

Paigaam

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Let Peace and Harmony Prevail



On the 22nd of March, during a Religious Studies class, children were exposed to a highly offensive caricature of the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) by their teacher.

The teacher who showed the image sought to trigger debate about the issue of blasphemy, however, he failed to appreciate that the cartoon was loaded with Islamophobic tropes.

Community groups including IMWS have been commended for taking swift action whilst Head Teacher, Mr Gary Kibble, has also been praised for engaging with the community.

“On such a sensitive matter, constructive discussion is of the utmost importance

and we are grateful for the school’s cooperation on the matter,” read a statement from The Batley Parents and Community Partnership.

“With the support provided by the Headteacher of Batley Grammar School and other organisations, we are working to achieve an amicable resolution. The school has actioned suspensions of staff pending investigation.”

The statement acknowledged that the school had apologised for the incident, and have taken steps to remove the caricature of the Prophet (peace be upon him) from all school materials, and “announced a formal review of the religious studies curriculum to remove any other grossly inappropriate resources.”

“We, as parents and citizens, stand resolute that our children should be able to go to school without having their faith (a protected characteristic under the Equality Act) and culture ridiculed, insulted and vilified.”

“We believe that in a democratic society everyone holds the right to opinion and expression. However, we, as parents and citizens, also believe that these rights come with responsibility.

“Our children should be allowed to engage with challenging ideas such as blasphemy without their teachers having to utilise Islamophobic material. Such material serves only to marginalise Muslim communities and spread Islamophobic sentiment.”

Let peace and harmony prevail

So called character assassinations of the Holy Prophet (peace be upon him) go as far back as the ninth century or even earlier. The approach to the Prophet from the medieval period to the nineteenth century was overtly negative, therefore western scholars and the western media, have not been able to free themselves from the tainted lens that has remained since medieval times.

The media frenzy has largely focused on the actions of a small group of protestors, as opposed to focusing on the sensitivities in relation to the caricatures of the Holy Prophet (peace be upon him) along with the concerns of parents and the community.

However, the Batley Parents and Community Partnership statement cautioned the use of toxic language which has been perpetuated in the media and called on all parties to work with the school in a constructive manner.

The statement continued: “Unfortunately, unhelpful comments, and biased media reporting that seek to hijack the issue undermine the essential relationship between local communities and local public institutions.”

“We are fully invested in dialogue and legitimate engagement. Any and all threats against the school and staff involved undermine our efforts and are completely contrary to our values as concerned parents, citizens and Muslims. We call for calm in order to allow for fruitful dialogue and space for a transparent investigation to take place.

“For our children to thrive in a diverse community it is imperative that local communities have a strong and active relationship with schools. We hope that the incident, instead of polarising communities, helps demonstrate how communities and public institutions can work together for the betterment of our children.”

Baroness Sayeeda Warsi agreed with the sentiments of the Batley Parents and Community Partnership and has offered to support the teachers and the school to ensure the best learning environment is created for pupils.

She said: “Can the anti Muslim ‘usual suspects’, commentators, media outlets, twitter trolls, politicians stop wetting yourself in anticipation of a ‘them Muslims’ row- this is about children.

“Stop whipping up this local situation. This nasty divisiveness has consequences. Where pupils have lost months and months of school teaching because of Covid, creating a positive and inclusive teaching environment, I am sure, is a priority for Batley Grammar School and anything that detracts from that cannot be in the best interests of the pupils.

“This is a child safeguarding issue not a Cartoon issue, it’s about smart teaching not point scoring whilst tragically Covid continues to kill can I urge the small but noisy group of protestors to calm down & go home. There are better ways to enjoy the good weather.”

Local scholars have emphasised the fact that the Prophet (Peace be upon him) is considered as the pinnacle of humanity by Muslims, whose words need to be implemented in every possible way, and his actions replicated in everyday life.

His life serves as a blueprint for individuals and communities of the Muslim faith and shows them that the Prophetic way is to prefer peaceful resolutions. He is seen as a role model for establishing a pluralistic society where differences are not only tolerated, but even respected.

Those who want to stoke tensions will argue that it is a British value to denigrate the religious sensitivities of British Muslims. However, as British Muslims, we believe that it is not a British value to denigrate other people’s faiths and beliefs.

Muslims do not have a problem with people not agreeing with their beliefs but to mock, to denigrate, to make fun of someone who is dear to the hearts of the Muslims and this includes (Isa) Jesus or about Moses or about any of these prophets, is misguided.

This is where we have to ask ourselves: “Is this the type of society we want?”

We have risen above racial discrimination in this country, in the public space at least. If you denigrate someone racially you can lose your job or even spend time in jail. In addition, would we tolerate children being shown anti-Semitic drawings or anti LGBT drawings in a classroom? No, we would never tolerate this!

Of course, in a free democratic country, freedom of speech is a precious gift, and we must value it. But we cannot condone the freedom to insult others as that gives rise to conflicts which is not conducive to a good society.

Pope Francis tried explaining what it feels like to have one’s faith attacked: “If a close friend says a swear word against my mother, then a punch awaits him. One cannot provoke; one cannot insult other people’s faith; one cannot make fun of faith,” he explained.

However, we should take the example of the Prophet (peace be upon him) when he said he was willing to lead the funeral prayer of a man who had not only insulted, offended, and ridiculed him, but had caused huge personal, familial, and societal tension.

His gesture went beyond seeking justice and peace and demonstrated forgiveness to such a point that it stemmed from his forgiving and compassionate nature, which helped to maintain a peaceful society whilst successfully managing ongoing tension.

What is important to note is that he was not merely refraining from retaliating with harsh words to just keep the peace, but he was setting firm limits on how Muslims should react to moments of tension and conflict, because “God is munificent and loves those who are gentle,” even when the individual may not be “deserving” of such gentleness.

He chose not to respond with disrespect or harshness; it was his life philosophy to respond to harshness with kindness. He preferred forgiveness over vengeance, maintained peace at times, even when many intentionally threatened it.

His historic statement: “Hilm (mildness of manner and forbearance) is a trait that elevates one almost to the level of prophets,” is still priceless to this very day!

His gentleness and patience went far beyond the call of duty of any leader. Whether he was threatened or publicly humiliated, he always responded with patience and forgiveness. This ensured that the acts or threats of violence were

dealt with in a gentle manner, which maintained the peaceful society.

Not only did he win the hearts of the people around him, but he was also teaching the community what needed to be done to maintain a peaceful society, without holding ill feelings for the perpetrator.

In many of the examples, his followers struggled with his peaceful response due to the intense emotions felt at the time. However, they had great respect and reverence for him, which meant that they followed his way and overcame their emotions of anger, revenge, and frustration.

They eventually followed in his footsteps, where the natural reaction to conflict situations was not to retaliate, but to seek a peaceful solution instead.

These are the true Islamic teachings and principles. The Imams and religious scholars of Batley have always played a very active and positive role in steering

the community towards good, respecting the laws of the land and being good neighbours.

Since IMWS was formed in 1957, Batley’s Muslim community has continuously played an active role in promoting multi-faith relations and community cohesion. In addition, during the Covid pandemic, all the Masjids and community centres have provided thousands of food parcels for the needy, regardless of their background.

The community is very firmly rooted in strong Islamic principles of being a force for good and the betterment of the whole community and respect for law and order.

Modern multicultural Britain is a good example to our European partners and the rest of the world in relation to how people of faith have the freedom to practice their religion whilst also contributing positively to society.

To make further progress in protecting the rights of people of faith, it is time we passed legislation that provides safeguards and prevents abuse.

Safety Advice

The Indian Muslim Welfare Society has issued safety advice to the community following a number of reported incidents which include hate mail and threatening telephone calls received by a number of local Masjids and community centres.

In light of this, IMWS is advising the community to be on alert and vigilant at all times and ensure safety precautions are taken by all establishments.

Any such incidents must be immediately reported to the Police and logged as a hate crime. We would urge Masjid committees to put safety plans in place in order to safeguard buildings and worshippers.



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PAIGAAM EDITORIAL

Reflecting on the Year of Covid

With the blessed month of Ramadhan upon us it is a good time to reflect on the past year which has been very painful for humanity across the globe.

Last March we experienced the first Lockdown which was a shock to our system as we had never experienced anything like this before. We all had to get used to staying at home, wearing masks, distancing from others, not being able to visit our families, and for many of us working from home, or on furlough.

We have all lost loved ones, be it a family member, a close friend, a work colleague or a neighbour. So far we have lost over 126,000 people in our country. Covid lockdowns have affected children's school education and Madressa education has also been disrupted. Covid has also devastated the economy and livelihoods of millions of people across the world.

What was worse for the Muslim community last year was that we had to endure the pain of not being able to attend our Masjids for Salah and Tarawee so the usual 'Ramadhan ki Ronak' was lost as we had to experience Ramadhan under lockdown.

So what lessons can we learn from the past year? Well, to begin with

we have seen how resilient we can be when the situation demands. Despite great hardships we have survived the terrible year and hopefully we can look forward to some kind of normality over the next twelve months.

At a time of darkness and national disaster we saw hope and humanity. There have been heroes in all corners of our communities. From the heroic health workers, many of whom gave their lives to save others, to the volunteers who stood up to help those in need.

In all our communities the great spirited volunteers worked very hard to ease the burdens of those who struggled financially and otherwise. We also have to mention the late Sir Captain Tom Moore who left a great legacy. We can't thank them all enough.

In our local communities we also need to acknowledge the teams of volunteers who have provided a great service for burial. During Covid this has been a very difficult task with the need for extra safety measures such as PPE. We applaud all these special volunteers for their great service and support to the families of the deceased at a time of distress.

Covid has also taught us that there

are different ways to work and live and to value our families and friends and be more understanding and generous towards others. Covid has also demonstrated how creative people can be with all aspects of life and how important community spirit is.

We should be very grateful and proud of the great efforts by all our Masjids across the country for making our Masjids Covid safe for us to attend for our prayers. We must appreciate the efforts of the Committees and all the countless volunteers who give their time for the benefit of our community.

Covid has also demonstrated that our Madressas have done an excellent job in providing virtual teaching to our children during lockdown. Despite limited resources the Madressa Committees, Heads and teachers have done very well to adapt and create different ways to continue teaching. This has also been a new experience for our children.

Paigaam on behalf of all our communities would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to all volunteers who have been helping in any capacity during Covid. They are all heroes and deserve our appreciation and respect.



Ramadhan Mubarak
to our readers

Residents' Concerns over State of Roads

Local residents have urged Kirklees Council to take immediate action to improve roads with many insisting the potholes are a particular problem in areas with a high Asian population where cars have been subjected to suspension damage, misalignment and damaged exhausts.

One resident told Paigaam two of the worst affected areas are Howard Street in Batley Carr and Warwick Road where some very deep potholes have caused damage to cars.

One local resident told Paigaam "The Council over many years has just repaired these potholes for them to re-appear again very soon and the question is why is it that some of the worst roads are in areas populated by the Asian community?"

"The council needs to properly repair and resurface the whole of these roads as some of the humps are a danger to cars. The council should also make both roads one way as there are too many cars parked on both sides of the roads causing constant congestion to traffic."

Another local resident told Paigaam there needs to be a concerted effort on the part of local Councillors and the Council to deal with these problems rather than making excuses. He also said he has written to local Councillors in Batley East and the Council Leader asking them to take swift action to deal with the problem roads. He said "the Councillors have provided some response but what we need to see is some action."

Paigaam asked Kirklees Council Leader and Councillor for Batley West, Shabbir

Pandor for his comments and he told us that despite "crippling cuts" in Government funding, he remains committed to improving roads in Batley as part of a £15million resurfacing programme.

Councillor Pandor cited the fact that Kirklees Council has lost 60 per cent of its national funding from Government since 2010, which is approximately £150million.

He said that "due to such significant cuts, meeting the expensive costs of highways maintenance is challenging and it would cost at least £150million to complete all immediate repair works needed to roads in Kirklees".

However, Councillor Pandor says under his leadership, Kirklees Council will be treating improvements to highways as a priority and despite the devastating cuts

from the Government; the council is using its own money to invest in unclassified roads with a £15million programme agreed in January 2021 by his Cabinet.

As part of these works, 12 roads in Batley West and Batley East will undergo carriageway and footpath resurfacing works, starting this summer.

Councillor Pandor said: "It's impossible to face such crippling cuts without it having an impact. The Council's overall budget for 2021-22 is £317million and it would cost at least £150million alone just to complete our backlog of immediate repair works for unclassified roads in Kirklees. This is the size of the problem we face."

Councillor Pandor said he understands the concerns of residents and has engaged with them in order to deliver.



Bitcoin or bust?

The speculative nature of Bitcoin has ensued a great deal of debate amongst Muslims in relation to whether cryptocurrencies are permissible according to Islamic law.

Because cryptocurrencies are derived from sheer supposition, they sit rather uneasily with Islamic principles that encourage real economic exchange based on physical assets.

With respect to risk, the general Islamic principle is that transactions should not be left to chance. While reasonable amounts of uncertainty are permitted, unreasonable uncertainty in a transaction is considered gambling and thus is impermissible.

A Darul Uloom Deoband and Jamia Uloom Islamiyah Binnori Town, Karachi fatwa issued by Mufti Mohammed Aatur Rahman Sajid and checked by Mufti Mohammed Navalur Rahman specifically states that Bitcoin, like any other digital currency is just imaginary,

The fatwa specifically states: “Bitcoin or any other digital currencies are just imaginary currencies.”

“They do not exhibit the fundamental qualities and conditions of real currencies, at all. And these days the trade adopted with such currencies over the internet and web applications, do not really involve any *ma'bi'ah* (actual buying and selling), neither does it fulfil the basic *Shar'iah* conditions.

“Instead, in reality, it is a form of interest and gambling which is based on an ambiguous transaction and fraud. Therefore, they are simply masquerading as buying and selling bitcoins.”

Paigaam takes a look at the Islamic view on Bitcoin and why Scholars including Mufti Taqi Usmani Saheb have warned against investing.

or any digital currencies on the internet are not Halal (i.e. impermissible) in light of the Islamic *Shari'ah* and it is also impermissible to invest money in them.”

In addition, the authority on Islamic finance, the most highly regarded scholar in the world, Mufti Taqi Usmani of Pakistan said to make cryptocurrency a tradable commodity is not acceptable in terms of Islamic finance.

“In addition to the fact that the currencies are originally a medium of exchange and should only be exchanged for personal use in different countries. To make them a tradable commodity only for earning a profit is also against the basic philosophy of Islamic economics,” said Mufti sahib.



The Durban-based Darul Ihsan Centre has refrained from endorsing them, citing concern over potential pyramid schemes.

Scholars in Turkey, India and the UK have labelled them impermissible; Egypt's Grand Mufti Shawki Allam has also deemed them to be haram and that they should not be traded because they are not recognised by treasury departments as an acceptable currency. He also argued that trading in crypto currencies amounted to “gambling,”

which is also haram.

Similarly, Turkey's Directorate of Religious Affairs, or the “*Diyanet*,” voiced like concerns and stated “The purchase and selling of digital currencies is not appropriate according to religion at this point due to the fact that they are open to speculation in terms of value and they can easily be used mostly in illegal deeds such as money laundering. They are also far from state auditing and supervision.”

Mufti Amjad Mohammed states in a published fatwa, “Due to the very nature of cryptocurrency, the fundamental fact that it has to be decentralised will mean that its current method of validating transactions which are based on gambling and chance will mean it is contrary to Islamic principles of business and hence not permitted to Muslims who choose to avoid transactions which go against their beliefs and practices.”

The well regarded Shaykh Sulayman ar Ruhayli, perhaps had the most stinging criticism: “It [Bitcoin] has no value in and of itself. It has no economic strength that gives it value, nor an origin of some sort that it returns (like gold or silver). Rather, its value is based on the fluctuation of the market.”

He also made similar arguments regarding the fact it has not been adopted by any legitimate government entity: “Investing money in it is a waste of wealth. It is like a bubble, it may burst at anytime, and of a surety it will burst.”

Al Hikmah Centre welcomes patients for second Covid jab



The vaccination service at the Al Hikmah Centre in Batley has started to welcome patients back for their second dose of the COVID-19 jab, as the next phase of the vaccination programme gets underway.

Local people from a plethora of communities and backgrounds have recently visited the centre in order to receive their jabs.

On average between 4 to 5 hundred vaccines are being given out every day with as many

as 900 being administered on certain days.

Commenting on the news that by the end of June, an estimated 93 000 people will have been vaccinated at the Al Hikmah Centre, IMWS Chair, Dr Imtiaz Patel said the organisation was truly humbled with the amount of positive messages and appreciation they have received in relation to playing their part in fighting the Covid-19 virus.

He said: “Thousands of people have been vaccinated, however, we could not have

done this without the effort of our executive committee, staff, volunteers and relevant partners who have made all this possible.

“We would also like to thank our primary care networks (PCN), who along with their practices have worked with us collaboratively in order to deliver a Covid-19 service that will keep patients and staff safe in the coming days, weeks and months ahead.”

Dr Chantel Ratcliffe, GP and Clinical Director of the Batley and Birstall Primary Care

importance of attending for their second jab: “I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Indian Muslim Welfare Society first and foremost for allowing us to use the Al Hikmah Centre.

“While the first dose gives you some protection, you must have two doses of the vaccine to make sure you have longer lasting protection against the virus. It’s really important that you come along for your second jab when you’re invited.”

Audrey Speight, who attended the centre recently, said she was ecstatic to receive her second jab: “I’m happy to know that we are all getting the vaccine and moving towards no lockdown.”

Medical receptionist Aasiya Karolia said she would recommend the vaccine to everyone: “I feel safe having the vaccine.”

Dr Imad Riaz, GP and Clinical Director of Spenningsdale Health and Wellbeing Primary Care Network acknowledged that the fact that IMWS have helped to facilitate such a truly historic milestone: “This is a real milestone moment in North Kirkstall and I’m honoured to be involved. Thank you to all the staff and volunteers involved.”

Steve Brennan, Senior Responsible Officer for the vaccination programme in Kirkstall, said the vaccination programme in Kirkstall has made great progress; “We’ve delivered jabs to over 140,000 people and are now offering a first dose to patients aged 55 and over. The vaccine take-up level in our area is high and it’s wonderful.”

Economic Renaissance for Batley?



Kirklees Council Leader, Councillor Shabbir Pandor has announced plans to invest £1.5 million in the local area. Will this mean Batley will finally emerge from the shadows?

Kirklees Council Leader, Councillor Shabbir Pandor has announced plans to invest millions of pounds in the local area.

As part of on-going regeneration plans, a blueprint was approved by Councillor Pandor and his cabinet in March as part of the council budget for the next financial year.

The local authority intends to invest £6 million in Batley and neighbouring towns such as Heckmondwike, Cleckheaton and Holmfirth.

The three-year programme is expected to commence this year and will draw to a conclusion in 2024 with £1.5 million allocated to each of the aforementioned towns to support local regeneration.

Speaking to Paigaam, Mr Pandor said the investment was significant and an exciting

milestone for North Kirklees and Batley in particular, as it is the biggest amount of money to be invested in Kirklees.

“Our budget, which was announced in February put in a massive investment programme, the biggest ever in the history of Kirklees, but we need a recovery that works for everybody, we need a recovery that works for you,” said Councillor Pandor.

He acknowledged that businesses in Batley and throughout Kirklees have faced massive restrictions and have been hit very hard. However, despite acknowledging the fact that Kirklees Council’s budget has been cut significantly, he insists Batley has a great future ahead.

“The pandemic has hit towns like Batley and other areas in Kirklees very hard. Despite the fact that during the last 10 years, austerity has hit everybody very hard, in

Kirklees this has meant that we’ve had to cut our budget by 197 million pounds,” said the Labour Councillor for Batley West.

“Towns like Batley have a proud history and a potential for a great future. That’s why we have developed a new investment budget that will take everything forward. No one knows their town better than the local community, which is why we want to involve them in this exciting opportunity to have their say on how we spend the money.”

As a Batley lad himself, he insists he is very proud to be leading the charge to ensure the initial investment of £6 million is only the beginning of the journey for North Kirklees.

“The six million pound that we have allocated and put aside means that this will now provide an opportunity to make sure that we can actually bid for more money. We’ll be able to

go to the government and say we have a plan for regeneration and it will also attract other funding streams.

“We want to make sure we get the right traffic, transport environment and infrastructure in place, and that will enable the council to kick-start a new future.”

Dr Imtiyaz Patel, chair of IMWS welcomed the news of the upcoming investment with cautious optimism.

“May I take this opportunity to congratulate Councillor Pandor, who has worked tirelessly for the betterment of the community. I also agree with Councillor Pandor, that it is really, really important that every single person engages with the council, because once they get everybody’s views, they can make sure that they can work with organisations such as IMWS who can work alongside them and help to deliver any relevant projects.”

Madrasah Islamiyah Mount Pleasant Islamic Trust Annual Hifz Khatam

Madrasah Islamiyah Mount Pleasant Islamic Trust held their annual Hifz Khatam dua online on Saturday the 13th of March.

Despite the impact of the Coronavirus pandemic which saw this particular programme delayed since November and countless others cancelled, it was decided that the Hifz khatam would proceed as an online only event.

Mufti Zakaria Akudi said the event was a real milestone in

terms of the commitment of the youngsters, in particular two girls, who also completed their Hifz at Madrasah Islamiyah.

He said: "This is a time to recognise the great achievement, hard work and dedication of our young generation along with the efforts of the parents, teachers and Madrasah, more so this time, due to the completion of Hifz by two girls a first for Madrasah Islamiyah. Ten boys also completed their Hifz this year."

Memorising the words of the

Almighty is undoubtedly one of the noblest achievements one can hope to pursue and it a dream many Muslim parents today have for their children.

However, it requires a tremendous amount of effort, focus, and dedication on behalf of the student, parent(s), and the teacher.

And indeed, this is a goal nobler than many if not all others. The names of the honourable Huffaz who have achieved the loftiest of goals are as follows: Hafizah Zaynab Iqbal Khan, Hafizah Sumayya

Asif Dabhad, Hafiz Yusuf Ayaz Seedat, Hafiz Alqamah Ml. Mohammed Siddique Shaikh, Hafiz Umar Asif Basar, Hafiz Muhammad Ebrahim Patel, Hafiz Yusuf Sohail Mahmood, Hafiz Abubakr Qari Saleh Lunat, Hafiz Muhammad Musa Ravat, Hafiz Ismail Mohamedali Foolat, Hafiz Rayyan Ibrahim Patel.

We pray that the Holy Quraan stays embedded in their hearts and minds till their last breath and may it be a means of salvation for them and their dear ones in the hereafter. Ameen.



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We should remain extra safe and well this Ramadhan



Fasting can impact hugely on health conditions and as we all look forward to the holy month of Ramadan soon to be upon us, it is crucial patients continue to seek the necessary support for the management of their condition.

Remaining in close contact with the doctor, pharmacist or nurse can help make a more informed decision about fasting as well as fasting safely.

Whilst fasting is obligatory we all know there are some exemptions to this, which include ill-health as quoted in the Qur'an Surah Al-Baqarah [2:183-185].

Certain people with health problems including those with diabetes are exempt from fasting, and also the following:

- Anyone who may be putting their health at serious risk by fasting, e.g. patients with diabetes using insulin and/or taking medicines, patients who have diabetic complications (damage to their eyes, kidney or the nerves in their hands or feet) or patients with poorly controlled diabetes.

- **Children (under the age of puberty)**
- **Elderly or frail patients**
- **Those who are sick or have a certain health or mental health condition (please advise individuals to speak to their doctor looking after the**

condition and their local Imam)

- **Those with learning difficulties**
- **Those who are travelling long distances where the journey may be difficult**

- **Pregnant, breastfeeding or menstruating women**

Importantly, most people with diabetes do not perceive themselves as being ill and therefore may still choose to fast.

Staying safe whilst fasting

Patients who wish to fast during Ramadan should be advised to speak to their GP or diabetes team about fasting as early as possible, who will be able to tell them whether it is safe to fast and if any changes need to be made to their medicines.

Some patients believe taking their medicines can negate their fast, however, patients should be advised to not stop taking their medicines or stop using insulin without consulting their GP. The

following steps can help patients to stay safe whilst fasting:

- **Testing blood glucose levels regularly during fast and especially if feeling unwell. Testing blood glucose levels does not break the fast and is permissible during Ramadan**

- **Eating a meal at Suhoor just before sunrise.**

Long hours without eating can increase the risk of blood glucose levels falling and having 'hypos'. Eating at the last permissible time will help keep the blood glucose levels more balanced.

- **Drinking plenty of fluids (sugar-free), particularly water, at Suhoor and after Iftar**

Therefore as a wider concluding message in relation to the COVID-19 vaccine and the pandemic, the NHS Health Race and Health Observatory have emphasised: "There is no reason why a first or second dose vaccine cannot be administered during Ramadan. The content is halal, and receiving it will not invalidate the Ramadan fast, as per the opinion of Islamic scholars."

Importantly also to emphasise that despite the availability of vaccines, it is still crucial to remain safe by keeping vigilance with wearing masks, social distancing, adequate ventilation, and good hand hygiene in sensibly managing this pandemic.

Finally, I am delighted and proud to be like a brother and so closely associated to the wider family of the Indian Muslim Welfare Society, and would like to mark the start of the holy month of Ramadan by wishing you and all your loved ones a very blessed and ultra safe Ramadan.

Happy Ramadan everyone

**Professor Mahendra G Patel PhD
FHEA Alumni Fellow NICE FRPharmS
Honorary Visiting Professor University of Bradford**

Medical benefits of Taraweeh

Walk towards Taraweeh namaz in Ramadhan, and one will find a number of people walking around and looking to kill as much time as possible, before innocently making it back for when those who have partaken in Taraweeh and congregational prayer make their way out of the masjid.

However, if those people who intentionally miss their Taraweeh prayers were aware of the medical benefits of participating in 20 rakaah's of Taraweeh, they may think again about disrespecting their faith and trudge back towards the Masjid.

According to an essay by Dr Ibrahim Syed, president of the Islamic Research Foundation, in his essay 'The Medical Benefits of Taraweeh Prayers', he insists praying Taraweeh will benefit your physical, emotional and mental health.

"After an hour or so after the Iftar meal, the blood glucose begins to rise and also plasma insulin. The liver and the muscles take up the circulating glucose. The blood sugar reaches high levels in an hour or two and the benefits of Taraweeh prayers come into effect. The circulating glucose

is metabolized into carbon dioxide and water during the Taraweeh prayers."

Hence, Taraweeh prayers help in expanding the extra calories and improve flexibility, coordination, reduce stress-related autonomic responses in healthy persons, and relieve anxiety and depression."

Furthermore, the gentle exercises performed in Taraweeh prayers improve physical fitness, emotional well-being and increase the longevity of the Namazi:

"When a little extra effort is made, as in performing the Taraweeh prayers, there will be a betterment in the endurance, stamina, flexibility and strength," said Dr Syed.

"It was noted that the five daily prayers (salat) produce the same physiological changes without any undesirable side effects as those produced by jogging or walking at about three miles per hour."

After the Taraweeh prayers have finished, the effects of adrenaline are apparent. Adrenaline, also called epinephrine, is produced by the adrenal glands. The middle part of these glands, the adrenal medulla, secretes the hormone, which is

chemically almost identical to the transmitter substance noradrenaline produced at the ends of sympathetic nerves.

"Adrenaline secretion into the bloodstream in stress causes acceleration of the heart, constriction of arterioles, and dialation of the pupils. In addition, adrenaline produces a marked increase in metabolic rate thus preparing the body for emergency." Dr Syed.

"Even the thought or the intention of performing the Taraweeh prayers is sufficient to activate the sympathetic nervous system. Sympathetic nervous system, one of the two divisions of the autonomic nervous system, which supplies motor nerves to the muscles of internal organs and to the heart muscle.

In addition to needing fats, proteins, and carbohydrates, the human body requires minerals such as Potassium for nerve and muscle activity.

Dr Syed said: "Potassium deficiency leads to muscular and neurologic disorders. Potassium is also important in the transmission of nerve impulses and is a major positive ion in intracellular fluids. Potassium is involved in cellular enzyme activities, and it helps

regulate the chemical reactions by which carbohydrates are converted to energy and amino acids are converted to protein. It is found in fruits, meats, seafood and milk.

"Taraweeh prayers improve respiratory efficiency; circulation in the capillaries surrounding the alveoli, or air sacs, is increased, bringing about enhanced gas exchange and deeper breathing. The increase in the maximal consumption of oxygen is what makes the Namazi feel better."

And even though the bone mineral density falls with age, by simply praying Taraweeh namaz, mineral density will increase.

Regular Salat and Taraweeh also improves the lubrication of joints, improves movement, and maintains flexibility. In addition, the risk of osteoporosis is also substantially reduced by prayers.

Dr Syed said: "Taraweeh prayers increase bone mineral density in both menopausal and in elderly women and prevents osteoporosis and maintains normalcy in bone structures. Osteoporosis results in hip fractures in women after menopause and in elderly men."

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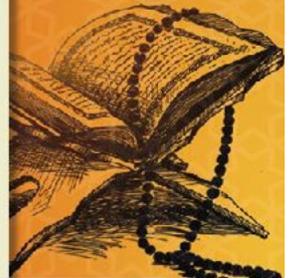
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Sadaqat-ul-fitr

Sadaqat-ul-fitr is an obligation for every Muslim, male or female, who owns 613.35 grams of silver or its equivalent, either in the form of money, ornaments, stock-in-trade, or in the form of some goods or commodities beyond one's normal needs.

Every person who owns such an amount has to pay Sadaqat-ul-fitr, not only on behalf of himself but also on behalf of his minor children. The wisdom behind this act is to purify the month long fasting of the Muslims and to enable the poor and less fortunate to also enjoy the celebration of Eid.

The prescribed amount of Sadaqat-ul-fitr is 1.75 Kilograms of wheat or its value in money or 3.5 kilograms of

barley, dates or raisins (or its value in money). One of the reasons why you would see a difference in the amount to be paid for Sadaqat-ul-fitr from area to area is due to the price differences of the mentioned food items in different areas and also due to which item is selected. To understand it better according to this year's calculations 1.75kg of wheat cost about £3.12, 3.5kg Safawi dates cost (normal) £25.24, 3.5kg Ajwaa dates cost (normal) £69.93, 3.5kg of barley cost £4.03 and 3.5kg of raisins cost £10.85. One can choose any of the above amounts to pay their Sadaqat-ul-fitr.

This amount is prescribed for paying Sadaqat-ul-fitr for one person only. If a person has some minor children, the same amount has to be paid on behalf of each one of them separately.

The following points must be remembered concerning the payment of Sadaqat-ul-fitr:

1. Sadaqat-ul-fitr is an obligation on each adult male or female separately, and the relevant adult person himself is responsible to pay it. The husband is not required to pay Sadaqat-ul-fitr on behalf of his wife nor is the wife supposed to pay it on behalf of her husband. Similarly, a father is not bound to pay Sadaqat-ul-fitr on behalf of his adult children or vice-versa. However, if the head of the family, by his own free will, wishes to pay Sadaqat-ul-fitr for each one of the members of his family, he should seek their permission first. It is the duty of every adult member of the family to discharge his/her own obligation or to request the head of the family to pay it on his or her behalf.

2. It is a Sunnah that the Sadaqat-ul-fitr is paid before performing the Eid prayer. It can also be paid before the Eid day, but it is not advisable to delay it up to the performance of Eid prayer. However, if a person has failed to pay on its proper time, he should pay it as soon as possible.

3. The Sadaqat-ul-fitr is not necessary on behalf of a child who was born after the break of dawn on 'Eid day, nor is it necessary to pay Sadaqat-ul-fitr on behalf of a person who dies before the dawn of Eid day.

4. Sadaqat-ul-fitr should be paid only to a person who is entitled to receive Zakah.

Any Sadaqat-ul-fitr amount given to IMWS by the 27th fast this Ramadhan will be sent to the needy before Eid day.

Islamic Wills

What should you consider when making an Islamic will?

The Executor(s) (Wasiyy) of the Will is the one who deals with the administration of the Estate. The Executor(s) must carry out the wishes of the testator as outlined in the Will.

Appointment of a guardian for children

Choosing what is best for your child is an essential obligation. This is particularly significant for Muslims who have Non-Muslim relatives and

want their children to have an Islamic upbringing.

Decide on funeral and burial arrangements

The person making the Will (testator) should specify that they would like their funeral and burial arrangements to be carried out in accordance with the practices of Islam.

Decide on any Wasiyyah (bequest to non-heirs)

Islam provides the flexibility to distribute up to a maximum of one-third (1/3) of your estate as you wish. This is optional and not mandatory; therefore,

you can choose to apply the Islamic rules on distribution to your whole estate.

The Estate (Tarikah)

The remainder of the estate following payment of funeral costs, debts and bequests (if any) is distributed in specific shares to the obligatory heirs. The heirs to these shares are fixed according to the Quran and may not be changed.

Who are the established inheritors and how does it all work?

In Islam, a testator (person writing the Will) does

NOT have full testamentary freedom. At least two-thirds of a person's estate must be left to certain Muslim family members depending on who survives the testator.

The shares allocated to each heir are stipulated in the Qur'an and cannot be amended. The closest relatives (spouse, son, daughter, father and mother) will always inherit a share and will always have precedence over distant relatives. In the absence of the closest relatives, the other relatives (such as grandparents and grandchildren, siblings) can be eligible to inherit a share.



Tracy Brabin Column

As I'm writing this, we will still be under most restrictions, however as you read this, we should be at the second stage of unlocking our towns and villages.

I know there are some concerns about the slowing down of the vaccine rollout of the vaccines, with the NHS announcing that they will be delaying vaccinating under 5os.

I'm keeping a close eye on supply issues and I'm hopeful that we will see this roll out resume shortly. The light at the end of the tunnel is fast approaching and I'm so happy we will be able to see each other in person very soon.

This month I'm dedicating my column in Paigaam to address some of the serious issues that so many of you have written to me about this month.

The first of these issues is the government's decision to cut aid to Yemen. The situation in Yemen is the largest humanitarian crisis in the world, and to withdraw lifesaving support and aid at this time is dangerous.

UN agencies have estimated that over 16 million people in Yemen will be facing crisis levels of food insecurity by mid-2021, and that over 2 million children under the age of five in Yemen could suffer from acute malnutrition in 2021.

The UN Secretary General said that reducing aid was a "death sentence" for Yemeni's and I agree. The UK should not stand idly by whilst millions stand on the brink of famine.

The Labour Party have called out this cruel and callous policy with my friend Preet Kaur Gill, the Shadow International Development Secretary, calling on the government to reverse this cut and instead stop the arms trade with Saudi Arabia which is exacerbating this awful crisis.

We have a moral duty to provide aid where we can and this politically motivated cut is one which has dire consequences. We have also had a lot of correspondence from constituents asking for support with Home Office delays, which causes anxiety and stress for so many, whether it be constituents sorting out their own immigration status or supporting family

members applications.

My team and I have been working hard to chase up outstanding cases with the Home Office, and in doing so have managed to clear many of the delayed cases we've been asked to help with.

Sadly in my role as an MP, I can't offer immigration advice, not can I force the Home Office to reconsider an application.

We can chase the Home Office once there is an application with them, and if there is a risk of imminent deportation, I can inquire on behalf of constituents, but MPs are really limited in how we can help you.

However, I will always do my best to ensure that if I can't help you, I'll find someone who can.

If you have any worries or concerns, you can always reach me and my team by emailing tracy.brabin.mp@parliament.uk or calling the office on 01924 900036.

West Yorkshire Police criticised over spending plans on new station in Dewsbury



Local's have applauded and derided, in equal measure, West Yorkshire Police's decision to transform the old Dewsbury College site on Halifax Road in Dewsbury into new divisional headquarters for West Yorkshire Police in Kirklees.

West Yorkshire Police have had a number of bids rejected before beating off stiff competition from the likes of the University of Huddersfield to eventually land the site, which has previously been valued at around £3.5 million.

Contracts have been exchanged and are subject to successful planning approvals, and represent a major renewal of the Kirklees police estate coming into line with other parts of West Yorkshire.

Writing on Facebook, Terry Ahmad dismissed the plans out of hand, insisting the plans were a total waste of money.

"Whats wong with the old one? Wasting our money on c*ap as usual. The College looks like a holiday home."

Mo Tucklus Loonat also questioned the blueprint for the site with the caption: "Police station or holiday home?"

However, Kirklees Council Leader, Shabir Pandor gave the move the thumbs up: "The major investment will also see a new police station built in Huddersfield Town Centre. Both projects are subject to successful planning approvals, and represent a major renewal of the Kirklees police estate coming into line with other

parts of West Yorkshire.

West Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC), Mark Burns Williamson who has overall responsibility for the Force Estate said the move was the culmination of many years and months of hard work with a determination to find the best possible options for the people of Kirklees.

He said: "We will see the development of much needed modern-day policing facilities rooted at the very core of our communities in both Huddersfield and Dewsbury.

"If planning approval is gained this will be a real step forward for many years to come for policing within Kirklees and West Yorkshire as a whole."

Chief Superintendent Julie Sykes, District Commander

of Kirklees Police, said: "Extensive work has been underway for several years in order to replace the existing police building in Dewsbury.

The site was very carefully chosen after years of planning." work, and we feel they offer the best locations available to us in terms of size, accessibility for residents, and also providing good access to the road network," said Mrs Sykes.

"What this investment will do is allow us to retain all the services we currently offer but develop them further, while bringing fresh investment into both towns. The announcement of this significant investment for policing in Kirklees is fantastic news for the District and will provide us with state-of-the-art new stations which will be based at the heart of communities."

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Bilal RA died in which country?

On which day was Adam A.S created?

Who freed Bilal RA from slavery?

Name of the lady who was given the title top lady of the world

What was the previous name of Madinah Shareef?

In which year the Islamic calendar began?

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‘Sweeping with the spin’

With Ismail Mulla

Under Virat Kohli’s tenure as captain this has not changed. However, there has been one change and that is their willingness to face up to their shortcomings.

There are many criticisms that can be levelled at the Indian captain and the team’s hyperbolic head coach Ravi Shastri’s door.

“Cribbing” about pitches and conditions, in Kohli’s words, is not one of those. India have owned their failings during the team’s countless travels in a bid to become the best test playing nation.

So it’s ridiculous to see English commentators reach for that old time-honoured dog whistle of unfair playing conditions whenever England don’t get their way in the sub-continent.

In case anyone is in doubt, it’s hot, it’s dry and yes it’s often dusty over in India. Those are the natural conditions and they

favour spin bowling.

The ground staff are not going to water it to favour quick bowlers. Why should they when the home team produces such exceptional spin bowlers?

It would be like demanding that English grounds take all the grass off the wicket and stop watering it for days in advance. It’s not going to happen.

Usually, broadcasters spend their time dissecting batting techniques when the ball is swinging. Why not do that on turning tracks?

Instead, this was somehow a denigration of test cricket because the batsmen couldn’t apply themselves against some high class spin bowling on a favourable surface.

English commentators, and it is English commentators in the main - not England players, have been moaning about the playing conditions.

Yet these very commentators

will happily blame a lack of application from touring batsmen when a test only lasts three days here.

They say it’s not the same thing. That in England the swinging ball is more to do with overhead conditions. That’s certainly the case...to a point.

But why not whack all the grass off the wicket then and prepare a flat deck? Let the overhead conditions make it an even contest between bat and ball and take assistance away from the pitch.

Maybe ditch the Dukes cricket ball, known for aiding swing bowling for much longer, and replace it with a Kookaburra, which swings for a shorter period and less prodigiously.

I’m not in favour of either of these things, of course. It would dull the ultimate challenge of batting in test matches in England.

This is just to highlight the

absurdity of suggesting the batsmen get an easier ride because they haven’t grown up playing spin bowling.

As expected, India wrapped up a 3-1 series victory against England. But for them the real prize is winning the test series in England this summer and of course the little matter of making history in the first-ever World Test Championship final against New Zealand before that.

England v India should make for a riveting contest as the touring side tries to beat a team that has not lost a test series at home since Sri Lanka bested them in 2014.

And conditions will rightly aid England’s strengths. However, the Indian team now has depth in every department including an artillery of fast bowlers.

Whatever happens in that series, one thing for sure is that the Indians will not be “cribbing” about pitches.

Brain Teasers

Riddle 1: What can't talk but will reply when spoken to?

Riddle 2: The more of this there is, the less you see. What is it?

Riddle 3: David's parents have three sons: Snap, Crackle, and what's the name of the third son?

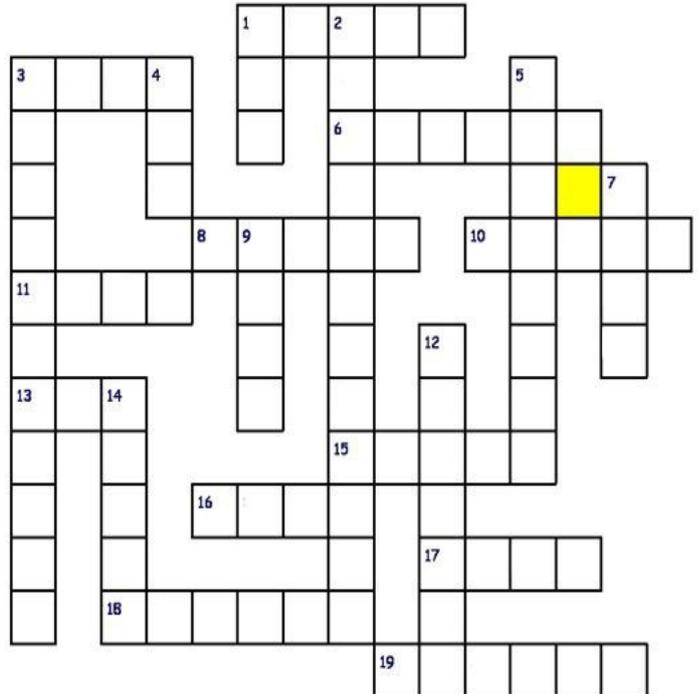
Riddle 4: I follow you all the time and copy your every move, but you can't touch me or catch me. What am I?

Riddle 5: What has many keys but can't open a single lock?

Riddle 6: What can you hold in your left hand but not in your right?

Riddle 7: What is black when it's clean and white when it's dirty?

Riddle 8: I'm light as a feather, yet the strongest person can't hold me for five minutes. What am I?



CROSSWORD CLUES

1. We must keep away from ___ and do good instead.
2. This is found in the last ten days of Ramadan on an odd night
3. Ramadhan is a month of _____ so we should repent.
4. In Ramadhan, ___s are accepted.
5. The ninth month in the Islamic Calendar.
7. To abstain from eating and drinking during the hours of daylight.
9. ___ asked the people to perform tarawih together.
12. This salah is only performed in Ramadhan.
14. We must do as many good ___ as we can.
1. The ___ calendar has 365 days.
3. We leave ___ and drink during daylight.
6. It is sunnah to do ___ in the last ten days.
8. The Islamic calendar is based on ___ months.
10. We must perform this five times daily.
11. The night prayer
13. We have two of these a year.
15. The last and final book of the Almighty
16. The first word revealed to the prophet SAW
17. This is performed after the tarawih Salah.
18. This meal has special blessing.
19. In Ramadhan, the shayateen are put in _____.

Answers

1. Answer: An echo
2. Answer: Darkness
3. Answer: David
4. Answer: Your board
5. Answer: A piano shadow
6. Answer: Your right elbow
7. Answer: A chalk-board
8. Answer: Your breath
9. Answer: Your shadow
10. Answer: A prayer
11. Answer: The night prayer
12. Answer: Tarawih
13. Answer: Two of these a year
14. Answer: As many good deeds as we can
15. Answer: The last and final book of the Almighty
16. Answer: The first word revealed to the prophet SAW
17. Answer: This is performed after the tarawih Salah
18. Answer: This meal has special blessing
19. Answer: In Ramadhan, the shayateen are put in _____

'The believer's shade on the day of Resurrection will be his charity'

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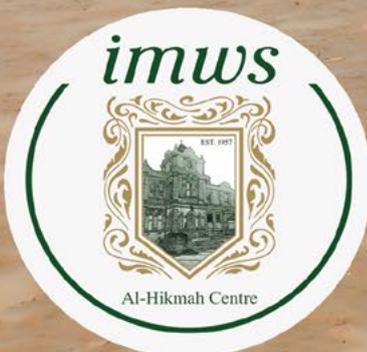
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ચાલો આજે કંઈક સાડું જાણીએ

-રફીક અહમદ ડભાસ

પોતાની કદરને બીજાની દ્રષ્ટિથી ન આંકો

આપણે પોતાને સમજી ન શક્યા અને લોકો આપણને કેવા કેવા સમજે છે!

મારા તમારા અને બધાના મનમાં એ વિચાર આવે છે કે, લોકો જે સમજે છે તે આપણે નથી અને આપણે અસલમાં જે છે તે તેઓ સમજતા નથી. લોકો આપણી અને આપણાં સારા કામની કદર કરતા નથી. ન જાણે કેમ એવું થાય છે કે, હું તો બધા સાથે સારી રીતે વર્તું છું, લોકોના માટે સાડું વિચારું છું છતાં સામે વાળા કેમ મારા માટે બુરું કહે છે કે ચાહે છે. તો ચાલો જોઈએ ઈકબાલની વાત જે લાકડા કાપી વેચીને પોતાનું ગુજરાન ચલાવે છે. તે સારો માણસ છે, લોકોની મદદ પણ કરે છે. પરંતુ બદલામાં તેને લોકો તરફથી સારો વ્યવહાર મળતો નથી. જેથી તે ખૂબજ દુઃખી અને નિરાશ રહે છે. તે વિચારે છે કે આ દુનિયામાં ભલાઈની કોઈ કદર નથી, કોઈ કિંમત નથી. કદાચ આપણા બધાને પણ એવુંજ લાગે છે. એક દિવસ તેના મિત્રએ તેને એક ફકીર (સંત)ની વાત કરી તેના પાસે જવા કહ્યું.

ઈકબાલ ફકીર પાસે પહોંચી ગયો અને પોતાના વિશેની દરેક વાત તેમને કહી અને કહ્યું; લોકો મારી કદર કેમ કરતા નથી? મારી આ સમસ્યાનો હલ શોધવા હું તમારી પાસે આવ્યો છું. તેની વાત સાંભળી વિચાર કર્યા પછી ફકીરબાબાએ ગજવામાંથી એક અંગૂઠી(વીટી) કાઢી તેને આપી. ઈકબાલે કહ્યું મેં વીટી માંગી નથી હું તો મારી સમસ્યાનો હલ શોધવા આવ્યો છું. ફકીરે કહ્યું હું પણ તમારી સમસ્યાનું સમાધાન જ ઈચ્છું છું. આ અંગૂઠી લો અને એક અઠવાડિયા પછી મને પાછા મળજો. પરંતુ આ દરમિયાન તારે જુદા જુદા પ્રકારની વ્યક્તિઓ પાસે જઈને આ અંગૂઠીની કિંમત કાઢવાની છે એટલે કે તેઓ કેટલી કિંમત આંકે છે તે જાણવાનું છે પરંતુ અંગૂઠી વેચવાની નથી. તે મારા પાસે પાછી લાવવાની છે.

ઈકબાલે કહ્યું ઠીક છે અને તે પ્રથમ એક વેપારી પાસે ગયો. વેપારીએ અંગૂઠી જોઈને કહ્યું આ અંગૂઠીના હું ૧૦૦૦ રૂપિયા આપીશ. ઈકબાલે કહ્યું; ઠીક છે એમ કહી તે આગળ વધ્યો અને બીજા એક વેપારી પાસે પહોંચી વીટી બતાવી. આ વેપારીએ કહ્યું અંગૂઠી સારી છે હું તેના દસ હજાર રૂપિયા આપીશ. ઈકબાલે કહ્યું; મારે વેચવી નથી. કિંમત જાણવી છે. તે ફરી આગળ ચાલ્યો અને એક સોનીની દુકાન પર પહોંચ્યો અને વીટીની કિંમત જણાવવા કહ્યું. સોનીએ વીટીને બરાબર ચકાસી, બારીકાઈથી જોઈ કહ્યું આ કિંમતી અંગૂઠી છે. હું એના એક લાખ રૂપિયા આપી શકું છું. મને વેચી દો. ઈકબાલને ખૂબજ આશ્ચર્ય થયું. દરેક વ્યક્તિ જૂદી જૂદી કિંમત બતાવી રહ્યા છે. અને આ સોની તો એક લાખ રૂપિયા સુધી આપવા તૈયાર છે. ઈકબાલે સોનીને કહ્યું; મારે વીટી વેચવી નથી. ખૂબજ ચિંતિત થઈ તે શહેરના એક મોટા અને પ્રખ્યાત ઝવેરી પાસે પહોંચી ગયો અને અંગૂઠી બતાવી તેની કિંમત આંકવા કહ્યું. ઝવેરીએ ખૂબજ કાળજીથી અંગૂઠીને જોઈ ચકાસવા લાગ્યો. પરખવામાં થોડો સમય લગાવ્યો અને પછી કહ્યું; ભાઈ મારી દુકાનની બધી જ વસ્તુઓ વેચી દઉં તો પણ આ અંગૂઠીની

કિંમત ચૂકવી શકું એમ નથી એટલી કિંમતી આ વીટી છે. ઈકબાલની તો આંખ જ પહોળી થઈ ગઈ અને તેને તેને કંઈ સમજાતું ન હતું.

આ પછી પણ ઈકબાલની સમસ્યાનો હલ ન નીકળ્યો. બલ્કે સમસ્યા તો વધતી જ ગઈ. તેને કંઈ સમજાતું ન હતું કે, શું થઈ રહ્યું છે. અઠવાડિયા પછી વ્યાકુળ થઈ કહ્યા મુજબ ફકીરબાબા પાસે પાછો પહોંચ્યો અને તેમને દરેક વાત કહી સંભળાવી. ફકીરે કહ્યું; હજુ પણ તમને તમારી સમસ્યાનો જવાબ નથી મળ્યો? ફકીરબાબાએ કહ્યું અંગૂઠી તો તે જ છે પરંતુ સામેવાળા જેવા હતા, જેવી તેમની કાબેલીયત હતી તે હિસાબથી આ વીટીની કિંમત આંકી (બતાવી) છે. એવુંજ મારા તમારા અને બધાના સાથે થાય છે. શાયદ તમે ખૂબજ સારી વ્યક્તિ છો પરંતુ સામેવાળી વ્યક્તિ સારી નથી તો તે તમારી અચ્છાઈને જોઈ ન શકે, તેની કદર કરી ન શકે. અને તેના માટે દુઃખી થવાની જરૂર નથી. જે પોતે જેવો હોય તેને પૂરી દુનિયા તેવીજ નજર આવે છે.

ચાલાકને બીજી વ્યક્તિ ચાલાક નજર આવે છે. મૂર્ખને સામેવાળી બીજી વ્યક્તિ મૂર્ખ નજર આવે છે. બેઈમાનને બીજો બેઈમાન નજર આવે છે અને સારી વ્યક્તિને બીજામાં સચ્ચાઈ, અચ્છાઈ નજર આવે છે. તો કેમ નહીં હું અને તમે સામેવાળામાં અચ્છાઈ જોવાની કોશિશ કરીએ. સામેવાળો આપણાંમાં શું જૂએ છે તેને તેમના ઉપર છોડી દઈએ. આપણા તરફથી સાડું કરતા રહીએ, કારણ કે, તમે તો તેજ બનશો જે તમે વિચારો છો. પોતાના બારામાં સારા વિચારોની કદર કરો પોતાને એક શ્રેષ્ઠ ઈન્સાન બનાવો.

હળવી પળોમાં:

- વધારે મળે તેને કહેવાય.... **નસીબ**
ઘણું હોય છતાંયે રડતો રહે તેને કહેવાય.... **કમનસીબ**
અને કંઈ પણ ન હોય તો ય ખુશ રહે તેને
કહેવાય....**ખુશનસીબ**
- સબ કુછ હાંસિલ નહીં હોતા જિન્દગીમેં યહાં,
કિસી કા **કાશ** તો કિસીકા **અગર** રહ હી જાતા હૈ.

ગમલ

બોલવા ટાણે જ ચૂપ રહેવું નથી ગમતું મને,
પણ બધાની રૂબરૂ કહેવું નથી ગમતું મને.
એકલો ભટક્યા કરું છું. એનું કારણ એ જ છે,
ઘરની વચ્ચે એકલું રહેવું નથી ગમતું મને.
આંખમાં આવીને પાછા જાય એનું મૂલ્ય છે,
આંસુઓને આ રીતે વહેવું નથી ગમતું મને.
આમ તો કૂદી પડું છું હું પરાઈ આગમાં,
મારું પોતાનું જ દુઃખ સહેવું નથી ગમતું મને.
મિત્ર અથવા શત્રુઓની વાત રહેવા દે **ખલીલ**,
એ વિશે તો કાંઈ પણ કહેવું નથી ગમતું મને.

-ખલીલ ધનતેજવી

વિરલ વ્યક્તિની યાદમાં !

-મહંમદ યુસુફ સુફી લાજપુરી, બાટલી.

તારીખ ૮ માર્ચ ૨૦૨૧ સોમવારે જામીઆ તાલીમુલ ઈસ્લામ ડ્યુઝબરી, તબ્લીગી મરકઝ મદ્રેસાના શેખુલ હદીસ હઝરત મૌલાના મુફતી સૈયદ મસ્લીહુદ્દીન બરોડવી કાસમી રહ. એ આ ફાની દુનિયાથી ૮૪ વર્ષની ઉંમરે વિદાય લીધી. ઈલીવએરા.

ઈસ શહરકો રહીથી કીતની તેરી જરૂરત થી ઝાત તેરી અરફઅ ઓર થી બડી ગનીમત

નવેમ્બર ૧૯૯૭માં તબ્લીગી જમાતના અમીર હઝરત હાફિઝ સાહબ રહ.ની ખાસ દાવત પર ડ્યુઝબરી તબ્લીગી મરકઝના દારૂલ ઉલૂમમાં બુખારી શરીફ પઢાવવા માટે તેઓ તશરીફ લાવ્યા હતા. ૧૯૯૮થી બુખારી શરીફની તાલિમ શરૂ થતાં કુલ ૨૩ વર્ષ લગાતાર ખીદમત આપી હતી. એ પહેલાં દારૂલ ઉલૂમ બરોડા ખાતે પણ કુલ ૧૩ વર્ષથી આજ કિતાબ પઢાવતા હતા. પોતાના મુબારક જીવનના કુલ ૩૬ વર્ષ સૌથી સહી કિતાબ જેનો દરજ્જો કુરઆન મજહદના પછી બીજા નંબર ઉપર આવે છે તે બુખારી શરીફની તાલિમ આપતા રહ્યા.

એક સત્ય હકીકત પુરાવા સહિત :

હઝરત શેખ સાહબ રહ. એક અગત્યના સાદાત, સૈયદ પરિવારથી સંબંધ ધરાવે છે. એમના પવિત્ર જીવનના અનેક પ્રસંગ આશ્ચર્યજનક છે. અહીં એક પ્રસંગની નોંધ કરીએ. હઝરત રહ. એ કુલ ૨૨ હજ કર્યા હતા. સૌથી પ્રથમ હજ ૧૯૬૩માં દરિયાઈ માર્ગે સ્ટીમરથી સફર કરી હતી. ત્યારપછી ૧૯૭૧માં જ્યારે હજ માટે ગયા હતા ત્યારે મતાફમાં કાબા શરીફની સાથે વળગેલો ભાગ જેને હતીમ કહેવામાં આવે છે અને એનો હુકમ પણ કાબા શરીફના બરાબર જ છે. આજથી ૫૦ વર્ષ પહેલાં જ્યારે કે, દર વર્ષેની જેટલી ભીડ હતીમમાં રહેતી ન હતી અને વધારે સમય હતીમમાં નમાઝ પઢી શકતા હતા ત્યારે બે રકાત નફીલ નમાઝ એવી રીતે પઢી હતી કે, પહેલી રકાતમાં ૧૫ પારહ અને બીજી રકાતમાં ૧૫ પારહ એમ બે રકાતમાં પૂરા કુરઆન મજહદની તીલાવત કરી હતી. આ હકીકતના શાક્ષી આજે પણ મૌજુદ છે.

હર ઘડી લબ પર તેરે આયતે કુરઆન કરીમ યાદ કરતે હે અભી તક સહને કાબા ઓર હતીમ

તેમના જીવનના એવા ઘણાં અદ્ભૂત અને નોંધપાત્ર કિસ્સાઓ અને પ્રસંગો જાણવા મળે છે. તેમના જવાથી આલીમે દીન અને ડ્યુઝબરી મરકઝને એક મોટી ખોટ પડી છે.

તકમીલે હિફઝ કુરઆનની મજલિસ :

તારીખ ૧૩મી માર્ચ ૨૦૨૧ શનિવારે મગરિબની નમાઝ પછી નવા મદ્રેસા ઈસ્લામિયાહના જમાતખાનામાં ખત્મે કુરઆન કરીમની એક નાની મજલિસ રાખવામાં આવી હતી. લોકડાઉનના કારણે આ પ્રોગ્રામનું રિસીવર ઉપર પ્રસારણ કરવામાં આવ્યું હતું. મદ્રેસા ઈસ્લામિયાહના સદર મુદરરીસ મુફતી ઝકરીયા આકુડી સાહેબે મદ્રેસાના હિફઝ કલાસ અને છોકરીઓના હિફઝ કલાસ અંગે ટૂંકી માહિતી આપી હતી. ૧૦

પુશનસીબ તાલિબે ઈલ્મએ મદ્રેસાની શુરા કમિટી અને બાળકોના વાલીઓના સામે પોતાનો અંતિમ સબક પુશ ઈલ્હાનથી સંભળાવ્યો હતો. એમની દસ્તારબંદી અને સનદ અને ઈનામો અર્પણ કરવામાં આવ્યા હતા. હફિઝ થનારા બાળકો નીચે પ્રમાણે છે.

૧. હાફિઝ અબુબકર હાફિઝ સાલેહ લુણત ૨. હાફિઝ યુસુફ અયાઝ સીદાત ૩. હાફિઝ ઉમર આસીફ બાસર ૪. હાફિઝ મહંમદ મુસા રાવત ૫. હાફિઝ મહંમદ મહુમ ઈબ્રાહીમ પટેલ ૬. હાફિઝ ઈસ્માઈલ ઐય્યુબ રાવત ૭. હાફિઝ અલકમહ મૌલાના સીદીક શેખ ૮. હાફિઝ ઈસ્માઈલ મહમદઅલી ફુલત ૯. હાફિઝ રૈયાન ઈબ્રાહીમ પટેલ ૧૦. હાફિઝ યુસુફ સુહેલ મહમુદ છેલ્લા કેટલાક વર્ષોથી મદ્રેસા ઈસ્લામિયાહમાં છોકરીઓ માટે હિફઝ કલાસ મેમ્બરોની વિનંતીથી શરૂ કરવામાં આવ્યા હતા. બેહદ પુશીની વાત છે કે, મદ્રેસા ઈસ્લામિયાહના ઈતિહાસમાં પ્રથમ વખત ચાલુ સાલે બે છોકરીઓએ કુરઆન કરીમની હિફઝની તકમીલ કરી છે. તે પૈકી એક હાફિઝાહ સુમયા આસિફ ડભાડ અને બીજી હાફિઝાહ ઝયનબ ઈકબાલ ખાનનો સમાવેશ છે. આ બન્ને પુશનસીબ તાલિબાએ મદ્રેસાના નીચેના હોલમાં ફક્ત પોતાની આપા સાહેબાઓ જેના પાસે તેઓ હાફિઝાહ થઈ હતી અને તેમની મા સાહેબા સામે પુશ ઈલ્હાનથી કુરઆન કરીમના અંતિમ સબકની તીલાવત કરી હતી. એમને પણ સર્ટિફિકેટ અને સનદ તથા ઈનામ આપવામાં આવ્યા હતા.

મુબારકબાદી અને દુઆ :

મૌલાના સુલેમાન બોડિયાત સાહેબે ટૂંકમાં કીમતી નસીહતોના સાથે દર્દભરી દુઆ ફરમાવી હતી. પયગામ હાફિઝ થનારા ૧૦ તાલિબે ઈલ્મ અને હાફિઝાહ થનારી બન્ને બહેનોને, એમના ઉસ્તાદો તથા આપાઓ અને એમના વાલિઓને મુબારકબાદી પાઠવે છે. દરેક મદ્રેસાની સુરક્ષા અને પ્રગતિ માટે પણ દુઆ કરે છે, અને આના થકી ઈસ્લામ અને ઈમાનની હિફઝાત ફરમાવે એવી દુઆ કરીએ છીએ.

૧૦ વર્ષના સીરિયા યુધ્ધમાં ૧૨હજાર

બાળકોના મૃત્યુ કે ઘાયલ

હાલમાં યુનિસેફ અને સંયુક્ત રાષ્ટ્રની એજન્સીઓ મારફત પ્રકાશિત સમાચાર અનુસાર સીરિયાના બાળકોની ચિંતા પ્રદર્શિત કરવામાં આવી છે. ૧૦ વર્ષના સંઘર્ષમય સમયમાં સીરિયાના બાળકો અને પરિવારો ઉપર ખૂબજ ખરાબ અસર પડી છે. આ સમય દરમ્યાન યુધ્ધના કારણે ૧૨હજારથી વધુ બાળકો મૃત્યુ પામ્યા છે કે ઘાયલ થયા છે. ૫૭૦૦થી વધુ બાળકો ૭વર્ષની ઉંમરે લડાઈમાં સામેલ છે. ૧૩૦૦થી વધુ શિક્ષણ અને આરોગ્ય સંસ્થાઓના કામોમાં હંમેશા સંકટ ઊભા થાય છે. પાંચ વર્ષથી ઓછી ઉંમરના અડધાથી વધુ બાળકો કુપોષણથી પીડિત છે. લાખોની સંખ્યામાં બાળકો સ્કૂલની બહાર છે. રોજી રોટીની સમસ્યા સૌથી મોટી છે અને વિશ્વ એ પરિસ્થિતિ ઉપર આંખ આડા કાન કરી રહ્યું છે.

યુનિસેફના કાર્યકારી નિર્દેશકે જણાવ્યું છે કે, બાળકો અને પરિવારો ગંભીર પરિસ્થિતિમાંથી પસાર થઈ રહ્યાં છે. સીરિયામાં શાંતિ લાવવા આંતરરાષ્ટ્રીય સમુદાયે પ્રયત્નો કરવાની જરૂરત છે.

વિચાર વિનિમય

-અહમદ ગુલ

કુરઆન અંગે આંકડા વિષયક માહિતી:

કુરઆન વિશે થોડીક જાણવા સમજવા અને યાદ રાખવા જેવી માહિતી આપવાનો ઉપક્રમ છે. જે કુરઆનના ગુજરાતી અનુવાદ (પુસ્તક)ના આધારે લેવામાં આવી છે. જેનાથી ગુજરાતી વાંચકોને અવશ્ય લાભ થશે.

કુરઆન શું છે ?

કુરઆનનો શાબ્દિક અર્થ પઢવું, વાંચવું, પઠન કરવું વગેરે થાય છે. ઈસ્લામિક પરિભાષામાં એનો અર્થ એવી વાણી થાય છે. જે અલ્લાહે પોતાના પ્યારા પયગમ્બર મુહમ્મદ સ.અ.વ. પર ઉતારી છે. જે સમય જતાં કિતાબ રૂપે સુરક્ષિત થઈ છે.

બીજા શબ્દોમાં વર્ણન કરીએ તો કુરઆન એ અલ્લાહની કિતાબ છે. અલ્લાહની વાણી છે. દિવ્ય વાણી છે. અલ્લાહનું કલામ છે. પવિત્ર વાણી છે અને અદ્ભૂત વાણી છે.

કુરઆન અંગે મહેનત કરનારાઓએ પોતાના સમય અને શક્તિનો સદ્ઉપયોગ કરીને વર્તમાન તેમજ ભાવિ પેઢી માટે ખૂબજ મહત્વપૂર્ણ આંકડા વિષયક માહિતી પૂરી પાડી છે. જેને અહીં રજૂ કરવામાં આવે છે.

ભાગ:- કુરઆનના કુલ ત્રીસ ભાગ છે. ભાગને ફારસીમાં પારા અને અરબીમાં જુઝ કહેવામાં આવે છે. આપણે ત્યાં ગુજરાત અને ભારતમાં પારાને સીપારો કહેવામાં આવે છે, તે બરાબર નથી. જેમકે આપણે બોલીએ છીએ કે, પહેલો સિપારો, બીજો સિપારો, બારમો સીપારો વગેરે. હકીકતમાં એ ખરૂં નથી. એના બદલે પહેલો પારો, બીજો પારો, બારમો પારો વગેરે બોલવું જોઈએ. ફારસીમાં સીપારા ત્રીસ(૩૦) ભાગના સમુહને કહેવામાં આવે છે. જ્યારે આપણે એવું બોલીએ કે, પહેલો સીપારો એટલે પહેલા ત્રીસ ભાગ બીજો સીપારો એટલે બીજા ત્રીસભાગ ગણાય. જે હકીકતમાં ભાષાકીય દ્રષ્ટિએ ખોટું છે. એટલે આપણે માત્ર પારો જ બોલવું જોઈએ.

પ્રકરણ:- કુરઆનના ૧૧૪ પ્રકરણો (સૂરતો)છે.

મન્જિલો:- કુરઆનમાં ૭(સાત) મન્જિલો છે. જે નીચેના પ્રકરણોમાં છે. ૧. ફાતિહા ૨. માર્ઈદા ૩. યુનુસ ૪. બની ઈસરાઈલ ૫. શુઅરા ૬. સાફફાત ૭. કાફ.

રૂકુઅ: કુરઆનમાં ૫૪૦ રૂકુઅ છે. આવી માહિતી કુરઆન અંગેના માહિતીપૂર્ણ કિતાબોમાં જોવા મળે છે. તફસીરની અમુક કિતાબોમાં પણ એજ પ્રમાણે માહિતી છે. પરંતુ મેં (અનુવાદકે) કુરઆના ૧૧૪ પ્રકરણો (સૂરતો)ના રૂકુઅની સંખ્યા ગણી જોઈ તો એ ૫૫૭ થાય છે. મને (અનુવાદકને) આજ સંખ્યા સાચી લાગે છે. છતાં વાંચકોને આ અંગે બારીકાઈપૂર્વક ચકાસણી કરવા વિનંતી કરવામાં આવે છે. જે સાચી સંખ્યા જાણી શકાય અને સુધારી શકાય.

સજદા:- કુરઆનમાં કુલ ૧૪ સજદા છે. જે નીચે જણાવવામાં આવેલી સૂરતો (પ્રકરણ)માં જોવા મળે છે.

૧. અલઅરાફ(પારા-૯) ૨. રઅદ(પારા-૧૩) ૩. નહલ (પારા-૧૪) ૪. બની ઈસરાઈલ(પારા-૧૫) ૫. મરયમ (પારા-૧૬) ૬. હજ્જ (પારા-૧૭) ૭. ફુરકાન (પારા-૧૮)

૮. નમ્લ(પારા-૧૯) ૯. સજદા(પારા-૨૧) ૧૦. સાદ(પારા-૨૩) ૧૧. હામીમ સજદા(પારા-૨૪) ૧૨. નજમ(પારા-૨૭) ૧૩. ઈન્શિકાક(પારા-૩૦) ૧૪. અલક(પારા-૩૦)

આયતો:- કુરઆનમાં કુલ ૬૬૬૬ આયતો છે.

શબ્દો:- કુરઆનમાં કુલ ૭૬૪૩૦ શબ્દો છે.

કુરઆનમાં અરબી બારાખડીના અક્ષરોની સંખ્યા નીચે પ્રમાણે છે.

અલિફની કુલ સંખ્યા ૪૮૮૭૨ છે.

બે અથવા બા ની સંખ્યા ૧૧૪૨૨ છે.

તે અથવા તા ની સંખ્યા ૧૦૦૯૯ છે.

સે અથવા સા ની સંખ્યા ૧૨૬૭ છે.

જીમની સંખ્યા ૩૨૭૩ છે.

હે અથવા હા ની સંખ્યા ૩૯૭૩ છે.

ખે અથવા ખા ની સંખ્યા ૨૪૧૬ છે.

દાલની સંખ્યા ૫૬૪૨ છે. ઝાલની સંખ્યા ૪૬૯૬ છે.

રે અથવા રા ની સંખ્યા ૧૧૭૯૩ છે.

ઝે અથવા ઝા ની સંખ્યા ૧૫૯૦ છે.

સીનની ૫૮૯૧ છે. શીનની ૨૨૫૩ છે.

સ્વાદની ૨૦૧૩ છે. દ્વાદની ૧૬૦૭ છે.

તોયની ૧૨૭૩ છે.

ઝોયની ૮૪૨ છે. એનની ૯૨૨૦ છે. ધેનની ૨૨૦૮ છે.

ફે અથવા ફા ની સંખ્યા ૮૪૯૯ છે. મોટા કાફની ૬૮૧૩ છે.

નાના કાફની ૯૫૨૨ છે. લામની ૩૩૪૪૨ છે.

મીમની ૨૬૫૩૫ છે. નૂનની ૨૬૫૬૦ છે. વાવની ૨૫૫૩૬ છે.

હે અથવા હા ની ૧૯૦૭૦ છે. લામ અલિફની ૪૮૨ છે.

હમઝાની ૪૧૧૫ છે.

યે અથવા યા ની ૨૫૯૧૯ છે.

ચિહ્નો:- કુરઆનમાં ઝબર (ફત્હા) ની સંખ્યા ૫૩૨૪૩ છે.

ઝેરની સંખ્યા ૩૯૫૮૨ છે.

પેશ (દમ્મા)ની સંખ્યા ૮૧૦૪ છે.

મદની સંખ્યા ૧૭૭૧ છે.

તશ્દીદની સંખ્યા ૧૨૫૩ છે.

નૂકતાની સંખ્યા ૧,૦૫૬૮૧ છે. જ્યારે

જઝમની સંખ્યા ૩૯૫૨ છે.

(કુરઆનના ગુજરાતી ભાષાંતરમાંથી)

હજ માટે કોરોના વેકસીન જરૂરી

કોરોના હવે એક રોગ બની ચૂક્યો છે. લોકોમાં એની જાણકારી અને સભાનતા પણ વધી રહી છે. જાન્યુઆરી-૨૧ થી વિશ્વના અનેક દેશોએ હવે કોવિડ-૧૯ની વેકસીન (રસી) આપવાનું કાર્ય શરૂ કરેલ છે. આ રોગ ઉપર હવે કંઈક અંશે કાબુ પણ મેળવાઈ રહ્યો છે. હવાઈ મુસાફરી અને વિદેશમાં લોકોની અવરજવર તરફ ધ્યાન આપીએ તો મે-જુન મહિનામાં હવાઈ મુસાફરી સામાન્ય બનશે એવા સંકેતો મળી રહ્યા છે.

ગયા વર્ષે જુલાઈ માસમાં સઉદી સરકારના નિયંત્રણના કારણે સઉદી સરકારે ત્યાંના જ સ્થાનિક લોકોને લીમીટેડ સંખ્યામાં હજ કરવાની પરમીશન આપી હતી. આ વખતે જુલાઈ-૨૧ની હજની શું પરિસ્થિતિ છે તેની વિગતો હજુ બહાર આવી નથી. પરંતુ સઉદી આરોગ્ય વિભાગે જાહેર કર્યું છે કે, આ વખતે હજમાં સામેલ થનારાઓ માટે કોરોના વેકસીન લેવું ફરજિયાત રહેશે અને તેનું સર્ટિફિકેટ સાથે રાખવું પડશે. પાછળથી જ્યારે ઉમરાહ માટેની છૂટ મળે ત્યારે પણ આ વેકસીનને કમ્પલસરી બનાવવામાં આવે એવું અનુમાન લગાવવામાં આવી રહ્યું છે.

ઈન્ડિયન મુસ્લિમ વેલ્ફેર સોસાયટીની રમઝાન ચેરિટી અપીલ

દર વર્ષની જેમ આ રમઝાન માસમાં પણ આપણી સોસાયટીની ચેરિટી કમિટી મારફત ઈફતાર માટે અપીલ કરવામાં આવી રહી છે. ઈફતાર ફંડમાં ફૂડ પેકટ વગેરે ગરીબો અને હાજતમંદોને પહોંચાડવામાં આવશે. ચાલુ સાલે ઈફતારની રકમ યમન અને સોમાલીયાના ગરીબોને વેંચવામાં આવશે. જેમાં સદકા, ઝકાત લીલ્લાહની રકમથી તમો મદદ કરી શકો છો. ઉપરાંત આ રમઝાન માસમાં સદકતુલ ફીતરની રકમ પણ યમન અને સોમાલીયાના હાજતમંદોને આપવાનું નક્કી કરવામાં આવ્યું છે. ચાલુ સાલે ફીતરની રકમ ₹3.12 નક્કી થઈ છે. જે તમે અલ-હિકમાહ સેન્ટરની ઓફિસે અથવા આપણાં એરિયાની મસ્જિદોમાં જમા કરાવી શકો છો.

રમઝાનના પવિત્ર માસમાં બીજા પ્રોજેક્ટ જેમ કે ગાઝા, સિરીયા, ગુજરાત અને અન્ય દેશો માટે પણ જનરલ ફંડ તરીકે ચંદો કરવામાં આવશે તેમાં પણ તમારા તરફથી સહકારની આશા રાખવામાં આવે છે. આપ લોકો તરફથી દર વર્ષે સારો સહકાર મળતો રહે છે. જેથી આપને વિનંતી કરવામાં આવે છે કે, આ વર્ષે પણ તમો ઉદાર દિલે આ દરેક ફંડમાં બનતી રકમ આપશો.

વધુ માહિતી માટે અલ હિકમાહ સેન્ટર ખાતે સોસાયટીની ઓફિસના ટેલીફોન નંબર ૦૧૯૨૪ ૫૦૦૫૫૫ ઉપર સંપર્ક સાધી શકો છો. ઉપરાંત તમે સોસાયટીના ચેરિટી બેન્ક એકાઉન્ટમાં પૈસા ડાયરેક્ટ ટ્રાન્સફર પણ કરી શકો છો.

ભારત હવે લોકશાહી દેશ રહ્યો નથી !

અમેરિકા ખાતેની ફ્રીડમ ઈન ધ વર્લ્ડ, રાજકીય અધિકારો અને નાગરિકોની સ્વતંત્રતા ઉપર વૈશ્વિક રીતે વાર્ષિક રિપોર્ટ બહાર પાડે છે. વોશિંગ્ટન ખાતે આ ફ્રીડમ હાઉસ સ્વતંત્ર લોકશાહી રીસર્ચ સંસ્થા છે. તેણે જાન્યુઆરી ૨૦૨૦થી ડીસેમ્બર ૨૦૨૦ થીન્ક ટેન્કમાં ભારતનું રેન્કિંગ સ્વતંત્ર દેશથી ઘટાડીને આંશિક

સ્વતંત્ર દેશ એટલે કે સંપૂર્ણ સ્વતંત્ર દેશમાંથી પાર્ટલી સ્વતંત્ર દેશ તરીકે કરી દીધું છે. એમાં દર્શાવવામાં આવ્યું છે કે, ભારતમાં નરેન્દ્ર મોદીના આગેવાનીવાળી સરકારના શાસનમાં લોકશાહીની સ્વતંત્રતા સતત નીચે જઈ રહી છે. રિપોર્ટમાં જણાવવામાં આવ્યું છે કે, ભારતમાં મુસ્લિમો વિરૂધ્ધ હિંસા, પત્રકારોને ધમકી આપવી, શારીરિક અને માનસિક હેરાનગતિ, અદાલતોનો વધુ હસ્તક્ષેપ વગેરે મામલાઓમાં વધારો થયો છે. ઉપરાંત આર્થિક રીતે પછાત સમાજ ગરીબ જ રહ્યો છે. ૨૦૧૪માં સત્તા પરિવર્તન પછી નાગરિકોની સ્વતંત્રતામાં ઘટાડો જોવા મળ્યો છે.

લેખક, પત્રકારો ઉપર દબાણ વધી રહ્યું છે. સરકારની ભેદભાવની નીતિ પણ ચોખ્ખી દેખાય આવે છે. દેશમાં હિંસા વધી છે અને તેનો શિકાર મુસલમાનો બન્યા છે. માનવઅધિકારના સંગઠનો ઉપર પણ ખૂબજ દબાણ વધી રહ્યું છે. સરકારની વિરૂધ્ધ જેઓ બોલે અથવા પોતાના હક્કોની વાતો કરે તેમને હેરાન કરી તેમના ઉપર રાજદ્રોહના કેસો ઠોકી બેસાડવામાં આવે છે. રિપોર્ટમાં લોકડાઉનની પણ ચર્ચા છે. જેમાં મજૂરોએ પેદલ સ્થળાંતર કરવું પડ્યું, લોકોના ઘંઘા અને મજૂરી ઉપર ખરાબ અસર પડી તેનું પણ વર્ણન કરવામાં આવ્યું છે. ૧૯૫ દેશોમાં વિવિધ મુદ્દાઓ ઉપર રીસર્ચ કરી આ રિપોર્ટ બહાર પડ્યો છે. ભારત ૨૧૧ દેશોની યાદીમાં ૮૮માં નંબરે હતો તે હવે ઘટીને ૮૩માં નંબરે આવી ગયો છે.

ગયા વર્ષ અને આ વર્ષની રમઝાનમાં તફાવત

ગયા વર્ષ માર્ચની આખરમાં લોકડાઉન શરૂ થયું હતું. રમઝાન મહિનો પણ એપ્રિલ-મે માસમાં આવ્યો હતો. મસ્જિદો વગેરે બંધ હતી પરિણામે આપણે પહેલીવાર જોયું કે આ પવિત્ર માસમાં આપણે મસ્જિદે જવાથી મેહરૂમ રહ્યા. પાંચ વખતની નમાજ, જુમ્મા, તરાવીહ અને અહીં સુધી કે ઈદની નમાજ પણ ઘરમાં અદા કરવી પડી. એ એક આઘાતજનક બીના હતી. આપણા ઉલ્માઓએ આ બધી નમાજની અદાયગી ઘરમાં કરવા અંગેનું પૂરું જ્ઞાન અનેક માધ્યમ ધ્વારા આપણને પૂરું પાડ્યું હતું.

ચાલુ સાલે રમઝાન અંદાજે ૧૩મી એપ્રિલથી શરૂ થઈ રહ્યો છે. આપણે ત્યાં હજુ પણ લોકડાઉન છે. કેટલીક છૂટછાટ અને સલામતિના પગલા ઉપર અમલ કરી મસ્જિદોમાં નમાજ અદા થઈ રહી છે. પરિણામે આપણે આ રમઝાન માસમાં પાંચ વખતની, જુમ્માની અને તરાવીહની નમાજ મસ્જિદોમાં અદા કરી શકીશું. ખુશીની વાત એ પણ છે કે આપણે ઈદની નમાજ પણ મસ્જિદોમાં પઢી શકીશું. ગયા વર્ષની સરખામણીમાં આ વખતની રમઝાન કંઈક અંશે આપણી તરફેણમાં હશે, જેથી આપણી ઈબાદતો અને મસ્જિદોનો રમઝાનનો રૂહપરવર નજારો માણી શકીશું. પરંતુ સાથે જ આપણા દરેકની ફરજ છે કે સરકારના સલામતિના કાયદા સોશિયલ ડિસ્ટન્સ, માસ્ક પહેરવું, એકબીજા સાથે મળવાથી બચતા રહેવું અને બહાર ટોળે ન વળવું વગેરે બાબતો ઉપર યુસ્તપણે પાલન કરવું જરૂરી છે. ઉપરાંત મસ્જિદના વ્યવસ્થાપકોના હુકમનું પણ પાલન જરૂરી છે, જેથી આપણે સલામતિની સાથે આ મહિનો પસાર કરી શકીએ. લોકલ ઓથોરિટી ઘણી વખતે આરોગ્ય અનુસંધાને મસ્જિદોની ઓચિંતી મુલાકાત પણ કરે છે જે પણ ધ્યાનમાં લેવું જરૂરી છે.

ایک شمع رگئی تھی سو وہ بھی خوش ہے۔

سرزمین برطانیہ کے مشہور و مقبول عالم دین ڈیوڈ بری تبلیغ کے مدرسہ کے شیخ الحدیث اور سادات فیملی کے چشم و چراغ، صلاح و تقویٰ کے پیکر حضرت مولانا مفتی سید مصلح الدین احمد بروڈی القاسمی صاحب مورخہ ۲۴ رجب المرجب ۱۴۴۲ ہجری مطابق 8 مارچ 2021 بروز پیر اس دار فانی سے دار بقا کی طرف رحلت فرما گئے۔ انہ۔۔۔۔۔

حضرت شیخ کی شخصیت بہت ہی خصوصیات کی حامل تھی۔ سب سے بڑی خصوصیت آپ بیک وقت تفسیر میں مفسر، حدیث میں شیخ الحدیث، فقی میں مفتی، وعظ میں شیریں بیانی، کبابت میں خوش خطی و خوش نویسی اور روحانی دنیا میں صاحب نسبت اور اس کے ساتھ تجوید و قرأت حفص، سبعہ و عشرہ میں کامل ان کمالات و خوبیوں کا جامع تھے۔ مانو تزکرہ۔ آپ کا خاندان صلاح و تقویٰ، رشد، اخلاق میں معروف تھا۔ آپ کے والد بزرگوار حضرت مولانا مفتی سید شمس الدین صاحب بروڈی نے مدرسہ کے معصوم و نونہال بچوں کے لئے احسن القواعد تحریر فرما کر امت مسلمہ اور مکتب و تعلیم کی دنیا پر بہت بڑا احسان فرمایا ہے۔ احسن القواعد کے متعلق بڑی مفید و نافع ہدایات آئندہ شمارہ میں ملاحظہ فرمائیں۔

آسمان تیری لہر پر شبنم افشانی کرے

سبزہ نور ستہ اس گھر کی نگہبانی کرے

پیش کردہ ایم یوسف صوفی باٹلی برطانیہ۔

سعودی عرب کی یمن میں حوثی باغیوں کو جنگ بندی کی پیشکش، پاکستان کا

خیر مقدم

سعودی عرب نے پیر کو یمن میں چھ سال سے جاری جھڑپیں ختم کرنے کے لیے حوثی باغیوں کو جنگ بندی کی پیشکش کی ہے۔ پاکستان کی وزارت خارجہ نے ایک بیان میں سعودی عرب کی جانب سے یمن میں جنگ بندی کی پیشکش کا خیر مقدم کرتے ہوئے اس کی حمایت کی ہے۔ پاکستان کی وزارت خارجہ کے بیان کے مطابق 'پاکستان سمجھتا ہے کہ یہ اچھی پیشرفت ہے۔ لڑائی کے پُر امن خاتمے کے لیے ہم سعودی عرب کی کوششوں کی حمایت کرتے ہیں اور سعودی عرب کے ساتھ کھڑے ہیں۔' بیان میں کہا گیا ہے کہ 'ہم یمن کے مسئلے میں تمام فریقین سے مطالبہ کرتے ہیں کہ معنی خیز مذاکرات میں شریک ہوں تاکہ ظلم ختم ہو اور خطے میں امن و استحکام کے لیے ہزاروں معصوم زندگیوں کو بچایا جاسکے۔'

دوسری جانب سعودی وزیر خارجہ فیصل بن فرحان آل سعود نے کہا ہے کہ اس پیشکش میں 'اقوام متحدہ کی سرپرستی میں ملک کے تمام حصوں میں جامع جنگ بندی ہوگی۔'

ریاض میں پریس کانفرنس کرتے ہوئے ان کا کہنا تھا کہ ان کا ملک صنعتا ایئر پورٹ کی بحالی کی بھی تجویز کر رہا ہے۔ یہ یمن کے دار الحکومت میں واقع ہے جو حوثیوں کے زیر انتظام ہے۔

سعودی عرب کی حمایت یافتہ یمنی حکومت اور حوثیوں کے ساتھ مذاکرات کی بھی پیشکش کی گئی ہے۔ سعودی وزیر خارجہ نے کہا ہے کہ 'ہم چاہتے ہیں کہ بندوقین مکمل طور پر خاموش ہو جائیں۔۔۔ اس پیشکش پر فوراً عملدرآمد شروع ہو جائے گا جیسے ہی حوثیوں سے منظور کریں گے۔' یمن کی بین الاقوامی سطح پر تسلیم شدہ حکومت نے اس پیشکش کا خیر مقدم کیا ہے،

تاہم حوثیوں نے کہا ہے کہ اس اقدام میں 'کوئی نئی بات نہیں ہے، اور دار الحکومت صنعاء کے ہوائی اڈے اور الحدیدہ کی مغربی بندرگاہ پر سے ناکہ بندی کو مکمل طور پر اٹھانے کے ان کے مطالبے کو پورا نہیں کرتا۔ حوثی باغیوں کے اعلیٰ مذاکرات کار محمد عبدالسلام نے روسٹرز نیوز ایجنسی کو بتایا کہ 'ہمیں توقع تھی کہ سعودی عرب بندرگاہوں اور ہوائی اڈوں کی ناکہ بندی ختم کرنے کا اعلان کرے گا اور اتحادی فوج کے زیر قبضہ 14 جہازوں کو آنے کی اجازت دینے کے اقدام کا اعلان کرے گا۔' ان کا کہنا تھا کہ 'ان کا گروہ سعودی عرب، امریکہ اور ثالث ملک عمان سے امن معاہدے کے لیے بات چیت جاری رکھے گا۔'

سعودی عرب اس اتحاد کی رہنمائی کرتا ہے جو یمن کے صدر عبدالرب منصور ہادی کی حمایت کرتا ہے۔ یہ پیشکش ایک ایسے وقت میں کی گئی ہے کہ جب سعودی عرب کی توانائی کی تنصیبات پر ڈرون اور میزائل حملے کیے گئے تھے۔ حوثی باغیوں نے ان حملوں کی ذمہ داری قبول کی تھی۔

یمن میں امن کے لیے پچھلے کئی منصوبے ناکام ہو چکے ہیں، جن میں گذشتہ برس سعودی عرب سے جنگ بندی کا معاہدہ بھی شامل ہے۔ لیکن اس مرتبہ سعودی عرب کچھ ایسی رعایتیں بھی پیش کر رہا ہے جس کا حوثی باغی طویل عرصے سے مطالبہ کر رہے ہیں، جن میں صنعاء میں بین الاقوامی ہوائی اڈے کا کھولنا بھی شامل ہے، جو فی الحال حوثی باغیوں کے زیر کنٹرول ہے، حالانکہ سعودی زیر قیادت اتحاد اس کی فضائی حدود کو کنٹرول کرتا ہے۔

کورونائڈ ائرس: ترقی پذیر ممالک کے ویکسین تیار کرنے میں امیر ممالک

'رکاوٹ'

بی بی سی کے شو نیوز نائٹ کو موصول ہونے والے دستاویزات میں یہ انکشاف ہوا ہے کہ ترقی پذیر ممالک میں ویکسین تیار کرنے کی صلاحیت بڑھانے کے منصوبے برطانیہ سمیت کچھ امیر ممالک کی وجہ سے رکاوٹ کا شکار ہوئے ہیں۔ عالمی وبا کے دوران کئی ترقی پذیر ممالک نے عالمی ادارہ صحت سے مدد کا مطالبہ کیا ہے۔ لیکن امیر ممالک بین الاقوامی قوانین میں تجدید کو مؤخر کر رہے ہیں جس سے یہ منصوبے بڑے ہوئے ہیں۔ یہ بات عالمی ادارہ صحت کی قرارداد میں ظاہر ہوئی ہے جس کی کاپی لیک ہوئی تھی۔ ادویات کی دستیابی کے لیے قائم تنظیم جسٹ ٹریٹمنٹ کے ڈیڑ میڈ میڈ وئلڈ کہتے ہیں کہ 'قرارداد میں ایسی زبان استعمال کی جانی چاہیے تھی تاکہ ان ملکوں کی مدد کی جاسکے کہ وہ ویکسین یا ادویات اپنے ملکوں میں بنا سکیں۔ اس طرح ان کی مالی مدد ہو سکتی ہے یا انھیں سہولیات مل سکتی ہیں۔' برطانیہ اس بحث میں دوسری جانب ہے جو متن سے ایسی کسی ترقی پسند تجویز کو حذف کروانے کی کوشش کر رہا ہے۔ 'برطانوی حکومت کے ایک ترجمان نے کہا ہے کہ 'عالمی سطح پر حل سے ہی عالمی وبا کا خاتمہ ہو سکتا ہے اور برطانیہ اس جنگ میں صف اول پر ہے جس میں وہ دنیا بھر میں کووڈ 19 کی ویکسین اور علاج کی سہولیات پہنچانے میں اپنا کردار ادا کر رہا ہے۔'

'ترجمان کا کہنا ہے کہ برطانیہ بین الاقوامی کوششوں میں سب سے بڑے ڈونرز میں سے ایک ہے جن میں رواں سال ویکسین کی ایک ارب خوراکیں ترقی پذیر ممالک تک پہنچائی جا رہی ہیں۔'

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