابق کیمرج کے 6000 مسلمان رہائشی شہر میں بنائی گئی پرائیوٹ رہائش گاہوں، چھوٹی چھوٹی مساجد یا گنجائش سے زیادہ بھرے ہوئے اسلامک سینٹروں میں نماز ادا کرتے تھے، اس لیے کیمرج میں ایک مکمل مسجد کی اشد ضرورت تھی۔ اس مسجد میں نماز پڑھنے کے لیے یہاں کے مسلمانوں کو ایک لمبا انتظار کرنا پڑا اور راستے میں کئی مسائل بھی آئے۔ پہلے تو کیمرج جیسے پھلتے پھولتے شہر میں اتنی بڑی جگہ کا حصول ہی ایک بڑا مسئلہ تھا، پھر اتنے بڑے پرائیویٹ کے لیے رقم، لیکن سب سے بڑا مسئلہ اتنی بڑی مسجد کی شہر کے بچوں سچ تعمیر کی مخالفت تھی۔ سنہ 2011 میں مسجد کے قریب گھروں میں نامعلوم افراد نے پمفلٹ تقسیم کیے جن پر لکھا تھا کہ اس کی مخالفت کریں کیونکہ اس سے اس جگہ پر بہت زیادہ جھوم ہو جائے گا۔

یہاں رہنے والوں کو یہ بھی تشویش تھی کہ یہاں بڑی اونچی عمارت تعمیر کی جائے گی، لیکن جب انھیں بتایا گیا کہ ایسا کچھ نہیں تو بہت کم لوگوں نے اس کی مخالفت کی۔ کیمرج سٹی کونسل کے مطابق اس کو مسجد کے منصوبے کی مخالفت میں 50 خط ملے جبکہ اس کی حمایت میں 200 خط موصول ہوئے۔ اب مسجد کو یورپ کی سب سے خوبصورت مساجد میں سے ایک کہا جا رہا ہے اور یہ کیمرج جیسے تاریخی شہر کے شایان شان ہے۔ اور اسی بات سے کیمرج کے شہری پھولے نہیں سماتے۔ عنبرین رحمان کہتی ہیں کہ ’ہم تو خوش ہی ہیں لیکن اس مسجد کے بننے سے ہمارے بچے زیادہ پر جوش ہیں اور کئی بار پوچھ چکے ہیں کہ کب وہاں ’جمعہ پڑھنے جائیں گے۔ یہ اس شہر کے لیے یقیناً ایک تحفہ ہے۔

### میانمار: روہنگیا قتل عام پر رپورٹ کرنے والے رومنٹرز کے دونوں صحافی

رہا

میانمار میں روہنگیا کے بجران کی رپورٹنگ پر قید کیے جانے والے خبر رساں ادارے رومنٹرز سالہ والون اور 29 سالہ کیا وسوا کو میانمار کے 33 کے دو صحافیوں کو رہا کر دیا گیا ہے۔ صدر کی جانب سے معافی دیے جانے پر رہائی ملی ہے۔ انھوں نے دارالحکومت یانگون (رنگون) کے مضافات کے جیل میں 500 دن سے زیادہ کی مدت گزار لی۔ انھیں سرکاری رازداری ایکٹ کی خلاف ورزی میں گذشتہ سال ستمبر میں سات سال قید کی سزا ہوئی تھی۔ ان کی گرفتاری کو پریس کی آزادی پر ضرب کے طور پر دیکھا گیا اور اس نے میانمار میں جمہوریت پر سوال کھڑے کر دیے۔ جیل سے رہا ہونے کے بعد والون نے بی بی سی کے نک کیے کو بتایا کہ وہ صحافت سے کبھی پیچھے نہیں ہٹیں گے۔ انھوں نے نامہ نگاروں کو بتایا: ’میں

اپنے اہل خانہ اور ساتھیوں کو دیکھ کر پر جوش اور واقعی خوش ہوں۔ میں اپنے نیوز روم میں جانے کے لیے بے چین ہوں۔ ان کے گھر بار اور چھوٹے بچے ہیں۔ والون کی اہلیہ بین اپنی مون کو ان کے شوہر کی گرفتاری کے بعد پتہ چلا کہ وہ حاملہ ہیں۔ اور انھوں نے اپنی بیٹی کو چند بار ہی دیکھا ہے جب جیل میں ان کی اہلیہ ان سے ملنے کے لیے جاتی تھیں۔ ان صحافیوں کو عام معافی کے تحت ہزاروں دوسرے لوگوں کے ساتھ رہائی ملی ہے۔ میانمار میں ہر نئے سال کے موقع پر عام معافی دی جاتی ہے۔ رومنٹرز کے مدیر اعلیٰ نے کہا کہ گذشتہ ماہ ان دونوں صحافیوں کو گرانڈ ریپولٹرز انعام سے نوازا گیا ہے اور وہ پریس کی آزادی کی ’علامت‘ بن گئے ہیں۔ مدیر اعلیٰ اسٹیفن جے ایڈلر نے ایک بیان میں کہا: ’ہم بہت خوش ہیں کہ میانمار حکومت نے ہمارے جرات مند صحافیوں کو آزاد کرنے کا فیصلہ کیا ہے، وہ پریس کی آزادی کی ایک علامت بن گئے ہیں۔

### امریکہ کا الزام کہ خلیج اومان میں ٹینکرز پر حملے کا ذمہ دار ایران ہے

میڈیا رپورٹس کے مطابق امریکی تفتیش کاروں کا الزام ہے کہ ایران یا اس کے حمایت یافتہ گروپس نے دہاکہ خیز مواد کا استعمال کرتے ہوئے اتوار کو متحدہ عرب امارات کے پانیوں میں چار ٹینکرز کو نقصان پہنچایا تھا۔ اطلاعات کے مطابق فوجی ماہرین کو واقعے کی تفتیش کے لیے بھیجا گیا، جن کے مطابق ہر ٹینکر میں ایک بڑا سوراخ تھا۔ اب تک اس واقعے میں ایران کے ملوث ہونے کے کوئی شواہد سامنے نہیں آئے ہیں اور نہ ہی متاثرہ ممالک نے اب تک کسی پر الزام لگایا ہے۔ خبر رساں ادارے اے پی کے مطابق ایک اہلکار نے انہیں بتایا کہ امریکی فوجی تفتیش کاروں کی ٹیم کو چاروں ٹینکرز میں بڑے بڑے سوراخ ملے اور ان کا خیال ہے کہ یہ دہاکہ خیز مواد کی وجہ سے ہوئے۔ تاہم انہوں نے اس کا ایران سے تعلق واضح نہیں کیا۔ امریکی میڈیا ادارے سی بی ایس نے بھی امریکی اہلکاروں کے حوالے سے اسی طرح کی ایک رپورٹ شائع کی ہے۔

### جرمنی میں غیر ملکی فنڈنگ کو روکنے کیلئے ’مسجد ٹیکس‘ لگانے پر غور

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