



The Bond

Keeping the Kingston Muslim Community Together

The Islamic Society
of Kingston (ISK)

P.O. Box 2021, Kingston,
Ontario K7L 5J8

May/June 2011

Jumada II/Rajab 1432 A.H

They ask thee what is lawful to them (as food). Say: lawful unto you are (all) things good and pure: and what ye have taught your trained hunting animals (to catch) in the manner directed to you by Allah: eat what they catch for you, but pronounce the name of Allah over it: and fear Allah; for Allah is swift in taking account. (Qur'an 5:4)

President's Message

My fellow Muslim Kingstonians,

The Muslim Community in Kingston has responded very positively to the fundraising call in lieu of the purchase of the next door property on Sydenham road. The property will certainly be beneficial to the next generation and also will have immediate usage as space for children education. So far we have reached 60% of the \$100,000 target needed to complete the purchase and manage other already approved (and needed) projects. We are getting there. Please continue to donate and participate in this effort.

In the longer term though, we are need of a more sustained monthly contributions. It costs on average around \$7000 per month to run the ICK. Such expense will probably be higher as the number of community members increases, increased ICK usage and the addition of the property next door. Currently the ISK receives less than \$2500 in monthly contributions (through direct debit) and another \$2000 through donation boxes and miscellaneous contributions. This makes us \$2500 short each month, and will need to raise such amount through direct debit. We are counting on you. Please contribute.

On a different front, like most Canadian, the Muslim community in Kingston has been following the devastating news on the fires at Slave Lake, Alberta

and the floods in Manitoba. It is very hard to watch half of the town of Slave Lake gone in a day or so. The town's high school, library, and main mall have all burned to the ground. The mayor Slave Lake in describing the situation says "It's truly devastating. I've never seen anything like this before. It's going to take a while to rebuild our community." The floods in Manitoba have caused several community evacuations, live stock movements, great loss in harvest, as well as extensive property damage. We pray for the victims in Alberta and Manitoba. The ISK will be collecting funds for the purpose of rebuilding the affected communities. Please participate.

May Allah (swt) guide us to what is right and what is best. We seek His guidance and forgiveness.

Hossam Hassanein

ISK President

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Imam's Message

Safeguarding the Fajr Prayer

The days are getting warmer and longer, the grass is getting greener and the nights are getting shorter. And with the passing of each day, the Fajr and Isha prayers take a step towards each other, until the longest day of the year in the June. That's when we'll be offering Isha at its latest time of the year and Fajr at its earliest time (5:21 am and 10:47 pm respectively, in Kingston).

For many of us, this change creates havoc for our sleep and many times, our Fajr prayer ends up being sacrificed, which is troubling because the Fajr prayer holds special importance.

Allah, the Exalted, says in the Qur'an:

"So establish the Prayer after the declining of the sun (from its zenith, for Zuhr and then `Asr) to the dusk of night (Maghrib and then `Isha) and the (Qur'anic) recitation of Fajr. Indeed, the (Qur'anic) recitation of Fajr is witnessed." [Quran 17:78]

We learn from authentically transmitted ahadith that it is the angels that witness the recitation of the Fajr prayers.

Abu Hurairah (may Allah be pleased with him) reported: **The Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings be upon him) said, "There are angels who take turns in visiting you by night and by day, and they all assemble at the dawn (Fajr) and the afternoon (`Asr) prayers. Those who have spent the night with you, ascend to the heaven and their Rubb (Lord), who knows better about them, asks: 'In what condition did you leave My slaves?' They reply: 'We left them while they were performing Salat and we went to them while they were performing Salat.'" [Reported by Bukhari and Muslim]**

The importance of the Fajr prayer is also highlighted by the fact that its observance, along with that of the `Asr prayer (in addition to the observance of all the other obligatory prayers), is specifically mentioned as a means of protection against hellfire and entry into Paradise.

The Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) said:

"Whoever prays *al-Bardaan* (the two cooler prayers, meaning Fajr and `Asr) will enter Paradise." [Reported by Bukhari and Muslim]

Also:

"Whoever performs the Salat (prayer) before the rising of the sun (Fajr) and before its setting (`Asr), will not enter the Hell." [Reported by Muslim]

The observance of Fajr prayer is also a source of Allah's protection. The Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) said:

"He who offers the dawn (Fajr) prayers will come under the Protection of Allah. O son of Adam! Beware, lest Allah should call you to account in any respect from (for withdrawing) His Protection." [Reported by Muslim]

Finally, the observance of the `Isha and Fajr prayers in congregation carries special merit – the reward of offering prayer for the entire nights.

So then, what can we do to ensure we offer the Fajr prayer on time (before sunrise)?

Here are some tips:

- Head to bed immediately after `Isha prayer. Before doing so, recite the dua`a of sleeping (*Allahumma bis mika amootu wa aHya*), *ayat-al-kursi* (verse 255 of surat al-Baqarah) and surahs al-Ikhlās, al-Falaq, and an-Naas.
- Nap in the afternoon or evening if you're having trouble getting enough sleep.
- Set multiple alarms on clocks and mobile phones, each one set for five minutes later than the previous one, and keep them out-of-reach so that they cannot be turned off without stepping out of bed.
- Resolve that you will not hit the snooze button and that you will resist the temptation to sleep for "a few more minutes."
- Consider missing Fajr prayer a "big deal" and if that happens, force yourself to get up, make wudhu (ablution) and pray as soon as you remember.
- Feel regret for missing it and promise yourself to keep trying your utmost to wake up on time.
- Go to bed with the sincere intention of offering Fajr prayer in the morning.
- Finally, seek Allah's assistance in granting you peaceful sleep and the ability to wake up for Fajr.

Imam Sikander Ziad Hashmi can be reached by email at imam@kingstonmuslims.net or through his website at www.sikander.ca.

The month of رَجَب Preface to Ramadan

Coming up shortly, Rajab is the seventh month in the Islamic lunar calendar. This month is regarded as one of the sacred months (Al-Ashhur-al-hurum) in which battles were prohibited in the days of the Holy Prophet. Followed by Sha'ban, the two months are usually looked at by Muslims as preparation for Ramadan, the fasting month.

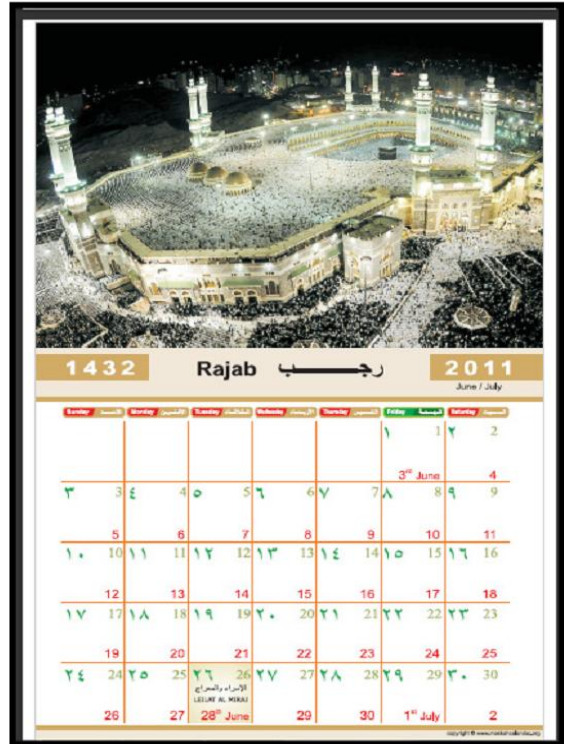
"O Allah, make the months of Rajab and Sha'ban blessed for us, and let us reach the month of Ramadan (i.e. prolong our life up to Ramadan, so that we may benefit from its merits and blessings)." These are the words that Prophet Muhammad SAW used to pray to Allah as he sighted the moon for Rajab.

Special to Rajab:

- Fasting is encouraged during the days of Rajab and Sha'ban (as Sunnah).
- Lailatul Mi'raj: the great event of Mi'raj (ascension of the Holy Prophet SAW to the heavens) took place in the night of 27th of Rajab.

To download the Islamic calendar:

<http://www.makkahcalendar.org/en/islamicCalendarDownload.php>



From the Holy Quran-Read & Reflect

And hold fast, all of you together, to the Rope of Allah (i.e. this Quran), and be not divided among yourselves, and remember Allah's Favour on you, for you were enemies one to another but He joined your hearts together, so that, by His Grace, you became. *Surat 'Alī 'Imrān 3:103*

وَأَعْتَصِمُوا بِحَبْلِ اللَّهِ جَمِيعًا وَلَا تَفَرَّقُوا وَاذْكُرُوا نِعْمَتَ اللَّهِ عَلَيْكُمْ إِذْ كُنْتُمْ أَعْدَاءً فَأَلَّفَ بَيْنَ قُلُوبِكُمْ فَأَصْبَحْتُمْ بِنِعْمَتِهِ إِخْوَانًا وَكُنْتُمْ عَلَى شَفَا حُفْرَةٍ مِنَ النَّارِ فَأَنْقَذَكُمْ مِنْهَا كَذَلِكَ يُبَيِّنُ اللَّهُ لَكُمْ آيَاتِهِ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَهْتَدُونَ ﴿١٠٣﴾

Duaa



The Wisdom of the Struggle

From : <http://www.livingislam.org>

A man found a cocoon of a butterfly. One day a small opening appeared. He sat and watched the butterfly for several hours as it struggled to force its body through that little hole. Then it seemed to stop making any progress. It appeared as if it had gotten as far as it could, and it could go no further.

So the man decided to help the butterfly. He took a pair of scissors and snipped off the remaining bit of the cocoon.

The butterfly then emerged easily. But it had a swollen body and small, shriveled wings.


The man continued to watch the butterfly because he expected that, at any moment, the wings would enlarge and expand to be able to support the body, which would contract in time.

Surat Al-Mu'minūn (The Believers) 23:14

Neither happened! In fact, the butterfly spent the rest of its life crawling around with a swollen body and shriveled wings. It never was able to fly.

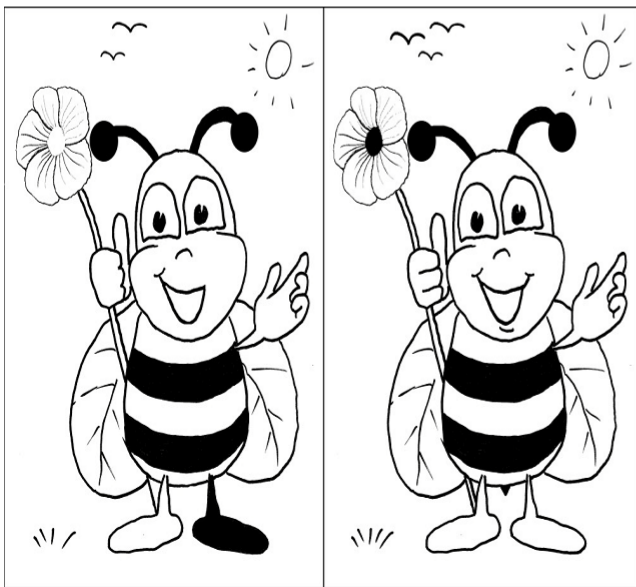
What the man, in his kindness and haste, did not understand was that the restricting cocoon and the struggle required for the butterfly to get through the tiny opening were Allah's way of forcing fluid from the body of the butterfly into its wings so that it would be ready for flight once it achieved its freedom from the cocoon.

Sometimes struggles are exactly what we need in our lives. If Allah allowed us to go through our lives without any obstacles, it would cripple us. We would not be as strong as what we could have been. We could never "fly"!


فَبَارِكْ لِلَّهِ أَحْسَنُ الْخَالِقِينَ

Spot the differences

How many prophets do you know?



- ADAM
- AYYUB
- DAWUD
- HARUN
- HUD
- IBRAHIM
- IDRIS
- ILIAS
- ISA
- ISHAQ
- ISMAIL
- LUT
- MUHAMMAD
- MUSA
- NUH
- SALIH
- SHUAIB
- SULAIMAM
- YAHYA
- YAQUB
- YUNUS
- YUSUF
- ZAKARIYYA

Can you find the 10 differences between the two pictures?

Learn about many prophets names through this word search

ICK News and Activities

ISK Calender of Major Events 2011

- | | | |
|-----|---|---|
| 1. | Community Meeting : | Sunday, May 29 after Zuhr |
| 2. | Groups and Committees Forum Meeting: | Sunday June 18 after Zuhr |
| 3. | ISK Annual Picnic: | Sunday, July 17 |
| 4. | First Traweeh: | Sunday, July 31 |
| 5. | First Day of Ramadan: | Monday, August 1 |
| 6. | Community Iftars at the ICK: | TBA |
| 7. | Eid-ul-Fitr: | Tuesday August 30 |
| 8. | Eid Dinner: | Saturday September 10 |
| 9. | Students Welcome Dinner: | Saturday, September 10 |
| 10. | Open House: | Sunday, October 16 |
| 11. | Islamic History Month: | October, 1 to October 31 |
| 12. | Day of Arafat: | Saturday, November 5 (Tentative) |
| 13. | Eid-ul-Adha: | Sunday, November 10 (Tentative) |
| 14. | Eid Dinner: | Saturday, Nov. 12 (Tentative) |
| 15. | Student Welcome Dinner: | Saturday, November 12 |
| 16. | International Bazaar: | Saturday, November 26 |
| 17. | GCF Meeting: | Sunday, December 18 after Zuhr |
| 18. | TBA (to be announced) | |

Appeal for your pledge of support

As you know, the Islamic Society of Kingston (ISK) has purchased the property, the house, next to ICK (1465 Sydenham Road). We need to raise about \$100,000.00 for the property and to meet other operational and maintenance expenses related to ICK. If you can contribute towards this, please call any member of the EC. Br Salahuddin (613-531-8340) or Br Hafizur Rahman (613-634-0149)

Prayer Times at ICK

Dates	Fajr	Zuhr	Asr	Maghrib	Isha
May 16-22	4:50	1:25	6:30	Sunset+5	10:25
May 23-29	4:45	1:25	6:30		10:40
May 30-Jun 5	4:40	1:25	6:35		10:45
Jun 6-12	4:35	1:25	6:35		10:55
Jun 13-19	4:35	1:25	6:40		10:55
Jun 20-26	4:35	1:25	6:40		10:55
Jun 27-Jul 3	4:40	1:25	6:40		10:55

Notes:

- **Jum'a khutba starts at 1:25.**
- Times shown are for **Iqamah**, *Adhan will be called 10 minutes earlier.*
- During community events, Asr may be prayed earlier according to the time published on the Monthly calendar.

Important Dates

The Bond's next submission deadline:

Friday, 17 June, 2011

The Bond's next publication date (Insha Allah):

Friday, 24 June, 2011

Please send your submission(s) to:
thebond@kingstonmuslims.net

Disclaimer

The views and/or assertions expressed in THE BOND are the sole responsibility of their author(s) and do not necessarily reflect those of the newsletter committee, nor of the Islamic Society of Kingston and its officers.

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Notes on emails to: iskadmin@kingstonmuslims.net

The above email address is used for SENDING mails to the community. The emails sent to this address may not be read in time or acted upon. **So, please do not send emails to this email address or reply to messages sent from this address.**