



The Bond

Keeping the Kingston Muslim Community Together

The Islamic Society
of Kingston (ISK)

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

September/October 2007

Ramadan/Shawaal 1428_{A.H}

It was the month of Ramadan in which the Qur'an was [first] bestowed from on high as a guidance unto man and a self-evident proof of that guidance, and as the standard by which to discern the true from the false. Hence, whoever of you lives to see this month shall fast throughout it; but he that is ill, or on a journey, [shall fast instead for the same] number of other days. God wills that you shall have ease, and does not will you to suffer hardship; but [He desires] that you complete the number [of days required], and that you extol God for His having guided you aright, and that you render your thanks [unto Him]. (Surah Al-Baqara, Verse 185)

President's Message

October is going to be a busy month for the Muslims in Kingston. There are a number of events planned and I hope you can participate in as many as you can.

You may know that the Canadian Islamic Congress (CIC) has taken an initiative to name October as "Islamic History Month Canada". Kingston has a local committee for the purpose and it has managed to convince the City of Kingston to make such proclamation. Consequently a number of programs are being planned. The committee has organized two lectures at Queen's University.

Dr. Osman Bakar will present "Islamic Civilization: a very short history" at 7pm on Thursday, October 18 in Ellis Auditorium (Room 200). Dr. Osman Bakar is Vice-Chancellor (Academic) of the University of Malaya in Malaysia, renowned scholar of Islamic science and philosophy, and author of many works in Malay and English, including *The Classification of Knowledge in Islam* and *The History and Philosophy of Islamic Science*.

Dr. Seyyid Hossein Nasr will speak on "The Interconnections of Islamic Art, Science and Spirituality" at 7pm on Friday, October 26 in Chernoff Auditorium. Dr. S.H. Nasr is professor emeritus of Islamic Studies and George Washington University in Washington D.C. He is internationally known as one of the foremost authorities on Islamic science, philosophy, theology, and especially Muslim spiritual traditions. He has authored

or edited over 50 books, including recently *The Heart of Islam: Enduring Values for Humanity*, *Islam: Religion, History and Civilization*, *Islamic Philosophy from its Origin to the Present*.

Insha Allah, there will be other programs organized and you will be informed of them as they are finalized.

We are soon approaching the last ten days of Ramadan. As you know, one of these nights is the night of Lailatul Qadr (Night of Power), a blessed night. I hope we can all get the best out of this night. May Allah grant us the opportunity to get most reward out of Lailatul Qadr.

During the month of Ramadan, attendance for prayers at the ICK (especially Isha prayer) increases significantly. This is the month of training and I hope we can get used to coming to the ICK for prayer even after the month of Ramadan.

Eid ul Fitr will, Insha Allah, fall on Saturday, October 13. We are required to pay Zakat ul Fitr before the prayer. Please pay during the month of Ramadan.

Let me conclude by wishing you all blessings of Ramadan and a happy Eid ul Fitr. May Allah accept our prayers and fasting.

By Hafizur Rahman, President ISK

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Imam's Khutbah of the Month

Muslim's Manners and Duties (Part 2 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:

(Principles 1 – 5 were in the July Bond)

6. To steer clear of adultery and illicit relations

Do not even go near fornication for it is a very indecent flung and a very evil way. (Al-Israa' 17:32)

Sexual perversions bring the greatest harm to individuals and societies. Observing the proper rules in this matter leads to health, happiness, and a good, moral society. Muslims are committed to pure, clean, and socially responsible lifestyle. Islam teaches that one should not come even close to adultery or fornication. This means proper dress codes for males and females, proper behaviour in mixed societies, and proper control on social relations and entertainment.

7. To respect every life and not to kill anyone unless in the pursuit of justice

Do not kill any soul whose killing has been forbidden by Allah except for a just cause. (Al-Israa' 17:33).

This means that one should recognize the sanctity of all life and should not do anything that may jeopardize life. One should avoid aggression and violence, because these things lead to murder. Every Muslim must be committed to peaceful ways. Conflicts should be resolved by dialogue and negotiations, not by killings and murders. However, justice must be maintained, because just punishment brings safety and protects life.

8. To take care of the orphans

Do not go near the property of an orphan except in the best manner until he reaches the age of maturity (Al-Israa' 17:34)

Orphans and all those who are vulnerable must be taken care of. Their rights must be recognized and they should be protected from all harm. A Muslim must be deeply committed to the care of the young, poor, infirm, and handicapped. Kindness and compassion is the basic commitment of a Muslim. It includes everyone and includes the animals.

9. To fulfill promises and commitments

Keep your pledges, for you shall be accountable for your pledges. (Al-Israa' 17:34)

Promises and contracts are an important part of human life and human civilization. When promises are not kept, people lose trust in each other and the whole society becomes weak. Muslims must be true to their words. Our commitment must be to speak the truth and to be honest and when we make a pledge we must do our best to fulfill our pledges.

10. To be honest in business dealings and not cheat in weight or measurement

Give full measure when you measure and weigh with even scales when you weigh. This is the best way and will prove to be the best in the end. (Al-Israa' 17:35)

Honest business brings progress, success, and blessings. All business, whether commercial, social, or political must be done with a sense of justice and fairness. A Muslim is committed to fair dealing in every thing and with every one. Dealing with a Muslim means dealing with full confidence. A Muslim businessman should be the most truthful businessman. A Muslim worker should be the most honest worker. A Muslim in any profession should bring honour to that profession.

11. To do things with knowledge and not follow hearsay or act on half knowledge

Do not follow that of which you have no knowledge for you shall be questioned for (the use) of your eyes, ears and minds. (Al-Israa' 17:36)

The information agencies, the media, have a great responsibility. A lot of injustice is done when misinformation is given or information is misused. Muslims should be committed to truth in information. They should promote truthful and honest reporting about everyone, including their enemies. A report coming from a Muslim source should be the most trustworthy report. In a similar way, Muslims should be extremely careful with their actions and reactions. They should not react against everyone without proper evidence.

12. To be humble and have no arrogance

Do not strut about in the land for you can neither cleave the earth nor attain the height of the mountains. (Al-Israa' 17:37)

Moderation and balance is the best thing in one's behavior as well as in one's attitude toward others. A Muslim is a dignified person, but he or she is humble. A Muslim is not boastful, arrogant, or vainglorious. A Muslim thanks Allah for all His gifts. For everything, the ultimate praise is for Allah and the real glory belongs to Allah.

These are the basic commitments of Muslims as individuals and as people. These are the principles of wisdom and the universal values of Islam. When they are followed, they bring justice, peace, and happiness in this world and they will indeed bring success and salvation in the Hereafter. Let us all try to make these our real commitments.

Submitted By Abu Noman Mohammad Tarek, Imam ICK, Phone: 613-344-0024, Email: imam@kingstonmuslims.net

Welcoming Ramadan Program

Alhamdulillah, our children and youth successfully presented their wonderful presentations about Ramadan on Saturday, September 8 after Asr prayer at the Islamic Centre of Kingston. They recited Qur'an, made wonderful posters, sang a song and presented power point presentations on Ramadan. It was well attended. According to their performance judges announced awards after the program.

Quran Recitation: 1st: Lubnaa H., 2nd : Abudullah S., 3rd: Hassan S.

Presentation on Ramadan: 1st: Lubnaa H., 2nd : Hassan S., 3rd: Sumaiya K. Other Participants included Sana, Shahrukh, and Shahnawaz T.; Farhana and Taslimul H.; Nabil c.; Mujtaba A.; and Abdullah S.

Poster Presentation: 1st: Hassan S., 2nd : Nabil C., 3rd: Haaris. Other Participants included Yasmeen M., Abdullah S., Fatima Z., Khames

Song: 1st: Bilal and Kaamraan I.

All participants received participation prizes while the top 3 received \$20, \$10, and \$5 cash as prizes accordingly for their wonderful performances. Imam Tarek organized the program. Refreshments contributed by the parents were served at the end of the program.

Next Children's Program

The next Children's Program will be Saturday, December 15th, Insha Allah. The topic of this Program will be "The greatest stories of Qur'an". Anyone from JK to grade 12 can participate in this event.

What to do?

1. Select a story from Qur'an
2. Confirm your topic with Imam Tarek by email imam@kingstonmuslims.net or by phone 613-344-0024
3. Make a power point presentation (get Mom and Dad to help if you need it) and submit it to Imam Tarek before November 15th.
4. Be at the program on time and present your topic for audience. Remember you will have only about five minutes to present.
5. Any one who can memorize related verses of the topic will get bonus marks.
6. Win a prize!

Evaluating Ramadan Performance

Ramadan Kareem to all.

The perils engulfing the Muslim Ummah are mainly due to our internal problems (lack of taqwa, ignorance, intolerance, breach of promise, back-biting, anger etc.). Ramadan provides a wonderful package to overcome/solve our problems.

Scientific experiments prove that it takes 21 to 29 days to translate a practice into habit. Ramadan gives us 29/30 days to inculcate and cultivate certain practices to habit, so that we can implement them in the rest of the months.

Let us sit down every night, and evaluate our performance during Ramadan. The following can be a very simple model to be followed by everyone, or you can make your own depending on your situation.

SELF-EVALUATION:

1. For fasting, do I have sincere intention to please only Allah and no one else?
2. Did I pray five times with utmost care and great devotion (khushu and khuzu)?
3. Did I recite the Qur'an, and understand at least one verse?
4. Did I spend at least 15 minutes to learn the language of the Qur'an?
5. Did I abstain myself from backbiting, anger, breach of promise, ostentation and pride?
6. Did I pray taraweeh properly?

7. Did I make sincere dua before iftar?
8. Did I perform at least two rakaat(ain) of tahazzud prayer?
9. Did I manage to control my soul from all evil temptations?
10. Apart from all these, did I do at least one good deed* (amalus saleh) today?

Total score: ?

* For example, helping poor, providing charity, giving dawah, attending a religious programme, zikr, pondering over the wonderful creation of Allah, inviting other(s) for iftar, reading Islamic literature and so forth.

Submitted By Abu Noman Mohammad Tarek, Imam ICK, Phone: 613-344-0024, Email: imam@kingstonmuslims.net

Evening School Resuming

The Islamic Society of Kingston's Evening School taught by Imam Tarek will resume on Tuesday, October 16th, Insha Allah.

Classes will be Monday to Wednesday, and Friday from Asr to Maghrib. 1st time slot is 4:30 to 5:30 and the second slot is 5:30 to 6:30.

Students aged 5 to 16 are welcome.

There is a mandatory Parents Meeting on Monday, October 15th at 6:30 pm at the Islamic Centre. If you cannot make this meeting please contact Imam Tarek ahead of time.

Please submit registration forms to Imam Tarek before October 10, 2007. He can be reached at 613-344-0024 or email imam@kingstonmuslims.net.

Monthly Fees: Each child: \$20 (Payable to Islamic Society of Kingston on the first day of each month).

Discount for Siblings (Brothers or sisters): Two siblings: a total of \$30, three siblings a total of \$40, for fourth and additional siblings: free

Parents are required to pay the full fees as set out above.

October is Islamic History Month

Please use any opportunity this month to spread the word of Islam! Talk to your child's class, mention it at work, maybe make a poster to put up – be proud of being Muslim!

Sadaqat ul Fitr

The ISK has announced that the amount of Sadaqat ul Fitr for this year is \$6. One should give Sadaqat ul Fitr in Ramadan for himself/herself as well as on behalf of his/her dependants.

Sadaqat ul Fitr is a special charity of the month of Ramadan. This charity should be given during the month of Ramadan anytime before the Eid ul Fitr prayer. Because it can be given until the Eid ul Fitr time it is called Sadaqat ul Fitr. The Prophet (SAS) him urged Muslims to pay this charity in the month of Ramadan.

Various reasons are given by scholars for this charity. Some say that this charity helps the poor and needy and takes care of their needs in the month of Ramadan and also makes it possible for them to celebrate the Eid festival with other Muslims. Another view is expressed that this charity is to atone (as a kaffara) for any mistakes or omissions a person might have done during this blessed month. Ibn 'Abbas said: The Prophet (SAS) enjoined Sadaqat ul Fitr so that those who fast are purified of their errors and the poor and needy people are enabled to arrange for their basic needs of food, clothing etc. Therefore the Sadaqa of the person who gives before the Eid prayer is the real Sadaqa, but if someone delays and gives it afterward his charity will be an ordinary charity (reported by Abu Dawud and Ibn Majah).

Sadaqat ul Fitr is obligatory upon every Muslim, whether male or female, minor or major, who possesses property over and above his basic needs and requirements, amounting to the Nisab for Zakat, whether it is subject to Zakat or not. The amount of Nisab for Zakat is about 80 grams of gold or its equivalent in cash value. The head of the household must pay this amount on behalf of his/her own self and on behalf of their spouse, children and even servants.

The amount of Sadaqat ul fitr was fixed by the Prophet (SAS). It is about 5 pounds of wheat, flour, barley, dates or raisins. Jurists also allow paying cash to the poor and needy. The head of the household must pay this amount on behalf of all the members or the dependant, males or females, adults or children.

This Sadaqa should be given during Ramadan any time but before the Eid ul Fitr prayers. The Sadaqa should be given to the poor and needy. Individuals can also make the payments to Islamic charitable organizations that collect this fund. These organizations then should distribute these funds as soon as possible so that they reach to the needy people in time.

Ramadan Competition

Imam Tarek has a cool way for kids to get into Ramadan. There are cash prizes to be won all the while kids will be learning about Islam and becoming better Muslims!

Check out the website or talk to Imam Tarek!
http://bdislam.com/ramadan/children_program/index.htm

Islamic Teachings at the ICK

- Men's Qur'an Halaqa:**
Every Thursday after *Isha*
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/halaqas.html>

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Imam Tarek can be reached at (613) 344-0024

Prayer Times at the ICK

Dates	Fajr	Zuhr	Asr	Maghrib	Isha
Oct. 1 - 7	5:55	1:15	5:00	6:47	8:45*
Oct. 8 - 14	6:00	1:15	4:50	6:35	8:45*
Oct. 15 - 21	6:10	1:15	4:35	6:22	7:45
Oct. 22 - 28	6:20	1:15	4:25	6:11	7:30
Oct. 29–Nov. 3	6:25	1:15	4:15	6:00	7:30

Notes:

- *For the month of Ramadan – Iqama for Isha will be at 8:45
- 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, October 19, 2007

The Bond's next publication date:
Friday, October 26, 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	Parents and Tots Group
Saturdays 10:30 – 1:00 Until the end of May	Sr. Deena Salem, Principal deenasalem3@yahoo.com	Weekend Arabic School
Mon., Oct.15 @ 6:30 pm	Imam Tarek imam@kingstonmuslims.net	Evening School Parents Meeting
Mon. – Wed. & Fri. 4:30-5:30, 5:30-6:30	Imam Tarek imam@kingstonmuslims.net	Evening School Begins Tuesday October 16th
Sat., Oct. 13 th	Moonsighting.com/globaldates	Eid (Insha Allah)
Thurs., Oct. 18 @ 7pm	Dr. Osman Bakar Ellis Auditorium (Room 200)@ Queens	Presentation of <i>"Islamic Civilization: a very short history"</i>
Fri., Oct. 26 @ 7pm	Dr. Seyyid Hossein Nasr	Presentation of "The Interconnections of Islamic Art, Science and Spirituality"
Sun., Oct 28 after Zuhr Prayers	Imam Tarek imam@kingstonmuslims.net	Hajj Workshop: Imam Tarek, Br Saleem and Sister Chand
Sun., Nov. 4th	Imam Tarek imam@kingstonmuslims.net	Deadline for Ramadan Competition
Sun., Nov. 11 th after Zuhr Prayers	Sr. Amal Mahmoud education@kingstonmuslims.net	Yearly Mini Conference - The Journey to Knowledge: How to Educate Yourself, and Others, About Your Deen. Speakers from out of town!
Sat., Nov. 17 th	Sr. Raafia Monem (womensrep@kingstonmuslims.net), Sr. Ulfat Jalaluddin (secretary@kingstonmuslims.net)	International Bazaar – food and crafts – everyone welcome!
Sat., Dec. 15 th	Imam Tarek imam@kingstonmuslims.net	Next Children's Program – Stories from the Qur'an

Friendly Reminders...

- There is a Community Iftar each Saturday at the Masjid
- For those generous Community Members who made pledges at the Fundraising dinner, please honour them as soon as possible to the ISK Treasurer – Br. Ali Raza Khan
- Each year the operating costs at the Masjid increase during Ramadan. Please contribute to the Ramadan fund to help offset these costs. Donations can be given to ISK Treasurer – Br. Ali Raza Khan
- Remember to pay your Zakaat and Sadaqat ul Fitr!
- October is Islamic History Month!!!

Hijab Friendly Salon...

- Bella Salon and Spa in downtown Kingston (189 Sydenham St.) goes out of their way to accommodate Hijabis. Call 613- 547-2888 and ask to speak to Sarah. Mention that you wear a headscarf and you heard about them from Sabena (no I don't get a discount...!)