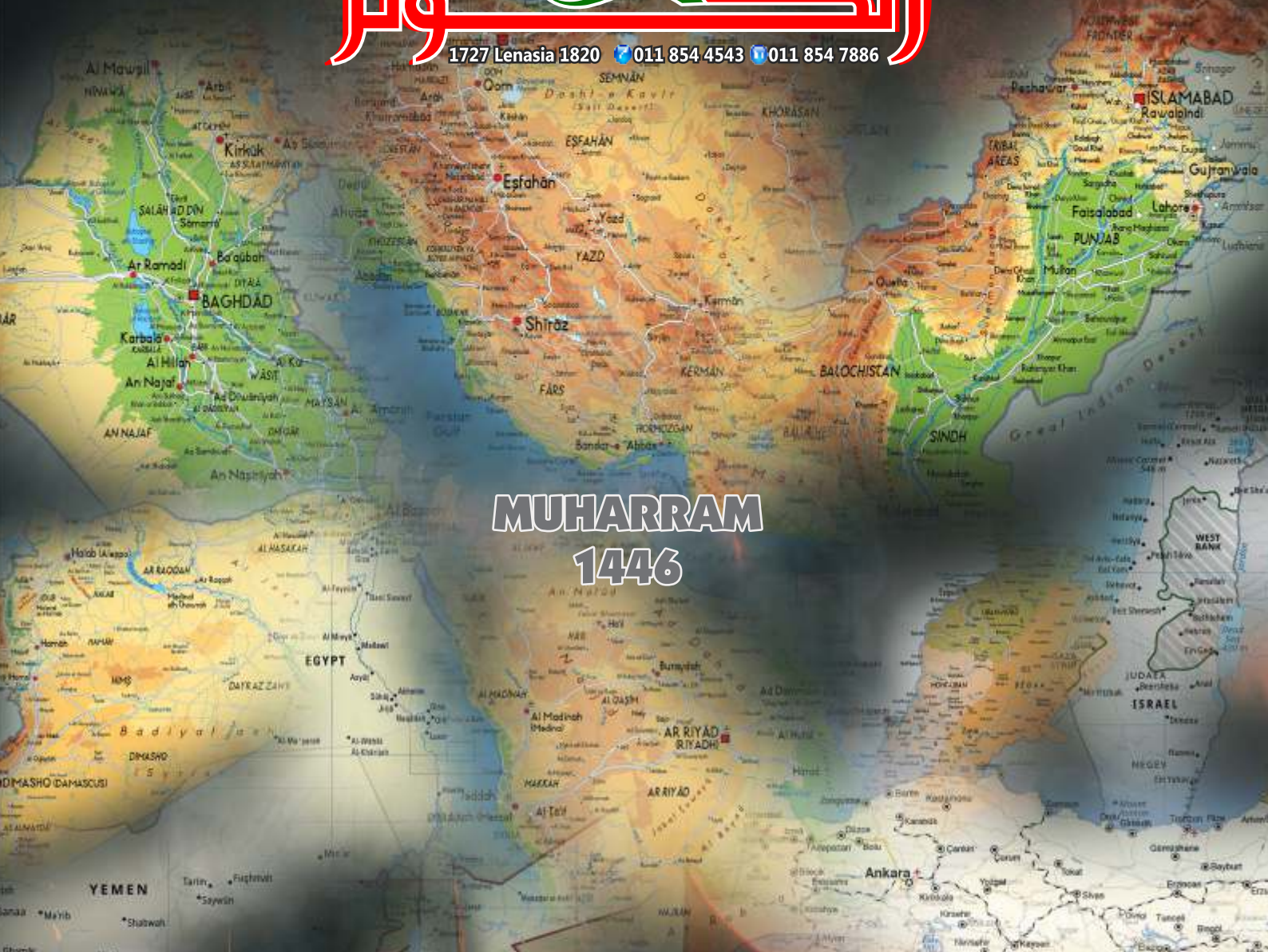


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MUHARRAM 1446



إِنَّا أَوْلِيَاءُ اللَّهِ لَا خَوْفَ عَلَيْهِمْ وَلَا هُمْ يَخْشَوْنَ

Beware upon the friends of Allah there is no fear nor are they amongst those who grieve

Gaza, PALESTINE – At the time of going to print, fierce fighting was raging between Israeli forces and Palestinian fighters in northern and southern Gaza with a number of innocent civilians, including children, being killed in a strike on a home in Rafah. This as Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu continued to frustrate global leaders who have been negotiating a ceasefire with his consistent refusal to the terms of agreement. Netanyahu has been facing increasing demands to step down, end the war and bring back hostages from Gaza. On the weekend of 29 June, over 100 000 protesters in the Israeli capital of Tel Aviv participated in a mass demonstration calling for this. Senior Hamas official Osama Hamdan said they were prepared to discuss any truce proposal to end the war.

Cairo, EGYPT - President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi has expressed concern about the Middle East going through "serious changes" because of the Israeli invasion of Gaza. El-Sisi said in a TV interview that Israel was forcing Palestinians to end up near Egyptian territories, as more Israeli settlers illegally occupied areas in Gaza. He said "the conscience of humanity was absent and the international community remained silent, turning its face away from tens of thousands of innocent victims."

Makkah, SAUDI ARABIA - More than 1,300 people died during this year's Hajj pilgrimage in Saudi Arabia amid unprecedented heatwaves. Health Minister Fahd bin Abdurrahman Al-Jalajel said that 83% of the 1 301 fatalities

were unauthorized pilgrims, making identification of the deceased difficult even though they had to be buried as soon as possible. Almost half of those who died were Egyptian nationals, which led to Egypt revoking the licenses of 16 travel agencies that had helped unauthorized pilgrims travel to Saudi Arabia.

Nahan, INDIA – A video circulated widely on social media showed a Hindu mob destroying a clothing shop of a Muslim man after the latter allegedly posted a video of a cow being slaughtered for the obligatory sacrifice during Eid al-Adha. After being dispersed by police, the mob is reported to have forced other Muslim-owned shops to shut down as well. Hindu nationalist (Hindutva) groups have long attacked Muslims accused of slaughtering cows, which are considered sacred in the Hindu faith.

Xinjiang, CHINA - The Chinese authorities have been changing the names of hundreds of villages of Uyghur Muslims to ones which reflect government propaganda, according to Maya Wang, acting China director at Human Rights Watch. She said this was part of Chinese government efforts to erase the cultural and religious expressions of Uyghurs. The latest Human Rights Watch report said most of the village name changes took place between 2017 and 2019 to remove references to Uighur Muslim cultural practices, such as mazar (shrine).

Bamako, MALI – The entire city's residents participated in the annual re-

plastering of Mali's Great Mosque of Djenne, which is the world's largest mud-brick building and on the list of UNESCO's World Heritage in Danger since 2016. The mosque requires a new layer of mud each year before the start of the rainy season in June to ensure that it does not collapse. For generations, men and boys have scaled the walls of the mosque to apply a new layer of mud made by women and girls who fetch water from the nearby river to mix with clay.

Abidjan, IVORY COAST – Seven years after it was started with sponsorship from Morocco, Ivory Coast's largest mosque has been officially opened. Morocco invests heavily across Francophone West Africa, where there are substantial Muslim populations.

New Delhi, INDIA - The [Supreme Court](#) of India has [ordered a postponement of the film](#) Hamare Baarah, based on a view that the trailer alone would cause offence to Muslim women and their religion. Earlier the Bombay High Court had ruled that the film could be released on 15 June. The film is about the story of Manzoor Ali Khan Sanjari, who, despite losing his first wife during childbirth, continues to have more children with his second wife. He refuses to agree to an abortion when she is pregnant with their sixth child because of the risk to her life, forcing his daughter to take her father to court to save her stepmother. The film has already been banned in Karnataka, as the state's government feared the "possibilities of communal riots".

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Its the Present, not the Past, that is in Our hands!

BY: IRSHAD AHMED SIDDIQI

At this important time of the year, muslims are poised for a mindset adjustment, considering it is our new year. Muharram with its sacred Youmul 'Aashoora on the 10th day, traced to key events in the history of the earliest nations and their Divine messengers, glorified by the last messenger Muhammad (ﷺ), who set the example of commemorating it.

Sometimes overshadowing it is the anniversary of Karbala, a date co-inciding with the original 'Aashoora celebration, but in total contrast to the tone of 'Aashoora. The latter is an expression of "thanksgiving", whereas Karbala is lamented, and often outrightly mourned.

Understandably, it recounts the tragedy of the circumstances relating to the martyrdom of Imam Husayn (ع) and members of the Prophet's (r) family, when they challenged the irreligious ruler and political order of the day.

Sunnis, who make up the majority of muslims in the world, pay respectful attention to Karbala, only a minority from their folds ignore it, with some extremism evident in factions who oppose or even challenge it.

In South Africa, it is popular amongst the sufi-oriented sunnis, presenting exaltations to eulogise the endeared martyrs in many forms, including 10-day lecture programmes, "taazia" parades and "kitchra" banquets.

The minority sh'ite sect base their religious ideology largely on Karbala and see it as a redemptive purgation of the ummah, from its ills and errors, past and future, as a result of the sacrifice made by Imam Husayn and the Martyrs. Some parallels may be detected from their suggestions resembling "salvationist" beliefs emphasised by the spilling of blood.

Notwithstanding the different opinions, valuable lessons may be learned from Karbala and the righteous conduct of such exemplary personalities who gave up their noble lives in the quest for Truth, and the challenges of their day.

Islam will remain governed by the unblemished criterion of the Qur'an and its personification in the model of the "seal of messengers" Muhammad Rasoolullah (ﷺ). Its message a universal one inclusive of all in creation, equitable and just, never elitist or biased, but based on the creations' striving for excellence in honour and subjugation of the Almighty, Allah al-Azeez.

The directive handed to Adam and the Children of Adam was the trusteeship of the Earth and maintaining truth and justice, in spreading good, restraining evil. This is the overview of the laws and commandments that were ever scripted by the Creator and dispatched by his Divinely-appointed messengers throughout history.

Never has the need for re-establishing the acceptance and adherence to this vital principle been more critical than now.

The world needs Islam. Muslims need to facilitate the message to the masses. For this, they the muslims need to be and behave as muslims, the likes of which were in abundance in the social order set up by the Holy Prophet (r), affectionately referred to as his Sahaabah. They would forever remain the nucleus of his Nation, the ummah, which would include every muslim until the last day, for whom he prayed even with his dying breath.

The challenges of today are enough to shake us up from our cave-like slumber to face the Myanmars, Yemens, Kashmirs, Syrias, Iraqs, Afghanistans, and Palestines, as challenges greater in scale to some of the battles centuries ago.

It is logical and righteous for us to react, and act now, since we are the custodians of the "trusteeship" and duty-bound to exercise its responsibility. Our efforts to effect change would be less futile than being extravagant in our consideration of the bygone which has been settled and beyond any scope of wishful change, except in the value of the lessons they offer.

If there is such a thing as a "new world order" ready to be sprung upon us under satanic dictatorship, then Islam remains as its most formidable opposition.

That is the call of today!

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KZN, South Africa

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Director
M | +27 83 781 1364
fax2email | 086 503 1592
E | riedwaan@fourway-logistics.com

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Director
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'JAI FILASTEEN'

Why an Indian MP invoked Gaza war while taking oath

By: Sarah Shamim

BJP leaders accused **Asaduddin Owaisi** of violating the Indian Constitution by chanting for Palestine. A usually staid swearing-in procedure where Indian parliamentarians take their oath of office has exploded into a controversy after veteran opposition legislator Asaduddin Owaisi chanted "Jai Palestine" after reading out the pledge on Tuesday.

In Sanskrit, the word "jai" literally translates to victory, but is used more broadly to connote support, so in effect, Owaisi's slogan amounted to: "Long live Palestine." Parliamentarians from the governing Bharatiya Janata Party of Prime Minister Narendra Modi have accused him of violating the very constitutional pledge he was taking by, according to them, demonstrating loyalty to another nation – a charge Owaisi has denied.

So what really happened, why have Owaisi's words become controversial, what else happened in the Indian Parliament on Tuesday and what's next for Owaisi?

What exactly did Owaisi say?

Owaisi took his oath as a member of parliament (MP), alongside 542 other legislators who were declared winners of India's mammoth national election.

The white kurta-clad Owaisi advanced to the podium in Parliament amid scattered applause from other parliamentarians before reading out his oath in Urdu. "I, Asaduddin Owaisi, who has been elected as a Lok Sabha member, swear in the name of Allah, that I will remain solemn and loyal to the Constitution of India. I will maintain the supremacy and integrity of India and I will fulfil my duties, assigned to me under this position, with loyalty," he pledged in Urdu. The Lok Sabha is the directly elected lower house of India's Parliament.

Then, he chanted "Jai Bhim, Jai Meem, Jai Telangana, Jai Filisteen" before stepping away from the podium. "Jai Bhim" is a pro-Dalit slogan that refers to Bhimrao Ambedkar, the Dalit founding father of the Indian Constitution. Dalits have historically been at the bottom of India's complex caste hierarchy. Meem is a part of the Urdu alphabet that transcribes closely to "M" in English, and Owaisi is believed to have been referring to his party, the All India Majlis-E-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM), mostly known just as MIM – pronounced "meem".

Telangana is the state Owaisi comes from, and Filisteen is the Urdu and Hindi word for Palestine.

Who is Owaisi?

Asaduddin Owaisi has been a five-time MP of the Lok Sabha, from Telangana's Hyderabad constituency since 2004. He comes from a political family and was preceded by his father, Salahuddin Owaisi, a six-time MP of Hyderabad from 1984 to 2004. Owaisi is also the president of the AIMIM since 2008. The regional party's manifesto espouses Muslim rights, the broader rights of all religious minorities, as well as Dalit rights. Owaisi is also known for his fiery oratory in Parliament.

During this election, AIMIM was neither part of the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) spearheaded by the BJP, nor was it allied with the opposition INDIA alliance led by the Congress Party.

Could the Indian MP be penalised?

In evoking Palestine, and effectively invoking Israel's war on Gaza, Owaisi drew criticism and allegations that he had signalled his allegiance to Palestine.

BJP members argued that Owaisi flouted the Indian Constitution. The BJP's information technology head, Amit Malviya posted on X on Tuesday: "As per extant rules, Asaduddin Owaisi can be disqualified from his Lok Sabha membership, for demonstrating

adherence to a foreign State, that is Palestine". Malviya posted a snippet of Article 102 of the Indian Constitution, that lays out grounds for disqualification from Parliament, underlining a clause of the article that says a person shall be disqualified for showing adherence to a foreign state.

Yet, other experts said Owaisi had broken no rule – even if he had deviated from convention, like many other politicians on Tuesday. "I don't think [Owaisi can be disqualified] because while taking the oath, nearly all members have raised different kinds of slogans," political analyst and Hindi professor Apoorvanand told Al Jazeera.

Apoorvanand explained that while being sworn into office after earlier elections, parliamentarians would typically confine themselves to the oath. "This time, the election was different and different issues were at stake. The atmosphere became different and members felt the need to express themselves". The election was a tense, high-strung contest between the BJP and the Congress-led INDIA alliance, in which Modi's party failed to win a majority for the first time after a decade in power, but managed to form a government in coalition with allies.

Apoorvanand also pointed out that Owaisi's Palestine chant had come after he had completed his official oath – in which he had pledged allegiance to India. "Hailing Palestine does not violate the Constitution of India. You've taken the oath and after that, if you say anything, it's not on record," said Apoorvanand.

Even the BJP's Radha Mohan Singh, who was in the chairperson's seat, tried to reassure angry BJP parliamentarians that slogans made after the oath-taking would not go on the record.

Still, local media reported that Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijju said he would review the rules regarding this issue.

Did other MPs say anything controversial?

The BJP's Chhatra Pal Singh Gangwar ended his oath with "Jai Hindu Rashtra" (Long live the Hindu nation). The BJP's ideological mentor, the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), has long called for India to be made a Hindu state. Gangwar's chant drew protest slogans from lawmakers belonging to the INDIA alliance. India is constitutionally a secular nation. Samajwadi Party leader Akhilesh Yadav objected to the chant, saying that "it was against the values of the Constitution." Another BJP member, Atul Garg, said "Narendra Modi Zindabad" [long live Modi] after he took his oath. Heckled by the opposition, he returned to the podium and said "Dr Hedgewar Zindabad," referring to Keshav Baliram Hedgewar, the founder of the RSS.

Did some MPs take oath with a copy of the Constitution?

Many opposition legislators, including Rahul Gandhi, leader of the Congress party, and Yadav, took the oath while holding out a copy of the Indian Constitution in their hands as a sign of protest against the alleged excesses of the BJP under Modi.

However, Modi and other BJP leaders hit back, accusing the Congress of hypocrisy. Tuesday also marked the anniversary of the imposition of a state of national emergency by then-Congress Prime Minister Indira Gandhi in 1975. During the state of emergency that was lifted in 1977, thousands of critics and political activists were arrested, civil liberties were suspended, and the press faced a crackdown. "Those who imposed the Emergency have no right to profess their love for our Constitution," Modi wrote in an X post on Tuesday.

Apoorvanand argued that the myriad debates that erupted out of Tuesday's oath-taking ceremony pointed to a more complex reality confronting India. "The election hasn't ended yet, unlike previous years," he said. "This battle is continuing and has not ended with the declaration of results."

SOURCE: AL JAZEERA



WARMONGERS, WHERE TO FROM HERE?

by: Faizul Khamker

The drums of war in the Middle East are being heard again. This time Lebanon is being targeted. Having failed on all fronts against the people of Gaza except for the wanton destruction of infrastructure and the brutal murder of innocent children and women desperation has set in. Furthermore, many experts have predicted that if the Zionist entity pursues this course, it would in all probability lead to a regional conflict which possibly could escalate in global war. In addition to the fact that the citizenry of the Zionist entity has lost all faith in their leadership and with these wars used to prolong the court appearance of the maniacal Netanyahu who has this unsatisfying craze for power reflects the level of desperation. These factors drive desperation and from the following classic factors brings reality to the idea of this desperation:

1. Chronic Stress: Prolonged exposure to stress without adequate relief can lead to feelings of desperation.
2. Loss or Grief: Experiencing significant loss, such as the death of a loved one, job loss, or the end of a relationship.
3. Lack of Control: Feeling powerless or unable to influence the outcome of a situation.
4. Isolation: Being socially isolated or lacking support networks.
5. Unmet Needs: Persistent unmet needs, such as financial instability, health issues, or basic survival needs.
6. High Stakes Situations: Facing situations where the consequences of failure or inaction are severe.
7. Mental Health Issues: Conditions like depression, anxiety, or trauma can amplify feelings of desperation.
8. Sudden Changes: Rapid and unexpected changes in circumstances that leave little time to adjust.

Undoubtedly poodle, United States of America despite its "platform rhetoric" will support its master, the Zionist entity and reports are circulating of an American military vessel steaming on its way to the Middle East. A country that is fast free falling, from its position of super power is also in a state of despair. The saying "the blind leading the blind" is a powerful metaphor that resonates in this context where we have two pariah states in its moments of desperation. It paints a vivid picture of a situation where those lacking in understanding or insight are guiding others who are similarly impaired, often leading to misguided actions or outcomes. Desperation is a state of extreme hopelessness or urgency, often arising from a sense of having no

viable options or solutions to a pressing problem. In desperate times, individuals may seek guidance or support from others, but if both parties are equally desperate, the outcomes can be detrimental. Desperation can create a sense of urgency and cloud judgment, leading individuals to make decisions that they might not consider in calmer circumstances. This can result in a cycle where those in desperation turn to others who are also desperate for guidance, creating a situation akin to the blind leading the blind. When the blind lead the blind, the consequences can be severe. Misguided actions can lead to further problems or exacerbate existing ones, creating a spiral of worsening circumstances. This can prolong the state of desperation and make it even more challenging to find a way out.

These two war mongering states are sitting with bruised egos. The leadership of these states have had their egos bruised even more than the states that they lead. This leads to another aggravating position because the ego can play a significant role in feelings of desperation. The ego, in psychological terms, represents the conscious mind and is responsible for mediating between the demands of the id (instinctual needs and desires) and the superego (internalized societal and parental standards). In the context of desperation, the ego is influenced by:

1. Threat to Self-Image: Desperation can arise when circumstances threaten the individual's self-image or ego ideal. For example, a person who prides themselves on being financially independent may feel desperate when faced with financial ruin.
2. Loss of Control: Desperation often involves a sense of losing control over one's life or circumstances, which can challenge the ego's need for control and stability.
3. Conflict with Reality: Desperation can arise when the ego's perception of reality conflicts with actual circumstances, leading to a sense of cognitive dissonance.
4. Defence Mechanisms: The ego may employ defence mechanisms, such as denial or rationalization, to cope with feelings of desperation. These mechanisms can temporarily alleviate distress but may also prevent the individual from effectively addressing the underlying issues.

The above indeed leads the way for a bleak future for the global community.



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The first Pakistani Citizen

By Moulana Muhammad Hussain Noori Part 1



Many Pakistanis to this day doubt and question the very idea that Pakistan could be an Islamic Republic, for the simple reason that they do not witness the practical implementations of the Shariah. After the formation of Pakistan, while addressing the public, Quid-e- Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah stated that: "The Constitution of Pakistan is yet to be framed by the Pakistan Constituent Assembly, I do not know what the ultimate shape of the constitution is going to be, but I am sure that it will be of a democratic type, embodying the essential principles of Islam. Today these are as applicable in actual life as these were 1300 years ago. Islam and its idealism have taught us democracy. It has taught equality of man, justice and fair play to everybody. We are the inheritors of these glorious traditions and are fully alive to our responsibilities and obligations as framers of the future constitution of Pakistan".

The problem of continuing with the Anglo-Saxon law until Muslims were able to draft their own constitution according to the Quran and Sunnah was well understood by Muslim intellectuals such as Allama Iqbal long before the creation of Pakistan. One such example is when Allama Iqbal had persuaded Muhammad Asad an Austrian Jew revert to stay in British India, abandon his eastward travels and help elucidate the intellectual premises of the future Islamic State.

Muhammad Asad arrived in Karachi in the year 1932. In 1933 he travelled to Kashmir at a time where a freedom struggle by the Muslims against the Hindu prince was underway. His presence alarmed the British intelligence and the prince wanted him expelled. On return from Kashmir, he met Allama Iqbal 24 years his senior with whom he shared an intellectual and German connection as Allama Iqbal had obtained his Ph.D. from Germany. Allama Iqbal introduced Muhammad Asad to work with Chaudhry Niaz Ali Khan, a philanthropist and agriculturalist who had established the Dar-ul-Islam trust upon the advice of Allama Iqbal and encouraged Muhammad Asad to translate the Sahih Al-Bukhari into English for the very first time in history.

He was greatly inspired by Allama Iqbal for his deep understanding of Islamic and western philosophy, his sound criticism of materialism, individualism and a godless democracy which later reflected in his work, 'Islam at the Crossroads'.

Muhammad Asad returned to Europe in 1939 intending to save his Jewish parents from the Nazis. He was detained by the British and spent the next six years in internment camps with Germans,

Austrians and Italians. Upon his release he completely dedicated himself to the cause of Pakistan, which he never saw as refuge rather as a role he needed to play in fulfilling his destiny by drawing a framework for an Ideal Islamic polity. He understood well that a new state for the Muslims of British India was a historic necessity to preserve their separate identity and so he began the debate as to what the governing system of a Muslim State should be in a modern age.

After the creation of Pakistan, to continue from where Allama Iqbal had left off, he became the director of the Department of Islamic Reconstruction, which aimed to ensure that government policies adhered to religious principles and began formulating proposals for the constitution. He sought to portray the Islamic Republic of Pakistan as a liberal, multiparty parliamentary democracy citing evidence from Islamic sources for elections, parliamentary legislation and political parties. His proposals, published in March 1948 as 'Islamic Constitution Making', were reflected in the Preamble to the first Constitution of Pakistan, adopted by the Constituent Assembly in 1949.

However, he was assigned by the first Prime Minister Liaquat Ali Khan as a foreign minister to establish contacts with other Muslim countries.

When it was time to travel, a citizenship law was still in the works and officials traveled abroad as British subjects. Muhammad Asad was neither subject to the British nor did he want his Austrian nationality to be mentioned and so he demanded a Pakistani passport. That was the first Pakistani passport assigned to anyone and that's how he became the first Pakistani citizen.

He further served Pakistan as a Minister Plenipotentiary to the United Nations and organizer of the International Islamic Colloquium. In the mid-1950's he resigned from all government positions and went on to live in Morocco and Spain and focused on his writings.

Muhammad Asad contributed much to Pakistan's early political and cultural life, he was the one that laid the foundation of the Saudi-Pak friendship through which Pakistan benefits to this very day but was shunned from the corridors of power. In the 1940's there were many marching on the streets for a new country, but only a few like Muhammad Asad who actually worked on the ideological front of Pakistan.

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Full-scale War on Hezbollah will backfire on Israel and America's Arab client-regimes

By: Iqbal Jassat

As Hezbollah raises the stakes in its battle with the settler colonial regime, alarm bells are ringing in despotic Arab regimes.

After all, many of these reactionary governments led by western-allied tyrants, have vainly tied their fragile security to an equally weak and battered military force of apartheid Israel.

It ought not to surprise anyone familiar with the fact that Zionism and imperialism is intertwined with reactionary Arab despots, whose reign in power is completely dependent on the malicious goals of the West.

Just as Western Europe, primarily America and Britain has military, economic and geopolitical interest in keeping its illegitimate Zionist entity alive at any cost, so too do they share vested interest in ensuring that Arab client-states remain tied to them.

The message to Mohammed bin Salman (MbS), Mohammed bin Zayd (MbZ), General al-Sisi, "King" Hoosein, and the rest of Gulf oligarchs, is clear: You cannot survive without Israel!

Not only is this brutal reality borne out by the vicious repression of Muslim activists, scholars, academics and journalists, but also by their abject failure to intervene - militarily or via boycotts - in defence of Palestinian lives.

In fact to even consider the thought of Arab regimes stepping up in any meaningful way to protect the honour and dignity of mothers and babies, the elderly and infirm, the wounded and gravely ill Palestinians, is wishful thinking.

Since the 1967 and 1973 wars, it is evident that Arab armies have lacked both the will and conviction to confront Israel's aggression, occupation, settler-colonialism and menacing threats to demolish Al-Aqsa mosque.

That Arab governments have turned their collective backs on Palestine's freedom struggle, and instead placed all their security "eggs" in Israel's basket, will haunt them if they able to see through the fog of Zionist myths.

One of the primary myths that has been thoroughly and decisively blown apart is that of Israel's so-called "invincibility".

The other dominant myth is that of its "deterrence" based on military "power".

Perhaps the myth that's taken the most beating and is thus severely bruised, is that of public opinion unquestionably "favouring" all the evil Israel commits.

The earth shattering event of Oct 7 by Hamas known as the "Al-Aqsa Storm", forcefully prised apart the true character of Zionism and the danger it poses to global security, apart from the well

being of Palestinians under its racist yoke.

Nine months since it launched a merciless onslaught on Gaza, resulting in over 120,000 martyrs and wounded, the Zionist regime has failed to achieve any of its military goals. Neither has it secured the "freedom of hostages", nor the elimination of Hamas.

These are the mantras repeated ad nauseam by Benjamin Netanyahu and his criminal gang of warlords, to no avail.

Not only has he invoked the Biblical narrative of "Amalekites" who in Jewish tradition represents "pure evil", to justify gruesome massacres of innocent Palestinians, Netanyahu has defied each and every international convention and law to wipe out Gaza and reduce it to rubble.

Indeed, even the myth of a "United Israel" has been destroyed as the world watches fissures, fractures and growing disillusionment among Jewish citizens.

Zionism has spawned a regime of incompatibility with civilised values and disagreement among its diehard followers over the so-called "day after".

In addition, many observers point to the fallout between the political gurus and the military.

For instance Alon Mizrahi alludes to this by tweeting that while Netanyahu insists that the IDF got orders 'to obliterate Hamas operational and governing capabilities' and must carry them out, the IDF says only a political solution will solve this.

"IDF spokesperson announced today that the war objectives as presented by Netanyahu are unattainable and a deception of the Israeli public."

Having failed to subdue Hamas and Islamic Jihad, Israel is at its wit's end to deter Hezbollah.

Whether the Zionist war cabinet has taken account of the likely outcome if it presses ahead with a full scale war on Lebanon to "eliminate" Hezbollah or not, it is clear that the entire Islamic resistance across the region, will not stand idly by.

Having been defeated in Gaza, yes defeated indeed, Netanyahu is gambling his bankrupt legacy by promising to reduce Beirut to rubble.

What he fails to acknowledge or chooses to be silent on, is that Hezbollah's steely resolve and response will mark what has been described as the "biggest decolonial shift in world history".

And the fear haunting Arab regimes is that the day after, there will "not be American bases in this part of the world".

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WHO IS A SUFI?

BY HAZRAT BABA FARID

According to Hazrat Baba Farid, a Sufi must possess the following:

- 1.) He must forget himself and the world in the love and devotion of God.
- 2.) He must overlook the faults of others however serious.
- 3.) He must close his eyes, i.e. he must not look towards things clared haraam (forbidden) in Islam.
- 4.) He must become deaf also so that he may not hear all things undesirable.
- 5.) He must become dumb too so that he may not be able to speak about things which must not be spoken about.
- 6.) He must cut off his legs i.e. he must act lame so that he may not be able to move himself to comply his Nafs-e-Ammara which tries to take him to undesirable places.

Regarding these qualities, Hazrat says:

"If any of these qualities are absent from the character of a dervish, then he is a mere liar and hypocrite, A dervish who aspires to acquire worldly wealth and honour is not a dervish; he is a cheat who brings only disgrace to the noble Order of dervishes."

"Toleration and forbearance", the saint says "should be the salt of a dervish's life, even if a naked sword were put upon his head, he should be forgivingly happy and should never curse the persecutor."

There are 3 important qualities of a dervish:

1. To know the world and then renounce it.
2. Faithful obedience to God.
3. Fear of God and His retribution.

Hazrat Baba Farid has stressed upon the maintenance of a Sufi's character which, he says, "can only be built if he stays away from the world and refuses to eat what is forbidden in Islamic law."

On the dress of Sufis, Hazrat says:

"The dress of Sufis is the dress worn by great prophets and religious founders of the world and hence it must be given utmost respect, and that only deserving dervishes should wear it. One who adorns a Sufi's dress must break up all relations with the world. If he uses this sacred garb to pursue or acquire worldly prosperity, he not only deceives himself but also deceives the world and Almighty God."

Defining important characteristics of a Sufi, Hazrat says:

A Sufi is one who has nothing corrosive around his heart which he must keep transparently clear and clean, and which must know no treacherous intrigues.

Sufis are those who observe strict silence and remain constantly bewildered under the influence of Divine Light.

Sufis, merged wholeheartedly in the devotion of God, are lost to all the rest of creation (except God).

It is one of the glories of Tasawwuf that Sufis transport themselves to the 7th Heaven five times daily during their Namaz.

According to Baba Farid, "Tasawwuf, is a code of man's moral and religious life and conduct. Although a Sufi is cut off from the world, he never curses or looks down upon its affairs, i.e. he has neither love nor hatred for the world."

Baba Farid emphasises that "a mureed must hold his Pir-o-Murshid in the highest reverence". He says, "Seven days in the service and company of a Pir-o-Murshid are equal to 700 years of devotion." He adds that "a Sufi dies when he gives up his devotion and 'zikr' and he lives when he is engrossed in them."

He says "the more a Sufi suffers sorrow, pain and hardship, the more nearer he becomes to God."

Hazrat Khwaja Moinuddin Chishti always prayed to God to send more hardships and pain and sorrows upon him so that he could strengthen his faith in God."

God most gracious takes away prosperity from one who does not give charity or zakaat.

God most gracious takes away health from one who does not offer 'sacrifice' in His name.

God most gracious takes away faith at the time of death if one does not offer Namaz.

Hazrat says, "It is necessary for the dervish not to worry about 'rizq' (provision of sustenance). If he worries, he commits a sin against his "faith" in God."

Regarding contentment, Hazrat says:

"He is a wise and brave man who, in all his worldly affairs, depends upon the will and pleasure of God and remains patient and content under each and every circumstance. A content person must have faith in the love, fear and mercy of God. It will save him from sin and enable him to win the blessings of God."

Sama

Hazrat Baba Farid was fond of Sama and fought against its antagonists. Regarding Sama and its reaction upon great Sufis, he says:

"Sama pacifies the heart of a divine lover. Firstly it moves the heart; secondly, it creates unconsciousness and, thirdly, this unconsciousness becomes so absorbing that even if one thousand swords were raining upon his head, he would not know of it."



اللَّهُ مُحَمَّدٌ غَاارُ يَّارِ حَاجِي خَواجِه قَاطِبِ فَرِيدِ

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HAQFAREED YAA FAREED

5th Muharram

URS MUBARAK





The Timeless Legacy of the Courageous Noble Women of Karbala

By: Shireen Ismail



The Battle of Karbala, in the rich tapestry of Islamic history, remains a profound and moving event in the hearts of millions of Muslims. Fought in 680 AD, this battle transcended its immediate political context to become a lasting symbol of justice, truth, and hope. Imam Hussain (عليه السلام), the beloved grandson of the Prophet Muhammad (SAW), steadfastly refused to pledge allegiance to Yazid, whose rule was marked by corruption and disregard for human dignity. This led to a confrontation that has since been enshrined in history. Central to this narrative are the noble women of Karbala, whose courage and resilience amidst profound suffering continue to inspire generations.

Sayyidatina Zainab (عليها السلام) the sister of Imam Hussain (عليه السلام), displayed a remarkable strength in the aftermath of the battle. Her unwavering spirit and leadership ensured that her brother's sacrifice and principles would be eternally remembered. Despite witnessing the tragic loss of her family and the devastation of their camp, Sayyidatina Zainab's (عليها السلام) resolve was firm. She led the surviving members of her group on a harrowing journey from Karbala to Kufa, and eventually to Damascus. There, Sayyidatina Zainab (عليها السلام) confronted Yazid and his court with astonishing courage, her words igniting a wave of resistance that ultimately contributed to Yazid's downfall.

Lady Rubab (عليها السلام), the devoted wife of Imam Hussain (عليه السلام), is revered for her selfless sacrifice, offering her six-month-old infant in the path of truth and justice. Lady Umm Farwa (عليها السلام) sent her young son to stand alongside Imam Hussain (عليه السلام), while

Umm Wahab encouraged her son to embrace martyrdom. Little Sakina, Imam Hussain's (عليه السلام) four-year-old daughter, displayed extraordinary strength, distributing the remaining water among the children and holding her father's flag high.

The month of Muharram, during which the battle took place, is one of the four sacred months in the Islamic lunar calendar. It is a time for Muslims worldwide to honour the martyrdom of Imam Hussain (عليه السلام), not only by mourning his loss but also by reflecting on the values he upheld—justice, equality, and unrelenting commitment to righteousness.

The legacy of the noble women of Karbala transcends time and place. Their actions have inspired movements for justice and freedom across the globe. From Martin Luther King Jr.'s civil rights efforts in the United States to Nelson Mandela's anti-apartheid struggle in South Africa to Mahatma Gandhi's nonviolent resistance against British colonial rule in India, the spirit of Karbala has resonated deeply with those fighting for what is righteous.

The noble women of Karbala have left a lasting mark on history. Their legacy is a testament to the power of courage, conviction, and dedicated commitment to truth and justice. Their story reminds us that even in the darkest times, the light of hope can shine through, guiding those who follow in their footsteps.

The story of Karbala is not only a historical event but a continuing source of inspiration for Muslims globally. In every struggle for justice and every fight against oppression, the legacy of these noble women serves as a reminder that the principles of truth and justice are worth every sacrifice. Their lives and actions teach us that even in the face of overwhelming odds, standing with conviction in one's beliefs and values can ignite a beacon of hope that shines across generations. Let us honour their memory by embodying the values they stood for and striving to create a world rooted in justice, equality, and compassion.



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Home Remedies and Tips for Dry Skin

By: Hasina Begum Sayed



Sunflower Seed Oil

- Improves skin hydration; apply to damp skin after bathing.

Coconut Oil

- Effective as petroleum jelly; increases skin hydration and lipids.
- Contains emollient properties due to saturated fatty acids.

Oatmeal Bath

- Anti-inflammatory and antioxidant properties relieve dry skin.
- Use powdered oatmeal in baths or creams.

Drinking Milk

- Diet including milk may improve skin barrier; contains beneficial phospholipid.

Honey

- Moisturizing, healing, and anti-inflammatory properties.
- Apply directly to the skin for relief from dryness.

Petroleum Jelly/Vaseline

- Improves skin barrier, especially in older individuals.
- Known for its moisturizing properties.

Aloe Vera

- Gel application provides relief from dry skin.
- Apply liberally and leave overnight for best results.

Additional Tips for Dry Skin Relief and Winter Skin Protection

- Hydration: Drink plenty of water to hydrate skin from within.
- Humidifiers- Use humidifiers indoors to add moisture to dry air, especially in winter.
- Clothing-Wear soft fabrics and avoid rough materials that can irritate skin.
- Sunscreen- Even in winter, use sunscreen to protect against UV rays that can damage skin.
- Gentle Skincare-Use mild cleansers and avoid hot water, which can strip skin of natural oils.
- Moisturize-Apply moisturizers liberally after bathing and throughout the day to lock in moisture.
- Avoid Irritants-Steer clear of harsh soaps, alcohol-based

products, and excessive exfoliation.

By integrating these remedies and practices into your routine, you can effectively relieve dry skin and protect it during harsh winter conditions.

Products That Can Worsen Skin Conditions

- Alcohol-based Products-Strips natural oils, leading to dryness and irritation.
- Harsh Soaps:-Disrupts skin's pH balance and removes essential oils.
- Excessive Exfoliants- Can cause micro-tears, irritation, and sensitivity.
- Fragranced Products:- Artificial fragrances may trigger allergies and irritate sensitive skin.
- Pore-Clogging Ingredients:- Such as silicones and heavy oils, can lead to breakouts and congestion.
- Over-the-Counter Acne Treatments:- Some contain harsh chemicals that may exacerbate dryness or irritation.
- Hot Water-Strips natural oils and can lead to dry, flaky skin.
- Overuse of Retinoids- Can cause redness, peeling, and increased sensitivity if not used properly.
- Unsuitable Makeup-Some foundations or powders may clog pores or irritate sensitive skin.
- Expired Products- Can harbor bacteria and lose effectiveness, potentially causing skin issues.

Avoiding these products and practices can help maintain skin health and prevent worsening of existing skin conditions.

Always choose products and routines tailored to your skin type and concerns.

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Beloved Hazrat Imam Hussain

Hazrat Sayyiduna Imam Hussain (ؑ) is the beloved son of Hazrat Sayyiduna Ali and Bibi Fatima (ؑ) and the most beloved grandson of Rasoolullah (ؐ).

He was born on the 5th of Sha'baan in the year 4 Al-Hijri. Our Beloved Prophet (ؐ) gave the Azaan in his right ear and the Iqaamah in his left ear. He then placed his blessed saliva in the mouth of Hazrat Imam Hussain (ؑ) and made Dua for him.

On the 7th day he was named Hussain and his Aqeeqa was performed. Rasoolullah (ؐ) commanded Hazrat Bibi Fatima (ؑ) to remove his hair and to give silver in charity equivalent to the weight of the hair.

Hazrat Imam Hussain (ؑ) was without doubt a very handsome personality. From his chest down to his blessed feet he was the image of Rasoolullah (ؐ), whereas his elder brother Hazrat Imam Hassan (ؑ) was the image of Rasoolullah (ؐ) from his chest up to his blessed head. The blessed face of Hazrat Imam Hussain (ؑ) was so bright that it would even shine in the darkness of night.

Hazrat Imam Hussain (ؑ) was taught by Rasoolullah (ؐ), Hazrat Bibi Fatima (ؑ) and Hazrat Ali (ؑ). Holy Prophet (ؐ) loved Hazrat Imam Hussain (t) due to his piety and pure heart.

The Beloved Rasool (ؐ) was also aware that the time would come when his beloved grandson would save the Ummah from destruction at the hands of a corrupt and tyrant leader.

Rasoolullah (ؐ) loved Hazrat Imam Hussain (ؑ) dearly. Hazrat Umar Farooq (ؓ) said, "Once, when I presented myself in the court of Rasoolullah (ؐ) I saw that he was walking on his knees carrying Hazrat Imam Hussain (t) on his blessed back.

When I saw this, I said, "Your mode of transport is most splendid.

On hearing this, the Beloved Rasool (ؐ) replied, "O Umar, the passenger is also very splendid."

Once a Bedouin presented himself in the court of Hazrat Imam Hussain (ؑ) and said, "I heard your beloved grandfather (ؐ) say that when one is in need of anything, then one should request this from one of four persons; either from a pious Arab, or from a pious master, or from a Hafizul Qur'an, or from a graceful person, and all these four qualities are found in you in the highest form.

Hazrat Ya'la bin Marwaa (ؓ) reports that Rasoolullah (ؐ) said, "Hussain is from me and I am from Hussain. Whosoever has kept Hussain as his beloved, Allah is his beloved."

Hazrat Jaabir ibn Abdullah (ؓ) states, "I heard from Rasoolullah (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam), "Whosoever wishes to see the leader of Paradise, he should look at Hussain ibn Ali (ؑ)."

Hazrat Imam Hussain (t) was a very kind, gentle, generous, merciful and Allah-fearing personality. He always cared for the poor and oppressed, assisted the helpless, gave comfort to those in pain and sorrow and showed great love and affection towards orphans. He was the embodiment of the character of his grandfather Sayyiduna Rasoolullah (ؐ) and of his blessed parents.

His tolerance and patience was also exemplary. This was manifested by the fact that his martyrdom had been foretold by the Beloved Rasool (ؐ) and even though he was aware of this, he still made Sabr and waited for the Will of Allah (ؐ) to take its course. Hazrat Imam Hussain (t) was also blessed with bravery of the highest degree and this bravery and fearlessness was manifested on many occasions, particularly during the Battle of Karbala.



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EVENTS 1446

7-16 July	1st - 10 Muharram (Nightly Lectures After Esha) Saaberie Chishty & Jamia Razvia Masjid Lenasia
21 July	Yaade Shaheede Karbala Venue: Saaberie Chishty Hall Ext. 6 Lenasia
16 & 17 August	Meelaad-un-Nabi (Sal lal Iaa Hu Alay Hi Wa Sallam) and Urs Shareef- Hazrat Goolam Mohamed Shah Standerton
25 August	Hazrat Jablil Jaffaar (R.A.) Urs Shareef Bramfontein Mazaar Johannesburg
27 August	Shabe Data Wa Mehr-o-Raza Urs Shareef Saaberie Chishty Masjid Ext. 6 Lenasia
7 & 8 September	Hazrat Badsha Peer (R.A.) Urs Shareef Overport Secondary School Grounds Durban
8 September	Meelaad-un-Nabi (Sal lal Iaa Hu Alay Hi Wa Sallam) Madressa Ziagia/Ziaee Khanqah, Johannesburg
12th Rabi-ul-Awwal 14 Sep	Eve Meelaad-un-Nabi (Sal lal Iaa Hu Alay Hi Wa Sallam) "Big Night" Subject to sighting of the New Moon
13,14 & 15 September	Meelaad-un-Nabi (Sal lal Iaa Hu Alay Hi Wa Sallam) Saaberie Chishty & Jamia Razvia Masjid Lenasia
22 September	Meelaad-un-Nabi (Sal lal Iaa Hu Alay Hi Wa Sallam) Masjid Shaikh Abdul Qadir Jilani Ext 13 Lenasia
22 September	Meelaad-un-Nabi (Sal lal Iaa Hu Alay Hi Wa Sallam) Rustenburg Meelad Group
21 & 22 September	Meelaad-un-Nabi (Sal lal Iaa Hu Alay Hi Wa Sallam) Laudium Moulood Group
29 September	Meelaad-un-Nabi (Sal lal Iaa Hu Alay Hi Wa Sallam) AlKareem Islamic Centre- Saaberie Chishty Hall Lenasia
28 & 29 September	Meelaad-un-Nabi (Sal lal Iaa Hu Alay Hi Wa Sallam) Sham-ul-Islam Masjid Lenasia South
6 October	Meelaad-un-Nabi (Sal lal Iaa Hu Alay Hi Wa Sallam) Qadriya Masjid Roshnee
13 October	Eve Gyaarwee Shareef -Subject to sighting of the New Moon
1 December	Darul Uloom Pretoria Graduation Jalsa
8 December	Madressa Saabriyya Chishtiyya Jalsa & Awards Saaberie Chishty Hall, Lenasia
18 January	Saaberie Chishty 58th Annual Urs Shareef Saaberie Chishty Hall - Sayed Bros. Lenasia
18 January	Hazrat Khwaja Ghareeb Nawaaz (R.A.) Urs Shareef Buzme Chishtiya - Laudium
25 January	Hazrat Khawaja Gharib Nawaaz(R.A.) Urs Shareef Khanqah Chishty Saabri Jahangiri Lenasia South
25 January	Hazrat Maqsood Ali Shah (R.A.) Urs Shareef Venue: Saaberie Chishty Hall Ext. 6 Lenasia
27 January	Eve Shabe Meraaj (Subject To Sighting Of The New Moon)
13 February	Eve Shabe Baraat (Subject To Sighting Of The New Moon)
15 & 16 February	Hazrat Khalid Shah Bawa (R.A.) Urs Shareef Benoni Mazaar
1 March	1st Ramadaan (Subject To Sighting Of The New Moon)
30 March	Eid-ul-Fitr (Subject To Sighting Of The New Moon)
12 April	Hazrat Iqbal Shah Dada (R.A.) Urs Shareef Lenasia
13 April	Hazrat Baba Ghulaam Jilani Kalyari (R.A.) Wisaal Shareef (Subject to sighting of the New Moon)
26 April	Hazrat Sayed Mehboob Ali Shah (R.A.) Urs Shareef Venue: Saaberie Chishty Hall Ext. 6 Lenasia
3 May	Hazrat Baba Kassim Shah Faridi (R.A.) Urs Shareef Park Primary School Hall Lenasia
3 May	Hazrat Khalid Shah Bawa (R.A.) Urs Shareef Saaberie Chishty Hall Lenasia Host: Salim Akbar Family
7 June	Eid-ul-Adha (Subject To Sighting Of The New Moon)

A new year dawns in the wake of the historical Hijra, also the commemorative sunnah spirit of thanksgiving over the 'Ashura, and abundant tributes by the Ummah in respect of Imam Husayn (ؑ) and the Martyrs of Karbala (ؑ).

Meanwhile no let off for Gaza whose children are seriously under threat of genocide. The facts about Palestine cannot be disputed. Evidence of intended genocide is irrefutable. We are watching a real-life horror movie, a holocaust, with blood, rubble, and dismembered bodies scattered on the streets daily, in real time. Among the martyrs are women, children, elderly, handicapped, medics, journalists, pious religious scholars, and even descendants from the Prophet's (ﷺ) family, surely! At least five Muslim nations located close by, so close they hear the bombs and when the wind blows they probably get a whiff of the blood, but they look the other way!

Back home, here in South Africa, many are still struggling to come to terms with the post-election changes and it is prudent that we align ourselves psychologically to further shocks and changes in the offing on the global stage. As the Muslim community, it is past overdue that we started improving internal relationships, communication and leadership. Most importantly we need to define our priorities both locally and globally, from the 'Ummah' perspective. When challenges are this big, it may need more than big heads, it may also need big hearts!

From Al-Kausar editorial members and advertisers, wishing you aafiya and barakah and victory for Palestine and all oppressed nations!

MUHARRAM
MUBARAK

