

THE MESSAGE

DA'WAH - IT'S AN OBLIGATION

An important matter for Muslims to realize is that da'wah is an obligation upon them. Allah (subhaanahu wa ta'aalaa) says in the Qur'aan:

"Invite to the Way of your Lord (i.e. Islam) with wisdom and fair preaching, and argue with them in a way that is better. Truly, your Lord knows best who has gone astray from His Path, and He is the Best Aware of those who are guided." [al-Qur'aan, an-Nisaa'(16):125]

"Let there arise out of you a group of people inviting to all that is good, enjoining al-ma'roof [i.e. Islamic Monotheism and all that Islam orders one to do] and forbidding al-Munkar [polytheism and disbelief and all that Islam has forbidden]. And it is they who are successful." [al-Qur'aan, Aal `Imraan (3):104]

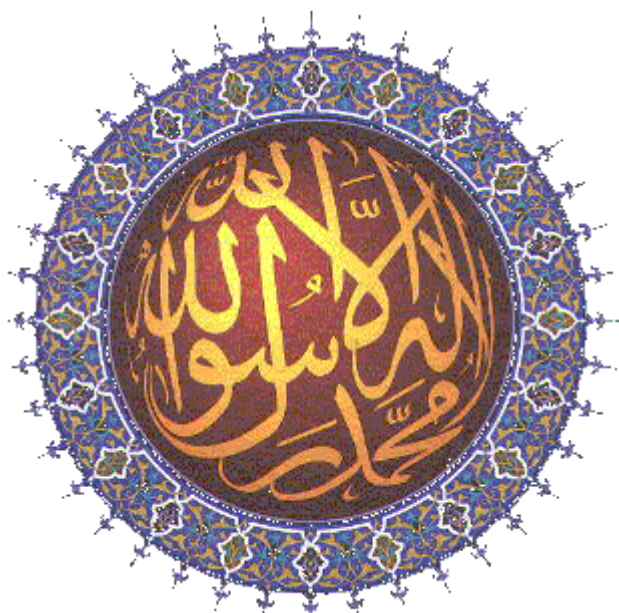
The second verse may seem to be restricting the general obligation given in the first verse, but a close look at the Sunnah of the Prophet Muhammad (sallallaahu `alayhi wa sallam) reveals that calling to Allah is an individual obligation, rather than a collective one. The Prophet (sallallaahu `alayhi wa sallam) has said: "Convey from me, even one verse." [al-Bukhaaree] Conveying the message therefore does not require a high level of scholarship, it is in fact a responsibility of each and every Muslim, according to his or her ability.

The obligation is further emphasized by the following verse which explains that not conveying the message - hiding knowledge - is disobedience to Allah that causes Allah's curse to descend upon such people, which shows that such a sin leads to the Hellfire.

"Verily, those who conceal the clear proofs, evidences and the guidance, which We have sent down, after We have made it clear for the people in the book, they are the ones cursed by Allah and cursed by the cursers." [al-Qur'aan, al-Baqara(2):159]

In the same connection, the Prophet (sallallaahu `alayhi wa sallam) has stated, "Whoever hides knowledge, Allah will brand him with the branding iron from the hellfire." [Ahmad]

Calling people to Allah also means completing our own worship, the reason for which we



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are created. It is one of the noblest acts that entails a high reward.

"And who is better in speech than he who invites to Allah and does righteous deeds, and says: 'I am one of the Muslims.'" [al-Qur'aan, Fussilat(41):33]

With regards to the reward, the Prophet (sallallaahu `alayhi wa sallam) has said: "Whoever guides [another] to a good deed will get a reward similar to the one who performs it." [Saheeh Muslim] Also, "By Allah, if Allah were to guide one man through you it would be better for you than the best type of camels." [al-Bukhaaree, Muslim]

VISIT US @.....



EDITORIAL

Assalamu Alaikom Brothers and Sisters in Islam,

We hope you have enjoyed the previous editions of "The Message" that have recently been released. Insha'Allah this edition, like those before it, will help all you in your quest for spiritual enlightenment, this newsletter is aimed at increasing the religious knowledge of all those who seek to find it and insha'Allah it will inspire you to become better, more dedicated practicing Muslims.

The theme of this month's edition of "The Message" will be '*Death and The Day of Judgment*', as Allah (swt) says in the Holy Quran; "every soul shall taste death". It is our intention that these articles will help us prepare ourselves for the journey that lies ahead of us. A journey that none of us can avoid. A journey that will lead us to meet Allah (swt) on the Day of Judgment.

It is hoped that these articles will help us stop and think about how we live our lives and suggests ways based on the Quran and Sunnah on how to improve them. Ask yourselves brothers and sisters in Islam, if I were to die tomorrow, what would become of me? Would I be standing behind the Prophet (s) and his companions on the Day of Judgment as a soldier of Allah, or would I be one of the companions of Satan destined for doom?

Know that Allah is the Most Merciful, Oft-Forgiving. It is never too late to return back to Allah (swt) in repentance as the Prophet (s) said; "even if you sins were to reach the sky, if you sincerely repent back to Allah, Allah will forgive you". Let us take this opportunity brothers and sisters in Islam before it is too late to ask Allah (swt) to forgive all our faults and wrong doings and to guide us to his straight path, a path that will lead us to attaining the ultimate success of Jannah insha'Allah.

On a final note, the newsletter serves to voice all the opinions that our brothers and sisters share. Therefore, the editors of the newsletter would like to extend an open invitation to all those who would like to contribute to the next edition of "The Message" to forward their articles to newsletter@uma.org.au.

The Editor

ISLAM AND SCIENCE



In today's society, many hold the belief that science has proven ALL religions to be false and incorrect. However, Islam has shown that religion and science in actual fact go hand in hand. The Quran mentions in great detail various aspects of science ranging from the fields of Astronomy to Zoology. Furthermore, the Quran mentions explicitly proven scientific facts that no one could have known at the time the Quran was revealed 1400 years ago. Mentioned below are some of these astronomical facts.

The Miracle of Honey

Allah states in the Quran; “Your Lord inspired the bees... From their bellies comes a drink of varying colours, containing healing for mankind. There is certainly a sign in that for people who reflect.” (16:68-69).

In the above verse, Allah clearly states that in honey there is “healing for mankind”. Have you ever stopped and wondered how important the food source of honey is?

Honey contains vitamins B1, B2, B3, B5, B6 and C. Furthermore, honey is composed of minerals such as magnesium, potassium, calcium, sodium chlorine, sulphur, iron and phosphate. Today; honey, royal jelly, pollen and bee resin are commonly used by medical practitioners to aid in the cure of many diseases such as cataract, haemorrhoids, skin problems, gynaecological diseases and many other disorders. Moreover, honey also has many other benefits for the human body such as allowing the kidneys and intestines to function better by permitting foods to be more easily digested. Another quality of honey is that, when it is compared with the same amount of sugar, it gives 40% less calories to the body. Thus, giving great energy to the body while not adding weight. In addition to this, honey helps support blood formation and aids in the cleansing of the blood.

It has only been in the past couple of decades that man has understood some of the many benefits that honey possess and yet the Quran, which was revealed 1400 years ago mentions that in honey there is “healing for mankind”. Who then could have informed us of this fact? As Allah concludes the verse by stating, “There is certainly a sign in that for people who reflect”.



Expansion of the Universe.

The discovery by scientists in the 20th century that the universe was continually expanding with new galaxies forming was a great astronomical finding. However, Allah has informed us of this scientific fact 1400 years prior where it is stated in the Quran “It is We who have built the universe with (Our creative) power, and verily, it is We who are steadily expanding it”. (51:47).



It has only been through the use of ‘high tech’ equipment such as the Hubble telescope that scientists have been able to prove that the universe is constantly expanding. One then should ask, how could the above verse be stated 14 centuries ago without divine intervention? “There are certainly signs in that for people who reflect” (45:13).

Seven layers of heaven

Throughout the Quran, Allah makes reference to the earth’s atmosphere and mentions the seven different heavens or skies by stating; “It is Allah who has created the seven heavens and of the earth the same number” (65:12).

When we examine the composition of the earth’s atmosphere, we find that it is made up of seven layers that include;

- 1st layer Troposphere
- 2nd layer Stratosphere
- 3rd layer Mesosphere
- 4th layer Thermosphere
- 5th layer Ionosphere
- 6th layer Exosphere
- 7th layer Magnetosphere



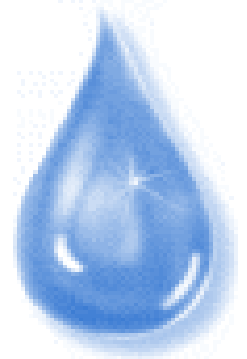
If this scientific fact was only discovered last century then who could have informed us that the earth's atmosphere comprised of seven different layers 1400 years ago? "How many signs there are in the heavens and earth! Yet they (mankind) pass them by; turning away from them." (12:105).

Furthermore, Allah explains in the Quran another fact concerning the earth's atmosphere by stating; "We have made the sky a persevered and protected roof yet they (mankind) still turn away from our signs" (21:32).

Could this 'preserved and protected roof' which is stated in the above verse be referring to the O-Zone layer? Allah has created this "protective roof" to absorb most of the X-ray and ultraviolet rays emitted by the sun. Without this absorption, life on earth would not be possible.

Water is the key to life

Today, the general consensus found between scientists is that all life came from the sea; i.e.; aquatic. It has only in the past 50 years that scientists have discovered that every living organism was created from water. The human body is, itself made up of over 70% water. However, this scientific fact was mentioned in the Quran 14 centuries ago where Allah states; "And We have made from water every living thing. Will they (mankind) not then believe? (21:30).



The above statement that water is an essential element for life is further elaborated on in another verse. "And Allah has created every animal from water; of them there are some that creep on their bellies; some that walk on two legs; and some that walk on four. Allah creates what He wills; For verily Allah has power over all things." (24:45).

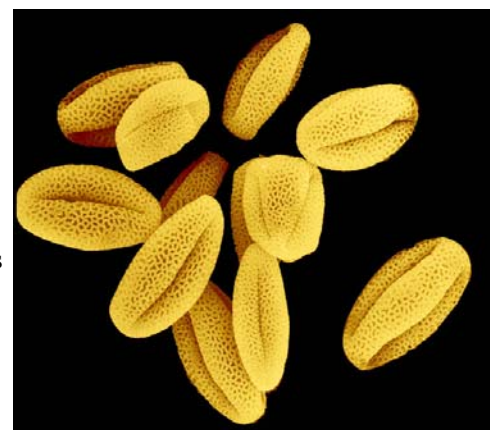
Who could have informed us of this scientific fact that EVERY living thing is made from water if not from a divine source?

"There are signs for people who use their intellect" (45:5).

The Miracle of Pollination

The Quran states "Glory be to Him (Allah) who created in pairs all things, that which the earth produces (the vegetable kingdom), as well as their own (human) kind, and of that which they know not" (36:36).

The mystery of sex runs through all creation; in man, in animal life and in the vegetable kingdom. The above verse is especially significant as it refers to Allah creating 'pairs' in all things including the vegetable kingdom and thus mentioning the process of pollination. Pollination or plant reproduction occurs when the male germ cell of a plant reaches the stigma, the female reproductive part of the same species of plant.



The process of pollination and the belief that plants are created in pairs of a male and female is further re-iterated in another verse in the Quran that states "(Allah is the One who) sent water down from the sky and thereby We brought forth pairs of plants each separate from the other" (20:53).

Who could have informed us 14 centuries ago that different sexes of male and female existed within plants allowing pollination and plant reproduction to occur if not through divine intervention?

"In these are signs for people of learning" (30:22).

Narrated Abu Huraira (r):

The Prophet (s) said, "The signs of a hypocrite are three: Whenever he speaks he tells a lie; whenever he is entrusted he proves dishonest; whenever he promises he breaks his promise."

[Sahih Bukhari]

Numerical Miracles found in the Quran

Some remarkable and astonishing facts are also found in the Quran. For example, The word (Sea or Water) is mentioned 32 times whereas, the word (Landmass) is mentioned 13 times in the Holy Qur'an. If one was to add these to sums together we will get 45.

Now let us do some calculations...

By finding the percentage of the number of the word (Sea) to the total number of the words (Sea and Landmass) we will have:

$$(32/45) \times 100\% = 71.1111111111\%$$

By finding the percentage of the number of the word (Landmass) to the total number of the words (Sea and Landmass) we will have:

$$(13/45) \times 100\% = 28.8888888889\%$$



We will find what Allah (swt) said in His Holy Book 14 century ago that the ratio of water on earth is 71.1111111111%, and the ratio of landmass is 28.8888888889%, add them together and you will get 100%, and these are the real ratios of the Water and landmass on earth.

So what do you think? Could it be a Chance?

Who do you think taught Prophet Muhammad (s) all of these FACTS, which were unknown to man 14 centuries ago?

These are just some of the many miracles that are contained in the Quran. If one was to ask themselves, if the human race is the most intelligent form of life on this earth and we could not have been able to understand any of these verses that were stated in the Quran 1400 years ago because of the fact we did not have the knowledge nor the technology we possess today to prove such statements true. Then by applying simple logic, one must conclude that something more intelligent, more knowledgeable and more superior than that of a human being must have sent this book down to us, as the Quran could have only been written with divine intervention. As Allah states "We will show them our signs in the universe and within themselves until it is clear to them that it (the Quran) is the truth" (41:53).

By bringing such facts to light, I hope and pray that you at the very least take the time to ponder about the Quran and honestly ask yourself, who could the author of such a book be, if not by Allah?

Do you have something to say?

Write in to us...

UNITED MUSLIM'S OF AUSTRALIA

Tell the community what you think....

Tel: Br: 0402199844 or Sr: 0402109300, E-mail: newsletter@uma.org.au

THE ORGANISATION'S COMMITTEES

*"You are the best people chosen for mankind because you command righteousness, forbid evil and believe in Allah."
Qur'aan, 3:110*

Dawah Committees

Organising workshops and seminars, the Dawah committee helps create an awareness about issues of social concern affecting the Muslim youth. The committee remains highly active, involving itself and participating in offering assistance to the community by visiting local nursing homes, Hospitals and offering their services to aid in providing goods and services to the elderly, disabled, distressed and the disadvantaged members of the community.

In addition to the assistance provided to the wider community, the committee also involves itself in undertaking home visits to fellow Muslims brothers, travelling to popular youth hang out areas such as Darling Harbour in an attempt to draw people back to the deen of Allah (swt) and arranging local and external visits as a sign of goodwill within and outside the community.

Educational Programs (Prayer/ Arabic/ Khutba/ Quranic Classes)

These educational courses are designed to assist individuals attain greater religious knowledge and also provides them with the opportunity to learn the basic principles of Islam to help further their understanding of the deen.

If you would like more information about the educational programs being offered please contact *Sheikh Nouredine Bader* on 0404 806 767.

Counselling (Mission of Hope)

The committee attempts to provide direct counselling to combat the problem of isolation experienced by some members of the community. The main objective for the establishment of 'The Mission of Hope' is to help increase the level of confidence of individuals experiencing difficulties and challenges in their lives and providing assistance in an attempt resolve any problems or dilemmas faced by individuals or by the community on a whole Contact *Sheikh Nouredine Bader* on 0404 806 767 for more information.

Halal Food Guide (Health Factor)

The establishment of the Halal food guide committee is to thoroughly examine all food products and to look for non-halal ingredients that may be contained within certain foods to allow the Muslim community to make an informed decision when purchasing their groceries.

We have been in the process of writing down all products/manufactures phone numbers and address at Woolworth's and Aldi

so we can contact each one individually to find out what is halal for the Muslims to eat and to use. We are currently in the process of putting together a booklet informing our community of what products are halal and haram. InshaAllah, the booklet will be released to all members shortly. Contact *Ramzi Saghir* on 0403 245 145 for more information.

Career Committee

The committee attempts to provide guidance and advice to school leavers unsure about what future career to pursue. The committee helps students make informed decisions in choosing and undertaking the correct and most suitable form of education that will benefit both themselves and the wider community by highlighting the different types of studies one may follow that will help and support them in their future endeavours. Contact *Sheikh Nouredine Bader* on 0404 806 767 for more information.

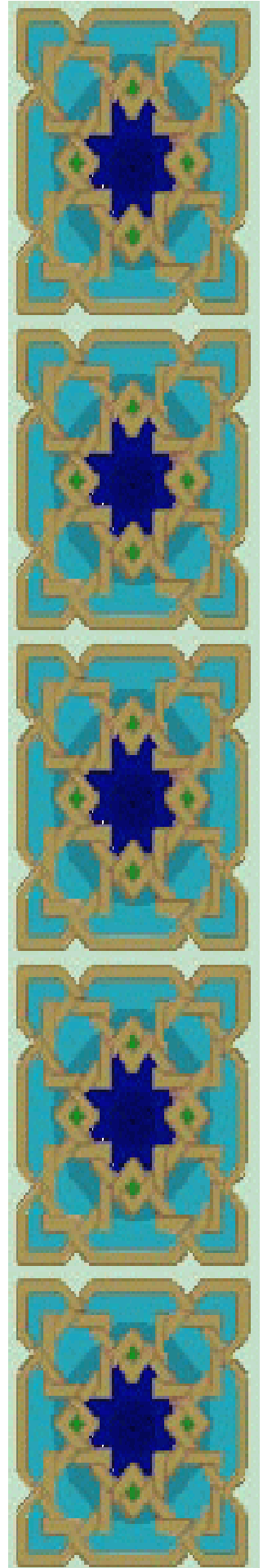
Printing Committee (ImanTec Printing)

The printing committee offer a wide range of services to all members of UMA by specializing and publishing large quantities of Islamic pamphlets, books and newsletters such as 'The Message' as well as offering other important services such as book-binding, laminating and pamphlet folding. The committee also attempts to fulfil the ever-increasing printing demand of the local community by endeavouring to satisfy all their printing needs. Contact *Mahmoud Dakamanji* on 0404 065 719 or visit our website **www.imantec.com.au** for more information.



IT Committee (ImanTec)

ImanTec attempts to provide all members of UMA with the latest up-to-date computer equipment and service. ImanTec operates and provides numerous facilities and services to its members and to the local community such as offering computer programming and networking to small and large businesses as well as establishing an internet café for members of the organisation to meet all their IT needs. Contact *Abdul Satoot* on 0407 071 938 for more information.



*Abu Hurairah (r)
narrated:*

*The Prophet (s):
"What I have forbid-
den to you, avoid;
what I have
ordered you [to do],
do as much of it as you
can. It was
only their
excessive questioning
and their disagreeing
with their
prophets that
destroyed those who
were before you."*

[Bukhari and Muslim]

ImanTec Audio

The Audio committee distributes Islamic cassettes and CDs to all members of UMA as well as to any individual seeking to attain spiritual guidance. The committee reproduces cassettes and CDs covering a range of different topic to help individuals to enhance their understanding and comprehension of religious issues. Contact *Wael Mousa* on 0415 105 220 for more information.

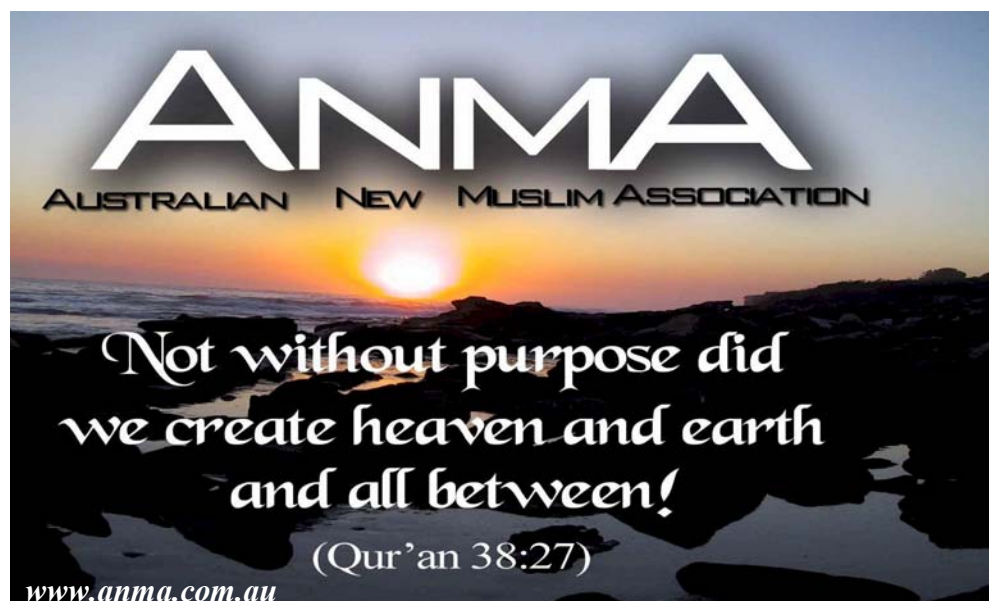
The distribution of Cassettes and CDs will take place immediately following Shiekh Shady's (Mondays and Thursdays) lesson upstairs in the Mosque.

Muslim Youth Sports Association

Since the establishment of MYSA, the committee has continually grown in an attempt to cater for the overwhelming demand of our members interested in participating and competing in sporting events and activities. At present, the committee provides its members with five different types of sport, which include Basketball, Cricket, Taekwondo, Soccer and Rugby. If you are interested in joining theses club, do not hesitate to contact Halsam Ismail on 0404 848 052.

New Muslims Committee (ANMA)

The New Muslims Committee provides a wide range of services to new Muslims and reverts and attempts to aid them to increase their knowledge on Islam and to help them in their quest for spiritual enlightenment. The committee provides reverts with educational programs, activities, monthly newsletters and organizes numerous Islamic functions to provide reverts with the opportunity to meet other newcomers to the religion to assist each other in the transition process. Contact *Mohammed El-Chami* on 0410 680 119 or visit us at www.anma.com.au.



WEEKLY ACTIVITIES @ UMA



Day	Time	Activity
Monday	After Salat al Isha	Life of The Prophet (S.A.W.S.) by Shiekh Shady at Lakemba Mosque.
	After Islamic Lesson	Distribution of free Islamic tapes and cassettes
	Between Maghrib and Isha	Visiting Muslims
Tuesday	After Salat al Isha	Arabic and Quran lessons for beginners, intermediate and advanced levels. (Lakemba Mosque)
Wednesday	After Salat al Isha	How to Pray Program For all levels, from beginners to advance at Lakemba Mosque.
Thursday	After Salat al Isha	Advanced Islamic Lessons by Shiekh Shady Islamic Jurisprudence (Science of Islamic Law). (Lakemba Mosque)
	After Islamic Lesson	Distribution of free Islamic tapes and cassettes
	Between Maghrib and Isha	Visiting Muslims
Saturday	From 3pm-5pm, at 28 Croydon St	Sisters Weekly Lessons Lessons by Sheikh Shady & respected female guest speakers.

GET MOVING...

... to Croydon St Islamic Gym in Lakemba. Open to Brothers it provides members with the latest Gym facilities. All this for a mere \$250 dollars annual fee... Join Now!!! All proceeds will be spent In the way of Allah.

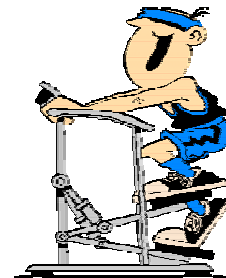
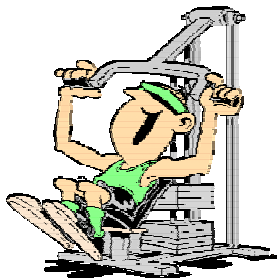
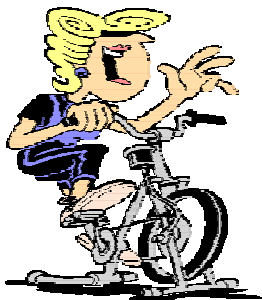
Contact Brother Azad on
0414 293 012



"O believers, seek help in patience and prayer."

Truly, Allah is with those who are patient."

Qur'aan, 2:153



WHY I EMBRACED ISLAM

Islam has been described as being the religion of Fitrah, the innate nature of all humans. It is not surprising therefore when we discover that Islam is being accepted as the only pure way of life a person can follow by millions of reverts around the world. Statistics show that out of every 5 who revert to Islam, 4 are females. This blows away the false concept that Islam is a repressive religion for women. The following is one account of a sister who submitted to Allah as her Lord, took Islam as her religion, and Muhammad (s.a.w) as her Messenger...

I have always, since developing an ability to think deeply, believed in the existence of a single Creator, on whom everything that exists is dependent. Though my parents are Buddhist, from the age of 13, to this Creator, I have steadfastly prayed and yielded guidance from every day that I can remember. Yet, being schooled within a

Christian environment, I naturally identified myself as a Christian.

Sadly, my knowledge of Islam was minimal. I perceived it as a bizarre religion, limited to only a few underdeveloped nations, most of which were in the Middle East, and which endorsed an astoundingly suppressive lifestyle, particularly for women. Muslim women, I presumed, were considered inferior - a passive domestic slave, bashed often and forced to compete among four for her husband's affections, which he could withhold from them all if he wanted to. The majority of these ideas I developed from hearsay, interactions with others I assumed knew what they were talking about and a few documentaries on Iran and Saudi Arabia I watched on television.

As I entered university nearly three years ago, I came into contact with quite a number of Muslim students from various backgrounds. Strangely enough, even to myself, I was drawn to them and developed a curious inclination to learn and understand more about their religion. I observed how content they seemed and was very impressed by their openness and warmth towards myself and each other, but more importantly with their pride in belonging to a religion which holds many negative connotations.

I gradually became fascinated with Islam, and through a process of education, developed a greater respect for it than even my beloved Christianity. I was stunned at how wrong my previous conception had been and became particularly overwhelmed at the tremendous entitlements, equality and acknowledgment Islam provided for women. I realised the reality of the Islamic lifestyle and the truth concerning that feeble American innovation termed "Islamic fundamentalism".

Is it said that any person who possesses the faulty of reason and an open mind should recognise logic and truth when he/she encounters it, and so it was in my case.

What impressed me the most was how practical Islam is - how it encompasses a rule and a lesson for almost every facet of living. And by the sheer grace of God, I at last understood the faults of Christian theology and of the concepts I had previously accepted unquestioningly.

At midday, on August 4th, 2001, before over 20 witnesses, I recited the shahadah and became an official Muslim.

I shall never forget the bliss of that day and how much my life has turned around in only a year's time.



VERSE OF THE MONTH

O you who believe! Let not a group scoff at another group, it may be that the latter are better than the former; nor let (some) women scoff at other women, it may be that the latter are better than the former, nor defame one another, nor insult one another by nicknames. How bad is it, to insult one's brother after having Faith [i.e. to call your Muslim brother (a faithful believer) as: "O sinner", or "O wicked", etc.]. And whosoever does not repent, than such are indeed Zâlimûn (wrong-doers, etc.). (Al-Hujurat 49:11)

Narrated Abu Huraira (r):

*The Prophet (s) said,
"The one who looks
after a widow or a poor
person is like a Muja-
hid (warrior) who
fights for Allah's
Cause, or
like him who performs
prayers all the night
and fasts all the day."*

[Sahih Bukhari, Vol-
ume 7, Book 64, Num-
ber 265]

يَتَأْتِيهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا لَا يَسْخَرُونَ قَوْمًا مِّن قَوْمٍ عَسَىٰ أَن يَكُونُوا خَيْرًا مِّنْهُمْ
وَلَا نِسَاءً مِّن نِّسَاءٍ عَسَىٰ أَن يَكُنَّ خَيْرًا مِّنْهُنَّ وَلَا تَلْمِزُوا أَنْفُسَكُمْ وَلَا
تَنَابَزُوا بِالْأَلْقَابِ بِئْسَ الْأَسْمُ الْفُسُوقُ بَعْدَ الْإِيمَانِ وَمَن لَّمْ يَتُبْ فَأُولَٰئِكَ
هُمُ الظَّالِمُونَ

Brothers and sisters in Islam, the noble Quran is not only about who to believe and what to believe in, but as a matter of fact the noble Quran teaches the true believers how to live their lives and how to deal with their family and friends. Allah (swt) orders and teaches Muslims how to treat one another. Allah says “*Let not a group scoff at another group*” in other words do not make fun of each other, do not mock and criticize your brother or sister in Islam even if you are better than them. Allah (swt) does not only direct his words upon men, but also emphasizes his words upon women. Allah says “*nor let (some) women scoff at other women*”. Allah (swt) is teaching those who believe how to become better Muslims and how to enhance the love and care among the brothers and sisters in Islam. Do not defame one another, nor insult. Surely no one likes to be insulted in front of their family and friends. No one is perfect in this life, we are all bound to fall in mistakes but those who do not repent are wrong doers as Allah (swt) says “*whosoever does not repent, than such are indeed Zâlimûn (wrong-doers, etc.).*”

THE PROPHET. A GREAT MAN?

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) Was forty years old, and it was the fifth consecutive year since his annual retreats, when one night towards the end of the month of Ramadan, an angel came to visit him, and announced that God had chosen him as His messenger to all mankind.

"My choice of Muhammad to lead the list of the world's most influential persons may surprise some readers and may be questioned by others, but he was the only man in history who was supremely successful on both the religious and secular level." (Hart, 1987:33)

These words are from non believers praising our Prophet, praising our Beliefs and praising the way the Prophet lead the Muslims to our religious completion. If the non believers see it why don't we so listen and read what the Prophet said before his death:

The Prophet Muhammad's (PBUH) Last Sermon

These words are from non believers praising our Prophet, praising our Beliefs and praising the way the Prophet lead the Muslims to our religious completion. If the non believers see it why don't we

This sermon was delivered on the Ninth Day of Dhul Hijjah 10 A.H. in the 'Uranah valley of Mount Arafat' (in Mecca).

After praising, and thanking Allah he said:

"O People, lend me an attentive ear, for I know not whether after this year, I shall ever be amongst you again. Therefore listen to what I am saying to you very carefully and TAKE THESE WORDS TO THOSE WHO COULD NOT BE PRESENT HERE TODAY.

"All those who listen to me shall pass on my words to others and those to others again; and may the last ones understand my words better than those who listen to me directly"

O People, just as you regard this month, this day, this city as Sacred, so regard the life and property of every Muslim as a sacred trust. Return the goods entrusted to you to their rightful owners. Hurt no one so that no one may hurt you. Remember that you will indeed meet your LORD, and that HE will indeed reckon your deeds. ALLAH has forbidden you to take usury (interest), therefore all interest obligation shall henceforth be waived. Your capital, however, is yours to keep. You will neither inflict nor suffer any inequity. Allah has Judged that there shall be no interest and that all the interest due to Abbas ibn 'Abd'al Muttalib (Prophet's uncle) shall henceforth be waived...

Beware of Satan, for the safety of your religion. He has lost all hope that he will ever be able to lead you astray in big things, so beware of following him in small things.

O People, it is true that you have certain rights with regard to your women, but they also have rights over you. Remember that you have taken them as your wives only under Allah's trust and with His permission. If they abide by your right then to them belongs the right to be fed and clothed in kindness. Do treat your women well and be kind to them for they are your partners and committed helpers. And it is your right that they do not make friends with any one of whom you do not approve, as well as never to be unchaste.

O People, listen to me in earnest, worship ALLAH, say your five daily prayers (Salah), fast during the month of Ramadan, and give your wealth in Zakat. Perform Hajj if you can afford to.

All mankind is from Adam and Eve, an Arab has no superiority over a non-Arab nor a non-Arab has any superiority over an Arab; also a white has no superiority over black

nor a black has any superiority over white except by piety and good action. Learn that every Muslim is a brother to every Muslim and that the Muslims constitute one brotherhood. Nothing shall be legitimate to a Muslim which belongs to a fellow Muslim unless it was given freely and willingly. Do not, therefore, do injustice to yourselves.

Remember, one day you will appear before ALLAH and answer your deeds. So beware, do not stray from the path of righteousness after I am gone.

O People, NO PROPHET OR APOSTLE WILL COME AFTER ME AND NO NEW FAITH WILL BE BORN. Reason well, therefore, O People, and understand words which I convey to you. I leave behind me two things, the QURAN and my example, the SUNNAH and if you follow these you will never go astray.

All those who listen to me shall pass on my words to others and those to others again; and may the last ones understand my words better than those who listen to me directly. Be my witness, O ALLAH, that I have conveyed your message to your people".

The Prophet basically emphasised that this religion needs to be carried forward and it needs people to spread the religion. The main way to do this is through the Prophets teachings and through the highway of DA' WA. **"All those who listen to me shall pass on my words to others and those to others again"** The Prophet promised Jannah to those who followed him and the Devil promised hell for whoever followed him!!! You would think the choice is easy seeing the common sense behind this simple equation. The Prophet had to fight for the religion, he had to endure long endless night praying until his heels bruised, he was persecuted by his own tribe, he was rejected for saying there is only ONE GOD!! the devil didn't fight, he didn't pray, he didn't accept punishment on behalf of his people, all he done was whisper. That's right, WHISPER so why do we reject the great path of the Prophet for the low lustful path of the devil. The Prophet was a great man so lets treat him like one, he even has a prayer dedicated to him called the Sunnah prayer, how much must god love him to enlist him with a prayer.

We all listen so lets pass the message on and just to conclude, whom so ever believes in GOD (which is all of us) believes that GOD is perfect, thus what ever comes from GOD must be perfect. ISLAM came from GOD so common sense tells you that **ISLAM MUST BE PERFECT and the one who cried out for Islam is the prophet so as GOD as my witness the PROPHET IS A GREAT MAN!!!**

Assalamu alakiom

Wal hamdullilah

References:

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"This day I have perfected your religion for you, completed my favour upon you,



and chosen Islam as your religion"
Qur'an 5:3

Narrated Abu Musa (r):

Some people asked Allah's Apostle (s), "Whose Islam is the best?" He replied, "One who avoids harming the Muslims with his tongue and hands."

[Sahih Bukhari: Volume 1, Book 2, Number 10]

AL-RIJAAL

FEATURE ARTICLE

All praise is to Allah the Creator of the universe, Master of the day of judgment and Lord of the worlds, and peace and blessings be upon the true man, and the last messenger, Mohammad (s).

Al Rijaal! Who are they? What do they look like? Why are they mentioned in the Quran? Why are we discussing them? What is the difference between Al Rijaal (a man) and a male?

The issue we are discussing here is men. Why has Allah (swt) elevated *Al Rijaal*? And how do we become, what does it take to be a *man*?

If we looked at the current situation of the *Ummah* (Muslim nation), we would realize that unfortunately our *Ummah* is great in number but carry no weight. There are millions and millions of Muslims, but we have no effect, there are many Muslim countries, but we have no voice.

The saying of our beloved Prophet (s) had come true, "*The nations would gather to destroy you, just like the beasts would gather to eat from its prey*", the companions asked "Is it because we are few in number then Oh prophet of Allah?" The prophet (s) replied, "*At that time you are great in number, but as weightless as the dirt carried by the small river*".

By Allah (swt), its as though the Prophet (s) was looking at us now, and witnessing what his *Ummah* is going through. Warning us of the problem, that we will become weightless as the dirt carried by the small river.

Weightless, yes weightless, there are 1.5 billion Muslims world wide, and this is the fundamental issue, that no Muslim of substance, importance or influence exists. In other words we are sadly and significantly lacking men!

When Muslim armies led by Amro bin Al-aas were about to enter Egypt, Amro sent a letter requesting backup from Omar who was the Khalifa at that time, so Omar sent four thousand men, and wrote a letter to Amro stating, "*I have sent you four thousand men, the leader of each thousand is worth a thousand men*"! Allahu Akbar, one man was worth a thousand! That is what made these Muslim armies victorious. Another man described as having such worth was Ibraheem (s) whom Allah (swt) described in the Quran as an *Ummah*, a nation, one man equal to a nation.

The best example of a *man*, is the Prophet (s), where with hard work, patience, will power, sacrifice, struggle, and the help and will of Allah (swt), '*Laillah Illa Allah*' reached the four corners of the world. In fact, history stands as a witness that it never saw a man who led a nation better then the son of Abdullah, Muhammad (s), he was the most generous, the best mannered, he (s), was the man who changed Shepard's into leaders of nations, the one who caused Arabian Bedouins to emerge as the most civilized nation on the face of the planet. This was a man whom affected his followers so profoundly that a few years after his death, one of his followers: Ribhi ibn Aamer stood in front of the leader of the Persian armies, 'Rostom', and spoke the few words that would shock the earth under Rostom's feet. Ribhi said, "*We came to take people away from the worship of the creation, into worshipping the creator, from the narrowness of this world, into the vastness of this world and the hereafter, from the unjustness of other religions into the justness of Islam.*"

One may ask, what characteristics did these men have? What made them so victorious, how can we achieve their status? The response to this question is that we must try to attain and use as a guide the attributes of such men. We must continually analyse where we stand, our weaknesses and how can we become stronger?

- 1) Their Emaan was so strong and deeply rooted that were the whole world to change, their Emaan wouldn't decrease an atoms weight. This was exemplified by the actions of Khalid bin al-Waleed, where once he and his troops surrounded a Roman occupied city, for countless days, but the Romans would not give up. He tried all possible methods but with no success, thus, he wrote a letter to them stating, "*In the name of Allah,*



"The nations would gather to destroy you, just like the beasts would gather to eat from its prey", the companions asked "Is it because we are few in number then Oh prophet of Allah?" The prophet (s) replied, "At that time you are great in number, but as weightless as the dirt carried by the small river".

the most Gracious, the most Merciful, from Khalid ibn al-Waleed , Abu Suleiman, to the leader of the Romans in the city of Kim Nisreen, where can you go? By Allah if you went up to the clouds, Allah will either bring us up to you or He will rain you down to us!"

When the Roman leader read the letter he started shaking and said, *"Open up the doors of the city to them, we have no power over these people"*. The reason Khalid's words were that effective is that they were direct from the heart of a great believer, one whom relied on Allah (swt) for everything, even victory!

That was the Emaan of the companions of the Prophet (s). These are the *Rijal* that the after hearing about them the Chinese emperor of that time said, *"These are people, if they wished to rip out the mountains, they could do so!"*

- 2) Their main concern was the hereafter, they didn't care about this world and what beauties it had, their main concern was how they could attain the pleasure of Allah (swt) and enter heaven. They saw this life as a journey, and they only had in it what a traveler would have while on travel.
- 3) They were people of the truth, and prefer the truth over being with their families, friends and even their own selves, when Omar (r) wasn't a believer, he went to kill the prophet (s) and on the way, he met a man that told him that Omar's sister had accepted Islam, so Omar headed to her home first, and after a small battle between Omar and his brother-in-law, and his sister, he asked them if they would allow him to read some of the Quran. After reading a few verses from Surat Taha, Omar declared belief in Islam, and acceptance of the truth, this example of following the truth, is like the sun, when it shines in the morning, all the darkness goes away, and when the sun of Islam shines, the darkness of the falsehood diminishes.
- 4) The companions were sincere to Allah (swt), and they did everything just to please their Lord, Allah and only Allah, even if worldly gains were easily accessible to them, nothing took them away from their Lord, Allah (swt).
- 5) The companions never lived for themselves, but rather lived and died to uphold *la-illaha illa Allah*, sacrificing everything needed in the path of Allah, climbing the largest mountains, traveling the burning deserts, and crossing the darkest oceans, just to deliver *laillaha illa Allah* to all of humanity. It was narrated, that the Prophet (s) was once sleeping at Obada bin Assamet's house, an old man with an old house, and when the Prophet (s) awoke, he was laughing, so the old lady asked, *'What made you laugh, oh Prophet of Allah may Allah always make you laugh'*, the Prophet (s) said, *'I saw people from my Ummah, riding the sea, opening the lands for Allah's sake, they appeared like kings,'* the old lady replied, *'Ask Allah to make me amongst them'*, the Prophet said, *'You are from them'*.

Many years later, Muslims from the Arabian peninsula who never used to sail upon ships, but they made an oath that by Allah (swt) that regardless of what they had to suffer that they would deliver, *La-illaha illa Allah*, so a group of them traveled on ships, heading towards Cyprus. Remarkably amongst them was the old lady, whom the Prophet (s) had informed to be part of such a group, and she died as a martyr in the path of Allah.

These brothers and sisters, exemplify a few characteristics of what it takes to be *Rijal*, a group whom Allah (swt) gave His support and descended His victory upon, we ask Allah (swt), to raise for this Ummah people like these *Rijal*, and we ask Him to guide every person that wants to follow in their footsteps, and we ask Him (swt) to give victory to the Ummah worldwide, and protect the people of the truth.

Your Bother In Islam

"Have not those who disbelieve known that the heavens and the earth were joined together as one united piece, then We parted them? And We have made from water every living thing. Will they not then believe?"

Qur'aan 21:30



THE STATE OF WOMEN IN PARADISE.

Today, the majority of questions asked by women is concerning their state in Paradise and what awaits them therein. To answer this question, I have collected a number of rulings evident on this topic, with their authentication, that is, with the correct evidences and sayings of the Scholars.

The human soul is the same, (whether it) was of a man or a woman - excited and jubilant when Paradise is mentioned and what it has of the different types of enjoyments. And that is good with the condition that it does not become hope only, without us following it with righteous actions. Verily, Allah said to the Believers:

This is the Paradise which you have been made to inherit because of your deeds which you used to do (in the life of the world). [43:72]

So excite your soul with the (glad) news of Paradise and consolidate that with actions.

Paradise and its delights is not especially for men only without women. Verily, it has already been "*Prepared for the Muttaqeen (men and women of piety and righteousness)*" [3:133] The categories will be like how Allah (swt) informed us of. As He (swt), said: *And whoever does righteous good deeds, male or female, and is a true believer in the Oneness of Allāh (Muslim), such will enter Paradise.* [4:124]

The woman should not busy herself with too much questioning and investigation of the particularities of entering Paradise: What should she do? Where will she be going? – and so on with her questioning... It is like she is going towards a destructive desert!

It would suffice her to know that her entrance into Paradise disappears with every unhappiness or wretchedness that passes her by. That will be transformed into constant, eternal and everlasting happiness. Sufficient for her is His saying concerning Paradise:

No sense of fatigue shall touch them, nor shall they (ever) be asked to leave it. [16:48]

And His saying:

(There will be) therein all that the one's inner-selves could desire, all that the eyes could delight in, and you will abide therein forever. And before that, every one of His sayings concerning the people of Paradise should suffice her: Allah is pleased with them and they are pleased with Him. [5:119]

Excite your soul with
the (glad) news of
Paradise and
consolidate that with
actions...

When Allah mentions the temptations present in Paradise, like the different varieties of food, beautiful sights, clothing and houses, He mentions this for both men and women – all of them will enjoy what they put forth (for themselves, i.e. the rewards for their good deeds).

And it remains: That verily Allah has enticed men and their desire for Jannah, by mentioning what it has from *Al-Hoor Al-'Ein* and beautiful women, and this example is not returned to the women... The reason for this is, the desire of the woman for men is not like the desire of men for women and for this, then Allah has worked up the men by mentioning the women of

Paradise. (This is) confirmed by the prophet's (s) saying: *"I have not left after me a fitnah more harmful for men, than women."* [al-Bukhari]

As for the woman, then her desire is for beauty of clothes and ornaments which surpasses her desire for men, because it is from what she is naturally disposed over, as Allah (swt) said:

(Do they then like for Allah) a creature who is brought up in adornments... [43:18]

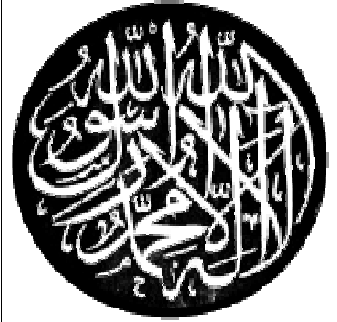
Allah (swt) mentioned only wives for the husbands, because for the husband, he is the pursuer, and he is desirous for the woman. So for that, wives were mentioned for the men in Paradise and it was silent concerning partners for the women. But it is not necessarily the case that they have no partners, rather, they will have partners from the children of Adam.

The woman will not come out of these conditions (of having partners in the next life), if in the world:

1. She dies before getting married.
2. She dies after her divorce, before getting married to another.
3. She does get married, but her husband doesn't enter Paradise with her – and the seeking of refuge (from this) is with Allah.
4. She dies after her marriage.
5. Her husband dies, and she remains with no partner after him until she dies.
6. Her husband dies, then she marries another one after him.

These are the states of the woman in the world, and for every state, there is its equivalent in Paradise:

1. So as for the woman who died before getting married – for such, Allah (s) will marry her in Paradise to the men of the people of the world, in accordance to his saying (s): *"There is not in Paradise an unmarried one"* [Muslim].
"If the woman in this world is not married, then verily Allah (swt) will marry her to what will 'cool her eye in Paradise." So the delight in Paradise is not confined only to the males, but it is the males and the females. And from the complete delight is marriage.
2. The likeness of a woman who has died is that she is divorced.
3. And the example of a woman whose husband doesn't enter Paradise, Shaikh Ibn 'Uthaymeen said: "So the woman, if she was from the people of Paradise and she never married or her husband was not from the people of Paradise – so if she does indeed enter Paradise, then there are from the people of Paradise those who never married from among men. So one of them will marry her."
4. As for the woman who dies after her marriage, then in Paradise, her husband is he who she died from (i.e her husband in the world).
5. As for the woman whose husband died and she remained after him without getting married until she died, then she will be her husband's wife in Paradise.
6. As for the woman whose husband died and she got married after him, then she will indeed be with the last of her partners, no matter how many they were, for the Prophet (s) said: *"The woman is for the last of her spouses"* [Silsilah al-Ahaadeeth As-Saheehah of Al-Albaani]. And indeed, the statement of Huthayfah (raa) to his wife, "If you want to be my wife in Jannah, then don't marry after me, for verily, the



"And give to the women (whom you marry) their Mahr (obligatory bridal money given by the husband to his wife at the time of marriage) with a good heart; if they, of their own good pleasure, remit any part of it to you, take it, and enjoy it without fear of any harm (as Allah has made it lawful)"

Qur'aan 4:4

woman in Paradise is for the last of her husbands in the world. So because of that, Allah prohibited the spouses of the Prophet (s) to marry after him, so that they would be his spouses in Jannah.”

It has been mentioned in an authentic hadith, his saying to the women, *“Verily, I have seen you (women) are the majority of the people of the Fire.”* And in another hadith, he (s) said: *“Indeed, the least of the inhabitants of Paradise are the women.”* [Bukhari and Muslim]

And it has been mentioned in another authentic hadith, that for every man from the people of the world, (there will be) *Zowjataan* – two wives; that is, from the women of earth. So the ‘*Ulamaa* have differed on account of reconciliation between the former hadith’s: That is, are the women the majority in Paradise or in Hell?

So some of the scholars have said: Even though the women will be the majority of the people of Jannah, likewise, they will also be the majority of the people of the Fire. Al-Qaadhi ‘Iyyaadh said, “Women are most of the children of Adam”.

And some of them said: “Even though women are the majority of the people of the Fire, from the preceding narrations; they are also the majority of the people of Jannah, together with the *Hoori ‘Ein*, they will be in total more than the men in Jannah”.

When the woman does enter Paradise, then verily, Allah will return her youthfulness to her, and her virginity, as the Prophet (s) said, *“Indeed Paradise, no old (one) will enter it... Verily, when Allah ta’aala enters them into Paradise, He will transform (their) virginity.”*

It has also been mentioned in some of the *Aathaar* (narrations from the early scholars), that the women of the world will be, in Paradise, more beautiful than *Al-Hoor Al-‘Ein*, many times over, by reason of their worship to Allah.

The Paradise will be beautified for the women, as it has been beautified for the men. By Allah, do not lose the chance to obtain such a reward, for indeed the lifespan of this world is short. It is departing and nothing remains after it except everlasting eternal life in Jannah – if Allah wills. And be sure to remember the Prophet’s (s) words: *“If a woman prayers her five (daily prayers), fasts her month (of Ramadan), guards her private part and obeys her husband, (it will be) said to her: ‘Enter Paradise from any of the gates of Paradise you wish.’”*

I ask Allah to facilitate the women from amongst the Muslims to the supreme triumph with the garden of delight, and that He makes them guides and guided, and that He turns the *Shayaateen* of mankind away, from the men and women who call to the devastation of the woman and her mischief; and peace and blessings be on our Prophet Muhammad, and on his family and his Companions.



“If a woman prayers her five (daily prayers), fasts her month (of Ramadan), guards her private part and obeys her husband, (it will be) said to her: ‘Enter Paradise from any of the gates of Paradise you wish.’”

WHO I AM !

What do you see
when you look at me
Do you see someone limited,
or someone free

All some people can do is just look and stare
Simply because they can't see my hair
Others think I am controlled and uneducated
They think that I am limited and un-liberated

They are so thankful that they are not me
Because they would like to remain 'free'
Well free isn't exactly the word I would've used
Describing women who are cheated on and abused

They think that I do not have opinions or voice
They think that being hooded isn't my choice
They think that the hood makes me look caged
That my husband or dad are totally outraged

All they can do is look at me in fear
And in my eye there is a tear
Not because I have been stared at or made fun of
But because people are ignoring the one up above

On the day of judgment they will be the fools
Because they were too ashamed to play by their own rules
Maybe the guys won't think I am a cutie
But at least I am filled with more inner beauty

See I have declined from being a guy's toy
Because I won't let myself be controlled by a boy
Real men are able to appreciate my mind
And aren't busy looking at my behind

Hooded girls are the ones really helping the Muslim cause
The role that we play definitely deserves applause
I will be recognized because I am smart and bright
And because some people are inspired by my sight

The smart ones are attracted by my tranquility
In the back of their mind they wish they were me
We have the strength to do what we think is right
Even if it means putting up a life long fight

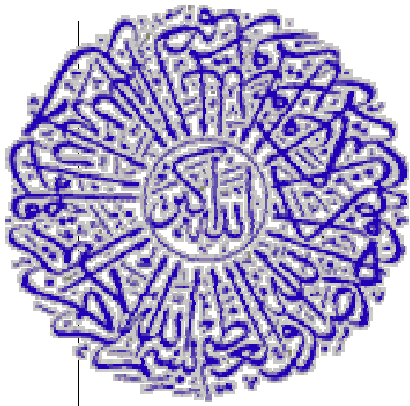
You see we are not controlled by a mini skirt and tight shirt
We are given only respect, and never treated like dirt
So you see, we are the ones that are free and liberated
We are not the ones that are sexually terrorized and violated

We are the ones that are free and pure
We're free of STD's that have no cure
So when people ask you how you feel about the hood
Just sum it up by saying 'baby its all good' ;)

*Supplication for
one in distress:
'O Allah, it is Your
mercy that I hope
for, so do not leave
me in charge of my
affairs even for a
blink of an eye and
rectify for me all of
my affairs. None
has the right to be
worshipped except
You.'*

**Abu Daawud
4/324 and Ahmad
5/42**





AMUSEMENTS PAGE

NAMES OF ALLAH

G	T	N	Z	J	R	X	C	V	R	Z	B	H	H	L
P	L	Q	A	U	D	W	M	N	X	A	W	B	B	A
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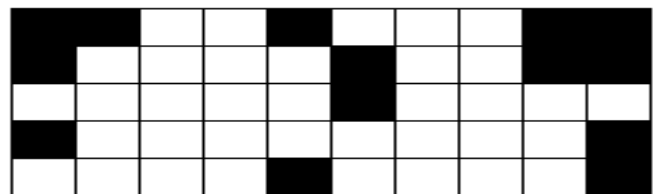
ALALM
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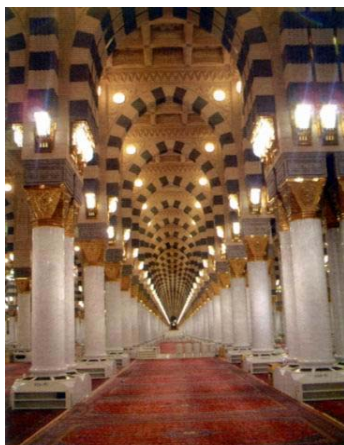
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