



# The Bond

Keeping the Kingston Muslim Community Together

The Islamic Society  
of Kingston (ISK)

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

July/August 2007

Rajab/Shab'an 1428<sub>A.H</sub>

*O you who have attained to faith! Do not deprive your charitable deeds of all worth by stressing your own benevolence and hurting [the feelings of the needy], as does he who spends his wealth only to be seen and praised by men, and believes not in God and the Last Day: for his parable is that of a smooth rock with [a little] earth upon it - and then a rainstorm smites it and leaves it hard and bare. Such as these shall have no gain whatever from all their [good] works: for God does not guide people who refuse to acknowledge the truth.) (2:264)*

## President's Message

### Imam Review Process

When we decided to hire an Imam, it was agreed that we would hire him for one year and review his performance before the end of that year. When time for review came, the Executive Committee had the option of (i) deciding only among themselves based on what they know and heard, (ii) consult a select group of individuals and then make decision based on their input, or (iii) establish a review committee and give it latitude to consult the whole community and make recommendations to the Executive Committee. The Executive opted for the third option knowing full well that the process would generate a variety of opinions. When you ask everyone to give their opinion, the most likely scenario, in my view, is that the ones who are satisfied with the status quo do not bother to respond and those with strong opinions (positive or negative) do respond. Thus, the result gives a polarised view.

Selective consultation, where you chose the respondents, results in a desired outcome but may be biased. Consultation where everyone must respond (as in evaluation of University teachers) results in a fairer assessment. But wide consultation that allows (but cannot force) everyone to express their opinion may result in unpredictable (and sometimes undesirable) result because there is no control as to who responds and who does not. I still believe that an open, as oppose to selective, consultation is necessary because it allows everyone to participate whether one chooses to or not.

This may result in temporary instability but, in the long run, is the best option.

The result of our review process has been predictable. We are a group of intelligent people who care deeply about the community and have strong beliefs and opinions. Thus the opinions are not expected to be unified. We may be divided in our opinion about a single, although very important issue, but no one should this as sign of a divided community. We are united to seek the pleasure of Allah (SWT) by striving to serve in His cause. We are also united to build a united Muslim Community who lives in peace among ourselves and with the rest of the community. May Allah give us the guidance and wisdom to follow it.

The Review Committee made a number of observations and recommendations. The summary of those are published elsewhere in The Bond. It recommended that "the contract of the Imam be renewed for another 12 months with some conditions." The Executive Committee, in its meeting on July 20, has accepted this recommendation. Other recommendations will be reviewed and acted on at a later date.

I would like to take this opportunity to express our appreciation to the hard work done by the Imam Review Committee. May Allah reward all of them.

**By Hafizur Rahman, President ISK**

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# Imam's Khutbah of the Month

## Muslim's Manners and Duties (Part 1 of 2)

Surat Al-Israa' was revealed to Prophet Muhammad (SAS) in Makkah after his Night Journey from Makkah to Jerusalem. In verses 23–39 of this surah, Allah mentions some basic commitments of Muslims. Without fulfilling these commitments, no individual or group can succeed. Muslims have to live by these values and should invite humanity to these principles. These principles are not limited to one race, tribe, or group; they are universal in their scope and application. These are also called the hikmah or the teachings of wisdom. It is wise for everyone to follow them. If followed properly, they are capable of increasing the goodness and wisdom of all people. These principles are as follows:

### 1. To worship Allah alone

*"Your Lord has enjoined the following: You should not worship anyone but Him." (Al-Israa' 17:23)*

This means to recognize Allah as the ultimate reality and to recognize Allah as the Lord, to worship Him with all sincerity and to submit to Him in every aspect of life. A Muslim's life is nothing but total commitment to Allah. We are not only monotheists (people of tawheed) but we are also theocentric people. Allah is the centre of our life and He is our total and ultimate concern.

### 2. To be respectful and kind to parents

*"Treat your parents with great consideration; if either or both of them live with you in their old age, do not say even "fie" to them: nor rebuke them, but speak kind words to them; treat them with humility and tenderness and pray: "Lord, be merciful to them just as they brought me up with kindness and affection." " (Al-Israa' 17:23-24)*

This is to acknowledge the compassion and kindness of parents, to be grateful to them, and to do one's utmost to reciprocate that love and compassion. Respect and kindness to parents is not just a social duty for us; it is our religious duty and obligation.

### 3. To be good to relatives, to the poor, and to the travelers

*"Fulfill your obligations towards your relatives and the indigent and the wayfarer." (Al-Israa' 17:26)*

This is to remember that we are interconnected in this world. Our responsibilities are not only towards ourselves and our immediate families, but also to

other relatives and to the society at large. We are all in need of each other and we are all fellow travelers in this path of life. We must see what we can do for others. Muslims must live a socially responsible life. Social responsibility begins with the family and other relatives and it includes all those who are in need.

### 4. To be careful with money and not waste resources

*"Do not be a spendthrift because the spendthrifts are the brethren of Satan and Satan has been ungrateful to his Lord... Do not tie your hand to your neck nor stretch without any restraint lest you should become blameworthy and left destitute. Your Lord provides plentifully to whom He wills and withholds His provisions from anyone He pleases, for He is fully aware of the condition of His servants and observes them closely." (Al-Israa' 17:26-27, 29-30)*

One should be neither too tight with one's money nor too loose with it. Extravagance is not right, but also one should not become stingy and miserly. A Muslim is committed to the balanced life style. Money should be earned in halal (lawful) ways and it should be spent in the right manner. This principle can be applied to all resources that Allah has given us. Wise and conscientious use of resources is a very important commitment of Muslims.

### 5. To take good care of children

*"Do not kill your off springs for fear of want: for it is We Who provide them and you as well. Indeed their killing is a heinous crime." (Al-Israa' 17:31)*

As we recognize the rights of the parents, we should also recognize the rights of children. Our children are our future. We must see that we raise healthy, intelligent and morally responsible children. Our commitment should be to raise them in safe and healthy environment. We must protect their life as well as their spirit and mind, their morals and manners.

### Next month - Principles 6-12...

Submitted By **Abu Noman Mohammad Tarek, Imam**  
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### Test Your Knowledge...

1. Who was the grandfather of Prophet Yusuf?
2. Name the Prophet who was in control of the jinns.
3. Who was the father of the Prophet Sulayman?

(Answers on last page)

## Executive Summary ISK Community Meeting June 10, 2007

The Islamic Society of Kingston (ISK) organized a three-hour community meeting on Sunday June 10, 2007 at the Islamic Centre in Kingston (ICK). The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the current state of ISK and more importantly recommend future plans and programs.

A short survey was sent a week in advance to approximately 40 members who had originally signed up for the meeting. The responses (received from seven members) were compiled and used as a basis for discussion. The meeting was attended by about 20 members of community, including current executives and a facilitator.

A wide number of issues were discussed during the meeting. Some of the key issues included the growing population and changing demographics of the community, level of volunteerism and youth participation, reputation and involvement of ISK in Kingston, executive management of ISK and ICK, relationships among members of the community, and future programs and facilities.

The discussion concluded with consensus around the most important issues and initiatives. The three key initiatives included: (1) Succession planning: invite and coach new community members for executive management duties; (2) Youth involvement: encourage youth participation through new programs and activities; and (3) Intra-community relations: strengthen communications and understanding among different cultural groups in the Muslim community.

The attendees then joined and worked within one of three sub-groups and came up with specific recommendations. For succession planning, it was recommended that we start with a new way of referring to Muslims in the Kingston area: "involved" and "uninvolved." Specifically, formal (ISK communication and social events) and informal (personal contacts and visits) means were suggested to encourage the uninvolved to become involved.

Regarding youth involvement, it was recommended that youth between the ages of nine and 18 be targeted for involvement. The obvious place to start would be to first ask the youth about their needs and ideas. Having someone that can relate to them at their level would be ideal for those conversations, a number of creative ideas regarding activities were also suggested. And for intra-community relations, it was recommended that tolerance and compromise was critical to bridging and strengthening relations within the community. There were specific suggestions for having frequent meetings and communications with the various groups as well as with the overall community.

Considering the importance and focus of these three specific initiatives, it would be in the interest of ISK to follow up on these recommendations. In terms of process, it would be useful to strike three sub-committees to undertake each of these initiatives. It would make sense to ask a member from each of the original discussion sub-groups to chair a sub-committee, and with the help of other interested members, prepare and present a milestone-based implementation plan to ISK.

**Prepared by: Salman Mufti, Meeting Facilitator**

## Executive Summary Imam Review Committee

Upon evaluation of community feedback, the Imam's response, the Imam's job performance and private communication with some community members more acquainted with the Imam and/or more knowledgeable, we make the following observations and recommendations:

- The Imam has been involved in many activities in the community and has been trying hard. However, there are substantial reservations about the Imam's job performance over the past 10 months. The Imam has to be cognizant of his shortcomings and ensure that these are rectified.
- The committee recommends the contract of the Imam be renewed for another 12 months with conditions.

- Experienced and knowledgeable members of the community and Imam need to cooperate with each other to improve the Imam's job performance for the benefit of the whole community. The Community has to recognize the fact that we have an entry-level Imam and hence expectations must be lowered per his experience and the salary.
- The ISK executive needs to be more proactive in working with Imam on the planning, assessing and execution of his activities and on guiding and helping him.
- A "guiding/monitoring" committee should be set up to help Imam in planning and execution of the programs; and to continuously assess his activities and performance.

## Mus'ab al Khair

### Part 3 of 3

**By: Umm Rashid (from Islamway.com)**

**Submitted by the Education Committee**

In a famous incident after the victory at Badr, the Muslims captured some Makkans and sought to ransom them. Mus'ab was passing by the ranks of prisoners and stopped when saw his brother, Abu Azeez ibn Umayr among them. However, instead of interceding on his behalf, he instructed his brother's captor to bind him securely and to extract a large ransom for the prisoner, because "his mother is a very rich woman". When the brother sought to remind Mus'ab of his relationship, Mus'ab replied: I only recognize brotherhood of the faith, this man is my brother, not you!

At 'Uhud, the Prophet (SAS) chose Mus'ab to bear the battle standard. In the melee that followed the archers descent from the hill where they were stationed, in violation of the Prophet (SAS)'s orders, the Makkans fought back fiercely. Taken unawares by the cavalry of the Quraysh attacking from the rear, the Muslim ranks scattered. Intent on harming the Prophet (SAS), the Makkans searched for him while he was being guarded only by a handful of companions. Suddenly, someone shouted that the Prophet (SAS) was no more.

It was at this juncture that Mus'ab's glorious life reached a fitting culmination: Ibrahim ibn Muhammad related from his father, who said: Mus'ab ibn 'Umair carried the standard on the Day of Uhud. When the Muslims were scattered, he stood fast until he met Ibn Qaami'ah who was a knight. He struck him on his right hand and cut it off, but Mus'ab said: And Muhammad is but a Messenger. Messengers have passed away before him. He carried the standard with his left hand and leaned on it, when his left hand was cut off, he leaned on the standard and held it with his upper arms to his chest, all the while saying: And Muhammad is but a Messenger. Messengers have passed away before him. Then a third soldier struck Mus'ab with his spear, and the spear went through him.

After the battle, the Prophet and his companions came to the plain of 'Uhud to bury the martyrs, some of whose bodies had been mutilated by the marauding women of the Qur'aysh. Pausing when he saw Mus'ab, the Prophet (SAS) recited: Among the believers are men who have been true to their covenant with Allah. Then he (SAS) looked at the remains of his companions in the battlefield and said: The Prophet of Allah witnesses that you are martyrs to Allah on the Day of Resurrection.

There wasn't enough material to serve as a shroud for Mus'ab. Khabbaab ibn Al-Arat narrated: We emigrated with the Prophet for Allah's cause, so our reward became due with Allah. Some of us passed away without enjoying anything in this life of his reward, and of them was Mus'ab ibn 'Umair, who was martyred on the Day of Uhud. He did not leave behind anything except a sheet of shredded woollen cloth. If we covered his feet with it, his head was uncovered, and if we covered his head with it, his feet were uncovered. The Prophet [SAW] said to us: Cover his head with it and put lemon grass over his feet.

It was this memory of Mus'ab in his martyr's grave, that caused companions like Abdur Rahman ibn 'A'waf to cry in fear of having no share in the Hereafter, because they had been granted a life of plenty and ease right here in this world. Once his servant brought him a meal to break his fast and ibn 'A'waf burst into tears, remembering Mus'ab who had passed away without tasting the good of this world, to the certainty of eternal pleasure in the Hereafter.

As night falls, I think of the shadows lengthening across 'Uhud where the martyrs lie buried, when visitors drive off leaving the plain quiet, dark and

peaceful. I think of the graves of the shuhadaa, resplendent with the dazzling light of the truly fortunate: those who are pleasing to Allah and are pleased with Him.

In the neon dazzle of malls, where countless young Muslims strive daily in the trivial pursuit of pleasure, we would do well to bear the memory of Mus'ab radiyy Allaahu anhu in mind. It may keep us from getting lost in the light.

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## Islamic Teachings at the ICK

- Men's Qur'an Halaqa:**  
Every Thursday after *Magreb*  
Contact Br. Hafizur Rahman 634-0149 or Br. Moustafa Fahmy 546-5018
- Children's Story Telling Hour:**  
Alternate Mondays at 6:30 PM  
Contact Sis. Raafia Monem 384-4136
- Women's Tafseer Halaqa:**  
Alternate Wednesdays at 7:00 PM  
Contact Sis. Hoda Bayoumi 389-7613
- Sisters Qur'an Translation & Tafseer Halaqa In Urdu:**  
Every Thursday after Maghrib prayer in the Islamic Centre. For further information please contact: Sr. Chand Saleem at 530-3655 or Sr. Amina Ilias at 384-7547
- Weekly Girls Halaqa:** Every Monday at 6:30-7:45 PM. Please call in advance to check location (home or ICK). Contact Sis. Amal at 384-8008.

For an up-to-date schedule, please visit:

<http://www.kingstonmuslims.net/halagas.html>

## ISK Executive

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## Prayer Times at the ICK

Dates	Fajr	Zuhr	Asr	Maghrib	Isha
July 30-Aug.5	4:25	1:15	6:20	8:33	10:10
Aug. 6-12	4:35	1:15	6:15	8:24	10:00
Aug. 13-19	4:50	1:15	6:10	8:14	9:45
Aug. 20-26	4:55	1:15	6:00	8:03	9:30
Aug. 27-Sept.2	5:05	1:15	5:50	7:51	9:15

**Notes:**

- Dates shown are Monday- Sunday for that week.
- Times are for the *Adhan* (call) - Prayer will be about 10 minutes later.
- Maghrib* will be prayed at prayer time - times shown are the latest possible for that week.
- Jumu'ah will start at 1:15 (Khutba will start 10 minutes later)

### Important Dates

The Bond's next submission deadline:

**Friday, August 24, 2007**

The Bond's next publication date:

**Friday, August 31, 2007**

Please send any submissions to:

**thebond@kingstonmuslims.net**

### Newsletter Committee

Sabena Islam

### 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.

## Mark Your Calendars...

Date and Time	For More Info:	Event
Tuesdays at 6:30 pm	Sr. Mona Rahman MNRahman@tricolour.queensu.ca	Moms and Tots Get Together
Mon-Thurs in the summer (except stat. holidays) 9:30 -10:00	Imam Tarek imam@kingstonmuslims.net	Sisters Qur'an Class
Mon-Thurs in the summer (except stat. holidays) 10:00 - 11:00 11:00 - 12:00 12:15 - 1:15	Imam Tarek imam@kingstonmuslims.net	Summer School for children ages 5-16
Sunday, August 26 <sup>th</sup> after Zuhr Prayers	Sr. Amal Mahmoud education@kingstonmuslims.net	Family Halaqa – Speaker will be Br. Abdel Rahman Higazy (Insha Allah)
Thurs., Sept. 13 <sup>th</sup>	Moonsighting.com/globaldates	Ramadan Begins (Insha Allah)
September	Sr. Deena Salem, Principal deenasalem3@yahoo.com	Weekend Arabic School Registration/Begins

## Long Bay Camp

### Attention all Kingston Muslims!

The Muslim Youth of Ottawa (with the help of The Ottawa Muslim Association (OMA), The Muslim Students Association of Ottawa and Carleton Universities, and The Islamic Information Centre) has provided a Summer Camp for children aged 9-16 years of age, every summer for the last 24 years. It is one of the longest consecutively running summer camps in North America. Long Bay Campground is situated on a 350 acre site next to Long Bay. The camp is owned and operated by Muslims for the past 25 years.

Alhamdulillah, we are pleased to present this year the 25th Annual Summer Camp, which will be held from August 5th - 11th, 2007. Our focus is the children. The aim of the camp is to provide an Islamic atmosphere where the children can learn more about Islam and each other in a truly Islamic environment and most important of all, having fun doing it. The object is to build a lasting bond among the Muslim Youth with the hope of building a stronger community for the future Insha Allah.

I have personally been to the camp, and have had a great time each year Alhamdulillah! For more information, please visit [www.myo.ca/camp/](http://www.myo.ca/camp/) or contact Sr. Amanie Antar at [i.amanie@gmail.com](mailto:i.amanie@gmail.com) or call at 613-384-8008. Hope to see you there!

***There will be another camp (Camp Al-Mumineen), at the same location, following the MYO camp. Poster on the ISK website.***

### Trivia Answers...

1. Prophet Ishaq
2. Prophet Sulayman
3. Prophet Dawud

Trivia Questions are from Junior Quran Challenge by Goodwordkidz.