



In the name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful

..... **The HOPE Bulletin**

Hhealth, Ongoing Projects, Education



March 2007

AAIL Worldwide Edition

Editor: Akbar Abdullah

CALIFORNIA JAMA'AT PROJECT: APPROVED BY THE CENTRAL ANJUMAN, LAHORE

INTRODUCTION

Editor's Notes

In this issue we have introduced a new column, "Qur'an and *Hadith*", in which we will explain Qur'anic verses that have historical significance and which teach us a lesson in life. Daily recitation of the Holy Qur'an even without understanding its meaning is important in that the repetitive reading cleanses our souls, as you will comprehend by reading an article at the end of this discussion. However, we do encourage that one must attempt to

grasp the meaning of Arabic text either by studying the Arabic language or by mere reading its meaning in the language in what one understands.

Similarly, there are many authentic *hadith* narratives that are available for us to explore. We invite our readers to submit for publication any narrative that will enhance the spiritual knowledge of our global members.

Grandfather's wisdom convinces grandson

Why do we read Qur'an, even when we can't understand Arabic?

An old Muslim lived on a farm in the mountains with his young grandson. Each morning Grandpa was up early, sitting at the kitchen table reading his Qur'an. His grandson wanted to be just like him and tried to imitate him in every way he could.

One day the grandson asked, "Grandpa, I try to read the Qur'an just like you but I don't understand it, and what I do understand I forget as soon as I close the book. What good does reading the Qur'an do?"

The Grandfather quietly turned from putting coal in the stove and replied, "Take this coal basket down to the river and bring me back a basket of water."

The boy did as he was told, but all the water leaked out before he got back to the house. The grandfather laughed and said, "You'll have to move a little faster next time," and sent him back to the river with the basket to try again. This time the boy ran faster, but again the basket was empty before he returned home. Out of breath, he told his grandfather that it was impossible to carry water in a basket, and he went to get a bucket instead.

The old man said, "I don't want a bucket of water; I want a basket of water. You're just not trying hard enough," and he went out the door to watch the boy try again.

At this point, the boy knew it was impossible, but he wanted to show his grandfather that even if he ran as

fast as he could, the water would leak out before he got back to the house. The boy again dipped the basket into river and ran hard, but when he reached his grandfather the basket was again empty. Out of breath, he said, "See Grandpa, it's useless!"

"So you think it is useless?" The old man said, "Look at the basket." The boy looked at the basket and for the first time realized that the basket was different. It had been transformed from a dirty old coal basket and was now clean, inside and out. "Son, that's what happens when you read the Qur'an; you might not understand or remember everything, but then you read it; you will be changed, inside and out. That is the work of Allah in our lives."

NEWS FROM THE CENTRE

Farewell dinner to Begum Abdul Razzaque, Vice-President, AAII, India

Begum Abdul Razzaque, who was scheduled to depart Lahore in the early hours of 16 January, was given a farewell dinner at Brigadier Mohammad Saeed's residence on the evening of 15 January. Before returning to India she stated that on her

return she will attempt to energise the *Jama'at* in India. This Editor had the pleasure of speaking to her on the phone and wished her well in her efforts to revive India's *Jama'at* and carry on the work of her late husband.

Birthday celebration

On this same evening your Editor was being entertained by family members in a local restaurant in Chicago on his golden birthday. Last year my birthday was celebrated at the house of Brother Rashid of Gulberg, Lahore, where Hazrat Ameer and *Jama'at* stalwarts were also invited. Hazrat Ameer provided one of the two birthday cakes with

a gift from his family and composed a beautiful poem, written on a card, on this happy occasion. Hazrat Ameer's poem is given immediately below and photographs taken on the occasion can be viewed in the Photo Gallery at the end of the *Bulletin*.

Allah grant you a Happy Day
Kindle in you a New Light
Brighten your life, I pray
And ask Him to remove Each Plight
Rain His Mercy both day and night

(A. Karim Saeed Pasha, Lahore. Dated 15-1-2006)

New Year's supplement

Hazrat Ameer approved the idea of publishing the New Year's supplement and he thinks it is a "swell idea" which must be repeated again. While complimenting Hazrat Ameer wrote, "...It provided an opportunity to all the brothers and sisters of this International *Jama'at* a feeling of sharing the joy in togetherness."

Jama'ats and individual members are kindly requested to plan their messages now as the year 2008 will mark the 100th death anniversary of Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad.

"Jesus died in Kashmir"

Hazrat Ameer appreciated our story on the death and burial of Prophet Jesus (pbuh) in Kashmir. He commented, "I am glad you included a very interesting and useful item regarding Jesus in the *HOPE*. It has given a wider scope to the publication

and also useful reference material for all those interested in this subject. I pray that Allah will reward you, Dr. Zahid Aziz and Nasir Saheb for this great service to Islam."

Convention in Australia

Hazrat Ameer is very excited about participating in the forthcoming convention in Australia, which will be held during the Easter weekend at our AAIIIL Sydney *Jama'at* in Australia. Preparatory activities are well underway in great anticipation of this visit. Hazrat Ameer intends to take a large contingent from Pakistan, who will pay their own way. After the convention Hazrat Ameer and his entourage are

expected to visit our *Jama'ats* in Fiji and New Zealand before returning home. We must all pray for a safe journey for Hazrat Ameer and his companions.

We will publish details of the convention in due course.

JAMA'AT NEWS

Brother Shaukat A Ali, Coordinator, Pacific Region relocated

We congratulate our brother, Shaukat A Ali, on the wedding of his daughter in Australia and his plans to establish a second home in Brisbane. Brother Shaukat wrote:

"Alhamdulillah, the wedding and walima on 5 January went exceptionally well and by the grace of Merciful Allah and we have

received nothing but compliments from the people who attended. She is married to Sameer Khan, son of Mr. Jamir Khan, former Town Clerk, Lautoka and a current Vice President (with Muhammad Usman Sahu Khan as another) of the Sydney *Jamaat*."

***HOPE* membership**

We thank Brothers Ameen Sahu Khan of Australia, Abdul Santoe of Holland, Dr. Mujahid Ahmad Saeed of the United Kingdom, Muhammad Ali of Germany, Khaliel Ghaforkhan of Suriname, and Tariq Ahmad of the USA for providing us with

additional names and addresses for our mailing list. *JazakAllah!* We sincerely thank them and hope other members would also introduce us to new members. We would like to increase our readership so that more members can be informed about what

is happening in our worldwide *Jama'at*. While we urge you to increase our readership we also ask for your news/article contributions and invite you to

submit your views on how we can improve this magazine. We would be most appreciative of your involvement.

Flooding in Indonesia

Hazrat Ameer contacted Professor F. Ahmadi, President of AAAIL, Indonesia, to enquire about the effect of recent flooding on our *Jama'ats* brethren there. *Alhamdulillah!* Our members were not

adversely affected nor was any of the *Jama'at's* infrastructure damaged. Please continue to pray for the welfare of our Indonesian brethren.

Hazrat Ameer's marriage *khutba*

Dr. Hamza Rafeeq of AAAIL, Trinidad requested a copy of the marriage *khutba* delivered by Hazrat Ameer in California some two years ago. We promptly sent him a copy. If any member desires a

hardcopy please write to us with your postal address and we will be happy to mail you a copy free of cost.

***Dars-i Qur'an* in New Zealand**

Br. Abid Raza, President of AAAIL, New Zealand, submitted the following extract from Br. Shabir Buksh's report on activities in New Zealand:

“We had our monthly Quran *Daras*, ably taken by brothers of our *Jamaat*. Br. Shabir spoke on ‘Family Life in Islam’ and Br. Ishaad Zullah spoke on Islam and its principals, and Ahmadiyyaat. *Inshah Allah*, from hereon we have made a pledge to

hold Quran *Daras* to precede our Board Meeting at members' residence towards the end of each month. Please pray that our efforts for continuance of our endeavors to have the monthly *Daras* fulfill our promises.”

JazakAllah! We commend our New Zealand brethren for such encouraging news and pray for complete success in their efforts.

Brother Ahmad Nawaz's report on *Jama'at* activities in California

On Saturday, February 10, 2007 AAAIL, Oakland, California held a special prayer meeting. The members met at the Oakland *Masjid* at 4:30 p.m. for Qur'an *khwani* and special prayer for the mother of Brs. Mehboob Raza, Hafiz Raza, Abid Raza and their two sisters. The *salat-e-janaza* was led by Imam Mohammad Mustapha after Qur'an *khwani* and *Maghrib* prayer.

After that, Dr. Hameed Qazi Jahangiri, who had recently performed *Hajj*, related his experience and showed photographs taken in Mecca and Medina. Finally, Br. Ahmad Nawaz conducted *dars-i Qur'an* on *Surah Al-Kausar*, which was delivered specially for the benefit of the children and youth who were present.

The programme then proceeded with the recitation of Holy Qur'an, ably rendered by Miss Ridda Jabeen Ahmad, Br. Ahmad Nawaz's granddaughter.

At the conclusion of formal programme, the guests were treated to a sumptuous dinner provided by Br. Nur Alam of Fiji.

Launching of new magazine in Berlin

Br. Manfred Yahya Backhausen of the Berlin *Jama'at* informed us about the launch of a new magazine in German, which he describes as follows:

“Brothers Muhammad Ali, Volker Tahir Neef and I had started as a new project, a small German magazine with the title *Islam Heute* (that means 'Islam Today').

It was in the late 80s when *Islam Heute*, the follower of the *Moslemische Revue* (Muslim Revue) which was founded by Maulana Sadr-ud-Din in the year 1924, was first published.

Now we will publish again this little magazine to inform the people about the true Islam and about our *Jamaat*.

We will publish it first from time to time, later (*Inshallah*) regular. For the reason that we are a very poor *jamaat*, we will make it very simple.

Please pray for this work and that Allah may protect the very few members of our *Jamaat* in Germany. We feel much better if we think on all our sisters and brothers in our global community.

My best greetings and *Wasalam*, your br. Manfred Yahya Backhausen

Janaza for Imams Shaheed Mohammed and Rahmat Naipal

Sister Mary Ghafoerkhan, in a follow-up letter (copied to us) wrote:

“In my quick response to Roger I forgot to mention that apart from being the *Imam* of Taqveatul-Islam Br. Rahmat was also the Secretary of this branch of the SIV and also the Secretary of the Jamiatul-Ulema. The funeral was on Wednesday, Feb. 14th. Many SIV members took part in the *Janaza* prayer.

Since Khaliel and I were very close to Br. Rahmat and his wife Cinthy, we were also asked to speak at the funeral, so Khaliel gave a eulogy which was appreciated much by the family and audience.”

Brother Khaliel Ghafoerkhan copied the following report to us:

“Last Friday the *Juma-Khutba* and prayer were led by our President, Br. Majid Abdul, and after the prayer all of us prayed *Ghaibana-Janaza* for our dear departed Imam Shaheed Mohammad. I am convinced that the families of Imam Shaheed and Imam Naipal will get solace to know that *Janaza* was prayed for them in Darus Salaam led by Hazrat Ameer, in Holland and Suriname and other places through the Worldwide Ahmadiyya *Jamaat*.”

QUR'AN AND HADITH

A beautiful and efficacious Quranic prayer

When Moses had to flee Egypt after inadvertently killing an Egyptian, and came upon the water of Midian, he found there men watering their flocks, and he found besides them two damsels keeping back (their flocks). He said: “What is the matter with you?”

They replied: “We cannot water until the shepherds take away (their sheep) from the water; and our father is a very old man.”

So he watered their sheep for them, then retreated to the shade, and said: "My Lord, I stand in need of whatever good Thou mayest send to me!" (28:23, 24).

The rest of the story is well-known: how Allah accepted his prayer and how Reu'el (Hazrat Shoaib) bestowed the hand of his daughter, Zip-pora'h, upon Moses, after making him (Moses) graze his flock for seven years.

Personally I have found this prayer of Moses to be a very efficacious prayer in times of crises.

Captain Abdus Salam Khan

From his writings we are told that the late Khwaja Kamal-ud-Din firmly believed in the power of prayer. During prayer, he would be blessed with divine knowledge of the type of natural medication that would help him cure his ailments. We are told that he adopted the Sufi concept of intense supplication. Sufis, through meditation, strive to get closer to Allah in three stages. Their goal is to become "true friends of Allah," and after accomplishing that state, if they make some reasonable request to Allah, He answers their plea without hesitation because that is what is expected from a "true friend." According to some renowned *wali Allahs*, if Allah, for some reason known to Him only, declines to fulfil a request, He would promptly let them know.

FEATURED ARTICLE

Contributed by Br. Jalal UD Dean, Suva, Fiji Islands

Thank you for the 2007 *HOPE* supplement enclosure.

It was indeed obvious that views and terms expressed were without doubt strongly Ahmadees'. The reader may not need being told about it but anybody with reasonable knowledge on Islam would have been able to conclude that characteristic and bold commonsense approach is usually seen in Ahmadees' articles.

There is need to be proud of belongingness to an esteemed society blessed with clear thinking and further embellished with sensible writing and commentary from pioneering Ahmadee writers such as Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, Maulana Muhammad Ali, Dr Basharat Ahmad, Maulana Khawaja Kamal-ud-Din, Maulana Sadr-ud-Din, Maulana Abdul Haqq (Vidyarti) and their many other prominent contemporaries.

We need to push all our eminent writers' articles just so much harder for global publicity through recognized institutions in many countries. The particular drive should be in those countries

especially where Islam needs that extra boost for recognition.

We must start now in a proactive methodology.

This aspect is very important as next year 2008 (1429 *Hijr*) will be the 100th anniversary of the demise of our founder, Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad (b. 13 Feb 1835 - d. 26 May 1908), the 14th Century *Mujaddid*, Saviour of Muslims worldwide and Ambassador from Allah, the Renovator, expressly sent on a mission to refurbish Islam to its pristine original glory.

We are all living in the wake of the 14th Century *Mujaddid* and it is our incumbent responsibility to reach out wider in the *Mujaddid's* mission. Hazrat Sahib, regretfully, was not blessed with modern technology such as television, radio, cell phones, computers, facsimiles and Internet (to name a few), but lived to practice using posters, that served its purpose up to 1908.

Global trotting was unheard of as there were no commercial airlines prior to 1908.

Every sector of the Ahmadiyya Anjuman Isha'at-i-Islam must commence planning now proactively the futuristic vision of what we want to see of our global branches of the *Jama'at* prior to May 2008.

We need to expand on Hazrat Sahib's predictions (and please call them prediction and not prophecy - as he was not a prophet) which are all gradually proving true. We must learn to discipline ourselves and stop calling him deceptively as "Mirza Ghulam Ahmad Qadianni." Such deceptive terminologies confuse people that we Lahore and the "Qadiannis" are the one and same.

We are not.

Our differences are poles apart.

We must discipline ourselves and refer to Hazrat Sahib as "Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, the Promised 14th Century *Mujaddid*." This seals two points that:

(a) he was the 14th *Mujaddid* and

(b) he was not a Prophet, as Rasul Allah was the Final Prophet.

We must further discipline ourselves through propagation by publishing the whole list of all 14 *Mujaddids*, which would conclusively portray that image that Hazrat Sahib was the most recent of a continuum of *mujaddids* and that he was not the only *mujaddid*.

Such preparations require high-level strategic planning to expose his sacrifice from the sorry state of the world before Hazrat Sahib's declaration, his declaration that he was a *mujaddid* and not a prophet, various testimonies, his biography and his tireless role of renovating Islam to the way Rasul Allah (pbuh) would have desired so.

We are greatly underprivileged in Fiji as we do not have access to all of Hazrat Sahib's written works in English as most of his written works are in high-level scholarly Urdu and some in Persian. Very few in Fiji can read and comprehend that level of scholarly Urdu.

Those amongst our *Jama'at* who have a wealth of Hazrat Sahib's written works may be able to use current technology and send over electronically excerpts that may be published in other languages for express propagation in May 2008.

This should be a global event that would deliver its impact with historical events happening now and which Hazrat Sahib had predicted would be happening.

Preparation and publicity of a DVD-based documentary on Hazrat Sahib is an avenue that we may approach.

Khuda Hafiz, Jalal UD Dean, Suva, Fiji Islands

BOOK REVIEWS

This month's book review is on *Muhammad – A Prophet for Our Time* by Karen Armstrong and published by Harper Collins of New York in their "Eminent Lives" series. Br. Choudry Masud Akthar

has ably reviewed this book and since it would entail several pages we have decided to publish his work in a special supplement following the March *HOPE Bulletin*.

ALL ABOUT US

The biography from *Yaade Raftagan*, translated by Choudry Masud Akthar Sahib, on Dr. Syed Muhammad Hussain Shah, original founding member of the Ahmadiyya Anjuman will, *Inshaa Allah*, be published in the next month's issue if not carried in a special supplement of *The HOPE Bulletin*.

WHAT OUR READERS SAY

Mian Fazl-i-Ahmad, Chairman, Foreign Missions, Lahore, Pakistan

My dear brother Akbar,
Assalam-u-alaikum.

“HOPE” Bulletin of February 2007 is full of information. I am glad you are keeping it up and keeping it so well. May Almighty Allah bless you

and enable you to do better. Please accept my congratulation.

With best regard,
Yours faithfully, Fazl-i-Ahmad

Captain Abdus Salam Khan, Los Angeles, CA, USA

Just finished looking at the February 2007 issue of the *HOPE*. Congratulations for such a nice production. May Allah bless you and your team for this excellent work. Pray keep it up.

With many good wishes and regards.
Capt. Abdus Salam Khan

Dr. Hamza Rafeeq, Trinidad & Tobago

Assalamu Alaikum.
Brother JAK:

The *Bulletin* is good and the photographs are superb. Thanks with Allah's blessings to you and your family. Keep up the good work.
Hamza

Sister Nur Jahan Alam, Sydney, Australia

Thank you Bhaijan,
It was very entertaining and we got to see places and people we would not have been able to without the camera.

Allah Hafiz, Nur

Brother Shahid Aziz, Secretary AAII, United Kingdom

Dear brother Akbar Abdullah
Assalamu alaikum.

Yesterday after *Jumma* prayers Prof Dr Hami led the funeral prayers of our dear departed brothers Imam Shaheed Mohammed of Trinidad and Imam Rahmat Naipal of Taqviat ul Islam mosque in

Surinam. May Allah bless them both for their untiring efforts in the cause of Islam. I visited the mosque some years ago in the company of many foreign delegates and have some photographs of that time.

I had missed the news of the passing away of Brother Mehbood Raza's mother. Please pass on my condolences to the whole family.

Your *Bulletin* is performing a very useful service in keeping the *jamaats* world over informed on

personal news and allowing every one to share in the happiness and sadness of our brothers and sisters.

Shahid Aziz

Brother Peter Sakowicz, Poland

Dear brother in Islam:

Thank you, dear brother, for sending the beautiful photos on Hazrat Ameer's tour of Germany. Thank you also for an excellent reading (in reference to

HOPE Bulletin coverage on "Jesus died in Kashmir").

Alhumdulillah! Peter Sakowicz

HEALTH & PRAYER NEWS

Brother Muhammad Ali, Assistant Imam, Berlin Mosque

Brother Taher Neef of Berlin writes about the health of our Assistant *Imam*:

"*Salam Alaikum*, dear Br. Akbar. Today Br. Muhammad Ali is sitting in his office and busy. So we see, everything is all right, Elhamdulillah!

Salam Alaikum, Taher"

Letter from Sister Akela Haroun, United Kingdom

Hello all, this is Akela,
Assalamo-alaikum.

Just letting you know that I am home for the weekend, going back on Tuesday. I will like to

thank all of you for your concern. Thank Allah I am keeping good so far and when I get better I will get better by the mercy of Allah and I will write again.

Bye for now, Akela."

Update on Dr. Abdul Habib Sahu Khan, Sydney, Australia

Dear Bhaijan,

This is a short note to let you know that Dad was discharged from hospital this afternoon. He is much better than before, thanks to Allah. Although he has not recovered fully, at least he will be in his own environment and I am sure this will aid his recovery. Thank you for your prayers. Please pass on our thanks to everyone in the *Jamaat* also. We are very grateful to everyone for their support.

Allah Hafiz, Nur

Hazrat Ameer, members of the Central *Jama'at* and global members of our "Prayer Circle" are requested to please pray for the above listed brothers and sister, including Brs. Noer Sardar and Khalid, and other ailing members of our *Jama'at*. May Allah (*swt*) with His bountiful mercy and with His graceful blessings grant *shifa* and early recovery to all our suffering members in the worldwide *Jama'ats*. *Aameen*.

Condolence Message

Begum Hajira Tazim Raza Marhooma

Hazrat Ameer sent the following message for the *Bulletin*:

“I was very grieved to get the news of death of mother of Mehboob Raza Saheb and feel thankful to Allah that I was able to share the grief with him and Abid on the phone, and the rest of the family through an e-mail.

Having a mother die is like suddenly losing your umbrella in the midst of a heavy rain; you simply don't know what to do and just hope that Allah sends all brothers and sisters with His help and gives them solace, and rest the soul of mother in a very high place in the hereafter abode.”

Message from Ejaz Sayal

We were not able to include the following condolence message of Br. Ejaz Sayal in our special international edition of *The HOPE Bulletin*, which he addressed to Brs Mehboob Raza, Abid Raza, Abid Aziz and family.

“Dear Brothers,
We are sorry to hear about the sad demise of Auntie. May Allah award & reward her eternal peace in the Hereafter. I still

remember her innocent face and hospitable demeanour. She was a pious lady who earned a lot of good deeds. May Allah exalt her place in *Jannah tul firdos*. May Allah Almighty give all of you patience and courage to bear the burden of this irreparable personal loss. May Allah be with you. *Amin!!!*

Ejaz”

Acknowledgement from Brother Abid Raza

Dear Brother Ejaz, A.A.

Shukria on behalf of my brothers and family for your kind message of sympathy which is

appreciated. Apologies for being brief as I am at a loss for words since her demise.

Khuda Hafiz, Abid Raza

Message from Br. Iwan Yusuf B Lelana, General Secretary, AAII, Indonesia

Inna lillahi wa inna ilaihi raji'un.

Please convey the condolence of the Indonesian *Jamaat*, on the demise of our two brothers in Trinidad and Tobago and Suriname. May Allah forgive their sins and bring them into *Jannah*.

“O soul that art at rest, return unto thy Lord well-pleased and pleasing them, so enter among My servants, enter My gardens.”

Iwan Yusuf B. Lelana, General Secretary

ONGOING PROJECT

In the January 2007 edition of *Paigham-e-Sulh*, it was reported that the California *Jama'at* is offering

scholarships for those who want to take up post-graduate studies in Pakistan. As a result of this

announcement some interested students have been trying to contact the California *Jama'at* directly. We like all interested persons to contact the Chairman of Education Committee at Central Anjuman, Lahore, who is entrusted with the management of this programme.

Hazrat Ameer writes in this regard:

“Any scholarship on the California fund is to be decided by the Committee set for this purpose in the Centre. There are rules and regulations which have been framed and all applicants must satisfy the criteria before they are awarded the *Qarza e Hassana*.”

Two Horses

Just up the road from my home is a field, with two horses in it. From a distance, each looks like every other horse. But if you stop your car, or are walking by, you will notice something quite amazing.

Looking into the eyes of one horse will disclose that he is blind. His owner has chosen not to have him put down, but has made a good home for him. This alone is amazing.

If nearby and listening, you will hear the sound of a bell. Looking around for the source of the sound, you will see that it comes from the smaller horse in the field. Attached to her halter is a small bell. It lets her blind friend know where she is, so he can follow her.

As you stand and watch these two friends, you'll see how she is always checking on him, and that he will listen for her bell and then slowly walk to where she is, trusting that she will not lead him astray. When

LASER Education Programme in Lahore

LASER stands for Lahore Ahmadiyya School for Religious Education. It is the name Hazrat Ameer coined for the education unit at Darus Salam. Amir

We appeal to members, especially repatriates from Pakistan, to help this education project managed by the Central Anjuman's Education Committee, to make it viable so as not only to fully finance those students who are already on the programme but to help many more needy students of the *Jama'at*. Allah will reward you many fold.

Below is a story of two horses in which a horse with sight leads a horse who is blind. We liken ourselves to the horse with sight, pledging to help the needy students who are likened to the blind horse that needs our support and guidance to pursue their desire to seek education.

she returns to the shelter of the barn each evening, she stops occasionally and looks back, making sure her friend isn't too far behind to hear the bell.

Like the owners of these two horses, God does not throw us away just because we are not perfect or because we have problems or challenges. He watches over us and even brings others into our lives to help us when we are in need. Sometimes we are the blind horse being guided by the little ringing bell of those who God places in our lives. Other times we are the guide horse, helping others see.

Good friends are like this. You don't always see them, but you know they are always there. Please listen for my bell and I'll listen for yours. Be kinder than necessary, for everyone you meet is fighting some kind of battle.

[Courtesy of Br. Ameen Sahu Khan.]

Aziz is in charge of this programme. There are plans to start an online course, as well. Currently, it caters for training of *mubalaghin* at the Centre in Lahore.

EDUCATION NEWS

“A Pathan with a Pen”

Captain Abdus Salam Khan wrote an article, “A Pathan with a Pen,” about his late father, Maulvi Muhammad Yaqub Khan, which appeared in the *Frontier Post* on March 6, 1987. He writes:

“He was not only a missionary and a journalist but an eminent educationist as well. As head of the Muslim School, Lahore,

he was the first man to ban all corporal punishment in school...”

The article covers several pages; therefore we have decided to issue it as a separate special bulletin soon.

Suppress your Anger!

Those who shun the great sins and indecencies, and whenever they are angry they forgive. ... The recompense of evil is punishment like it; but whoever forgives and amends, his reward is with Allah. Surely He loves not the wrongdoers" (Qur'an, 42:37, 40).

A sensible person knows that it is a waste of time and energy to get angry. Effort will then have to be made to rebuild relationships that might have been affected by venting one's anger. It is much more

useful to breathe deeply, pay attention to one's attitude, and answer without haste. In this way, one improves and strengthens one's relationships with others.

Create trust and your mistakes will be forgiven. [Reproduced from *A Spiritual Note* dated February 23, 2007.]

HOPE MEMBER SERVICE

Recipe of the Month

***Qabili Pilau* (Lamb and Yellow Rice with Carrots and Raisins)**

Ingredients

Serves 4

- 1 lb long grain rice, preferably basmati
- ¼ cup vegetable oil
- 1½ lb lamb on the bone or 1 chicken, cut into pieces
- 3 cups water
- 2 large carrots, cut into matchstick size
- 1 medium sized onion
- 1 cup black seedless raisins
- 2 tsp *char masala* or ground cumin
- 1 tsp sugar
- 1½ tsp ground cardamom
- ¼ tsp saffron (optional)
- Salt and pepper

Method of Preparation

- Brown diced onion in oil and fry until dark.
- Add the meat and brown lightly.
- Add 2 cups of water, 1 tsp salt, 1 to 1½ tsp each of cinnamon, cumin and ground cardamom. Cover and simmer for about an hour or until meat is tender.
- Remove meat from the juice and set the juice aside.
- Sauté carrots and 1 tsp sugar in about ¼ cup of oil until light brown.
- Remove from oil.
- Add the raisins to the oil and cook till they plump up.
- Boil the meat juice and add rice, 1½ tsp salt and enough boiling water to come to about 2 inches over the rice. Cook until the water is absorbed and the rice is tender, but not mushy.
- Mix the meat, carrots, raisins and rice together.
- Transfer to a large oven-safe dish, cover and bake at 300°F for half an hour to an hour.

To serve, place on a platter, making sure the carrots and raisins are showing at the top.

Give yourself an IQ Test

It doesn't hurt to take a hard look at yourself from time to time. This little test should help you get started.

During a visit to a mental asylum, a visitor asked the director what the criteria were that defines if a patient should be institutionalized.

"Well," said the Director, "we fill up a bathtub. Then we offer a teaspoon, a teacup, and a bucket to the patient and ask the patient to empty the bathtub."

Okay, here's your test:

1. Would you use the spoon?
2. Would you use the teacup?
3. Would you use the bucket?

"Oh, I understand," said the visitor. "A normal person would choose the bucket, as it is larger than the spoon or the teacup."

Answer:

"No," answered the director, "a normal person would pull the plug and let the water down the drain."

What to do when danger strikes at ATM

This is good to know. If you should ever be forced by a robber to withdraw money from an ATM, you can notify the police by entering your PIN in reverse.

For example if your PIN were 1234 then you would put in 4321. The ATM recognizes that your PIN is backwards from the ATM card you placed in the machine.

The machine will still give you the money you requested, but unknown to the robber; the police will be immediately dispatched to help you.

This information was recently broadcast on TV and it states that it is seldom used because people don't know it exists. Please pass this along to everyone possible.

[Courtesy Br. Haroun.]

PHOTO GALLERY



Brickdam Masjid in Georgetown, Guyana

Besides our *Jama'at's* beautiful *masjid* in Brickdam, we also have two mosques in East Berbice and one in Canefield. Please click on the link below to view

other beautiful *masjids* in Guyana:
<http://www.masajidofguyana.com/masajids.html>

Birthday party in Lahore for Akbar Abdullah



From left to right: Br. Rashid Sahib, Dr. Pasha Sahib, Akbar Abdullah, Khalid Sahib, Mian Fazl-i-Ahmad Sahib, Dr/H Abdul Waheed Sahib



A birthday cake brought by Hazrat Ameer, Dr. Abdul Karim Saeed Pasha Sahib is being cut by Akbar Abdullah



Seated from left to right: Brigadier Saeed Sahib, Br. Rashid Sahib, Dr. Pasha Sahib, Mian Fazl-i-Ahmad Sahib, Dr/H Abdul Waheed Sahib



Seated from left to right: Dr. Pasha Sahib, Akbar Abdullah, Br. Rashid Sahib, Mian Fazl-i-Ahmad Sahib, Dr/H Abdul Waheed Sahib, Br. Khalid Sahib

CONTACT INFORMATION

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