



# The Bond

Keeping the Kingston Muslim Community Together

The Islamic Society  
of Kingston (ISK)

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

November/December 2009

Dhulqadah/Dhulhijjah 1430<sub>A.H</sub>

O mankind! if ye have a doubt about the Resurrection, (consider) that We created you out of dust, then out of sperm, then out of a leech-like clot, then out of a morsel of flesh, partly formed and partly unformed, in order that We may manifest (our power) to you; and We cause whom We will to rest in the wombs for an appointed term, then do We bring you out as babes, then (foster you) that ye may reach your age of full strength; and some of you are called to die, and some are sent back to the feeblest old age, so that they know nothing after having known (much), and (further), you see the earth barren and lifeless, but when We pour down rain on it, it is stirred (to life), it swells, and it puts forth every kind of beautiful growth (in pairs). (Qur'an 22:5)

## President's Message

My fellow Muslim Kingstonians,

A few days ago the United Nations held a three-day summit at the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) headquarters in Rome to find solutions for world hunger. The conference ended without a clear plan to combat this great danger that affects at least 20% of the world population. FAO reports indicate that the number one cause of hunger is poverty and instability. Unfortunately hunger leads to further poverty as malnourished humans cannot generally be highly productive and the cycle continues.

Long time ago, Islam has realized these facts and established an elaborate system for wealth sharing known as Zakat (purification and growth). Zakat is due on accumulated wealth that has been in the possession of a person for at least one year. There are rules on how to pay Zakat on each type of possessions, such as gold, animals, crops, shares and so on. A certain percentage of each type of these possessions is to be paid as Zakat. Islam also strongly encourages Muslims to give extra charity. And there is lots of mention of charity in the Quran and Sunnah, including stressing that we should spend in charity from what we cherish the most. Allah (swt) says "By no means shall you attain righteousness unless you give (freely) of that which you love; and whatever you give, Allah knows it well."

In view of the large amounts of crops destroyed world wide to maintain a "competitive price" for goods, the Zakat on agriculture deserves special mention. The Zakat due on agricultural products begins at 5% of the pro-

duce. If we allow 5% of all agricultural production in the world to be distributed among the hungry and starving people of this world, the problem may be finally solved. This is over and above zakat on accumulated wealth, which should take care of poverty. I am really hoping that Muslims individuals, organizations and countries will lead the way to eradicate world hunger.

There have been several calls from a number of the community members to actively participate in food bank programs and to donate generously to combat hunger in our backyard (Kingston). I strongly second their call, and invite all of you to help in collecting food bank donations over the next few weeks (God willing). As well, in the upcoming Eid al-Adha, you have another chance to help the hungry and poor in devastated areas like the SWAT region, Palestine, Somalia, etc. by opting for online sacrifice programs (if you are comfortable with it). This way you will be giving the gift of nutritious meat to many that may not have meat for many months to come. May Allah reward you and accept your sacrifice.

Eid Mubarak to all.

**Hossam Hassanein.**

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

1	<b>President's Message</b>
2	<b>Khutbah of the Month</b>
3	<b>Day of Persons with Disabilities, ICK News and Activities Announcement</b>
4-5	<b>ICK News and Activities Announcement</b>
6	<b>Contact information; prayer time; Information on next Edition of the Bond</b>

## Khutbah of the Month

### Virtues of the first ten days of Dhu'l Hijjah

As salamu alaykum everyone,

You are probably familiar with the last ten nights of Ramadan, and how virtuous good deeds are in those nights? Yes.

Well, let me introduce you to 10 days that are **MORE virtuous**, yet many people are not aware of it. It's the first ten days of the Islamic calendar month of Dhul-Hijjah (which starts on Nov.18)

Praise be to Allah Who has created Time and has made some times better than others, some months and days and nights better than others, in a sense that rewards are multiplied many times than the case in other periods of time. This reflects Allah's overflowing mercy towards His servants, and it encourages them to do more righteous deeds and makes them more eager to worship Him, so that the Muslim renews his efforts to gain a greater share of reward, prepare himself for death and supply himself in readiness for the Day of Judgment.

This season of worship brings many benefits, such as the opportunity to correct one's faults and make up for any shortcomings or anything that one might have missed. Happiness and success are for the one who makes the most of these special months, days and hours and draws nearer to his Lord during these times through acts of worship and righteousness.

Among the special seasons of worship are the first ten days of Dhul-Hijjah, which Allah has preferred over all the other days of the year. Ibn `Abbas (may Allah be pleased with him and his father) reported that the Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) said: **"There are no days in which righteous deeds are more beloved to Allah than these ten days."** The people asked, "Not even Jihad for the sake of Allah?" He said, **"Not even Jihad for the sake of Allah, except in the case of a man who went out to fight, giving himself and his wealth up for the cause, and came back with nothing."** (Reported by Al-Bukhari)

This text and others indicate that these **ten days are better than all the other days of the year, with no exceptions, not even the last ten days of Ramadan.** But the last ten nights of Ramadan are better, because they include *Laylat*

*al-Qadr*, which is better than a thousand months. Thus the various reports may be reconciled. (See *Tafsir Ibn Kathir*, 5/412)

Among the good deeds which the Muslim should strive to do during the first ten days of Dhu'l-Hijjah are:

**1. Fasting:** The scholars concur that it is recommended to fast during the first nine days of Dhu'l Hijja. (**The tenth day is the day of Eid, and is prohibitively disliked and sinful to fast this day.**) Of these, it is particularly recommended to fast the Day of `Arafah [9<sup>th</sup> of Dhu'l Hijjah]. Abu Qatada (RAA) related that the Messenger of Allah (SAW) said, **"Fasting the Day of `Arafah [9<sup>th</sup> of Dhu'l Hijjah] expiates for two years, one prior and one forthcoming.** [Muslim, Abu Dawud, Nasa'i, and Ibn Majah]

**2. Spending the Nights in Prayer:** It is especially recommended to spend some part of each of the nights of these ten days in prayer and worship.

**3. Takbir :** It is necessary for every Muslim (male or female, whether praying in congregation or alone) to make the following *takbir* (declaration of the greatness of Allah) immediately after each obligatory (fard) prayer from the Fajr Prayer on the 9<sup>th</sup> of Dhu'l Hijjah (the Day of `Arafah) to the Asr Prayer on the 13<sup>th</sup> of Dhu'l Hijjah. Thus, these takbirs last 5 days, and 23 prayers. Men are encouraged to recite these phrases out loud and women quietly. The words of takbir are following: **Allahu Akbar, Allahu Akbar, La ilaha illallah. Allahu Akbar, Allahu Akbar wa lillahil hamd .**

اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ وَلِلَّهِ الْحَمْدُ

**4. Increasing one's Spiritual Works:** It is recommend exerting oneself in good works during the first ten days of Dhu'l Hijjah.

**5.** Giving more charity during these 10 days

**6.** We should try to **pray more prayers in the Masjid**

**7.** We should **increase ties of kinship** (visiting parents, family, saying kind words to them, etc.)

**8.** We should **perform more voluntary prayers at home**

**9.** We should **Read more Quran**, contemplating the meaning and **do** more Dhikr

**10.** And last but not least is we should **ask Allah for forgiveness** more frequently

**Tarek, Abu Noman Mohammad**

Imam of the ISK

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## **Muslim-Canadians Mobilize to Mark International Day of Persons with Disabilities with Sermons on Dec. 4: A First in Faith**

CAM-D, the Canadian Association of Muslims with Disabilities, receives endorsements from leading Muslim organizations to heighten awareness about disability rights and obligations in the Islamic tradition. CAIR-CAN, Canadian Council of Imams, ICNA Canada, ISNA Canada, MAC and CIC are nationally recognized organizations representing numerous centres who have committed to asking their members to focus on disability on Dec. 4.

“CAIR-CAN is proud to endorse the Canadian Association of Muslims with Disabilities (CAM-D) International Day of Persons with Disabilities Friday sermon initiative. This project, slated for Friday, December 4, 2009 aims to encourage Muslim faith leaders to speak to their congregations on and about the contribution of Muslims with disabilities and the Islamic tradition of disability rights in their weekly sermon,” explains Ihsaan Gardee, Executive Director of CAIR-CAN.

“We as a community have lagged behind on supporting this most valuable group of fellow Muslims, it is time we include our disabled brothers and sisters by acknowledging them, recognizing their strengths and validating their concerns,” remarks Shahina Siddiqui, President of the Winnipeg based Islamic Social Services Association (ISSA) and member of CAM-D’s National Advisory Board.

CAM-D’s special advisor and Deputy Secretary-General of ISNA Canada, Sheikh Abdalla Idris Ali states, “I am personally appealing to you to provide an annual minimum of \$1,000 from your zakat fund payable to CAM-D as we facilitate access for people with disabilities to learn about Islam and establish long-term services to support Muslims with disabilities who do not have families to assist them.”

“We are hoping to reach a broad spectrum of the community to heighten awareness about accessibility and shift attitudes about people with disabilities. We don’t believe there has been a coordinated effort like this in a faith community. This will be an annual initiative that we anticipate will gain momentum,” comments Rabia Khedr, CAM-D’s Executive Director.

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## **ICK News and Activities**

### **Appeal to ISK members**

Since the establishment of the Islamic Center in 1996, there were several goals in sight that, as ISK, we hoped to achieve.

One of those goals was to build bridges with the Kingston community as a whole, to open our doors so they can see and get to know us as we really are: peaceful, hospitable and sincere people. Beside the goals were also needs. There was and will always be the need to raise funds.

Out of contemplating both goals and needs, the idea of holding an annual Bazaar was born. Offering a glimpse in our culture with its various nuances whether crafts, food, drinks or artistic expression (Henna Painting), is a way both to welcome our friends and neighbors as well as to raise needed funds.

Allowing our visitors to see the prayer area, listen to the history of the Islamic Center and answer any questions about Islam, added an important dimension to this activity. Islamic books offered for sale, appeal to those who love reading. This year on November 21st, 2009 Insha Allah our 13th Bazaar will be held at ICK.

To be able to carry out this activity, a group of sisters and brothers had over the years been very hard working; offering their handiworks and time. May Allah (SWT) reward them for that. Their sincerity helped us gain lots of friends in the Kingston community who await our Bazaar every year and ask about it when we approach November of every year.

Funds raised allowed us as Kingston Muslims to extend our hands to our Muslim community worldwide whenever and wherever there was a need like a natural disaster e.g. Pakistan earthquake or the Tsunami. Some years the funds raised were utilized by our Center itself or directed to help the hospitals here in Kingston.

Alhamdu-Lillah the Bazaar has always been a success, but to maintain that success the Bazaar Committee appeals to you, sisters and brothers. We need you to contribute generously. We need you to volunteer to help. We need your encouragement.

**Remember November 21st, 2009, 10am to 4pm.**

**Hoda Bayoumi  
Bazaar Committee**

## ICK Library corner

During July 2009, the Library Committee has set up the first "Essay Writing Contest" for children and youth aged 8 – 20. The intended goal was to encourage and promote the good habit of effectively expressing ideas, feelings and impressions in writing. The submissions were to be in the form of essay, story or poem. The participants were divided into three groups, based on age.

The library Committee also planned to reward the participants, on the basis of age, originality, appropriate size, and how much info or benefit will the reader acquire when finished reading the essay. The winner's essays will be published in "The Bond" starting with this issue.

The winners were: Nabeel Salahudeen (8 yrs Old), Hassan Saleem (13 yrs old) and, Zakareya El-Rouby (16 yrs old). They were also rewarded financially for their work.

The following is the essay of the first winner:

### **Submitted by Raafia Monem**

1 - طوبى لمن شغلته عيبه عن عيوب الناس

**Mohammed (PBUH), Messenger of Allah (SWT) said "Blessed and lucky are those who are busy dealing with their own pitfalls and mistakes, rather than criticizing and counting the pitfalls and mistakes of others" ( Sahih Al-Bukhari).**

### Assalamu Alaikum

The Hadith tells us that it is wrong to find fault with others while we ourselves make the same mistakes. Being blind to one's own mistakes and blaming others for the same deeds is a bad thing. Before criticizing others, we must ask ourselves whether we are perfect. Then we will know that we are not. This should stop us from blaming others.

The following story illustrates the Hadith well. In Canada, two boys lived in a big city. One boy's name was Ahmad. The other boy's name was Muhammad. Ahmad was a big complainer. Muhammad was good, if he made a mistake he would fix it. One day at school Muhammad made a mistake but as usual he corrected his mistake. Ahmad seeing this, started complaining. After a month of complaining the teacher finally said: "Ahmad, can you come to my desk?" Ahmad goes to the desk. "Ahmad, stop complaining about other's mistakes, when you make many mistakes. If everybody cares about themselves there will be more peace and we will be able to do more good. From then on Ahmad started

thinking and fixing his own mistakes rather than complaining about others.

Gossiping and talking about another Muslim brother or sister is a sin. Criticizing and counting other's mistakes is a bad habit. We should try to keep away from this sin and fear Allah's punishment. If at all we want to correct others do it in a kind way without offending them, just as the Prophet's (S.A.W.) grandsons corrected a man who did not know how to do "Wudu" properly.

Not finding fault with others is a noble quality of our Prophet (S.A.W.) and let us all follow him and be good.

### **Nabeel Salahudeen, 8 years old, Grade 3**

## Youth Retreat

On October 31st, the Islamic Society of Kingston held another youth retreat program and three remarkable people; Yasin Dwyer, Noha Beashir and Jeewan Chanicka came to talk with the Kingston youth. The speakers talked about different aspects of the title called Dude, Where's My Religion.

### **Yasin Dwyer: Leave Your mark**

Brother Yasin talked about many topics in his speech. He talked about the importance of not only being a Muslim by praying and reading the holy Qu'ran but also being a good person by being nice to other people. He also spoke of the story of a poor man who fell in love with a princess. The story starts with how he sees the king's daughter and falls in love with her and the sheikh comes to him and says he will help him but he had conditions. The sheikh said that the man cannot speak to anyone until the sheikh says he can speak and the man has to do whatever he says. So the man went up to the mountains and he had to live there and talk to no one. Around the town, news started to spread of a pious man living up in the mountains. Every day, tens of people would go up to the mountain and tell him their problems and even without speaking to them, they solved their problems just by talking to him. One day the king comes up to the mountain and tells the man that he is so pious and that he wants the man to marry his daughter but the man continued on with his work still not speaking. The king begs the man to talk and the sheikh comes up and tells him he is allowed to speak but still he does not speak. Dejected, the king gives up and the sheikh yells at him because he could have married the one he loves. The man spoke finally, saying that he only pretended to be pious, if he really had been pious imagine how much respect and admired he would have been. The lesson of the story is when we really believe in something in the end we might leave our mark by being rewarded, well-known or respected.

**Noha Bashir: Balancing Identities**

Sister Noha also talked about several different topics. First she continued the discussion of being a good person and that in the end good behaviour will help us in the hereafter. Her main topic was about the many identities we have such as being a Muslim but also a Canadian. As Canadians we associate with people from other religions and there is not anything wrong with that but it's important to remember while we are with our friends that we are Muslim and we should do what is right. We have to remember that each one of us is representing the worldwide Muslim society and we have to treat others well so people do not think of all Muslims as bad people. Sister Noha also talked about the title, Dude, Where's My Religion, that Islam is all around us, not only in praying but even in regular work there is Islam.

He was born in a Hindu family and he never told them that he had converted. He would pray in secret and would wake up in the middle of the night to eat for Sehri alone. The example his story sets is that we should hold responsible for our own decisions and that saying that we could not pray, read Qu'ran or anything else because we were at one place or another does not make it okay to blame our own faults at others or other things.

After the speeches came the questions and discussions and then for little kids a bouncy castle and candy and food. We thank Yasin Dwyer, Noha Bashir and Jeewan Chanicka for taking the time to talk to the Kingston Youth and thank everyone for coming.

**Sumaiya Karim**

**Jeewan Chanicka: Finding Your Way**

Brother Jeewan talked about making the decisions on our own and not blaming others for not being able to do something. He told his story on how he converted at the age of 11 which is a time when we play with toys and rarely really think about religion.

**The Islamic Society of Kingston**

***INTERNATIONAL BAZAAR***

at

**Islamic Center of Kingston**

**1477 Sydenham Rd.**

**One Half Km North of Hwy 401 - Exit 613**

**Saturday November 21, 2009**

**10:00 am - 4:00 pm**

**Exquisite Handicrafts**

**Exotic International Foods**

**Food Preparation Demonstrations**

**Vegetarian Corner**

**Henna Hand Painting**

**Book Sale and much much more!!**

**Admission Free !!**

**For more information please call 542-9000 or**

**Visit : [www.kingstonmuslims.net](http://www.kingstonmuslims.net)**

## Prayer Times at ICK

Dates	Fajr	Zuhr	Asr	Maghrib	Isha
Nov 16-22	6:35	12:30	3:05	Sunset +5	7:30
Nov 23-29	6:45	12:30	3:00		7:30
Nov 30– Dec 6	6:45	12:30	2:55		7:30
Dec 7-13	6:45	12:30	2:55		7:30
Dec 14-20	6:45	12:30	3:00		7:30
Dec 21-27	6:45	12:30	3:05		7:30
Dec 28- Jan 3	6:45	12:30	3:10		7:30
Jan 4-10	6:45	12:30	3:15		7:30
Jan 11-17	6:45	12:30	3:25		7:30

### Notes:

- **Jum'a khutba starts at 12:40 p.m.**
- Dates shown are Monday- Sunday for that week.
- 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, January 8, 2010**

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

**Friday, January 15, 2010**

Please send any submissions to:  
**[thebond@kingstonmuslims.net](mailto: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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# **Eid Al-Adha Arrangements**

**Eid Mubark to All**

**Eid Day:** Friday November 27, 2009

**Eid Prayer Time:** 8:30 a.m. **sharp.**

**Takbeerat will start at 8:00 a.m.** Please try to be at the ICK 30 minutes earlier.

**Please bring a prayer mat or a sheet.**

**Kids Activities:** There will be arrangements for jumping castles etc. for kids on Eid Day at the ICK.

**Refreshments:** Will be served after the Eid Prayer.

**Eid Party will be a pot luck dinner.** Please bring extra food and drinks to share with others.

**Date:** Sunday, November 29, 2009

**Time:** 5:30 p.m

**Location:** Islamic Centre of Kingston