

Is it time the UK had a national moon sighting committee?

Deciding on what day Eid is to be celebrated more often than not, results in a quagmire of views, sparking debate and discussion amongst Muslims throughout the country.

Whilst Muslim-majority countries, like India, Pakistan, Egypt, Libya, Morocco, Oman, Turkey and Tunisia, rely on local moon sighters to spot the new crescent, many Muslims worldwide wait for Saudi Arabia, to make an official announcement. However, in recent years, a plethora of scholars have questioned the dependability of moon sighting in Saudi

Arabia. Government officials use the Umm al-Qurra lunar calendar where eight months are pre-determined and not based on a lunar sighting, while the remaining four months are.

However, London based Sheikh Suliman Gani, of the leading Wifaqul Ulema argues that adherence to the Umm al-Qurra calendar showcases that the powers that be at Saudi Arabia are essentially sighting the moon “a day earlier than when it is physically possible to see the new crescent”. Sheikh Suliman said: “We have the moon visibility charts and astronomers

telling us that Saudi Arabia is getting it wrong. The moon is not even on the horizon some years for Saudi Arabia, so how can we continue to follow them?”

Furthermore, the Grand Mufti of Saudi Arabia, Sheikh Abdul Aziz al-Sheikh, is said to have urged Muslims in Britain not to follow the kingdom.

He said: “As for those who say that it is necessary to follow the sighting of Makkah, then let it be known to them, that there is no proof or basis for this in the Qur’aan and Hadith”.



Moon sighting debacle

When asked whether moon sighting should be based on Saudi centric sightings in Makkah, Shaykh Salih al-Uthaymeen advised individual countries to use any relevant scientific methods at their disposal.

He said: “Each country should have its own ruling, according to the reports and according to science (in line with shariah).”

Qari Muhammad Shoyab Nurgat, also of Wifaqul Ulema said the issue affects Muslims in the UK, regardless of their sectarian affiliations. He said: “What we mean to imply is that Moon Sighting is required for the establishment of Islamic acts of worships regardless of your affiliations. i.e. you could be Deobandi, Barelwee, Salafi etc but you still require a system of Moon Sighting.”

However, many still follow Saudi, or choose to follow the nearest Muslim country, Morocco, thus ensuring family members find themselves in very difficult positions, with siblings and extended family members, starting and ending Ramadan on different days.

The decision for British Muslims to follow Saudi Arabia, Morocco or their country of origin instead of local moon sighting is due to the fact that the unpredictable nature of British weather can make it impossible to view a new crescent. One local scholar provided some historical background to the issue: “Until the 80s, we would follow Morocco because Islamic law states that if you are unable to see the moon in your country, then you should follow the sighting of the closest Muslim nation.

“But the problem would be that we’d receive news after midnight in the UK from Morocco, and we would not know if it was Ramadan or Eid the next day until it was too late or that the moon was not on our horizon.”

To address the issue, Muslim scholars from a plethora of religious denominations and subgroups, from across the United Kingdom were invited to discuss and bring to a conclusion any supposed differences in opinion in relation to the issue of moon sighting in Britain during a conference in 1984.

If Muslims were able to survey data from the Royal Observatory in Greenwich in order to determine namaz times, surely they could do the same in relation to the beginning of Ramadan and Eid?

The scholars passed a resolution stating that they would follow local sightings for Ramadan and Saudi Arabia for Eid al-Adha. However, many remained unconvinced, with many deciding to disregard the verdict and continue to follow Saudi Arabia or Morocco.

It was decided, local organisations would be given an amount of self-autonomy and advised to decide for themselves, what the best option was for them.

In addition, the Muslim Council of Britain were advised by Tony Blair’s Labour government in 1997, that Eid would be classified as a national holiday, should the community come to an agreement in relation to celebrating Eid. However, a specific date could not be agreed upon, therefore, the idea was dropped.

Justice Mufti Taqi Usmani D.B believes Muslims who live in the UK should arrange their own system of sighting the moon, as is done in the likes of Pakistan, Egypt, Libya, Morocco, Oman, Turkey and Tunisia. He said: “The decision given by Saudi authorities is enforceable in their own jurisdiction. That is why, despite having a different view, we validate the Hajj and Ramadan etc, as announced by the Saudi authorities [for applicability within Saudi Arabia].

The Muslims living in other parts of the world should desirably arrange their own

system of sighting the moon, as is done in Pakistan and many other countries, because the system adopted in Saudi Arabia is not based on the stronger view.

“However, this is not an issue which has been specifically mentioned in the Holy Qur’an or Sunnah in express terms but it is a matter of Ijtihad, therefore, we should not hold that any decision taken on that basis, whether in Saudi Arabia or in any other country, is against Shariah and the worship or celebrations held on that basis are invalid.

“This is my humble opinion regarding this issue and according to me the Muslims living in UK etc. should preferably make their own arrangement for sighting of the moon. However, if the dissension of the Muslims cannot be removed except by declaring the beginning of the months on the basis of the announcement of the Saudi authorities then the adoption of Saudi view is less harmful than inculcating the dissension among the Muslims, particularly, in a non-Muslim country.”

A positive example is that of Cambridge central Masjid, who recently worked with the new Crescent Society to sight the crescent moon for the Hijri month of Shaban, on the 21st of February 2023.

After Asar salaah, participants assembled in the conference room for a presentation by the Society which was entitled: ‘Introduction to the Islamic Calendar & How to Sight the Moon’. Those present then walked to the nearby Romsey Recreation Ground where they prepared for a session of moonsighting.

There was a time when Masjids were scarce in the UK, along with halal food and so much more. Therefore, the next logical step for British Muslims, is to put this debacle behind us and arrange our own system of sighting the moon as advised by the honourable Mufti Taqi Usmani saheb D.B and Qari Shoyeb Nurgat amongst others at Wifaqul Ulema.

IMWS Iftar and Sadqatul Fitr appeal updates

The Indian Muslim Welfare Society along with its affiliated Masjids recently launched the annual Iftar appeal for Syria and Gaza along with a Sadqatul Fitr appeal for Yemen and Somalia respectively in order to provide much needed respite and aid to those in need.

The generous people of Batley and Dewsbury donated directly by either visiting the Al-Hikmah Centre and giving their donations to Munir Daji and the team or via the IMWS web site.

The generosity of the local community ensured many needy and deserving people were afforded an opportunity to break their fasts during the Holy month by means of a number of food packs which were distributed to those in need.

The IMWS Charity sub-committee made a conscious decision to help the people of Syria and Gaza break their fasts during the holy month by providing iftar packs consisting of a number of essential staples including wheat flour (10kg), rice (15kg), sunflower oil (8 litre), spaghetti (0.8kg),

vegetable ghee, sugar (8kg), and much more.

In addition, families in Gaza also received hot Iftar meals, which is a rarity, considering the conditions the people currently face.

The Sadaqatul fitr which was collected for Yemen and Somalia was also used to distribute food packs with hundreds of families benefitting.

Chair of the Charity Sub Committee, Masoom bhai Karolia thanked affiliated and participating Masjids, along with the local community for their support and resolve in providing much needed help and support for the long-suffering people of Syria, Gaza, Yemen and Somalia.

“May I take this opportunity to thank our affiliated and participating Masjids for their outstanding contribution and support,” said Mr karolia.

“We would also like to thank the people of Batley and Dewsbury and across the country. Their generosity has once again helped the people of Yemen, Somalia,

Syria and Gaza,” said Mr Karolia.

“All of the money which was raised went to those who are really in need and we would like to thank all those involved in ensuring we provided urgent relief to those in the most hard-hit areas.

IMWS Chair, Rafik Dabhad also thanked the affiliated and participating Masjids for working with IMWS in a meticulous and efficient manner.

“None of this would have been possible without the generous nature of our affiliated and participating Masjids, who impressed upon their members and musalees, that the situation there is dire.

“With their help, people kindly donated their hard-earned money so that families received Iftari meals throughout Ramadhan.

“This is something our community has been doing for many, many years and we hope and pray the Almighty keeps us in good health and wealth to continue helping those less fortunate.”



IMWS Iftar Packs in Syria 2023





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Published by IMWS
Paigaam Publications
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Dirty politics and using racism to blame a whole community

An array of people from Pakistani backgrounds have accused the Home Secretary of making “discriminatory and xenophobic” remarks after Suella Braverman said Pakistani men who hold “cultural values at odds with British values” are behind child abuse rings and networks targeting “vulnerable white English girls”.

Braverman’s comments have received a backlash from the Pakistani government, politicians, community organisations and social media users accusing the British Home Secretary of rattling off remarks that will mislead the public and “incite violence against those with particular racial characteristics”.

Former Tory Party Chair Woman, Baroness Sayeeda Warsi said she felt obliged to speak out as someone who has faced racism incessantly. She said: “Specifics and nuance are important, too. It is not enough for her to backpedal by suggesting, patronisingly, that the vast majority of British-Pakistanis are law-abiding, upstanding citizens by making her un-caveated comments a week ago the damage has already been done.

“Calling out people within your own party is a difficult thing to do. It’s even harder calling out another woman of colour. I am cautious about the language I use in speaking about Braverman’s comments. As someone who’s faced racism all my life, I recognise it when I see it. And however difficult it may be, I will not let cultural sensitivity and the colour of the home secretary’s skin stop me from speaking out.”

Warsi also cited a Home Office report in 2020, that concluded the fact that most child sexual abuse gangs are made up of white men under the age of 30. The report on group-based child sexual abuse pointed out that studies that show white men as being the majority of offenders, in comparison with Asian or Black men.

The report’s findings were pointed out to Braverman during an interview. However, she insists British Pakistani men “see women in a demeaned and illegitimate way and who pursue an outdated and frankly heinous approach in terms of the way they behave”.

Pakistan’s foreign office spokesperson Mehnaz Baloch lambasted Braverman’s remarks comments. He insists they portray a “highly misleading picture signalling the intent to target and treat British Pakistanis differently.”

Baloch said Braverman had “erroneously branded criminal behaviour of some individuals as a representation of the entire community.”

“She fails to take note of the systemic racism and ghettoisation of communities and omits to recognise the tremendous cultural, economic and political contributions that British Pakistanis continue to make in British society,” Baloch said during a briefing in the Pakistani capital, Islamabad.

The British Pakistan Foundation penned an open letter to the prime minister. “We are writing to you to share our deep concern and disappointment at the home secretary’s recent comments and for you not speaking out against them.

These comments singled out only the involvement of British Pakistani males in so-called ‘grooming gangs’ and ‘holding cultural values totally at odds with British values’,” it said.

Broadcaster Adil Ray said Braverman’s comments had emboldened a number of racists to vent their racism freely. Writing on Twitter, the Good Morning Britain presenter said: “Two days in from Braverman’s comments the racists are out. Feels like post 9/11 and 7/7. British Pakistanis such as me will be required to defend and explain heinous crimes. We never ask that of the majority of the population regards most cases of sexual abuse. We need allies.”

Replying to Adil Ray, Sonia Poulton wrote: “I am disturbed by the targeting of one group when the majority of that group are law-abiding people and nothing to do with grooming. It also takes attention away from paedos in church, Parliament, royal circles and in the family home. All paedos need stopping not just one group.”





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Kidney Health For All

Event at Al-Hikmah Centre

A free event will take place on the 13th of May at 2:00 at the Al-Hikmah Centre in Batley in order to stimulate debate in relation to Kidney Health, and why it is such an important issue.

The event will include real life stories from patients who live in the Batley and Dewsbury areas as well as an outline of the state of affairs by renowned specialist Dr Sunil Daga MBBS MRCP (Nephrology) PhD, a Consultant Nephrologist and Transplant Physician at St James's University Hospital, Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust, West Yorkshire lead for kidney diseases and an Honorary Senior Lecturer at the University of Leeds.

Dr Daga, told Paigaam the purpose of the event is to stimulate debate centred around difficulties faced South Asian patients. He cited the fact that If you are black or south Asian, you're more likely to develop kidney problems. This is because you're more likely to have diabetes and high blood pressure than the general population. These are both common causes of kidney disease.

"Kidney disease is on rise in our community. The south Asian community faces 4 to 5 times higher risk of kidney disease compared to the white community," said Dr Daga.

"The Important thing to understand is that diabetes and kidney disease are silent diseases that does not cause any symptoms until it is very late. As a result, a lot of people don't feel it is serious even when kidney function is going down.

"However, it is only when kidney function drops below 10 percent that people feel

tired and unwell. Until then, many actually carry on working and partaking in daily activities."

Dr Daga's case studies, research and work showcase the act that the Asian community is disproportionately represented in relation to the need for dialysis and kidney transplants.



"Within the Batley and Dewsbury communities we have a number of patients who have had issues with their kidneys and a vast amount are on dialysis whilst some are in need of a kidney transplant."

It is envisaged the event will also help to dispel some myths centred around the science behind kidney function and kidney disease. Dr Daga and his colleagues will explain the risk factors and treatment options, focusing on the kidney transplant.

They will describe the different ways in which kidneys can be obtained, how they are allocated to recipients and how the 'donor gap' arises within the South Asian community.

He added: "The purpose of the event is to stimulate debate on the whole area of

kidney donation and the difficulties faced by the patients with kidney failure waiting for a transplant. At the moment, South Asian patients will have to continue to wait for an organ from waiting list and will generally ask for living kidney donation unless something changes."

The event, in partnership with the Leeds Teaching Hospitals and the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) In-Vitro Diagnostics Co-operative will seek to counter and perceived lack of understanding by allowing participants to engage in discussions with an expert panel consisting of doctors, nurses and a plethora of experts to explore the potential barriers to transplantation in the South Asian community and to discover whether they can be overcome."

"When I look at all my patients waiting or kidney transplant, over 20 percent are from a south Asian background despite representing a small percentage of the population in Leeds and nearby areas, therefore, our communities are disproportionately represented," said Dr Daga.

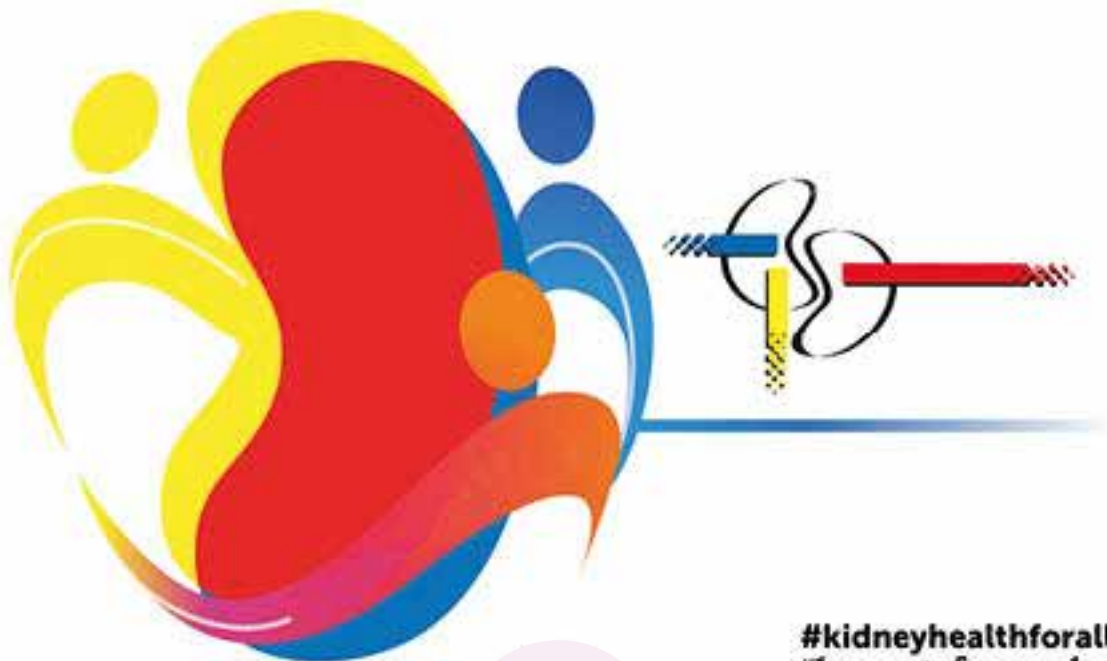
"Through this event what we want to do is increase awareness around the importance of kidneys and kidney health in general. When it comes to research and studies on kidney disease not many people from our communities are involved. This could be due to a lack of understanding."

The event will have an Eid theme behind it with a number of bilingual speakers, fluent in Urdu, Gujarati and Punjabi on hand. In addition, food will be served to all participants.

Kidney Health For all

Come and find why kidney health is important and what you can do to help

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Batley & Spen seat will be scrapped

A shake-up of MPs' Parliamentary constituencies will mean big changes in parts of Kirklees as a result of boundary changes, thus ensuring a plethora of seats will be made redundant when it comes to voting at the next General Election.

One significant plan would see the dissolution of the Batley and Spen constituency, currently held by Labour's Kim Leadbeater, and the formation of two new seats - 'Dewsbury and Batley' and 'Spen Valley.'

The Dewsbury and Batley constituency would contain the wards of Batley East and West, Dewsbury East, South and West, and remnants of Kirkburton. The remainder of the Kirkburton ward would reside within the proposed constituency of 'Wakefield West and Denby Dale.'

The Spen Valley constituency would include Birstall, Birkenshaw, Cleckheaton, Heckmondwike, Liversedge, Gomersal, Mirfield, and part of Dalton. When asked about the changes, Batley and Spen MP, Kim Leadbeater lambasted the boundary commissions decision.

She said: "I love Batley and Spen. I am inspired every day by its community spirit, by the enthusiasm and commitment of its volunteers, workers, businesses, organisations and families, and above all by the incredible warmth of its people. Batley and Spen has remained strong and united through some difficult and testing times.

"So I am very saddened and disappointed by the prospect of Batley and Spen being split in the way the Boundary Commission is proposing. The constituency has a special place not just in the hearts of

those of us who live and work here but, I believe, many others around the country who admire what they have seen of our resilience and strength.

"On a personal level, it would be very upsetting for me to see Batley and Spen disappear from the map as an entity. Like so many others, my family and I have invested a great deal of time and energy in working for the community as a whole and in bringing people together when others would seek to divide us.

"It is and always has been a team effort. And for me it's people that matter most, not lines on an electoral map. So whatever the final outcome I will continue to do everything I can to help each and every one of my constituents to the best of my ability and to contribute to the future of the area I love."

With the abolition of the Dewsbury Constituency, sitting MP, Mark Eastwood explained the rationale behind his decision to stand as a candidate for the Wakefield West and Denby Dale seat at the next general election.

He said: "As the Dewsbury Constituency will no longer exist at the next General Election there were a number of seats containing part of the existing constituency which I could have applied for.

"Wakefield West and Denby Dale will take in the wards of Kirkburton and Denby Dale, and not only does it contain the largest number of people who voted for me in 2019, but it's also where several members of my family and many of my friends live, and is only a short distance away from my current home.

"Until a General Election is called I remain Member of Parliament for

Dewsbury, and will continue to advocate for and represent people in all areas of the constituency.

"I sincerely hope that anyone in the current Dewsbury constituency in need of advice or assistance will continue to reach out to me and my team, and I will be - as always - happy to help."

The next General Election is expected to be some time in 2024. There are currently 650 MPs in Parliament and constituencies are reviewed periodically by the independent Boundary Commission to take into account population changes and ensure there are a similar number of voters in each constituency.

The changes are said to be about fairness so that MPs have similar numbers of constituents.



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PAIGAAM EDITORIAL

Ramadhan Reflections

There is no better month than Ramadan for spiritual renewal and is something that Muslims tried to achieve during the holy month.

Piety reigned everywhere as Muslims all across the globe fasted for the entire month. It was a month of repentance, abnegation and spiritual discipline, besides abstaining from food and drinks for the whole day.

The Holy Prophet (Peace Be Upon him) said: "Whosoever fasts in Ramadan with faith and seeking (The Almighty's reward), all his past sins are forgiven." (Sahih al-Bukhari: 37). The Almighty offered us a golden opportunity to engage ourselves in worship, such as prayers and recitation of the Quran, remembrance and glorification of the Almighty, and do good deeds

and keeping away from bad ones, and empathising with and helping the needy and the poor.

Ramadan taught us to abandon one's egos and practice self-restraint. Fasting is a means to share a little bit of the pain of millions of others without food and water.

The main achievement is that an individual's soul is liberated from the shackles of his wishes and desires and elevates toward the lofty summits of knowledge and intellect. He gets closer to the kingdom of the Almighty by rising above all everyday needs. atmosphere is saturated with religious piety and devotion.

During Taraweeh, we are reminded of the fact that it was in the month of Ramadan that the revelation of the sacred

Quran commenced. Thus we are inspired by the love of the Almighty.

The spirit of giving and sacrifice forms an essential component of Ramadan. This is the month when we experience the pains of those who find it extremely difficult to meet their basic needs met. When we avoid food and drink, we understand what it means to be hungry and thirsty. Islam offers a solution to this by commanding the well-to-dos to pay a certain amount of money to the poor so that they can live a life of subsistence and dignity.

I wish you all a blessed Ramadan. Here's to a year of implementing what we learned from Ramadan, and may the Almighty give us the opportunity to partake in many more Ramadan's, full of tranquility, discipline and piety.

Competition

Paigaam has teamed up with Huddersfield Town to offer a family ticket for 4 people to watch Town's match against Reading.

Answer the following question: Who is the new Manager of Huddersfield Town?

Please send the answer by e-mail to info@imws.org.uk with the subject title: Huddersfield Town competition by the 5th of May. The winner will be informed via mobile or e-mail and will pick the tickets up on match day, at the stadium. Please include your mobile number in the e-mail, upon entering the competition.



Mr Mount bidding to make comeback

A respected former ex-Labour councillor of 12 years and a member of the party for 45 years, is seeking to make a return to elected politics, standing as the Conservative Party candidate or the Batley East seat in the local elections in May.

Respected former councillor Hanif Mayet, also known as Mr Mount, for his cricket related escapades has been selected to contest the Batley East ward in the Local Elections for the Conservatives. One of his priorities will be to ensure this money is well spent.

Mr Mayet, who initially stepped down as a councillor in 2007 was coaxed out of retirement by local people thanks to his track record during his time as a Labour councillor along with the trust he has earned from within the community, thanks to his exemplary charity work, helping the most vulnerable people around the world.

He told Paigaam: “Due to my past record and through my reputation in charity work, I have been encouraged to return as a Councillor due to the incompetence of the Labour-led Council. Please lend me your vote on 4th May.

“I have lived in the Batley East ward for over 55 years and am very passionate about what goes on in and around Batley. Many of you will know that previously for 12 years I was a sitting councillor for the Labour.”

If elected, Mr Mayet Clean has pledged to help to regenerate and help clean up the local area, including pavements and parks whilst also targeting fly-tippers.

“I am both tired and dismayed with the way Kirklees Council is being led and run by Labour because we deserve better. Crime and anti-social behaviour are on the rise, as is substance abuse, vandalism

and severe road traffic concerns. The only remedy we have seen, if any, appears to be mere sticking plaster. We need a no-nonsense approach to anti-social behaviour, violent crime and speeding.”

Mr Mayet lambasted the “years of neglect” by the Labour run Kirklees Council and cited the fact that the Tory party has earmarked a considerable figure in order to help regenerate Batley.

He believes that by investing heavily in Huddersfield and Dewsbury, the lack of investment in Batley and Dewsbury has led to an increase in anti-social behaviour.

However, he insists he will look to buck the trend whilst also fighting for local services to stay.

“One of my priorities will be to ensure this money is well spent. Witnessing the years of neglect of our town by Labour-run Kirklees council, the Conservative government has recently pledged £12million from its levelling-up fund towards the regeneration of Batley. The vast majority of resources has been put into Huddersfield instead of much needed places like Batley.

“Our beautiful and historic town has been left to rot with many public services and facilities now lost. We no longer have a Police Station or College; the Town Hall offers a scant service and is being left to ruin. The Library is endangered as is the public swimming baths. The central market is now threadbare.

“Labour Kirklees has shut our swimming baths and has failed to invest in our local facilities. I will fight for our local services to stay. More businesses are closing every month. Huddersfield and Dewsbury get a £450million regeneration plan from Labour Kirklees: Batley gets a significantly smaller amount. I will fight for our fair

share.”

BATLEY EAST:

Simon Duffy – Green Party

Gill Long – Liberal Democrats

Hanif Mayet – Conservative Party

Habiban Zaman – Labour and Co-operative Party

BATLEY WEST:

Yusra Hussain – Labour and Co-operative Party

Mohammed Laher – Conservative Party

Stephen Long – Liberal Democrats

John Phillips – Green Party

DEWSBURY EAST:

Paul Moore – Labour Party

Gideon Richards – Green Party

Hazel Sharp – Conservative Party

Dan Woodlock – Liberal Democrats

DEWSBURY SOUTH:

Richard Beck – Independent

Toby Cooper – Green Party

Nosheen Dad – Labour Party

Sean Guy – Conservative Party

Dennis Hullock – Liberal Democrats

DEWSBURY WEST:

Simon Cope – Green Party

Sajid Hussain – Conservative Party

Darren O’Donovan – Labour Party

John Rossington – Liberal Democrats

MIRFIELD:

Itrat Ali – Conservative Party

Stephen Bird – Liberal Democrats

Samuel Griffith-Jones – Reform UK

Geoff Kernan – Labour Party

Catherine Whittingham – Green Party

HECKMONDWIKE:

Aafaq Butt – Labour and Co-operative Party

Keith Mallinson – Conservative Party

Josie Pugsley – Liberal Democrats

Graham Simpson – Green Party

Kim Leadbeater: Attack on Masjid Al Aqsa is ‘unforgivable’

Batley and Spen MP Kim Leadbeater has labelled Israel’s violent raids on Masjid Al Aqsa as “unforgivable”.

Leadbeater said she was deeply moved during a recent visit to the Occupied Palestinian Territories. She believes freedom of worship is a fundamental right and has written to the government to express her dismay that this right is being flagrantly undermined in Jerusalem.

“I utterly condemn the violence used against worshippers at the al-Aqsa Mosque. This would be totally unacceptable at any time, but it is unforgivable during the holy month of Ramadan,” said Leadbeater.

“Sadly, the Palestinian people have come to expect fresh attacks from the Israeli forces at this time. This circle of violence has to be broken. Too many innocent lives have been lost and too many families, both Palestinian and Israeli, left mourning the death of their loved ones.”

Israeli forces attacked innocent worshippers at the sacred Al-Aqsa Masjid in occupied East Jerusalem, whilst also firing stun grenades and tear gas at Palestinian worshippers in a violent raid during Ramadan.

The Palestinian Wafa news agency said dozens of worshippers who were praying were injured during the raids, as Muslims throughout the world condemned the attack on innocent Palestinians.

400 Palestinians are said to have been arrested whilst many remained in Israeli custody during the holy month, according to Palestinian officials.

A similar raid two years ago had triggered a wider conflict, with Israelis launching a brutal 11-day bombing campaign in the Gaza strip.

The lawmaker also met with a delegation of Muslim and Christian Palestinian faith leaders from Al- Aqsa Masjid and the Dome of the Rock, to hear first-hand their experiences of Israeli aggression.

She said: “I saw and heard just how sacred the al-Aqsa Mosque is during my recent visit to the Occupied Palestinian Territories. All places of worship and holy sites in Jerusalem deserve to be respected in line with the longstanding agreements designed to protect worshippers of all faiths.”

Upon returning to the UK, Kim said she has had a number of high-level meetings with prominent Palestinians and Israeli diplomats. She said: “The Palestinian Ambassador, Dr Husam Zomlot, stressed the importance of an incoming Labour government recognising the State of Palestine and I agree that this must be a priority for my party.

“I also had a fascinating meeting with a group of Israeli diplomats who resigned from their posts and taken a principled position against the occupation and in support of human rights and equality.

“Since my return, I have also had a number of powerful meetings at Westminster, including with Muslim and Christian Palestinian faith leaders from Jerusalem and Dr Wasfi Kailani, Director of the Hashemite Fund for the Restoration of Al-Aqsa Mosque and the Dome of the Rock.

“It was clear from my discussions that worshippers live in constant fear of harassment and attacks. The current Israeli government is clearly intent on even more oppressive actions.”

Leadbeater has directly asked and written to the Foreign Secretary to urge the UK government to intervene to demand an

end to the violence and a renewed effort to secure a lasting and equitable peace in the region.

She said: “Former Ambassador Ian Baruch argued powerfully that the UK must stop giving Israel impunity for its illegal actions under international law and must once again become a player for peace. In the House of Commons the following day I put that point directly to the Foreign Secretary.”

The 35-acre mosque compound is referred to as al-Haram al-Sharif, or the Noble Sanctuary. The site has been the most contested piece of territory in the Holy Land since Israel occupied East Jerusalem, including the Old City, in 1967, along with the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Paigaam also contacted Tory MP, Mark Eastwood for comment, however, a response has not been forthcoming, despite a specific timeframe given to Mr Eastwood for comment.



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Did You know...

Fatima al-Fihri founded the oldest University in the world

The person who founded the Al Quaraouiyine University, in the 9th century, the oldest in the world was Fatima al-Fihri.

Whilst her life is not recorded in detail, her legacy lives on to this day. She stands out as an early example of the powerful leadership role women have played in the Muslim world, both historically and currently.

Fatima was born to a wealthy family in the year 800 in Qayrawan, Tunisia. Her father, Mohammed Bnou Abdullah al-Fihri, was a well-educated merchant who passed his love of learning on to his children.

He made sure they were instilled with knowledge and love of Islam.

Though little is known of Fatima's early life, her family moved from Tunisia to Fez, Morocco, when she was a child. Upon the death of her father and her husband, she inherited a large fortune and immediately set about to use her wealth for the benefit of society.

Deeply devout, Fatima understood that her talents and resources were a gift meant to be used in service. Her primary passion, instilled during her youth, was education.

She was known as "the mother of boys," probably due to her focus on cultivating learning opportunities for the youth

of Fez. This pursuit culminated in the establishment in 859 of Al Quaraouiyine mosque, which she named after her beloved hometown in Tunisia.

This university predates Al Azhar by nearly 100 years and the University of Bologna by nearly 200.

Many of the practices established at Al Quaraouiyine are still practiced today in universities the world over.

In *The Rise of Colleges: Institutions of Learning in Islam and the West*, George Makdisi has demonstrated how terms such as having "fellows" holding a "chair," or students "reading" a subject and obtaining "degrees," as well as practices such as inaugural lectures, the oral defense, even mortar boards, tassels, and academic robes, can all be traced back to the practices of *madrasah's*.

She founded the institution with the intent of serving the community. The university focused heavily on Islamic theology and law; however, it expanded beyond these subjects.

At its height, students were immersed in poetry, philosophy, logic, rhetoric, grammar, geography, science, mathematics and other traditional areas of study. All of these courses were provided free of charge.

Al Quaraouiyine gained great fame among both Muslims and non-Muslims.

Many Al Quaraouiyine graduates are well-known scholars who deeply influenced Islamic history, among them, the philosopher Ibn Rushd (1126-1198) and the historian Ibn Khaldun (1332-1406).

In fact, Ibn Rushd became a famous commentator whose work is still invaluable to philosophers and students alike.

Scholarship that was produced at Islamic institutions such as Al Quaraouiyine influenced the development of Western classical philosophy and theology.

Later, in the 16th and 17th centuries, European scholars such as Nicolas Claynaerts and Jacobus Golius visited the university.

The university is still in operation today, attracting visitors and students alike. It boasts one of the oldest libraries in the world with over 4,000 manuscripts and even has Fatima's own diploma still on display.

After a life of service, piety and generosity, Fatima al-Fihri died in the year 880.

Her tenacity, vision and commitment left an indelible mark on the world and continues to inspire countless men and women. Al Quaraouiyine University, a monument of Islamic intellectual achievement, fulfills this vital role thanks to the vision of one woman. May the Almighty reward her in abundance.

Blood donation at IMWS

IMWS is pleased to announce a blood Donation Centre will be set up at the Al-Hikmah Centre on the 16th of May, from 12.00 noon till 9.00pm.

Why give blood

Giving blood saves lives. The blood you give is a lifeline in an emergency and for people who need long-term treatments.

Why do we need you to give blood?

We need new blood donors from all backgrounds to ensure there is the right blood available for patients who need it.

Demand for different blood types

We maintain a regular supply of all blood types to ensure the right blood is available to everyone who needs it. We need enough of the right types of blood to meet day-to-day patient needs and to cope with emergencies.

For example, it's estimated that around 8% of people have O negative blood, but O negative makes up 13% of requests from hospitals.

This is because anyone can receive the red cells from O negative donors. So O negative red cells can be used in emergencies or when a person's blood type is unknown.

Sometimes there is a need to target specific blood types to increase stock levels. That's why the NHS sometimes contact regular donors with the particular blood type we need, and ask them to give blood.

Why is closely-matched blood important?

Some patients, particularly those who require ongoing transfusions, need blood that closely matches their blood type.

This involves matching blood more extensively than the main blood types.

Some rare subtypes are more common in specific communities, which is why we particularly need more blood donors from Black, Asian and minority ethnic

communities. The NHS need donors from all communities and ethnic backgrounds to donate blood so we can meet the needs of all patients in England now and in the years to come.

Black, Asian and minority ethnic donors are specifically needed right now because some patients who receive frequent blood transfusions need blood to be closely matched to their own.

A number of blood conditions, like sickle cell disease which is treated through blood transfusions, most commonly affect black, Asian and minority ethnic people. The best match typically comes from blood donors from the same ethnic background.

Blood conditions and blood groups

Thalassaemia and sickle cell disease are blood conditions that most commonly affect people within the black, Asian and minority ethnic communities.

The treatment of these conditions is much more successful using blood that is very closely matched to the patient's.

Thalassaemia and sickle cell

Thalassaemia mainly affects people with a South Asian or Mediterranean heritage, and sickle cell mainly affects people from the black community.

It is estimated that 1,000 people in the UK have thalassaemia, and between 13,000-15,000 people in the UK have sickle cell.

Patients with these disorders need regular blood transfusions to stay alive. They benefit from donations from blood donors from a similar ethnic background. More about the need for black donors.

If you have the sickle cell trait you can still become a blood donor.

Some blood groups such as O Rh positive and B Rh positive are more prevalent among black, Asian and minority ethnic communities. Some rare blood types are only found within the black, Asian and minority ethnic communities.

Giving blood

While people from all communities and backgrounds do give blood, fewer than 5% of our blood donors who gave blood in the last year were from black, Asian and minority ethnic communities.

This is despite black, Asian and minority ethnic communities representing around 14% of the population. The NHS would like to try and readdress this balance.

Donating blood.

You'll Get a Mini Check-Up

Before you give blood, you'll first have to complete a quick test that measures your pulse, blood pressure, and hemoglobin levels.

After your blood is collected, it's sent off to a lab where it will undergo tests for at least nine different infectious diseases.

Your Heart Health May Be Better

"If blood has a high viscosity or resistance to flow, it will flow like molasses," said Phillip DeChristopher, MD, director of the Loyola University Health System blood bank. However, if you donate blood, it becomes less viscous, which can result in easier blood flow.

Additionally, a person who donates blood may have a lower risk of cardiovascular disease due to the easier blood flow and a reduction in the lipid profile (known as a coronary risk panel, which contains coronary artery risk tests).

Over time, repeated blood donations may help the blood flow in a way that's less damaging to the lining of the blood vessels and could result in fewer arterial blockages.

You May Be Able to Keep Your Iron Levels in Check

Adults usually have about 3 to 4 grams of iron in their bodies, mostly in red blood cells but also in bone marrow. Iron is needed for growth, development, and transportation of oxygen to different parts of the body. But having too little or too much iron in your blood can be harmful for your health.

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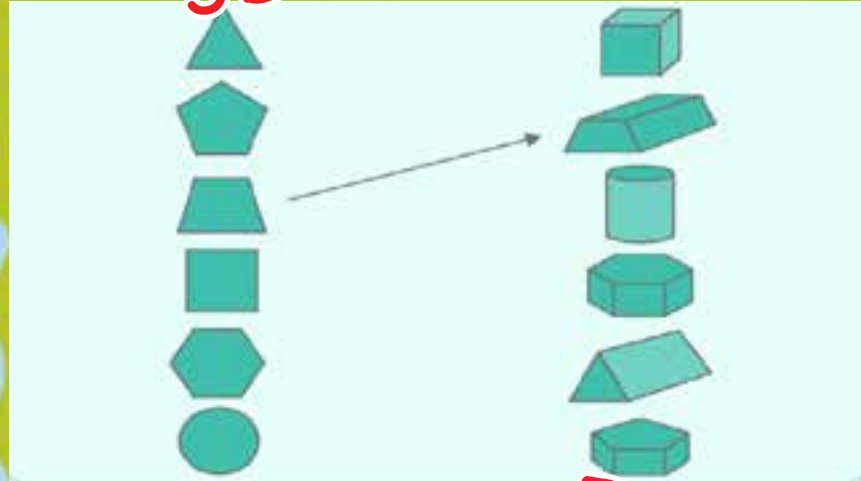
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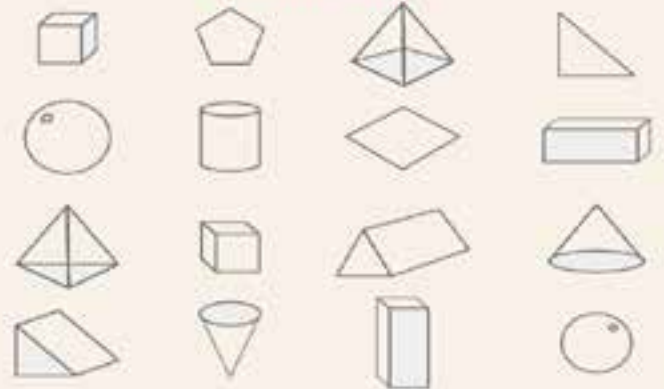
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3D shapes



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yellow, cones, blue,
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Shade the 3d shapes as follows: cubes:- yellow, cones:- blue,
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Paigaam Travel: Maldives

One of the most beautiful places on earth, Maldives is an island with outstanding beaches, halal-friendly resorts, and panoramic scenery to dazzle the eye.

Consisting of around 1190 tiny tropical islands divided into separate atolls, these tiny dots in the Indian Ocean boasts some of the most beautiful and pristine beaches in the world.

You'll be surrounded by waters in glorious varying shades of turquoise blue, and the beaches feature feathery fine powder white sands and swaying palm trees. Maldives is famous for its diverse array of marine life that is visible even right by the shore, and tourists from all over the world visit the country to partake in diving or snorkelling for the chance to spot manta rays, dolphins, whale sharks and much more.

The Maldives is one of the top three vacation destinations for Muslim families and couples. Virtually all hotels and resorts in Maldives cater for the needs of Muslim travellers.

Segregated spa services for men and women, prayer facilities, sumptuous halal

food and private pools await those who choose this area for their holiday. Almost all the resorts on the island are alcohol free, and some even feature on-site mosques.

Patrons of most hotels and resorts respect Muslim attire Pork is not on the menu in most resort restaurants, as the majority of dining establishments feature only halal menus.

In the few resorts that have been somewhat westernised, guests will not find alcohol or accessories associated with such beverages.

Maldives is a perfect choice for those planning a Ramadan holiday, as Islamic law is observed on the island and Islam is the official state religion.

For this reason, travellers from non-Muslim areas are advised to refrain from engaging in any disrespectful behavior during this time. Generally speaking, Muslim families need not worry about seeing other visitors smoking, drinking or eating in public.

Additionally, families are unlikely to encounter couples engaging in public displays of affection. Even in most private resorts, patrons are informed that they must be respectful, particularly during

religious holidays.

In addition to the incomparable pristine, white beaches that are the main attraction for visitors, there are also other landmarks and points of interest in Maldives. For example, the National Museum is a place worth visiting, with something to interest essentially any guest.

A two-story, well-kept museum, the establishment features many handcrafted works of art, paintings, sea shells and ancient artifacts. Helpful staff members are typically on-site to explain the history of every piece on display.

Although Maldives has very little agriculture of its own, fresh fruit and produce can be purchased at one of its many markets and these items are surprisingly fresh. Some merchants sell handcrafted objects and souvenirs as well. Families may also wish to take a trip to the celebrated Grand Friday Mosque. The architectural beauty of the mosque is unparalleled.

Sultan Park is a nice place for visitors to relax and unwind after sightseeing or spending the day at the beach. This lovely little park features benches, tables and artificial trees wrapped in fairy lights, the latter of which are illuminated at night.



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.

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Burial Contact Numbers

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Yusuf Patel (Paliya)
07590019315

Munir Daji
07739142988

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Kim Leadbeater MP column

In April the holy month of Ramadan overlapped with both Easter and the Jewish festival of Passover. Here in Batley and Spen I was delighted to break the fast with constituents as well as enjoying a fantastic Easter Egg hunt at the Jo Cox Community Wood.

My sister was much on my mind at Huddersfield University where they did my family the great honour of naming their brand new 'More in Common' centre for reflection and prayer after her. The Shadow Foreign Secretary, David Lammy MP, formally opened the centre and it was a proud day for my parents and me.

The following week I held the latest of my roundtables that give local faith leaders the opportunity to raise issues of concern and interest with me. On this occasion we were also joined by members of the neighbourhood policing team to discuss what needs to be done to address the regrettable rise in anti-social behaviour and criminal activity.

Sport and physical activity are a great way of giving younger people positive and healthy ways of directing their energy. I joined one of our excellent councillors Aafaq Butt at Dewsbury's Warrior Breed Boxing Gym to take part in a sparring session with 16 year old Malaika Atique who is a fantastic role model. She told me, "I want to be the first Asian female world champion and show everyone what we can do". Her coach Zahir says he's confident she has a great career ahead of her.

I was really pleased to accept an invitation to visit Anchor Ministries, a Nigerian church where the congregation includes people living in Birstall, Batley, and Heckmondwike. It was an absolute joy to meet everyone, and to receive such a warm welcome. What's more, this underlines what a wonderfully diverse faith community we have in Batley and Spen.

The Easter parliamentary recess was a busy time for me, but it was also a great opportunity to get around to all parts of

the constituency. I was delighted with the response to my Great Batley and Spen Spring Clean, which saw litter heroes of all ages joining in litter picks and clean-ups in Batley, Birkenshaw, Birstall, Cleckheaton, East Bierley, Gomersal, Heckmondwike and Oakenshaw over three amazing weeks.

The results were brilliant: 250 people collecting hundreds of bulging bags of rubbish as well as fly-tipped scrap such as bikes, fridges, and irons.

With the local elections coming up on May 4th I spent a lot of time talking to residents about the issues of concern to them.

Please do use your vote on polling day and remember that the government has imposed new rules which mean that, unless you've already voted by post, you need to take some photo ID with you to the polling station. This can be a passport, driving licence, identity card, biometric immigration document or an older/disabled person's railcard.

Sadly Ramadan saw another upsurge in violence in Jerusalem and elsewhere in the Occupied Palestinian Territories and Israel. When I visited the area in February people I spoke to were already anticipating another incursion by Israeli forces at al-Aqsa Mosque as this is exactly what happened.

As I have made clear elsewhere in this edition of Paigaam, I condemned the brutal tactics employed by the security forces and the subsequent escalation of violence that led to the tragic deaths of Palestinians, Israelis and foreign nationals alike. Every death and injury is one too many and nobody wins when the cycle of violence continues unchecked.

I have written to the Foreign Secretary, James Cleverley, to urge the UK to use its influence to demand an end to the current strategy of human rights violations and defiance of international law by Israel and the resumption of a meaningful process of

reconciliation that can allow Palestinians and Israelis to coexist on the basis of a fair, just and lasting peace.

I have also written to the Prime Minister, Rishi Sunak again, asking him to meet the Dawood family and support their demand for the return of the remains of their relatives murdered in the Gujarat riots in 2002.

Thank you for reading and you can get regular updates on my work locally, nationally and internationally on my website www.kim4batleyandspen.com

If you would like more details of my visit please contact me on kim@kim4batleyandspen.com

Best wishes,

Kim



Extremists acquitted of involvement in deadly Gujarat riots

An Indian court has acquitted 69 Hindus, including a former minister from the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), of the murder of 11 Muslims during communal riots in Gujarat.

The case related to the deaths of 11 Muslims who were killed after their homes in the city of Ahmedabad were set alight by Hindu mobs who rioted in the Naroda Gam area of Ahmedabad during communal riots.

According to an investigation into the attack afterwards, “there was no police help received by the Muslims and they were simply at the mercy of the miscreants”.

The riots took place in Ahmedabad in 2002, setting off one of independent India’s worst outbreaks of violence. A total of 86 Hindus were accused of murders: “We have been saying from the first day that they were framed,” defence lawyer Chetan Shah claimed. Of those accused, 17 passed away during the course of court proceedings. All the surviving accused were free on bail.

“Some of the accused were not present at the scene on the day of the incident,” said Shah, who represented 82 of the accused. Shamsad Pathan, who represented the victims, said they would challenge the court’s decision in a higher court.

“Justice has eluded the victims once again. We will study the grounds on which the court has acquitted the accused persons,” Pathan said.

Those acquitted include Maya Kodnani, a former minister of Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s BJP, who was a lawmaker at the time of the riots; former Bajrang Dal leader Babu Bajrangi; and Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP) leader Jaydeep Patel.

Bajrang Dal and VHP are Hindu nationalist groups and have close links to the BJP. Kodnani was also accused in a case in which 97 people were killed in the 2002 riots. She was convicted but later acquitted by a higher court. At least 1,000 people, mostly Muslims, were killed across Gujarat in the 2002 riots. Activists put the toll at over twice that number.

The verdict by the special court dealt another blow for those still fighting for justice for the Gujarat riots. Over the past two decades, the state has been accused of protecting alleged Hindu perpetrators – including those who now hold some of the most powerful political offices in the country – as well as obstructing justice, intimidating Muslim victims and recently releasing some of the few who had been convicted of rape and violence against Muslims in the riots.

Shamsad Pathan, who represented the victims, said they would challenge the

court’s decision in a higher court. “Justice has eluded the victims once again,” he said.

During the riots, British tourists, Sakil and Sakeel Dawood, along with their childhood friend, Mohammed Aswat and Indian driver, Yusuf Palagar, were killed in appalling circumstances. Another family member, Imran Dawood, was left for dead but miraculously survived though suffering serious and long-term injuries. Ironically the verdict has been announced exactly 13 years to the day when the violence began.

The riots saw thousands of people murdered, hundreds of women raped, scores of thousands of Muslim owned businesses looted and suffering arson and an estimated hundred thousand people fleeing their homes for safety.

The carnage took place under the watch of Narendra Modi, the current Prime Minister of India. Critics accused Modi, who was chief minister at the time, of failing to protect Muslims. Modi denied the allegations and a Supreme Court-ordered investigation found no evidence to prosecute him. The Gujarat BJP government has told the Supreme Court that it decided to release the 11 Hindu men who are the convicts in the Bilkis Bano tape case on completion of their 14 years sentence as their “behaviour was found to be good” and after approval from the Union government.



Local Activist receives prestigious award

A Yorkshire based race and equality activist and campaigner has been honoured with the prestigious National Education Union's award for international solidarity in particular recognition of his work in Palestine, Cuba and Kashmir.

Fiaz Rashid, a Director of the Pakistan and Kashmir Welfare Association, in Batley, received the award, which is named after the former NEU general secretary, Steve Sinnott, who was a passionate believer in the principle and practice of internationalism.

As well as being a professional teacher, Fiaz has been a lifelong trade unionist, and a committed and highly regarded race and equality campaigner.

In his acceptance speech, Fiaz set the tone by describing how his belief system was shaped by his childhood in Kashmir: "Having come to the UK as a child from a conflict zone in the 1970s, I have always been aware of the global nature of global resource control, power brokerage, wealth, poverty and population management.

"My gut instinct and my political bones have always told me that the best way to tackle poverty, inequality and exploitation is through kindness, compassion, sharing and simple human decency.

"For me, the best expression of these basic values has always been by the clear demonstration of a shared humanity – particularly with peoples around the world who are facing oppression, exclusion, abuse or condemnation."

Fiaz went on to put his selection for the international solidarity award into the context of others who have dedicated their entire lives to the demonstration of shared humanity.

He said: "Others have done far more than me. When I think of activists, journalists, campaigners and humanitarians who have taken the ultimate step and laid down their own lives as they bore witness to atrocities.

"I feel humbled to accept any award for internationalism, bearing witness, reaching out, or any activities in that general ball park. I am thinking here of brave and resolute souls such as the activist Rachael Corrie, or the journalist

Shireen Abu Akleh. These two and countless others have lain down their lives in the act of bearing witness; so anytime, anywhere, whenever someone like me accepts an award for something like showing solidarity, or bearing witness, or refusing to turn our faces away.

"We accept the award not just for ourselves but on behalf of anyone who has ever refused to look away, and particularly on behalf of those who have refused to look away even at the cost of their own life.

"I will add to that list the name of Mohammed Al-Dura, a child who was slain for looking with a child's eyes at the gross injustice of the illegal occupation."

Fiaz concluded by recounting some of the incidents he has witnessed.

"During my visit to Palestine in 2019, I was acting as human rights' monitor a few months. I witnessed separation walls built to remove people from their work, farmlands, schools, hospitals and shops, in what must be a deliberate act of humiliation and dehumanisation. I witnessed schools and homes being demolished by occupying forces."

The Coronation of His Majesty The King

The Coronation of His Majesty The King will take place on Saturday 6th May, 2023.

The Coronation Ceremony will take place at Westminster Abbey, London, and will be conducted by the Archbishop of Canterbury. The Ceremony will see His Majesty King Charles III crowned

alongside The Queen Consort. The Coronation will reflect the monarch's role today and look towards the future, while being rooted in longstanding traditions.

The coronation of the new Sovereign follows some months after his or her accession, following a period of mourning and as a result of the enormous amount of preparation required to organise the ceremony. Present at the Coronation of

Queen Elizabeth II were representatives of the Houses of Parliament, Church and State.

The Queen's Coronation took place on 2 June 1953 following her accession on 6 February 1952. In 2013 The Queen celebrated the sixtieth anniversary of her Coronation, marking the occasion with a festival in the garden of Buckingham Palace.

ભારત ખાતે NCERT અભ્યાસક્રમમાંથી મોગલ સામ્રાજ્યનો ઇતિહાસ દૂર

ભારતની બીજેપી સરકારે ૨૦૨૩-૨૪ના શૈક્ષણિક સત્રમાં યુપી બોર્ડ અને સીબીએસઈ બોર્ડના અભ્યાસક્રમમાં ફેરફાર કર્યો છે. જેમાં NCERT (નેશનલ કાઉન્સિલ ઓફ એજ્યુકેશનલ રીસર્ચ)ના અભ્યાસક્રમના પુસ્તકોમાંથી આ મુજબ હવે ભણતા વિદ્યાર્થીઓને મુગલોના ઇતિહાસ વિશે ભણાવવામાં આવશે નહીં. ભારતીય ઇતિહાસના વિષયો ભાગ-૨ માંથી મુગલ દરબાર અને મુગલ શાસકના ચેપ્ટર હટાવી દેવામાં આવ્યા છે. ઉપરાંત ધોરણ-૧૧ના પુસ્તકમાંથી ઈસ્લામનો ઉદય, સંસ્કૃતિઓ વચ્ચે ધર્ષણ, ઔદ્યોગિક ક્રાંતિ વગેરે ચેપ્ટર પણ હટાવી દીધા છે. ઉપરાંત ગુજરાત રમખાણોના સંદર્ભો અને આરએસએસ પર પ્રતિબંધ વગેરે પણ હટાવી દેવામાં આવ્યા છે. જ્યારે નાગરિકશાસ્ત્રના પુસ્તકમાંથી અમેરિકાના વર્યસ્વ અને શીત યુદ્ધનો પાઠ પણ દૂર કરવામાં આવ્યો છે. આ નિર્ણય શિક્ષણ વિભાગને ૨૦૨૩-૨૪થી લાગુ થશે. યુ.પી.ની સરકારે આ નિર્ણયનો અમલ કરવા શરૂઆત કરી છે.

સમાજવાદી પાર્ટીના ધારાસભ્ય અને પૂર્વ શિક્ષણ મંત્રી નવાબ ઈકબાલ મહમુદે આ નિર્ણય સામે પ્રતિક્રિયા આપતા જણાવ્યું છે કે, ભાજપ સરકાર મુસ્લિમો વિરૂદ્ધ બધુંજ કામ કરવા માંગે છે. મુગલ બાદશાહો ભારતને પ્રગતિ અપાવવામાં મોખરે રહ્યા હતા. મોગલોનો ઇતિહાસ ભારતમાં અને સમગ્ર વિશ્વમાં મજબૂત છે. તેમણે તંજ કસતા કહ્યું હતું કે, ભાજપે ઇતિહાસના તમામ જૂના પુસ્તકો જપ્ત કરી લેવા જોઈએ.

અગાઉ પણ યુ.પી.ની સરકારે મોગલોના નામનાં રસ્તાઓ, રેલ્વે સ્ટેશનોના નામ બદલી નાંખ્યાં હતાં. આગ્રામાં મુગલ મ્યુઝીયમનું નામ બદલી છત્રપતિ શિવાજી મહારાજ મ્યુઝીયમ નામ રાખ્યું હતું. હિન્દી આરોહ ભાગ-૨માંથી મુસ્લિમ કવિઓના કેટલાક ગીતો અને ગઝલોને પણ હટાવી દેવામાં આવી છે. મુસલમાનો સામે નફરતની આ સીમા ક્યારે પૂરી થશે ?

મોબાઈલની શોધને થયા ૫૦વર્ષ

મોબાઈલ ફોન અને ઈન્ટરનેટે સમગ્ર વિશ્વના લોકોની જિંદગી બદલી નાંખી છે. મોબાઈલ ફોન વિના નાના મોટા દરેક માણસો એક પલ પણ રહી શકતા નથી. એ મોબાઈલ ફોનની શોધને ૫૦ વર્ષ એપ્રિલ ૨૦૨૩ના રોજ ૫૦વર્ષ પૂરા થયા છે. એ અનુસંધાને મોબાઈલની રસપ્રદ માહિતી જાણવા જેવી છે.

મોબાઈલ ફોનની શોધ અમેરિકાના માર્ટી કુપરે કરી હતી જેઓ મોટેરોલા કંપનીમાં એક એન્જનીયર તરીકે કામ કરતા હતા. ન્યુયોર્ક સીટીમાં મોટેરોલા કંપનીએ પ્રથમ મોબાઈલ બનાવ્યો.

માર્ટીન કુપરે ૧.૧ કીલોનો પ્રથમ મોબાઈલ બનાવ્યો હતો. પ્રોટોટાઈપ બનાવ્યા પછી ૧૦વર્ષ બાદ લગભગ ૮૦૦ કરોડ રૂપિયાના ખર્ચે ૧૯૮૩માં મોટેરોલા ફોન લોન્ચ થયો. આ ફોન ૧૦કલાક ચાર્જ થયા પછી ફક્ત ૩૫ મિનિટ વાપરી શકાતો હતો.

૧૯૮૮માં મોટેરોલાએ માર્કેટકે પહેલો ફ્લીપ ફોન જે નાનો હતો તે બનાવ્યો. ત્યારપછી નોકિયાની માર્કેટમાં એન્ટ્રી થઈ.

૧૯૯૨માં દુનિયાનો પ્રથમ જીએસએમ (ગોલોબલ સીસ્ટમ નેટવર્ક) ૨જી ફોન લોન્ચ થયો.

૧૯૯૮માં સીમેન એસ૧૦ પહેલો કલર ડીસ્પ્લે વાળો ફોન આવ્યો. ૧૯૯૮માં પહેલી વખત ૩જી સેવા લોન્ચ થઈ.

૨૦૦૭માં ક્રાંતિકારી ક્ષણ જેમાં આઈઓએસ ઓપરેટીંગ સીસ્ટમ અને ટચ સ્ક્રીન બનાવવામાં આવી અને બટન ગાયબ થયા.

૨૦૦૮માં પહેલો એન્ડ્રોઈડ ફોન લોન્ચ થયો. ૨૦૦૮માં ૪જી સર્વિસ લોન્ચ થઈ.

૨૦૧૦માં જુદા જુદા ફોનોમાં અલગ અલગ ફીચર્સ આવ્યા. આઈ ફોન ૫ એસ માં પહેલીવાર ફિંગર પ્રિન્ટ સેન્સર આપવામાં આવ્યું ૨૦૧૯માં ૫જી સેવા શરૂ થઈ. આઈફોન ૧૧ના ૧૫કરોડથી વધુ ફોન વેચાયા. ફોલ્ડેબલ ફોનથી ટેબલેટ જેવી સ્ક્રીનનો સમાવેશ થયો. મોબાઈલથી બેઠા બેઠા સ્ક્રીન ઉપરથી ઘરની લાઈટ ખોલ બંધ કરવી એલાર્મ સેટ કરવા, હીટીંગ કન્ટ્રોલ કરવું, સીસીટીવી ગમે ત્યાંથી જોવું, કસરતોની માપણી વગેરે ફીચરો પણ હવે મોબાઈલમાં સામેલ થયા છે.

હવે વાળી શકાય તેવી સ્ક્રીન, હાથમાં પટ્ટા તરીકે બંધાય તેવા ફોન અને ઈન્ટરનેટ વિના પણ ચાલે એવા ફોનની સુવિધા તરફ કામગીરી ચાલી રહી છે. આમ મોબાઈલની સહુલતામાં ઝડપી વધારો થઈ રહ્યો છે અને એ ક્યાં અટકશે તે કહેવું મુશ્કેલ છે.

ગઝલ .

લેવા ગયો જો પ્રેમ તો વહેવાર પણ ગયો,
દર્શનની ઝંખના હતી અણસાર પણ ગયો.
એની બહું નજીક જવાની સજા છે એ,
મળતો હતો જે દૂરથી સહકાર પણ ગયો.
રહેતો હતો કદી કદી જુલ્ફોની છાંયમાં,
મારા નસીબમાંથી એ અંધકાર પણ ગયો.
સંગતમાં જેની સ્વર્ગનો આભાસ હો ખુદા,
દોઝખમાં કોઈ એવો ગુનેગાર પણ ગયો ?
એ પણ છે સત્ય એની ઉપર હક નથી હવે,
એવુંય કંઈ નથી કે અધિકાર પણ ગયો.
સાકી છે સ્તબ્ધ જોઈ નશાની અગાઢ ઊંઘ,
પીનારા સાથે કામથી પાનાર પણ ગયો.
કેવી મજાની પ્રેમની દીવાનગી હશે !
કે જ્યાં મરીઝ જેવો સમજદાર પણ ગયો.

-મરીઝ

ચાલો આજે કંઈક સાઈં જાણીએ

-રફીક અહમદ ડભાસ

દાજતમંદોની મદદ એવી રીતે કરો જેની કોઈને ખબર પણ ન પડે.

એક દિવસ હું મારા મિત્રો સાથે રેસ્ટોરન્ટમાં ખાવા ગયો. ત્યાં મારા ટેબલની પાસે એક ટેબલ ઉપર આથેડ વચનું એક કપલ બેઠું હતું. એજ સમયે રેસ્ટોરન્ટમાં ખૂબસુરત કપડામાં સજ્જ એક વ્યક્તિ દાખલ થયો. વોશબેસીન ઉપર હાથ ધોઈ મારી નજીકના ટેબલ ઉપર બેસી ગયો. અમે ખાવાનો ઓર્ડર આપી દીધો હતો જેથી ખાવાની રાહમાં બેસી વાતો કરતા હતાં. અચાનક પેલા સજ્જનના મોબાઈલની રીંગ વાગી. તે ઊંચી અવાજથી મોબાઈલ ઉપર કોઈ વ્યક્તિ સાથે વાત કરવા લાગ્યો. એની વાત કરવાના અંદાજથી એવું લાગી રહ્યું હતું કે, પરવરદિગારે તેને કોઈ મોટી ખૂશીથી નવાજ્યો છે. પછી મોબાઈલ ઉપર વાત પૂરી કરી હોટલમાં બેસેલા બધા માણસોને સંબોધીને કહ્યું “ભાઈઓ અને બહેનો! આજે હું ખૂબજ ખુશ છું કે મારે ત્યાં દીકરાનો જન્મ થયો છે. અને એ ખુશીમાં હું આપ સૌને મટન કડાઈ ખવડાવીશ.”

હું મારી જગ્યાએથી ઉઠ્યો અને આગળ વધી એ સજ્જનને મુબારકબાદી આપી અને કહ્યું અમે તો ખાવાનો ઓર્ડર પહેલેથીજ આપી દીધો છે. એ સાંભળી સજ્જને કહ્યું ઠીક છે, કોઈ વાત નથી આ ખુશીમાં તમારા ખાવાનું બીલ હું ચૂકવી દઈશ. અને આમ પછી રેસ્ટોરન્ટમાં બેસેલા દરેક વ્યક્તિઓ જેમાં પેલા આથેડ વચના કપલ સહિત દરેક માટે મટન કડાઈનો ઓર્ડર કર્યો અને પોતાનું ખાવાનું ખાઈ દરેકનું બિલ ચૂકવી ખુશીથી ત્યાંથી ચાલ્યો ગયો.

કેટલાક મહિનાઓ પછી હું મારા દોસ્તો સાથે એક જગ્યાએ ગયો તો જોયું કે તેજ વ્યક્તિ ચારેક વર્ષના બાળક સાથે એક દુકાનમાં બિલ આપવા લાઈનમાં ઊભો હતો. હું મારા મિત્રોથી નજર બચાવી તે વ્યક્તિ પાસે પહોંચ્યો. તે મને જોઈને તરતજ ઓળખી ગયો અને હસવા લાગ્યો. સલામ દુવા પછી મેં કહ્યું માસાઅલ્લાહ તમારો દીકરો તો થોડા જ સમયમાં આટલો મોટો થઈ ગયો છે. મારી વાત સાંભળી તે સજ્જને કહ્યું, “એ વાતને જવા દો. એ ખૂબજ અદ્ભૂત કહાણી છે. પછી કોઈક દિવસે મળીશું તો વાત કરીશ.” જ્યારે તેણે એવું કહ્યું તો મારો ઈન્તેજાર વધી ગયો. મને નવાઈ લાગી. મેં તે સજ્જનને દબાણ કર્યું અને કહ્યું એ અદ્ભૂત કહાણી મને હમણાંજ સંભળાવે. મારા વધુ દબાણના કારણે જ્યારે એ સજ્જને મને વાત કહી તો હું પોતાને ખૂબજ અદના અને નાનો વ્યક્તિ સમજવા લાગ્યો. અને મારી નજરમાં એ વ્યક્તિનું મહાનપણું અને મરતબો ખૂબજ મોટો થઈ ગયો.

દોસ્તો એ વ્યક્તિએ મને કહ્યું કે, તે દિવસે જ્યારે હું રેસ્ટોરન્ટમાં દાખલ થયો અને વોશબેસીન ઉપર હાથ ધોઈ રહ્યો હતો તે વખતે આથેડ વચના પતિ પત્ની જે વાતો કરતા હતા તે મેં સાંભળી લીધી હતી. પત્ની કહી રહી હતી કે આજે મને મટન કડાઈ ખાવાનું મન

થઈ રહ્યું છે. તો તેના પતિએ દબાવેલા અવાજમાં કહ્યું કે આખા મહિના માટે મારા પાસે ફક્ત ત્રણ હજાર રૂપિયા છે. અને જો મટન કડાઈ ખાઈશું તો પૂરો મહિનો ગુજારો કેવી રીતે થશે? એમ કરીએ આજે દાળ રોટી ખાઈ લઈએ છીએ. મટન કડાઈ કોઈ બીજા દિવસે ખાઈશું. પેલી વ્યક્તિએ સવાલ પૂછનારને કહ્યું એટલા માટે મેં પોતે મારા મોબાઈલની ઘંટડી વગાડીને દીકરાની પેદાઈશનો ડ્રામા કર્યો હતો. જેથી હું મારી ફર્જી ખુશીના બહાને એમની દિલી ખામોશ ખીદમત કરી શકું. મેં કહ્યું કે, ભાઈ સાહેબ તમે ફક્ત તે બુઝુર્ગોના ખાવાના પૈસા આપી દીધા હોત. નકામા રેસ્ટોરન્ટના બીજા લોકોને ખાવાનું ખવડાવ્યું અને તેમનું બિલ પણ ચૂકવ્યું.

પેલી વ્યક્તિએ જવાબ આપ્યો કે, એમ કરીને એ બુઝુર્ગોની ઈજ્જત અને દિલી ખુમાશને હું ઠેસ પહોંચાડવા માંગતો ન હતો. મિત્રો કેટલો ખુબસુરત વિચાર છે. કેવા અંદાજથી લોકો બીજા જરૂરતમંદ, મજબુર ઈન્સાનોની ખીદમત કરે છે. પરવરદિગાર આપણાં સૌને પણ આવીજ ખીદમત કરવાની તૌફીક અતા ફરમાવે આમીન. “ ”

ડીજિટલ ડેટોક્ષ (Digital Detox) નો અમલ

આજે મોબાઈલ, ઈન્ટરનેટ અને જૂદા જૂદા ગેઝેટોના જમાનામાં નાના મોટા સૌ તેના એડિક્ટ બન્યા છે, ત્યારે ભારતના એક નાનકડા ગામે ઓરિન અને અન્ય દેશોના મીડિયાનું ધ્યાન દોર્યું છે. મહારાષ્ટ્રના સાંગલી જિલ્લાના મોહિત્વ વડગાવ જેની વસ્તી ત્રણ હજારની છે ત્યાં ગામમાં દરરોજ સાંજે ૭.૦ વાગ્યે મંદિર ઉપરથી ઘંટ વગાડવામાં આવે છે. (એક પ્રકારે સાયરન) આ સાયરન એક ચેતવણી રૂપ હોય છે. ત્યારે આ ગામમાં રહેતા નાના મોટા દરેક માણસો ૮૦ મિનીટ (સાંજે ૭.૦ થી ૮.૩૦) સુધી મોબાઈલ ફોન, ઈન્ટરનેટ અને ટી.વી. સુધ્ધાં બંધ કરી દેવામાં આવે છે. એને ડીજિટલ ડેટોક્ષ પ્રતિબંધ કહેવામાં આવે છે. આ સમયમાં બાળકો વાંચવા લખવા અને હોમવર્ક કરવામાં મશગુલ થાય છે. જ્યારે ઓરતો ઘરકામમાં પરોવાય છે. અને બીજા સભ્યો એકબીજા સાથે મળે છે. વાતચીત અને મેળાપમાં સમય પસાર કરે છે. દોઢ કલાક પછી (૮.૩૦ વાગ્યે) બીજો એલાર્મ વાગે છે અને પછી આ પ્રતિબંધ દૂર થાય છે.

આ માટેનો વિચાર ગામના સરપંચ જયવંત મોહિતને જ્યારે પોતાની ફેમિલીના સભ્યો મોબાઈલ ફોન અને ઈન્ટરનેટ વાપરવામાં મશગુલ રહેતા હતા તે જોઈને આવ્યો. સરપંચ હોવાના લીધે બીજા સભ્યોને વાતો કરતાં બધાં સહમત થયાં હતાં. આ પશ્ચતિને આવકારતા વિધ્યાર્થીઓ, ટીચરો અને સ્ત્રીઓ સહિત દરેક આ પ્રથાના વખાણ કરે છે અને કહે છે આ સમયમાં છોકરાઓ તેમની ભણતરની પ્રવૃત્તિમાં લાગે છે, જ્યારે ફેમિલી સભ્યો પોતાનાઓ સાથે મળી ક્વોલીટી ટાઈમ પસાર કરે છે. અને તેનાથી ઘણાં ફાયદાઓ જોવા મળે છે. ગામમાં બધા આ કાનૂનનું ચુસ્તપણે પાલન કરે છે અને કોઈ ઉલંઘન ન કરે તે માટે લોકો ગામમાં પેટ્રોલિંગ પણ કરે છે. સરપંચ સ્કૂલોમાં જઈ આ અંગે વાતચીત કરી સમજણ પણ આપે છે. હવે બાજુના બીજા ગામો પણ પભાવિત થઈ આ પ્રથાને અનુકરણ કરવાનું વિચારી રહ્યા છે

અલવિદા માટે રમજાન (૨૦૨૩)

રમજાનનો મુબારક મહિનો ખૂબજ સારી રીતે પૂરો થયો. કોમ્યુનિટીએ ઉખાભેર ઈદની ઉજવણી કરી. રમજાનના મુબારક મહિનામાં આપણાં એરિયાની દરેક મસ્જિદોમાં રોનકભર્યું વાતાવરણ રહ્યું. દરેક મસ્જિદોમાં પોતપોતાની રીતે મરદો, ઓરતો અને બાળકો માટે દીની અને અન્ય પ્રવૃત્તિઓ, બયાનો, સેમિનારો વગેરેના પ્રોગ્રામોનું આયોજન થયું. અને આ રીતે દીની અને દુન્યવી તાલિમ પ્રાપ્ત કરવાનો અનેરો મોકો દરેકને પ્રાપ્ત થયો. ખાસ કરીને મદીના મસ્જિદ (એમપીઆઈટી)માં દર વીકએન્ડના ઓરતોના વિવિધ પ્રોગ્રામો આપાઓ મારફત થયા જેમાં નમાઝ, ફીકહી મસઅલા, અને ઈસ્લામ અંગેનું જ્ઞાન વગેરેમાં ઘણી આપાઓએ તેમનો સમય આપી સમજણ પૂરી પાડી. સાથેજ વિદ્યાર્થીઓની સ્કૂલ હોલી ડે હોવાના કારણે નાના બાળકો માટે પણ એકટીવીટી ચલાવવામાં આવી જેમાં ખૂબજ સારો સહકાર મળ્યો. અન્ય મસ્જિદોએ પણ પોતપોતાની રીતે યુવાનો સહિત દરેક વર્ગ માટે તેમના અનુકૂળ પ્રોગ્રામોનું આયોજન કર્યું. જેનો બહોળો લાભ બધાએ મેળવ્યો. જે માટે દરેક મસ્જિદના કાર્યકરો અને કમિટી સભ્યોને ખૂબ મુબારકબાદ.

આ રમજાનમાં આપણે જોયું કે, ગેર મુસ્લિમોએ પણ ઈફતાર પાર્ટીના બાનર હેઠળ ધ્રિટનના અનેક કચીડલ, હોલ, યુનિવર્સિટીમાં રમજાન અને રોજા, ઈબાદત, ઈસ્લામ અંગેની માહિતી અને તેનું મહત્વ સમજાવતા પ્રોગ્રામોનું આયોજન કર્યું. જેમાં મોટી સંખ્યામાં બિન મુસ્લિમોએ હાજરી આપી અને ઈન્ટરફેઇથનું એક ઉમદા ઉદાહરણ જોવા મળ્યું.

સાથેજ ચેરિટી કલેક્શનનું પણ ખાસ્સું જોર રહ્યું. અનેક મસ્જિદોએ પોતાની રોજબરોજની જરૂરિયાત કે બિલ્ડિંગ રિપેરીંગ વગેરે કામો માટે અપીલ કરી. જેને પણ લોકો તરફથી સારો સહકાર મળ્યો. પરદેશના મદ્રેસા, દારૂલ ઉલૂમો અને અન્ય ચેરિટીઓ તથા યુ.કે.ની પણ ઘણી ચેરિટીઓએ વિવિધ રીતે કલેક્શનો કર્યા. પૂરી દુનિયામાં જ્યારે મોઘવારીએ માજા મૂકી છે. યુ.કે.માં પણ હવે કોસ્ટ ઓફ લિવીંગના કારણે ઘણાંએ નાંણાંકીય તંગીનો અનુભવ કરવો પડે છે, છતાં પણ કોમ્યુનિટીએ સખાવતનો દરવાજો બંધ ન કરતાં દરેકે પોતપોતાની હેસિયતથી એમાં ભાગ લીધો. જે કાબિલે તારીફ છે.

આપણી ઈ.મુ.વે.સોસાયટીએ પણ ગાઝા, સોમાલિયા, યમન, સિરીયા વગેરે માટે વિવિધ પ્રોજેક્ટો માટે અપીલ કરી હતી. જેમાં આપ સૌ તરફથી સારો સહકાર મળ્યો. ગાઝા, સિરીયામાં રમજાનની શરૂઆતથીજ ઈફતાર ફૂડ પેકેટ વગેરેની વહેંચણીનું કામ શરૂ કરવામાં આવ્યું હતું. દર વર્ષની જેમ ઈદના દિવસે જ સદકતુલ ફીત્રની રકમની વ્યવસ્થા સોસાયટી તરફથી કરવામાં આવી, જેથી હાજતમંદો અને ગરીબો પણ ઈદની ખુશી મનાવી શકે. સોશયલ મિડીયા ઉપર આપ સૌએ ફોટા વગેરે જોયા હશે. સોસાયટી આપ તમામનો આ કારે ખેરમાં ભાગ લેવા બદલ આભાર માને છે.

કોવિડકાળ પછીની આ રમજાન આમ જોઈએ તો ઉત્સાહપૂર્ક રહી. મસ્જિદો પણ નમાઝીઓથી આબાદ રહી. ઠેર ઠેર તરાવીહની નમાઝનો પણ બંદોબસ્ત થયો. આશા રાખીએ મસ્જિદ ફક્ત રમજાનમાંજ નહીં પણ બારે માસ આબાદ રહે, નમાઝીઓની હાજરી રહે અને એ માટે આપણે સૌ પ્રયત્નો કરીએ.

અંતમાં દુવા છે કે, જેજે ખીદમતગારો, કમિટી સભ્યો, ચેરિટીમાં કામ કરનારા માણસો વગેરેઓએ જે જે લાઈનથી પ્રયત્નો કર્યા તેનો બદલો પરવરદિગાર અતા કરે આમીન.

ધ્રિટનના કીંગ ચાર્લસ-૩ની તાજપોશી

શનિવાર તારીખ દૃઢી મે ૨૦૨૩ના રોજ ધ્રિટનના રાજા કીંગ ચાર્લસ-૩ની તાજપોશી (રાજ્યાભિષેક) લંડનના વેસ્ટ મિનીસ્ટર એબે ખાતે થશે. જેમાં ૨૦૦૦ જેટલા વિવિધ મહેમાનોની હાજરી જોવા મળશે. જ્યારે કે એમની મા ઈલેઝાબેઠ-૨ની ૧૯૫૩માં તાજપોશી થઈ હતી ત્યારે ૮૦૦૦ મહેમાનોને આમંત્રણ પાઠવવામાં આવ્યું હતું. ૮મી સપ્ટેમ્બર ૨૦૨૨માં ક્વીન ઈલેઝાબેઠ-૨ના મરણ પછી ૧૦મી સપ્ટેમ્બર ૨૦૨૨ના રોજ પ્રિન્સ ચાર્લસની ધ્રિટનના રાજા કીંગ ચાર્લસ-૩ તરીકે નિયુક્તિ થઈ હતી. હવે વિધિસર રીતની સ્ટેટ સેરેમનીમા કે જે ધ્રિટનની રાજાશાહીમાં એક અનેરો અવસર છે તેની ઉજવણી થઈ રહી છે. શનિવાર હોવાને લીધે સોમવાર તારીખ ૮મી મે ના રોજ બેન્ક હોલીડે પણ જાહેર કરાઈ છે. આ પ્રસંગને અનેક માધ્યમના લાઈવ પ્રસારણથી ઈંગ્લેન્ડ, વેલ્સ અને સ્કોટલેન્ડમાં મોટી સંખ્યામાં લોકો અને વિશ્વમાં પણ કરોડો લોકો જોઈ શકશે.


ઈ.સ.૧૦૬૬થી દરેક તાજપોશી (કોરોનેશન) વેસ્ટ મિન્સ્ટર એબેમાં યોજાઈ છે. રાણી ઈલેઝાબેઠ-૨નું પણ કોરોનેશન જુન ૧૯૫૩માં અહીંજ થયું હતું. કીંગ ચાર્લસ-૩ નથી ઈચ્છતા કે તાજપોશી દરમ્યાન પવિત્ર વિધિ જેમાં હોલી ઓઈલ લગાવવામાં આવે છે તેને પ્રજા જોઈ શકે તેને ફીલ્માવવા ઉપર ટેલીવીઝન, કેમેરા વગેરે ઉપર પ્રતિબંધ લગાવ્યો છે.

યા ભારતીયો માટે એનર્જી ડ્રીન્ક

કહેવાય છે ભારતીયોની સવાર ચાથી અને રાત ચાથી પૂરી થાય છે. પરંતુ ફક્ત ભારતીયોજ યા પીવાના શોખીન છે એવું નથી. વિશ્વના અનેક દેશોમાં યા પીવાનું ચલાણ જોવા મળે છે. સૌથી વધુ યા પીનારા દેશની વાત થતી હોય ત્યારે હાલમાં બહાર પડેલ રિપોર્ટ અનુસાર સૌથી વધુ યા પીનારો દુનિયાનો નં-૧ દેશ તુર્કીય (ટર્કી) છે. જ્યાં દર ૧૦ માણસોમાં ૯ માણસો યા પીએ છે. એટલે કે, ૯૦ટકા લોકો યાની ચુસ્કી માણે છે. આ યાદીમાં ભારતનો નંબર પાંચમો છે. જ્યાં ૭૨ ટકા લોકો યા પીએ છે. યાના ઉત્પાદન તરફ જોઈએ તો યાના ઉત્પાદનમાં કેન્યાનો નંબર પ્રથમ છે. જ્યાં ૮૩ટકા લોકો નિયમિત યા પીએ છે.


શું તમે જાણો છો ?

રાફેલ ફાયટર વિમાનોની ખરીદીમાં ભ્રષ્ટાચાર અને ગેરરીતિના આક્ષેપથી હાલની સરકાર છૂટકારો મેળવી શકી નથી, તેવા સંજોગોમાં એક વાત જાણવા જેવી છે. આ પહેલું રાફેલ ફાયટર વિમાનને પેરિસથી ઉડાવનાર પહેલો પાયલોટ એક મુસ્લિમ છે. જેનું નામ હિલાલ એહમદ રાઠેર છે. જે કાશ્મીરના અનંતનાગ જિલ્લાનો રહેવાશી છે. તે ૧૯૮૮માં ફલાઈટ લેફ. તરીકે સામેલ થયો હતો. તે મિગ-૨૧ અને મિરાઝ અને કિરણ ફાઈટર એરક્રાફ્ટ ઉડાડવાનો બહોળો અનુભવ ધરાવે છે.



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