

Pressure mounts on India to stop genocide against Muslims



Amnesty International has called on the Indian government to immediately end a “vicious” crackdown on Muslims who took to the streets to protest against anti-Islamic comments made by two members of Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).

Authorities have been accused of “selectively and viciously cracking down on Muslims who dare to speak up against the discrimination faced by them,”

Amnesty International’s Aakar Patel said in a statement.

“Cracking down on protesters with excessive use of force, arbitrary detention and punitive house demolitions is in complete violation of India’s commitments under international human rights law.”

Many Muslims were killed and hundreds of others arrested last week in nationwide protests over the comments, which

embroiled India in a diplomatic furore and caused widespread outrage in the Muslim world. Amnesty demanded an “immediate and unconditional release” of the jailed protesters.

Also, in a letter to the chief justice of India’s Supreme Court, six prominent former judges and six senior lawyers said the government in Uttar Pradesh state had acted illegally by bulldozing the home of a Muslim activist following the protests.

Pressure mounts on India to stop Genocide



State chief minister, Yogi Adityanath, a saffron-robed BJP hardliner, ordered the weekend demolition of any illegal buildings of people accused of involvement in violence, including the home of activist Mohammad Javed.

Adityanath, one of India's most prominent Hindu nationalist politicians, is known for his sectarian rhetoric against India's 200-million strong Muslim minority.

He has repeatedly called on authorities to demolish the homes of people accused of crimes, an exhortation critics say violates constitutional and human rights laws that ban collective punishment.

The former judges and lawyers urged the Supreme Court to take action to "arrest the deteriorating law and order situation" in Uttar Pradesh.

"The coordinated manner in which the police and development authorities have acted lead to the clear conclusion that demolitions are a form of collective extrajudicial punishment, attributable to a state policy which is illegal," they wrote.

Local officials said the demolition was

justified as parts of the house had been illegally constructed and that Javed had not appeared for hearings on the issue in May. Uttar Pradesh police said Javed was also involved in the violence during one of the recent protests.

But Javed's 24-year-old daughter Afreen Fatima, also a prominent activist, said the family had not participated in the Friday protests in the city. She also rejected the city administration's allegations that their house was illegally constructed.

"We had been paying our house taxes for around 20 years and not once did we receive any intimation by any development authorities that our house is illegal. Why were they even taking our taxes if it was an illegal house?"

K K Roy, Javed's lawyer, said the building was owned by Javed's wife and not him: "Under the Muslim Personal Law Property Act, the husband cannot have a share in the property of his wife. Since Javed has no right over the property as per law, the notice in his name is illegal. We have challenged the notice and sought a penalty of at least 10 crore rupees (\$1.3m)," he said.

Amnesty's Aaker Patel said the arrests

and demolitions were "part of an alarming escalation of the states' measures targeting Muslims."

In the United States, a Muslim member of the House of Representatives called for the American State Department to declare India an egregious violator of religious freedom.

Ilhan Omar, abled a resolution that has been co-sponsored by Representatives Rashida Tlaib, Jim McGovern and Juan Vargas, all Democrats. Omar and Tlaib are the first Muslim American women in Congress and they have both tended to focus on, among other things, Muslims around the world and threats and challenges confronting them.

The resolution, which is non-binding unlike a legislation, calls upon Secretary of State Antony Blinken to designate India a "country of particular concern", a categorisation used by the US under its International Religious Freedom Act for countries it considers are the most egregious violations of religious freedom.

"The Indian government must be held responsible for human rights violations against religious and cultural minorities," Omar said.

Imam confirms Islamic Literature Collection service is compliant with Sharia Law

A prominent imam has confirmed that a Blackburn businessman who went viral after he was confronted by several men whilst collecting sacred Islamic text, is correctly disposing of all items in accordance with Shariah law.

Mufti Abdullah Bismillah, Imam of Noorul Islam Masjid in Blackburn, confirmed in an e-mail to Paigaam that he had personally inspected the work undertaken by Hafiz Mehboob Daud and he was satisfied that the work met all the essential criteria, as according to Islamic tradition, it is unacceptable to throw away Qurans and other Islamic literature; books must be buried.

"I have inspected the work undertaken by Islamic Literature Collection and can confirm all items are correctly disposed of in accordance with Shari'ah law," said Mufti Abdullah.

"I will continue to monitor the work undertaken by them to ensure all items are dealt with correctly."

He also explained the rationale behind verifying Hafiz Mehboob's work.

"To elaborate on my statement that 'Islamic Literature Collection have been disposed of according to Shariah law, the Islamic Literature Disposal organisation receives Qurans, Mus'hafs, Islamic kitabs (Arabic, Urdu and English), worn out books and papers, and frames from the general public.

"These are the steps taken to dispose the materials received. The Quran, kitabs, papers and frames are separated into different bags. If there are Qurans, kitabs or frames that can be restored, they are put aside and redistributed if

possible. Biodegradable materials (Quran and Mus'hafs) that cannot be recycled are subsequently buried. Kitabs, papers and other materials, which are deemed to be non-biodegradable are incinerated; their ashes are then buried."

The Islamic Literature Service, which Hafiz Mehboob heads, travels to locations across the country and people can hand over their old books and other sacred texts for safe disposal or redistribution. For this, the organisation charges £2.50 per kg.

Paigaam reached out to Hafiz Mehboob, who confirmed, Mufti Abdullah was the "gatekeeper" in terms of ensuring his service is compatible with Islamic law.

"We provide a public service for Muslims throughout the UK. Mufti Saheb has verified our work, and as the gatekeeper, you cannot get any more proof than that."

Hafiz Mehboob also elaborated on why he was coy in relation to explaining to the men, in the video, where the sacred texts are buried.

"We cannot tell you where we bury the literature as that is a confidential aspect of our business. However, we can confirm that we used a plot of land and that everything is disposed off in the correct way, according to shariah."

He also confirmed, good copies of the Holy Quran are made available to people to take away, should they feel the need to distribute them to poor people within the locality, or internationally: "People do take copies of the Quran and other literature if they need them or want to give them away to people who can use them. People like Blackburn Councillor, Tiger

Patel, along with Mufti Saheb and many others vouch for us, so please pray that our efforts are accepted."

In a TikTok video shared extensively and posted this week, a man can be seen asking Hafiz Mehboob what he does with sacred texts.

He asked: "You provide a public service to the Ummah and you charge a fee. What do you do with the collections?"

Hafiz Memboob said it goes for "sorting, redistribution and burial", and the worker attempts to further explain the process.

Not content with the answer the man, who provides a similar service from Halifax, asks "where it is buried?" to which Hafiz Mehboob says he is "unable to divulge and he has 'nothing to hide'" and says his organisation tells people "if you trust us then use the service."

To find out more about the Islamic Literature Collection service, please e-mail Mufti Bismillah on: abdullahbismillah@gmail.com or Islamic Literature Collection on: 07817018874.



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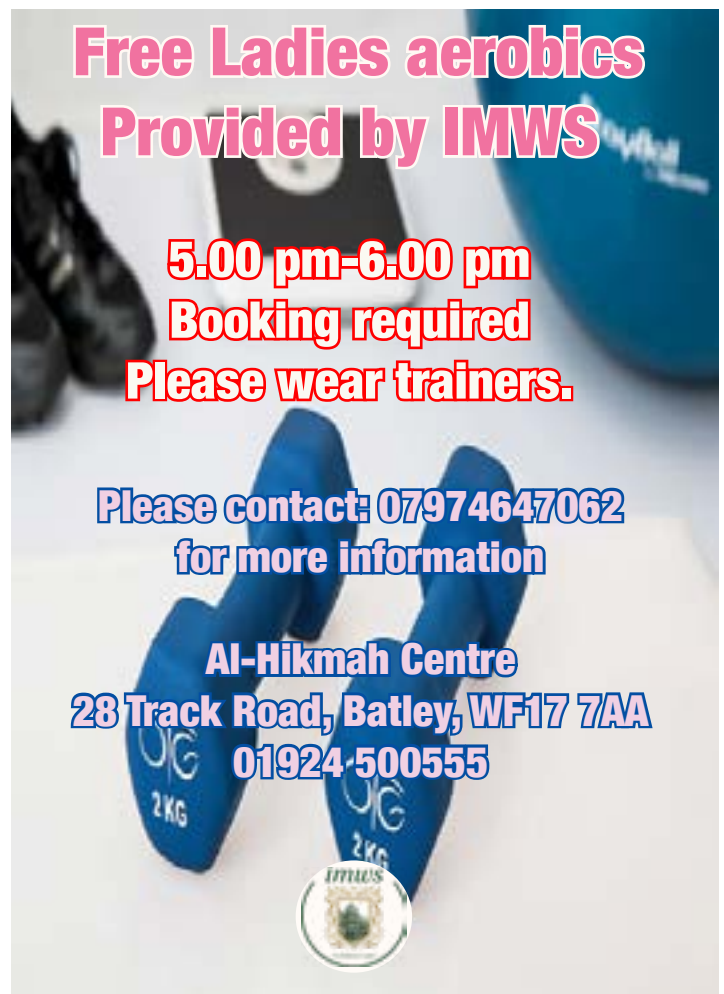


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Hajj booking fiasco results in many British Muslims losing out

British Muslims hoping to partake in the 2022 Hajj pilgrimage are at risk of losing thousands of pounds after the Saudi government announced European, Australian and American travellers are now subject to an online booking service.

Pilgrims have been told to use a website to register their interest and that a draw will then determine who will go on Hajj.

However, those who have already booked with Hajj tour operators could potentially lose thousands of pounds, after the Saudi government advised that anyone who has not booked for the 2022 Hajj via the Motawif web site by the 13th of June would not be allowed to partake in the pilgrimage.

It is also unclear how many Hajj visas will be allocated to the UK. Previously about 25,000 were issued every year.

The portal offered a range of flight and accommodation packages. However, these Saudi government packages did not benefit from ATOL.

It's fair to say that the Hajj experience is now for the middle class and the rich. It's now all about five star luxury, the closeness of the hotels and whether there's a restaurant, Oud shop or jewellery outlet even better.

The Saudi's by launching the new portal had the perfect opportunity to make a bold statement. The price of Hajj could have been capped to ensure people from all walks of life could fulfil their religious obligations.

Sadly, they have done the opposite as the cost of Hajj now varies from about £6,000 to more than £10,000 and many Muslims spend years saving up for it.

The head of the All Party Parliamentary Group on Hajj and Umrah, Yasmin Qureshi, has written to the Minister of Hajj and Umrah, Tawfiq bin Fawzan Al-Rabiah to ask for the new system to be delayed until next year.

Ms Qureshi has asked if money paid to Saudi service providers will be refunded. She has also said she is worried that Muslims who had deferred their trip in

2020 risk major financial losses if their pilgrimage is not carried out.

She is also concerned about how and if pilgrims' money will be protected under the new scheme.

Ms Qureshi said: "Certainly for this year, do not organise the portal system because it's not going to work. Who do you complain to if things don't turn out correctly?"

There are 3.72 million Muslims in the UK according to figures from Office for National Statistics. All pilgrims from Europe, America and Australia must use the new online portal to book their pilgrimage.

Paigaam has contacted the Licensed Hajj Organisers UK, an independent industry watchdog, and the Council for British Hajjis UK for a comment. The Saudi government has also been asked to comment.

The Saudi authorities have not confirmed the process for Hajj 2023.



Batley Primary School Awarded Good status by Ofsted

Healey Junior, Infant & Nursery School, situated on Healey Lane in Batley, has been graded good after a recent Ofsted inspection.

It is the first time that the school has ever been awarded this level of accreditation and is testament to the dedication of the whole school community that the Ofsted inspection recognised good practice in every area of provision.

Luisa Lang, Headteacher said: "What a fantastic achievement! I am exceptionally honoured to serve the school community as Headteacher along with this committed staff team."

She went on to say: "We will always continue to ensure that we offer the best possible education for each and every one of our children. Many thanks

to our parents/carers, Governors and Batley Multi Academy Trust for their collaboration and support."

This Ofsted outcome is testament to the hard work and devotion by everyone involved in the school. An even greater accolade, in the context of post-pandemic recovery, with children having been impacted by home learning and the lack of social interaction.

Luisa also affirmed that; "our amazing staff team drives us forward and is fundamental to our success. This leadership is very much a lead by example approach, which is the most effective way to motivate and inspire others, both staff and pupils alike."

Some highlights from the report include: "Leaders make sure that children get off to a productive start to their education in the early years. Leaders ensure pupils have a broad range of opportunities to access

events in the community. Relationships between staff and pupils are positive. Pupils value the warm and caring way staff support them and keep them safe.

"Pupils are confident in reporting any worries because they know staff will listen and deal with their concerns. Staff have high expectations for pupils' learning and behaviour. Pupils concentrate well in class and get fully involved in their learning. Reading is a high priority. Independent reading and story time are cherished parts of the school day.

Sam Vickers, CEO of Batley Multi Academy Trust commented: "We are so proud that a school in our Trust family of schools has achieved this recognition, it is extremely well deserved and we will continue to work together to sustain and build on this success.

Placing young people at the heart of everything we do is one of our Trust."

ECB partners with Nujum Sports

The England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) has partnered up with Nujum Sports to help improve Muslim inclusion in the sport.

Nujum Sports, who were formed in 2020, have helped to advise the ECB during the last year but have now agreed a formal partnership.

It occurs at a time when the governing body remains in the spotlight for its failure to act when Azeem Rafiq first made his racism allegations against Yorkshire almost two years ago.

A subsequent 12-point action plan to improve inclusion at all levels was

eventually unveiled by the ECB in November, but only after Rafiq had appeared in front of a parliamentary panel and laid bare the full scale of the problem cricket was facing with discrimination more than a year after his initial claims had gone public.

This link with Nujum Sports is aimed at helping ensure the needs of Muslim players are focused on from grassroots level all the way to the top of the elite game.

The ECB said it wanted to "listen to the insights of Nujum".

Kate Miller, the ECB's chief diversity and communications officer, said: "Over the last year, Nujum Sports has assisted the ECB, particularly in preparing for Ramadan, helping us to support many clubs and players with practical advice and

guidance. Ensuring that cricket is open, inclusive and accessible for people of all faiths is critical to us.

"Working with organisations like Nujum will allow us to learn more, connect better and challenge ourselves to continually improve our work in equity, diversity and inclusion."

Nujum Sports, founded in August 2020 by former Football Association officer Ebadur Rahman, was set up with the aim of ensuring Muslim athletes have every opportunity to fulfil their potential.

In 2021, it devised the Muslim athletes charter, a 10-point framework through which clubs can assess whether their facilities and practices cater adequately to Muslims.

IMWS provides much needed aid for the Gaza Appeal

The Indian Welfare Society recently sent thousands of pounds to help provide much needed aid in association with our long-term charity partner, Palestine Welfare House which is based in Gaza.

Palestine Welfare House proceeded to distribute a plethora of items to over 775 poor, orphans, and needy families from across the Al-Maghraqah, Al-Zaytun, Deir Al-Balah, Middle zone, Hamad Towers, Khanyounes, Jabalia city, Beit Lahia and Ezbet Beit Hanoun areas of the Gaza strip.

The rationale behind the project was to help orphans low income families, disabled people and poor people with chronic diseases and those in need by providing them with food parcels, during and after Ramadan, medical supplies for the Jabalia Medical Centre and wheel chairs.

Munir Daji of IMWS thanked members for taking the time to donate money to Gaza and appealed for prayers and donations for all those who are suffering in such a noble and sacred land.

He said: "Thank you very much for your donations to IMWS, your donations have been sent to the people of Gaza who are very grateful. IMWS works directly with the charity Palestine Welfare House which is based in Gaza.

"Once again, we would like to remind all our members that we have a number of ongoing charity projects all year round, so please feel free to inquire directly if you wish to donate."

IMWS works directly with the charity Palestine Welfare House which is based in Gaza to provide aid to those in need.

IMWS raise money for Gaza throughout the year and enquiries about existing

campaigns can be made directly at the Al-Hikmah Centre during normal working hours.

The people of Gaza remained trapped in what is often referred to as the world's largest prison. Families are seen living and eating on the rubble of what once used to be a home have graced our smart phone screens.

Years of conflict has left around 80 per cent of the population dependent on international assistance according to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency. Over 1.2 million have registered as refugees with UNHCR. Now, the 1.8 million people who reside in Gaza are facing even harsher conditions with the thought of survival not just for themselves but for their children racing through their worried minds.

The situation is complicated further due to the continuous blockade, and the COVID 19 pandemic.



Celebration of Queen's Platinum Jubilee

The Indian Muslim Welfare Society held a celebration to mark the Queen's platinum jubilee at the Al-Hikmah Centre.

Guests were treated to stalls whilst children had access to bouncy castles and a number of playful conveniences for families to enjoy before dignitaries' including Kym Leadbeater, Councillor Shabbir Pandor, Deputy Lieutenant's Iqbal Bhana and M Joshi along with the new District Police Commander for Kirklees, Chief Supt Jim Griffiths who arrived to give their respective speeches at 7:00.

For the dignitaries, toasting Queen and country was about more than just telling stories about Britain's quintessential monarch.

The event was also about sampling

some gastronomic delights from former Commonwealth countries such as India, including samosas khaman and much more with attendees also eating sandwiches whilst Union Jacks were placed strategically across the Al-Hikmah Centre.

"This is about bringing people together," said Rafik Dabhad, chair of IMWS. "This is an opportunity to celebrate what Britain is about."

Councillor Shabbir Pandor heaped praise upon the Queen by paying tribute to her.

He said: "The Queen was born at 2:40 am on the 21st of April 1926. She was crowned as Queen on the second of June 1953, and the event was watched on TV by 20 million people."

Iqbal Bhana paid tribute to IMWS for holding the event. He said: "A very small group of migrants contributed £200 pounds in 1966 towards the Aberfan

disaster," (a catastrophic collapse of a colliery spoil tip on 21 October 1966).

"That shows how this community, how this organisation, how the people of Gujarat, from when they first came to this country, have been part of this country over many, many, years, and is still a positive force for good in the wider society."

The event also saw recitations of Gujarati poetry by Shabbir Kazi, Ahmad Gul, who also recalled meeting the Queen at Buckingham Palace. In addition, Ebrahim Dockrat reminisced about meeting the late Duke of Edinburgh, who in typical fashion, cracked a joke which Mr Dockrat shared with the audience.

After the event, the panel of speakers along with over 100 guests from an array of backgrounds, enjoyed the food and good conversation revolving around how Her Majesty has brought so much happiness into the lives of her subjects.



Paigaam Travel

If your idea of Muslim-friendly holidays consists of cultural experiences, incredible scenery, and delicious halal food, then continue to read on.

As a Muslim, it's important to ensure that your travel arrangements, including food and accommodation, are Shariah compliant, especially if you intend on travelling during the Muslim Holidays. There has been a recent increase in the number of tourism businesses and destinations offering halal products and services.

Turkey

Turkey is a popular holiday destination for Muslims as it incorporates the best of both the East and the West, largely due to its geographical positioning between Europe and Asia. As a Muslim country, Turkey offers a very wide range of Shariah compliant services, making it an ideal destination for Islamic tourism.

Dubai

Dubai has earned its reputation as a popular holiday destination thanks to its warm climate, clear sea, and nothing short of an amazing array of sumptuous delicacies. Quad-bike riding and sand duning are some of the unique activities that Dubai has to offer. Moreover, it is an Islam-oriented country that caters for Muslims.

Spain

Spanish tourist businesses are currently focusing on Islamic clientele due to the rising number of Muslim travellers visiting from Islamic countries. As a result, more restaurants are also offering halal products, making it a favourable

destination to take your Muslim family. Notable destinations include the Andalucia region where the great Masjid of Cordoba, the Alhambra Palace which are some of the many remnants of Muslim rule across the Iberian Peninsula for over 500 years.

Italy

The Italian government has recently been keen on enhancing its tourism and investment relations with Dubai, which is an Islamic country. To boost its position as a popular UAE tourist destination, the country has gone to great lengths to promote the availability of halal compliant foods. This has led to the rise of halal certified restaurants running private gardens, to produce a wide range of mouth-watering halal foods.

Greece

Greece has a small number of Islamic citizens among its population, with a majority of them being of Turkish descent. As a result, there are a few restaurants that offer halal food in major cities. Greece also has beautiful exotic beaches and a rich Islamic heritage, with most of its ancient mosques still intact. This Islamic heritage makes it a great destination for Muslim historical and heritage tours.

Singapore

Singapore is Asia's number one destination for great food and a good time. The city and island of Singapore is small in size but offers a large number of travel experiences.

Singapore consists of a plethora of cultures primarily Chinese Singaporeans, Indians and Malays. Hence the culinary scene in Singapore is like no other. On a typical day in Singapore you can enjoy a walking trail through treetop jungle

bridges and visit the UNESCO listed Singapore Botanic Gardens. If shopping is your thing, Orchard Rd is where you'll find high-street designers. Masjid Sultan is the country's most iconic mosque and can easily be spotted by its grand, golden dome.

Built in 1824 for the Sultan at the time, this beautiful Masjid is worth stopping by to pray. The Masjid is conveniently right next to the popular Haji Lane, a hotspot for trendy cafés, boutique stores and plenty of murals.

Indonesia

This sprawling nation nestled between the Indian and Pacific Oceans boasts over 17,000 islands.

With the fourth largest population in the world, it's easy to be tricked into thinking that this country is all chaos and mayhem.

But take the trip of a lifetime to a secluded island getaway and you might just find yourself lost in its tranquillity. Being the largest Muslim majority country on the planet, halal food is the norm and Masjids can be found by the truckload.



Catalonia & South Africa recognise 'crime of apartheid'



The parliament of the Catalonia region in Spain has become the first in Europe to acknowledge the crime of apartheid committed by Israel against the Palestinian people.

Catalonia's regional parliament on Thursday formally recognised that Israel is committing the crime of apartheid against the Palestinian people.

Lawmakers in the autonomous Spanish region passed a resolution accusing Israel of overseeing a system that is "contrary to international law and is equivalent to the crime of apartheid as defined in the Rome Statutes of the International Criminal Court, Article 7.2 (h)".

This makes the parliament in Catalonia the first in Europe to publicly acknowledge Israel's imposition of apartheid, which has also been widely documented by international rights groups including Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International.

MP Susana Segovia, a Catalan politician,

activist, and current spokesperson for the left-wing party Catalunya en Comú called it a "historic moment".

"Today we call by name the violation of human rights in Palestine."

The resolution, first tabled in March, called on Catalonia's autonomous government and the central Spanish government to use all their political and diplomatic tools to hold Israel to account for its systematic rights abuses against Palestinians.

It also demanded that human rights are put at the heart of bilateral and multilateral agreements with official Israeli institutions.

"We hope that their courageous vote will inspire other regional parliaments of the Spanish state, as well as its state parliament, to also stand on the right side of history," the Palestinian Boycott, Divestment (BDS) movement said in a statement released Thursday.

The global BDS movement is a solidarity campaign calling for the isolation of

Israel in response to its crimes against Palestinians, which include illegal occupation of Palestinian territory, denial of the right to self-determination, forced expulsions, seizures of land and property, and unlawful killings.

In addition, South African Foreign Minister Naledi Pandor urged the international community to take action to put an end to grievances of the Palestinians under Israeli occupation.

"As South Africans, we find similarities in our past with the Palestinians," Pandor said in her speech before a UN conference on the rights of the Palestinians.

"It reminds me of the gravesites that we had to carry out under the persecution of the apartheid soldiers."

Palestinian officials also welcomed a resolution passed by Catalonia's regional parliament condemning Israel's crime of apartheid against Palestinians. They termed the resolution as a "victory for the just Palestinian cause" and exposes "the true face of the Israeli occupation and its indifference to international laws."

Imam blasts Government after being sacked as adviser

An imam at the Makkah Masjid in Leeds, who was dismissed as a Government adviser after he gave his backing for a campaign to prevent cinemas from screening a film purportedly about the noble Fatima Az Zahra (R.A.), has said an assertion, he acted to spread religious hatred is “inaccurate”.

Qari Asim said he learned about a letter from the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DHLUC) informing him that he had been removed from his roles as an independent adviser and deputy chair of the Government’s Anti-Muslim Hatred Working Group through the media.

The imam was appointed as an independent adviser in 2019 to provide expert advice on a definition of Islamophobia to the Government. In a statement, the DHLUC said in its letter it

had “no option” but to revoke Mr Asim’s role with “immediate effect”.

“Your recent support for a campaign to limit free expression – a campaign which has itself encouraged communal tensions – means it is no longer appropriate for you to continue your work with Government in roles designed to promote community harmony,” the department said.

In its letter, the DHLUC added: “You will have no doubt seen reports of the scenes outside different cinema venues. These included deeply disturbing videos of sectarian chanting and anti-Shia hatred.

“As you know, anti-Shia hatred is a long-standing and very serious issue, which must be challenged at every opportunity as part of a wider effort to combat anti-Muslim hatred.

“We were disappointed to see that you failed to condemn some of the protests complicit in these behaviours.

However, Mr Asim said the contention made in the DHLUC’s letter that he had acted to undermine democratic values or spread community tension and religious hatred was “inaccurate”.

In a letter to Levelling Up Secretary Michael Gove, Mr Asim said he fully understands and supports the values of free speech.

However, he believes there is also a “nuanced and complex debate” around “boundaries and limits.”

He said: “I am of the firm opinion that the challenge to and critique of the ‘Lady Of Heaven’ film is part of free speech, though violence and intimidation can never be.”

This was because he did not “personally attend or organise any protests outside any cinemas” regarding the film, adding that his “strong preference is always dialogue. I did, however, support people’s democratic right to protest,” he added.

Kirklees Council leader Shabir Pandor set to ‘run for MP’

The leader of Kirklees Council, Shabir Pandor, is said to be one of the contenders for Huddersfield MP Barry Sheerman’s seat when he steps down.

In December, the 81-year-old Labour MP confirmed that he would not be standing at the next General Election – expected to be around two years away.

Given that Mr Sheerman has held the seat for 40 years it is a plum target for any aspiring politician and given his prominence in Huddersfield Labour circles the 56-year-old is likely to be a

strong challenger. Cllr Pandor is one of seven Labour hopefuls with an eye on taking over from Mr Sheerman, who is to step down at the next general election.

The others are his fellow councillors and Cabinet members Mus Khan and Naheed Mather, who both represent Dalton ward in Huddersfield; lawyer Hugh Goulbourne; former Ashbrow councillor Harpreet Uppal; former York councillor James Flinders; and trade unionist Mark Morris.

All seven have made the longlist to find the party’s next candidate. That number is expected to be whittled down to form a

shortlist that will be voted on by the 550 members of Huddersfield Constituency Labour Party. A final selection is expected in July.



Who was Rabia

Al- Basria R.A ?

Rabia Al-Adawaiyya, more commonly known as Rabia Basria, was born in 717 CE in Basra, Iraq (during the Abbasid Caliphate).

When you visit the largest building at IMWS, it has been named after Rabia Al-Basria.

Legend has it that she was born into poverty, raised during a famine, and eventually sold into slavery. At each of these phases, however, were signs from the Almighty, prophecies, and premonitions to people around her, of what her stature later in life would be.

Farid Al-Din Attar, a Persian poet, and philosopher from the 12th century wrote that when she was born.

Her family was so bereft of all material possessions that they did not even have oil to light a lamp or a piece of cloth to wrap her up in.

And with her first night in the world, the Holy Prophet, peace be upon him, appeared in her father's dream saying:

"Your newly born daughter is a favorite

of the Lord, and shall lead many people to the right path."

After being orphaned during a famine, she fell into the hands of slavery. Upon finishing her chores tirelessly during the day, she would hold night-long vigils

Not only was she distant from people but was also devoid of any material possessions. Her biographers claim that when she passed away, she had nothing but a prayer mat, a pottery jug, and a bed that doubled as her prayer rug.

It was this airy and light existence that allowed her to lead a nomadic life. It has been said that she once embarked on a pilgrimage to Makkah on foot which was to take seven years at the time.

Her identity was multifaceted: she was pious, she was a poet, with excerpts of her poetry existing today, though, are perhaps as scarce as her material belongings.

Not only did she renounce worldly luxuries but also any form subservience to any being.

Her only allegiance was to her Lord. And that servitude ironically was the greatest source of liberation for her.



praying. And it was during one of these nights that her master saw her devotion and apparently also a halo surrounding her, which compelled him to free her.

After being freed from slavery, she dedicated her life to God completely. She never got married or had any children of her own. With no family or existing blood ties to speak of, she became a figure of solitude.







Got a story?

**Contact Paigaam on
01924 500 555**

E: Paigaam@imws.org.uk

Qurbani

2022

COUNTRY	SMALL ANIMAL	LARGE ANIMAL	1/7TH SHARE
AFRICA			
 Djibouti	£80	£1,000	£143
Ethiopia	£60	£530	£76
 Libya	£120	-	-
Malawi	£35	£270	£39
 Mozambique	£60	£370	£53
Sierra Leone	£60	-	-
 Somalia	£90	£700	£100
 Sudan	£150	£750	£108
Tanzania	£50	-	-
 Uganda	£70	£350	£50
 Zambia	£45	-	-
ASIA			
 Afghanistan	£95	£360	£52
 Azad Kashmir	£100	£340	£49
Bangladesh	£85	£550	£79
 Rohingya Camps	£85	£550	£79
 India	£80	£95	£14
Indonesia	£252	-	-
Myanmar	£188	£706	£101
 Pakistan	£100	£340	£49
Nepal	-	£161	£23
Sri Lanka	£80	£297	£43
 Turkey	£120	-	-
Uyghur Refugees			
EUROPE			
 Bosnia	£90	£1,025	£147
 Serbia	£90	-	-
 Montenegro	£90	-	-
MIDDLE EAST			
 Gaza	£250	£1,500	£215
 Lebanon	£130	-	-
 Syria	£120	-	-
 Yemen	£115	£590	£85



Donate Eid Gifts for £10 in any of these countries

your guide to Qurbani

DAYS OF EID

10TH

11TH

12TH

DHUL HIJJAH

WHO IS IT COMPULSORY FOR?

- Qurbani is compulsory upon every able-bodied Muslim, sane, mature and meets the Zakat criteria in the days of Hajj.

KEY FACTS

- Qurbani meat is distributed to friends, families and the most needy.
- Qurbani animals must be a goat, sheep, cattle (cow, ox, water buffalo) or camel.
- Qurbani is the sunnah of the prophet Ibrahim (PBUH) and his son Ismail (PBUH) showing their devotion and sacrifice to the Almighty.

HADITH ON QURBANI

The Prophet (PBUH) said (on the day of Eid):

“The first thing we will do on this day of ours, is to offer the (Eid) prayer and then return to make the sacrifice. Whoever does so, he acted according to our Sunnah” – (Bukhari)

HOW MANY?



=



Small Animal

for 1 person



=



Large Animal

for 7 people



=



1/7th Share

for 1 person

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 E: info@imws.org.uk



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 Moulana Bilal: 07594392620

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- Tajweed
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- Adab
- Ahadith
- Seerah
- Tarikh
- Akhlaq
- Current issues



Paigaam Kids page

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1) Zainab Yasin Raja
Batley



2) Faatimah Kolia
Batley

2nd Prize sponsored
by Chickanos
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3) Zahra Anas Patel
Dewsbury

3rd Prize sponsored
by Islamic Bakery
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Age limit 13.

Please send this page with your
name, address, postcode, age and telephone
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28 Track Road, Batley, West Yorkshire,
WF17 7AA



Full Name:

Address:

Postcode:

Age/Date

Tel. No:

WORD SEARCH PUZZLES FOR KIDS

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ROME
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TOKYO
MADRID
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WELLINGTON
CANBERRA



Colour names

Boost your child's knowledge of colours by helping them
solve this crossword puzzle on the names of
different colours.





Life-saving lung scans offered

People living in the Spen* area of North Kirklees are being targeted as part of a multi-million-pound programme which is saving lives through early lung cancer diagnosis.

More than 2,000 people have already been checked for signs of lung cancer since the programme began in North Kirklees in December.

The checks have so far identified 19 patients with suspected cancer and resulted in others being referred for further investigation.

People aged 55 – 74 who smoke or have ever smoked, and are registered with a GP in the area, will be invited for a health check with a specially trained nurse. The check will take place over the 'phone and last around 20 minutes.

If any issues are found during the health check, people will be offered a CT scan at a mobile scanner unit, located in the car park of the Tesco superstore in Cleckheaton.

This phase of the programme will see a further 5,500 people invited to attend the life-saving health checks.

Dr Khalid Naeem, GP and Chair of NHS Kirklees Clinical Commissioning Group, said: "Lung health checks have a vital role to play in the fight against cancer.

"They can help find problems early, often before you notice anything is wrong,

and at a stage when treatment could be simpler and more successful.

"Most lung cancers grow slowly enough for them to be found at an early stage by a lung scan – so this programme will ultimately save more lives."

Debra Colleran, a patient at Cherry Tree GP Surgery in Batley, says taking part in the programme gave her vital peace of mind.

She said, "I stopped smoking 15 years ago but had previously been an active smoker for about 15 years before that. It's an extremely important subject and I'm delighted to have been able to take part.

"The nurse was very helpful and explained everything to me. The results that came back have certainly put my mind at rest."

Debra's assessment indicated that she did not need a CT scan.

Debra added, "I'd encourage anyone who gets the chance to take part in this programme to accept the invitation."

Programme lead for Kirklees CCG, Marion Redford, said, "Even if you feel fit and well, or gave up smoking years ago, it's really important that you attend a lung health check when you're invited.

"Lung cancer is the most common cancer in West Yorkshire and is directly related to smoking and tobacco use.

"There are often no signs or symptoms of lung cancer at an early stage. As a re-

sult, sadly around 7 in 10 cancer patients are currently being diagnosed too late to be cured."

She added, "We've done everything possible to make the health checks as convenient as possible. The initial appointment is by telephone and people who need a CT scan will be invited to attend the mobile scanner in Cleckheaton rather than a local hospital."

North Kirklees is one of 23 Lung Health Check pilot sites which are contributing towards reaching the NHS Long Term Plan ambitions of catching thousands more cancers at an earlier stage when they are easier to treat.

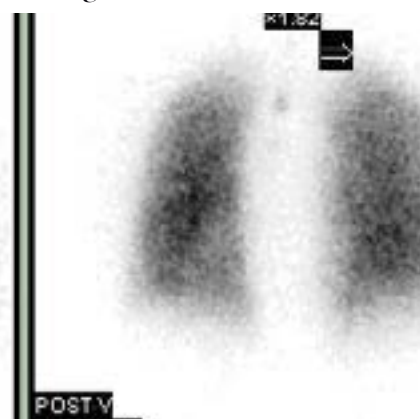
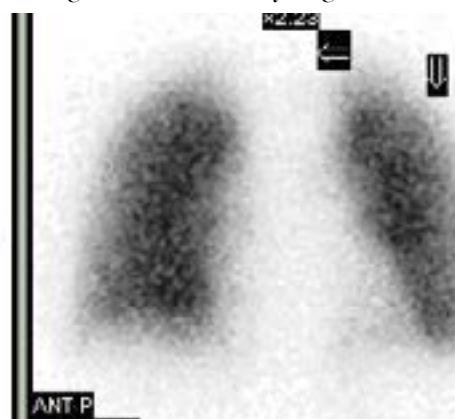
Across England, around 600 cancers have been diagnosed early so far, giving patients a much better chance of beating the illness.

The programme is supported by the West Yorkshire and Harrogate Cancer Alliance and has been funded by NHS England as part of a national pilot designed to improve early diagnosis and treatment of cancer.

North Kirklees GP federation, CURO Health, are delivering the Targeted Lung Health Check Programme in Kirklees. In total, there are around 19,000 people in North Kirklees who are eligible for a health check.

You can find more information about the North Kirklees targeted lung health check programme on the dedicated website:

www.lunghealthcheckaware.co.uk



Muslim Chaplaincy at Pinderfields, Dewsbury Pontefract Hospitals

It is undeniable that one of the most traumatic and painful experiences people suffer is during the loss of a close family member.

It's an awful gut-wrenching experience. Nothing can prepare for that moment even if you've known for some time that the end is approaching. In the grip of grief, some have said that they feel frozen in a seemingly eternal present.

During those painful moments of grief, faith plays a great role for Muslims in bringing some semblance of meaning and understanding to what had just happened.

Of course, the process after the death for us requires urgency and swiftness – the funeral and burial has to be done with immediate effect as the Hadith of the Prophet (pbuh) stated that, 'Hasten the burial rites' (Bukhari).

During the beginning of Covid-19, many lives were lost across the world. Unfortunately, mortality rates had also increased across our local communities.

As Muslim Chaplains working at Mid Yorkshire Hospitals, they have experienced an unprecedented number of

The need to release the deceased bodies became overwhelming for staff, and therefore as per our commitment to personalised care, which focuses on the beliefs and spiritual needs of individuals, the Trust decided to review the out-of-hours service in accordance with Trust's vision of achieving excellent patient experience each and every time.

Due to the disproportionately high number of BAME deaths in the county, the Trust decided to train the Muslim Chaplains to deal with the processes of certification of death etc during out of hours.

This enabled the Muslim Chaplains with their knowledge of the Islamic funeral rituals and practices, to be the experts in providing spiritual care at this critical juncture.

Since October 2020, in conjunction with the Bereavement team and the Medical Examiners, we have been able to support many families in facilitating the early release where the cause of death was ascertained.

During the late hours of the night to the early hours of the morning, we have been present to support and advice families about the processes and help them carry

out the funeral rites as soon as possible. The Hussain family wrote to the chaplaincy service at Pinderfields following the death of their beloved father Chafoor Hussain from Batley.

The late Haji Chafoor Hussain's daughter, Mrs Shanaz Yousaf stated in a letter to the hospital she had 'never experienced so much professionalism, kindness and offer of support from the Muslim Chaplain' as she was so overwhelmed by the person-centred care she had received and that it had 'single-handedly restored her faith in the NHS.'

The founder of the Funeral Service, Sadaqah Jariyah, Mr Mohammed Javed said that since the introduction of Chaplaincy taking responsibility of the out of hours service, it has propelled them to be the 'role model for Yorkshire' that certainly other Trusts could learn from.

Moulana Ilyas Dalal and Moulana Aslam Seedat have been working with many distressed families who have appreciated the support and advice during these challenging and difficult times. They are available for support and are on-call to deal with any concerns in relation to hospital matters. Please contact via email: midyorks.chaplaincy.services@nhs.net or phone on **01924 54100** and ask to speak to a Muslim Chaplain.



IMWS Muslim Burial Services



The IMWS Muslim Burial Services are continuing as normal. Our services are open to everyone, free of charge, regardless of whether they are members or not.

We are fully supported by our local area Masjids and our senior Ulema. We appreciate the support of our community and will strive to improve our services to meet the needs of our community.

Burial Contact Numbers

Ebrahim Chopdat
07980 381197

Yusuf Paliya
07590019315

Munir Daji
07739 142 988

During office hours burial van keys can be collected from the main office. Out of hours can be collected from Ebrahim Chopdat.

Kirklees Council Burial fee is £ 2252.00
Donations towards the running costs of the funeral van is most appreciated.



38 killed on smart motorways in five years

Thirty-eight people have been killed on smart motorways in the last five years, the first time that the total number of deaths has been reported.

Smart motorways have been criticised because they do not have a hard shoulder and drivers who break down can be trapped in the speeding traffic.

The network is facing an overhaul with the results of a government review due to be announced shortly. A Freedom of Information (FoI) request sent to Highways England revealed that on one section of the M25, the number of near

misses had risen 20-fold since the hard shoulder was removed in April 2014. In the five years before the road was converted into a smart motorway there were just 72 near misses. In the five years after, there were 1,485.

A “near miss” is counted every time there is an incident with “the potential to cause injury or ill health”.

The FoI request also revealed that one warning sign on the same stretch of the M25 had been out of action for 336 days. The idea behind smart motorways was to improve the flow of traffic through the most congested parts of the network by using the hard shoulder as an extra lane.

There are currently 200 miles of smart motorway and another 300 miles are due to be converted by 2025.

There are around 90 deaths per year on the UK’s motorway network as a whole, which covers about 2,300 miles of road. Transport Secretary Grant Shapps said he wants to fix smart motorways because they are too confusing for drivers. He said: “We absolutely have to have these as safe or safer than regular motorways or we shouldn’t have them at all.”

A government review, the results of which are due to be announced shortly, is expected to recommend reforms to improve safety.

Kim Leadbeater MP column

As I am writing this I am very much looking forward to the Great Get Together weekend from June 24 to 26.

This is always a very special occasion for me as it's a time to remember my sister Jo and the values she believed in, not least strong and united communities.

On 16 June it was six years since her murder and I think about her every day. I want to thank everyone for all the kind messages I have received over the past couple of weeks.

One of my favourite parts of the Great Get Together is the 'Run For Jo' and, after it had to be a virtual event during the pandemic, I am delighted it's back in person this year on Sunday 26. On Friday 24 things kick off with an early bird welcome at Batley Station with their Friends group.

Later in the day, the Kumon y'all Let's Unite event at Manor Croft Academy in Dewsbury from 5.15pm is a great occasion to make friends, play games and enjoy some delicious food.

And the Heckmondwike Great Get Together on Saturday 25 is always a fantastic occasion. There's an extra highlight this year with my Health and Well-being Get Together in Wilton Park in Batley on Saturday from 10am - 3pm.

June has been a very busy month so far. I was delighted to attend some of the many events across Batley and Spen which were organised for the Queen's Jubilee celebrations - it was great to see how many people embraced the opportunity not only to congratulate and thank Her Majesty but to get together in their communities.

I was proud of the way we marked the occasion with an incredible array of events right across the constituency. I tried to get to as many of them as humanly possible - I think I managed 23.

There will sadly always be those who

try to divide us or to stir up hatred and resentment, but I'm really proud that the people of Batley and Spen show time and again that they won't let the extremists sow division or stop us from focusing on all that we have in common.

It's always encouraging to see such positivity and, for me, we owe it to future generations to have a strong, united community in which they can develop their full potential.

I really enjoyed a tour of Kirklees College this week and a recent visit to Batley Girls High School where I watched a very passionate but fair debate on whether to allow plastic bottles in school. I feel very optimistic about the future whenever I spend time with the many remarkable young people in our community.

At the end of life our loved ones' remains should be treated with dignity and respect. I have been working hard to try to resolve the problems at Heckmondwike Cemetery where water drainage issues have caused distress to a number of families.

I have pursued Kirklees Council over this and at present they are looking to try to identify the cause and see if there is an engineering solution to the problem.

As most people are aware, I feel passionately about bringing people from all backgrounds and faiths together. For me, these principles must apply locally, nationally and internationally.

Like many people, I have been very concerned by the comments by BJP officials in India which have rightly been seen as insulting to all Muslims.

The right to peaceful protest is fundamental in a democracy and to see the homes of protestors bulldozed is sickening.

Back here in the constituency, the anniversary of my election as the MP for Batley and Spen comes up on July 1. It was

a divisive by-election campaign last year but I promised when I was elected that I would work hard for everybody, whether they had voted for me or not.

That is what I have done over the past twelve months, and I'm really grateful to all the people who come up to me or write to say 'keep up the good work'. It's not always easy, but I and my team will always do our very best on behalf of all the people of the area.

Best wishes and happy Eid Al Adha for all those who will be celebrating.

Kim

P.S. I want to be accessible to all my constituents as I can.

My web site address is: www.kim4batleyandspen.com and that's where you can find more details on everything I've been doing locally, nationally and internationally.

Sign up to my newsletter and meet the team that are working with me.



Legal Column

Trade Union Targeted by Social Media Campaign Awarded £50,000 Damages

No matter how strongly you may feel, you should think very carefully about posting on social media. As a High Court ruling showed, expressions of regret after the mouse/ email has been clicked may not be enough to save you from the serious legal consequences of descending into libel or harassment.

The case concerned a man who used social media to mount a persistent campaign of denigration against a branch of a trade union.

Without any evidence, he made incendiary and scurrilous allegations concerning the branch, asserting, amongst other things, that it was controlled by a criminal group.

The union brought libel and harassment

proceedings against him, and he accepted that the posts were totally unacceptable and apologised for any distress caused. He cited his diabetes and associated mood swings and assured the union that the posts had been removed. A judge, however, upheld the union's case in its entirety on the basis that he had no viable defence to the claim.

Following a further hearing, the Court noted that the man's allegations had gained a lot of publicity, through the internet. The harm to the good name of the union and the branch was clear in that they depended on their reputation for integrity and performance in negotiations to attract and retain members.

The court awarded £50,000 damages to the Union. The Court noted that the posts had the character of a coherent and persistent campaign and were published

during the COVID-19 pandemic when trust in the union was at a premium. They caused anxiety and uncertainty amongst workers at a time.

The Court noted that the purpose of the award was to vindicate the union. It sent out a public message that would restore its good name and convince bystanders of the baselessness of the man's allegations. The Court also issued an injunction which forbade him from publishing any similar allegations in the future.

If you object to a planning application, you are perfectly entitled to encourage others to join you in voicing opposition. However, as a High Court ruling showed, the fact that objections may, in effect, come from a single source is relevant to the question of whether a proposed development should be viewed as controversial.

What Is A Controversial Application? Guidance From the Court.

If you object to a planning application, you are entitled to encourage others to join you in voicing opposition. However, as a court has shown, the fact that objections may, in effect, come from a single source is relevant to the question of whether a proposed development should be viewed as controversial.

The case concerned a planning consent granted for a night shelter for the homeless in a listed building, another part of which was occupied by a dance studio. A total of 26 objections to the application were received, all but one of which related to the development's impact on the studio and its customers.

Concerns were expressed that difficulties

would be caused to dance students, some of them children, by homeless people congregating outside the studio and that homeless people resorting to the shelter would find it difficult to sleep so close to a business that played music late at night.

The consent was granted by a planning officer, using delegated powers, on the basis that the proposal was unlikely to be of a controversial nature. The studio contended that, given the number of objections, that view was irrational.

In mounting a judicial review challenge to the consent, it stated that the application should have been referred to the council's development control committee for consideration.

Rejecting the studio's complaints,

however, the Court observed that there is nothing inherently controversial in the provision of accommodation for homeless people.

In assessing whether the application was controversial, the officer was entitled to have regard to the identity of the objectors and to the possibility that their opposition may have been sought or encouraged by the studio.

Any such encouragement did not indicate that the objections were insincere, but the Court observed that it might well indicate that the people concerned may not have felt strongly enough about the matter to object of their own accord. The officer was entitled to conclude that, rather than being controversial, the application was of interest only to a narrow group of people.

ગુલ હિજજહ

-મહંમદ યુસુફ સુફી લાજપુરી, બાટલી.

ઈસ્લામી મહિનો મુહર્રમથી શરૂ થઈ ગુલ હિજજહ પર પૂરો થાય છે. ૧૪૪૩ હિજરી સનનો અંતિમ મહિનો ગુલ હિજજહનો અંક આપના હાથમાં છે. આપણે ગુલ હિજજહના મુબારક દિવસો વિષે થોડી ચર્ચા કરીએ.

૧૦ મુબારક રાત:

પહેલી ગુલ હિજજહથી લઈ ૧૦ ગુલ હિજજહ સુધીની દરેક રાતોની ઘણીજ ફજલત કુરઆન મજીદ અને હદીસ શરીફમાં આવી છે. એની દરેક રાતોની ઈબાદત શબેકદ્રની ઈબાદતના બરાબર છે. અને શરૂના ૮ દિવસોના રોઝાનો સવાબ એક વર્ષના રોઝાના બરાબર બતાવવામાં આવ્યો છે. કુરઆન મજીદ ૩૦ પારાની સુરે ફજરમાં તો શરૂના ૧૦ રાતોની કસમ પણ ખાવામાં આવી છે.

અરફાનો મુબારક દિવસ:

૮ ગુલ હિજજહ એ અરફાતનો મુબારક દિવસ છે. જેમાં અરફાના એક રોઝાનો સવાબ એક વર્ષ આગલા અને એક વર્ષ પાછલા એમ બે વર્ષના નાના ગુનાહોનો કફારો થઈ માફ થઈ જાય છે.

એક અગત્યની નોંધ:

મક્કહ મુકર્રમામાં જ્યારે અરફાનો મુબારક દિવસ હોય છે એજ અરફાનો મુબારક દિવસ પૂરી દુનિયામાં હોય છે એવી માન્યતા ખરી નથી. બલ્કે જે દેશોમાં ચાંદના હિસાબે અરફાનો દિવસ હોય છે તે અરફાનો મુબારક દિવસ તે દેશ માટે ગણાય છે.

તકબીરે તશરીકના દિવસો:

૮ ગુલ હિજજહની ફજરથી લઈ ૧૩ ગુલ હિજજહની અસર સુધી કુલ ૨૩ ફર્જ નમાઝો પછી તકબીરે તશરીકના મુબારક દિવસો હોય છે. જેમાં મસ્જિદોના અંદર ઉપરોક્ત ૨૩ ફર્જ નમાઝો પછી દરેક મુસલ્લી હઝરાત ઉંચા અવાજથી તકબીરે તશરીક પઢે છે. અને ઓરતો પોતાના ઘરોમાં આ દિવસોમાં ધીમી અવાજથી તકબીર પઢે છે. તકબીરે તશરીક મર્દ ઓરતો બન્ને માટે પઢવું વાજબ છે. મસ્બુક જેની રકાતો છૂટી ગઈ હોય તેના માટે પણ પોતાની છૂટેલી રકાતો પૂરી કરી ધીમી અવાજથી તકબીરે તશરીક પઢવું વાજબ છે. આ વાત ખાસ યાદ રાખવા જેવી છે. ઓરતોએ પણ પોતાના ઘરોમાં ઉપરોક્ત દિવસોમાં ૨૩ ફર્જ નમાઝો પછી આ તકબીર પઢવું ભૂલવું જોઈએ નહીં.

કેટલીક મસ્જિદોમાં આ વાજબ તકબીરે તશરીક બિલ્કુલ ધીમા અવાજથી ઓરતોના જેમ પઢે છે એ સહી નથી. નમાઝી ભાઈઓએ શરમાવું જોઈએ નહીં. જરા અવાજથી મર્દોના જેમ પઢવું વાજબ છે. આ તકબીરે તશરીકમાં પ્રથમ ભાગ હઝરત જબ્રીલ અલે.નો છે. જ્યારે કે, જન્નતથી ડુબ્બા(જાનવર) લઈને આવી રહ્યા હતા વચ્ચે દરમિયાનનો ભાગ હઝરત ઈબ્રાહીમ અલે.નો જ્યારે છેલ્લો ભાગ હઝરત ઈસ્માઈલ અલે.નો છે. તકબીરે તશરીક પઢતી વેળા આ ધ્યાનમાં રાખવા જેવું છે અને અગર ઈમામ પઢવાનું ભૂલી જાય તો પણ મુક્તદી હઝરાતે પઢવાનું શરૂ કરી દેવું જોઈએ. ઈદુલ અદહાની વાજબ નમાઝ પછી પણ

તકબીરે તશરીક પઢવું વાજબ છે. એ હિસાબે કુલ ૨૪ નમાઝો થશે.

ઈદુલ અદહા:

૧૦ ગુલ હિજજહ ઈદુલ અદહાનો મુબારક દિવસ છે. આ મુબારક દિવસે પણ પોતાના પાસે જેટલા કપડાં છે તેમાં સૌથી સારાં (નવા જેવા) કપડાં પહેરવું જોઈએ. ઘણાં ભાઈઓ નિકાહ અને વલીમાંના દિવસે તો નવાં કપડાં પહેરે છે પરંતુ ઈદ જેવા અતિ મહાન અને મુબારક દિવસોમાં એનો એહતેમામ કરતા નથી. શાદી અને વલીમાના દિવસો ઈદના મુબરક દિવસ કરતા મહાન નથી.

કુરબાનીના દિવસો:

૧૦ ગુલ હિજજહથી લઈ ૧૨ ગુલ હિજજહ એમ ત્રણ દિવસ કુરબાનીના છે. એક કુરબાની જે દેશમાં રહો છો ત્યાં પણ જરૂર કરવું જોઈએ. આજકાલ લોકો જ્યાં સસ્તી કુરબાની થતી હોય છે ત્યાં કરાવે છે. શાદીઓમાં ખર્ચ કરતી વેળા પૈસા જોતા નથી પરંતુ કુરબાનીના સમયે હિસાબ કરે છે. એક બકરાની કુરબાની પોતાના ગામમાં પણ કરાવવું જરૂરી છે. જેથી પોતાના ગામના ગરીબો પણ બકરાની કુરબાનીનું ગોશ્ત ખુશી ખુશી ખાય શકે. ઈંગલેન્ડ અને ઈન્ડિયામાં મોટા મોટા ફીઝોએ બધાને કંજુસ બનાવી દીધા છે. માલદારો સાડા ગોશ્ત પોતાના ફીઝમાં ભરે છે અને હાડકાવાળું ગોશ્ત ગરીબોને વેંચે છે. એ તો ઈન્સાફ નથી જ. આ વર્ષે દરેક મુસ્લિમ ભાઈ બહેનોને નમ્ર વિનંતી છે કે, ઉપરોક્ત સાચી હકીકત પર ધ્યાન આપે અને દરેક પોતાના ગામના ગરીબો અને મધ્યમવર્ગના લોકોનો પૂરો ખ્યાલ રાખે અને બકરાની કુરબાની કરાવી તેમને ગોશ્ત પહોંચાડે.

મહેમાનીના દિવસો:

વર્ષના ૩૬૫ દિવસોમાં પાંચ દિવસ મહેમાનીના દિવસો હોય છે. જેમાં રોઝા રાખવું હરામ છે. એક ઈદુલ ફીત્રનો દિવસ એક ઈદુલ અદહાનો દિવસ અને ઈદ પછીના ૧૧.૧૨.૧૩ ગુલ હિજજહના દિવસ.

હજના દિવસો:

૮ ગુલ હિજજહ હાજીઓ મીનામાં હોય છે. એને યવમુત્તવિયહ કહેવામાં આવે છે. ૮ ગુલ હિજજહ એ હાજીઓ માટે અરફાનો મુબારક દિવસ હોય છે. જે હજનો મહત્વનો દિવસ હોય છે. ૧૦ ગુલ હિજજહ ૧. શયતાનને કાંકરા મારવા ૨. હલક કરાવવું કુરબાની કરાવવી અને તવાફે ઝિયારત કરવું. બાકી દિવસોમાં પણ ત્રણ શયતાનને કાંકરા મારવામાં આવે છે અને મીનામાં કયામ કરવામાં આવે છે. હજના આ પાંચ દિવસનો રોમાંચ કંઈક અલગ પ્રકારનો જ હોય છે. મસ્જિદે હરામ મક્કાની પવિત્ર મસ્જિદમાં નમાઝની અદાયગીનો સૌથી વધુ સવાબ છે છતાં પણ હજના આ દિવસો જેમાં પ્રથમ મીનામાં કયામ અને ૮મી ઝલ હિજજહના અરફાતના કયામનું મહત્વ અને સવાબ વધુ હોય છે.

અંતમાં ગુલ હિજજહના મુબારક દિવસો અને એની ફઝીલત આપણા સૌને નસીબ થાય એવી દુવા કરીએ છીએ. ગુલ હિજજહના હજ અને કુરબાનીના આ દિવસો ખૂબજ અગત્યના છે. વળી ઈસ્લામના પાંચ ફરજોમાં હજ પણ ફર્જ છે જે દરેક મુસલમાન જેના પાસે એટલી માલી તાકાત છે તેણે પૂરી કરવાની હોય છે.

ચાલો આજે કંઈક સાઈં જાણીએ

-રફીક અહમદ કભાસ

ચાલો આજે આપણે એક પરદેશગાર હકીમની વાત જાણીએ

એક શહેરમાં હકીમ પોતાનું દવાખાનું ચલાવતા હતા. જ્યારે સવારે પોતાના કામ ઉપર જતાં ત્યારે તેમની પત્નીને કહેતા, આજે તને ઘરની જે જરૂરિયાત છે તેનું લીસ્ટ બનાવી મને આપી દે. બીવી જરૂરિયાતની વસ્તુનું લીસ્ટ બનાવી હકીમ સાહેબની આપી દેતી. હકીમ દવાખાને પહોંચી પત્નીએ બનાવેલ લીસ્ટની સામે વસ્તુઓની કિંમત લખી દેતાં અને ટોટલ કરી દેતા. પછી અલ્લાહથી હાથ ઉઠાવી કહેતા કે યા રબ હું મારી કેમિલીના ખર્ચાઓને લીધે આ જગ્યાએ હાજર છું અને તારી ઈબાદત છોડીને અહીં આવ્યો છું કે મારા ઘરનો આ ખર્ચ પૂરા થાય જે મારી જીમ્મેદારી છે. આ ખર્ચ પૂરો થતાં હું દુકાન બંધ કરી તારી ઈબાદતમાં મશગુલ થઈ જઈશ. અને આ રીતે તેનો મામલો દરરોજ ચાલતો રહેતો હતો.

એક દિવસ કંઈક અજીબ મામલો પેશ આવ્યો. જ્યારે હકીમ દવાખાને પહોંચ્યા અને મામૂર મુજબ પત્નીની ચિઠ્ઠી વાંચી મંગાવેલ વસ્તુઓની કિંમત લખતા હતા ત્યારે લીસ્ટની નીચે લખ્યું હતું કે દીકરીની શાદીનો જેહજ (શાદીનો ખર્ચ). એ વાંચતાજ હકીમ સાહેબને દિવસે તારા નજર આવવા લાગ્યા અને વિચારવા લાગ્યા કે આ ખર્ચ કેવી રીતે પૂરો થશે? ખૂબજ વિચાર કરવા પછી હકીમે લખ્યું કે “આ અલ્લાહનું કામ છે અને તે જ જાણે” અને પછી દવાખાનાનું કામ શરૂ કરી દીધું.

દર્દીઓને જોવાનું કામ પૂરું થવાનું જ હતું કે તેમના દવાખાનાની સામે એક મોટી કાર પાર્ક થઈ અને તેમાંથી ખુબસુરત લિબાસ પહેરેલ એક વ્યક્તિ બહાર નીકળ્યો અને દવાખાનામાં દાખલ થયો. દર્દીઓને દવા આપવાનું કામ પૂરું થયે પેલી આવેલ વ્યક્તિને કહ્યું, સાહેબ તમને દવા જોઈતી હોય તો મારી પાસે આવી જાઓ હું ચેક કરીને તમને દવા આપી શકું. પેલી વ્યક્તિએ કહ્યું હકીમ સાહેબ તમે મને ઓળખ્યો નહીં? અને હાં તમે ઓળખી પણ કેમ શકો? કારણ ૧૬વર્ષ વીતી ગયા છે. હકીમ હેરાન થઈ ગયા કે આખરે એ કયા રાઝથી પદડો ઉઠાવવાના છે.

પેલી વ્યક્તિએ કહ્યું આજથી ૧૬વર્ષ પહેલાં હું તમારી દુકાન પાસેથી પસાર થઈ રહ્યો હતો અને અહીં જ મારી કારનું પંકચર પડ્યું હતું. હું બહાર તડકામાં ઊભો હતો અને તમે મને જોયો તો કહ્યું સાહેબ દુકાનમાં આવીને બેસી જાવ. હું અંદર આવ્યો અને જોયું કે, તમે લોકોને દવા આપીને ફારિગ બેઠા હતા. એક નાની છોકરી તમારી પાસે આવીને કહી રહી હતી, બાબા ભૂખ લાગી છે, ઘરે ચાલો. મેં વિચાર્યું હું તમારી દુકાનમાં એમજ બેઠો છું ચાલો દવા લઈ લઉં અને કંઈક રકમ તમને આપી દઉં. મેં હકીમ સાહેબને કહ્યું અમારી શાદીને ૭ વર્ષ થયા અને ઓલાદથી મેહરૂમ છીએ. ઘણાં ઈલાજો કરાવ્યા પણ કોઈ ફાયદો થતો નથી. હકીમ સાહેબે મુતવજ્જે થઈ કહ્યું. અલ્લાહની રેહમતથી માયુસ ન થાઓ. અલ્લાહનો હુકમ હશે અને તેને મંજૂર હશે તો તે તમને ઓલાદથી જરૂર નવાજશે. મેં કંઈક પૈસા કાઢ્યા અને તમને

આપવા માંડ્યા પણ તમે કહ્યું આજનું ખાતું બંધ થઈ ગયું છે. હું કંઈ સમજ્યો નહીં. ત્યારે હકીમની બાજુમાં બેસેલી વ્યક્તિએ કહ્યું હકીમ સાહેબ આવે છે ત્યારે રોજના ખર્ચની ચિઠ્ઠી મૂકે છે. તેટલી રકમ મળતા દવાખાનું બંધ કરી ઘરે ચાલી જાય છે અને અલ્લાહની ઈબાદતમાં મશગુલ રહે છે. આ સાંભળી મને યકીન થઈ ગયો કે, તેમની દવામાં જરૂર અસર થશે. ઘરે જઈ મેં મારી બીવીને તમામ હકીકત દર્શાવી. તેણે કહ્યું અલ્લાહનો જરૂર નેક બંદો હશે. દવાનો વપરાશ પછી હું આજે ત્રણ છોકરાનો બાપ છું. હું જ્યારે આ દેશમાં આવું છું ત્યારે તમને મળવા આવું છું પણ દવાખાનું બંધ હોય છે. આજે કોઈએ કહ્યું તેમને મળવું હોય તો સવારે જ આવી જવું.

હું યુ.કે. સ્થાયી થયો છું. દર વર્ષે મારી બહેન અને તેની કેમિલીને મળવા આવું છું. હું હાલમાં મારી ભાણેજની શાદી માટે અહીં આવ્યો હતો. તેની શાદીનો તમામ ખર્ચ મારા શીરે હતો. હું તમામ ખરીદીમાં મશગુલ હતો. મામલો કંઈક એવો બન્યો કે, શાદીની તમામ તૈયારી થઈ ગઈ હતી અને મારી ભાણેજને તાવ આવ્યો. બીમારી ગંભીર થતી ગઈ અને એકાએક તેનો ઈન્તકાલ થઈ ગયો. હું અને મારી પત્ની બેસીને વિચાર કરતા હતા કે શાદીની તમામ વસ્તુઓ ખરીદાઈ ગઈ છે હવે એનું શું કરવું? અને ત્યારેજ માડું ધ્યાન તમારા ઉપર ગયું. ૧૬વર્ષ પહેલાં જ્યારે હું તમારી પાસે આવ્યો હતો ત્યારે એક નાની છોકરી તમારા પાસે ઊભી હતી અને કહી રહી હતી કે બાબા મને ભૂખ લાગી છે ઘરે ચાલો. મારી બીવીએ કહ્યું કેમ ન આપણે હકીમ સાહેબ પાસે જઈએ અને આ બધો સામાન તેમને ગીફ્ટ કરી દઈએ જે તેમને તેમની છોકરી જે હવે શાદી લાયક થઈ હશે તેના માટે કામ લાગશે. તમે મને જરા પણ મના કરશો નહીં. હું મોટી ઉમ્મીદ લઈને આવ્યો છું.

આ વાત સાંભળી હકીમ સાહેબની આંખોમાંથી આંસુ વહી રહ્યા હતાં. તેમણે રડતાં રડતાં ગજવામાંથી ચિઠ્ઠી કાઢી અને તે માણસની સામે મૂકી કહ્યું, ભાઈ સાહેબ જુઓ આજે જ મારી બીવીએ ઘરના જરૂરિયાતના સામાનની સાથે બેટીની જહેજની હકીકત લખી અને જૂઓ તેની નીચે મેં શું લખ્યું. અલ્લાહનું કામ છે અને અલ્લાહ જ પૂરું કરશે. મેં આ વાત લખી મામલો બંધ કરી દીધો હતો. પરંતુ મારા રબની કરીમી જૂઓ કે આજે હું અહીંથી ઉઠ્યો જ નથી કે, મારા રબે આ તમામ કામનો એહતેમામ (બંદોબસ્ત) કરી દીધો. હકીમ સાહેબે પેલી વ્યક્તિને કહ્યું મને તમારી ભાણેજની મોતનો સદમો જરૂર છે, પરંતુ હું મારા રબની કુદરત પર હેરાન છું કે, આજે હું મારા ઘરે ખાલી હાથ ન જઈશ.. કહે છે કે, જેનો અલ્લાહના ઉપર ભરોસો મજબુત થઈ જાય, તવક્કુલ મજબુત થાય તો અલ્લાહ જરૂર મદદ કરે છે. હલાલ કમાઈએ, રોજની તમન્નામાં અલ્લાહ ગમોને દૂર કરે છે.

એક નસીહત...

સંબંધ એવા રાખો કે જેથી તમને એવું ના લાગે કે તમને સૌથી સારી વ્યક્તિ મળી છે.

પણ એ વ્યક્તિને એવું ન લાગે કે, તેને તમારાથી સારી એકેય વ્યક્તિ ન મળે.

કર્કલીઝના ફૂડ સ્ટોર અને રેસ્ટોરન્ટને લોવર હાઈજીન રેટ

૨૦૨૨ના વર્ષમાં કર્કલીઝ વિભાગમાં ઘણાં ફૂડ સ્ટોર્સ અને રેસ્ટોરન્ટ, ટેઈકઅવેની ફૂડ સ્ટાન્ડર્ડ અને હાઈજીન માટેની ચકાસણી થઈ હતી. જેમાં મોટી સંખ્યાના ફૂડ બીઝનેસ, રેસ્ટોરન્ટ અને ટેઈકઅવેને ફૂડ સ્ટાન્ડર્ડ એજન્સી મારફત ફક્ત એક સ્ટારની પુઅર રેટિંગ આપવામાં આવી હતી અને તેમને હેલ્થ સેફ્ટી, ફૂડ હાઈજીન ફૂડ પ્રીપરેશનનું સ્ટાન્ડર્ડ સુધારવા માટે નોટિસ પાઠવવામાં આવી હતી.

આ પ્રમાણેની નિયમિત ચકાસણીથી ફૂડ સ્ટોર્સ, ટેઈકઅવે, રેસ્ટોરન્ટના ઉપર દબાણ લાવવામાં આવે છે જેનો એકંદરે ફાયદો આમ જનતાને જ પહોંચે છે કે જેથી તેમને સાફ સફાઈ, હેલ્થ સેફ્ટી વગેરેનો લાભ પહોંચે છે. ફૂડ સ્ટાન્ડર્ડ એજન્સી તેમની ચકાસણી અને તપાસમાં ફૂડ કેવી રીતે તૈયાર કરવામાં આવે છે તેનો સંગ્રહ કેવી રીતે કરવામાં આવે છે, ફૂડ સેફ્ટી મેનેજમેન્ટ અને ફૂડ ક્લીનીંગ અને કિચન વગેરેની સફાઈ અને ફૂડનો નીકાલ તથા અન્ય સફાઈ વગેરેને ધ્યાનમાં લેવામાં આવે છે અને પછી તેમને ફૂડ હાઈજીન રેટ આપવામાં આવે છે.

ભારતનો મુસ્લિમ સમુદાય ભારે ચિંતામાં

ભારત ખાતે પ્રતિદિન મુસ્લિમો સામે જે આફતો આવી રહી છે તેનાથી ભારતમાં તો શું વિદેશમાં પણ લોકો ચિંતામાં છે. એ કહેવું પણ મુશ્કેલ છે કે આવતી કાલનો સૂરજ તેમના માટે કયી નવી મુસીબતના સાથે ઉગશે. ગયા માસમાં એક ટીવી ચેનલના ડીબેટમાં બીજેપીના નેશનલ પ્રવક્તા નુપુર શર્માએ મહંમદ પયગમ્બર સ.અ.વ.ના બારામાં અભદ્ર ટીપ્પણીઓ કરી જેનાથી પૂરા દેશના મુસ્લિમો વિરોધમાં ઉતર્યા. આ માટે આવેદનો અપાયા, દેખાવો થયા પરંતુ સરકાર તરફથી કોઈ પગલા કે ધરપકડ જેવું કંઈ ન થયું.

૧૦દિવસ પછી અરબ દેશો અને અરબ દેશોના સંગઠનોએ કડું રૂખ અપનાવ્યું. તેમના દેશોમાં ભારતના રાજદૂતોને બોલાવી સરકાર તરફથી માફી અને નફરત ફેલાવનારાઓ ઉપર કાર્યવાહીની માંગ કરી. ઉપરાંત આ અરબ દેશોમાં ભારતના માલસામાનનો બહિષ્કાર અને વેપારી સંબંધો તોડવાની વાતો કરી. જેના કારણે બીજેપી સરકાર હરકતમાં આવી અને તેમના આ પ્રવક્તા અને અન્ય બીજી વ્યક્તિ નવીનકુમાર જિંદલને પાર્ટીમાંથી બરખાસ્ત કર્યા. પરંતુ તેમના ઉપર કોર્ટમાં કેસ કે અન્ય કાર્યવાહી કરવામાં ન આવી. આમ સરકારનું બેવડું વલણ છતું થયું.

ભારતના અનેક શહેરોમાં મુસ્લિમોનો પ્રદર્શન કર્યું અને તેમાં ઘણાં મુસ્લિમોની ધરપકડ થઈ. કેટલાયને જેલમાં પૂરવામાં આવ્યા અને તેમના ઉપર અમાનવીય વ્યવહાર પણ કરવામાં આવ્યો. જ્યારે કે કોઈ હિન્દુ સામે પગલાં ભરાયાં નહીં. ઉત્તર પ્રદેશમાં તો જાણે ત્યાંના મુખ્ય પ્રધાનજ સર્વોપરી હોય તેમણે સુપ્રિમ કોર્ટ કે

રાજ્યકક્ષાની કોર્ટેને પણ નેવે મૂકી સંવિધાનનું ઉલંઘન કર્યું અને જે મુસ્લિમો આંદોલનમાં સામેલ હોય તેમાના કેટલાયેના ઘરો ઉપર બુલડોઝર ફેરવી તોડી નાંખવામાં આવ્યા. આ સમયે સવાલ ઊભો થાય છે કે શું આ પ્રકારનું વલણ કે કામગીરી ફક્ત મુસલમાનો સામેજ કેમ? પાર્લામેન્ટમાં કેટલાયે એમ.પી. અને અન્ય બ્યુરોક્રાટ ગુનેહગાર છે તો તેમના મકાનો ઉપર બુલડોઝર કેમ ફેરવાયા નથી? એવા અનેક પ્રશ્નો આજે કેટલાક તટસ્થ મીડિયા કે રીટાઈર્ડ જજ પૂછી રહ્યા છે.

મોંઘવારી મચાવી રહી છે હાહાકાર

હાલમાં વિશ્વમાં મોંઘવારીએ હાહાકાર મચાવ્યો છે. ખાદ્યપદાર્થો અને પેટ્રોલ-ડીઝલના ભાવો અને ઈંધણના (ગેસ-ઈલેક્ટ્રીકના રેટો) ભાવો દિન પ્રતિદિન વધી રહ્યા છે. યુ.કે. પણ એમાંથી બાકાત નથી. સુપરમાર્કેટોમાં ઘણી વખત કેટલીક ગ્રોસરીની અછત જોવા મળે છે. અને તેમાં રશિયા-યુક્રેનનું યુદ્ધ કેટલાક અનાજ અને ફૂડિંગ ઓઈલ સહિત પેટ્રોલ ડીઝલની અછત માટે જવાબદાર છે.

યુ.કે.ના લોકોનું જીવનધોરણ પણ કથળી રહ્યું છે. હાલમાં યુ.કે.ની ફૂડ સ્ટાન્ડર્ડ એજન્સીના (FSA) રિપોર્ટમાં ઈંધણના ભાવો અને પેટ્રોલના વધતા જતા ભાવોએ યુ.કે.વાસીઓની ચિંતા વધારી દીધી છે. આ રિપોર્ટમાં જણાવાયું છે કે, ઘણાં લોકો પહેલા કરતાં હવે વધુ ફૂડ બેન્કનો સહારો લઈ રહ્યા છે. રિપોર્ટ જણાવે છે કે, માર્ચ ૨૦૨૧માં ૧૦માંથી એક વ્યક્તિ ફૂડ બેન્ક ઉપર આધાર રાખતો હતો તેમાં વધારો થઈ દર ૬ વ્યક્તિઓ પૈકી એક વ્યક્તિ હવે ફૂડ બેન્ક પર આધાર રાખે છે. વળી તેમના ભોજનમાં પણ કટ ડાઉન કરે છે. કેટલાક કહે છે તેમણે એક વખતનું ખાવાનું પણ છોડી દીધું છે. આ પ્રકારની અસુરક્ષા ઓછી આવક ધરાવતા મોટી ફેમિલી, યુવાવર્ગ તથા એશિયન અને આફ્રિકન લોકોમાં વધુ જોવા મળે છે.

કન્ઝર્વેટીવ પાર્ટીનાં નાણાં પ્રધાન રૂસી સુનકે ગયા માસમાં બ્રિટનના લોકોને, વધતી ફૂડ પ્રાઈસ અને ગેસ ઈલેક્ટ્રીકના રેટમાં વધારાનો સામનો કરવા રોકડ રકમની સહાયની જાહેરાત કરી છે જે આવકારદાયક છે. પરંતુ મોંઘવારી ઉપર કન્ટ્રોલ કેવી રીતે કરવો એ તેમના માટે માથાનો દુઃખાવો બન્યો છે.

હડર્સફિલ્ડના એમ.પી. માટે ઉમેદવારો

લેબર પાર્ટીના હડર્સફિલ્ડના એમ.પી. બારી શીયરમેને આવતા જનરલ ઈલેક્શનની ચૂંટણીમાં ઊભા ન રહેવાનો નિર્ણય લીધો છે. તેની જગ્યા પૂરવા લેબર પાર્ટીએ ૭ ઉમેદવારોનું લીસ્ટ તૈયાર કર્યું છે જેમાં બાટલી વેસ્ટના ૨૦વર્ષથી કાઉન્સિલર અને હાલમાં કાઉન્સિલ લીડર તરીકેની જવાબદારી સંભાળતા શબ્બીર પાંડોરના નામનો સમાવેશ થયો છે. આ લીસ્ટમાં જેમ્સ ફીલીન્ડર્સ, હ્યુઝ ગુલબોર્ન, મુસ ખાન, નાહિદ માથર, માર્ક મોરિશ અને હરપ્રિત ઉપ્પલના નામો પણ સામેલ છે.

શબ્બીર પાંડોરે જણાવ્યું હતું કે, જો તેઓ હડર્સફિલ્ડના એમ.પી. તરીકે ચૂંટાશે તો સ્થાનિક લોકોના લાભ માટે ઈન્વેસ્ટમેન્ટ મેળવવા અને કોસ્ટ એફ લિવીંગ કાઈસીસમાં લોકોને મદદ કરવી તેમની પ્રથમ પ્રાયોરિટી હશે.

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