



Muslim News

20 August 2011 , 20 Ramadhan 1432

Police Community Network visits An Nur Mosque

The Police community group comprising the New Zealand Police, Fire Service and Corrections Department visited An Nur mosque on Thursday 11th August 2011.

The team led by Police Constable Philip Goto was received at the Mosque by MAC President Mohammed Jama, Acting Imam of An Nur mosque Dr Mohammad Alayan, as well as some members of the community.

In a brief welcome speech Dr Alayan explained that the Muslim community in Christchurch is very diverse and represented by about fifty nationalities. All of these, according to him are united in the mosque through the brotherhood of Islam. The Imam recited from the Qur'an and explained the core values of Islam that guide the Muslims. In his welcome address, MAC president Mohamed Jama expressed his appreciation by the team's visit, which he described as an indication of interest in the community.

In a response on behalf the team Police Constable Phil Goto expressed gratitude for the reception accorded to his team. He said the aftermath of the Christchurch earthquakes has shown the kind of cooperation existing between the Muslim community and his team. He says that the team wants to assure MAC of its desire to work with the Muslim community at all times for a safer Christchurch and New Zealand.



Haram expansion to accommodate 1.2m more worshippers

JEDDAH (IINA)-Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Abdullah laid the foundation stone for a new expansion of the Grand Mosque in Makkah last week.

The new project, covering 400,000 square meters, will create prayer space for an additional 1.2 million worshippers.

"The new project, named the King Abdullah Expansion, will be carried out using the most advanced mechanical and electrical systems," said Muhammad Al-Khozaim, vice president of the Presidency for the Two Holy Mosques Affairs. "Once completed, the new facility will be able to accommodate nearly 1.2 million worshippers," he said.

The new expansion will also have basic facilities including modern garbage disposal systems and security monitoring systems. Sunshades will also be established on the northern courtyards of the mosque. The new annex will be linked with the existing mosque and masaa with a series of bridges. It will also be provided with air conditioning systems and electric stairs.



Al-Khozaim disclosed plans to expand the mataf (the circumambulation areas around the Holy Kaaba) and provide air-conditioning for all parts of the Grand Mosque, adding that the two projects would be carried out shortly along with the new Haram expansion project.

Speaking about other projects implemented at the directives of King Abdullah, he said the newly expanded masaa (the running course between Safa and Marwa) could now accommodate 118,000 pilgrims per hour instead of 44,000.

He described the King Abdul Aziz Endowment Towers as one of the largest real estate projects in Makkah. It comprises six residential towers and a five-star hotel. The frontal towers are 28 stories high while the rear ones are 35 stories. Side towers are 45 stories while the hotel tower

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Islamic Society of Papua New Guinea

By Br. Mohamed Fazul JIFFRY

Happy Ramadan Mubarak to all. Let us welcome this blessed month of Ramadan with Happiness and Shukur, May Allah Ta'ala help us to spend this Ramadan in the best possible manner.

Alhamdulillah our new Muslim community actively participating all our Ramadan program, we are taking enormous effort in educating our new Muslim and propagating Islam to New & Non Muslim, Mashashallah All our new reverts enjoying and experiencing their first ever Ramadan with us, As you know PNG is strong Christian dominant country in South Pacific, Mash Allah, our Muslim community growing faster and steadily, we have 20 centers and over 2500 Muslims living all across the country, Most of our Muslims are very poor who need our support and guidance. we want to Feed the Poor at least once year to show them true Islam with care and love to less fortunate Muslims, Majority of

our Muslim live in remote and Isolated mountainous areas only accessible by AIR, its very challenging task, ISPNG has very limited resources, We therefore seeking your generous supports toward our Ramadan appeal that will greatly help us to carry out this Noble task.

Please join me to Welcome our new Muslims who are experiencing their First ever Ramadan with us, May Allah SWT accept all our good deeds, make this Ramadan a most blessed one,, May Allah swt guide them in HIS correct path and Shower HIS choicest blessing on them,

On behalf of ISPNG, I take this special opportunity to thank all for your continues Support, Trust & Guidance in propagating Islam in this beautiful country and in the Pacific region.

Wish you all of you a Happy, Peaceful and prosperous Ramadan Kareem.



Third Edition of the Kiwi Muslim Directory Launched

It's been three years since the launch of the Kiwi Muslim Directory. We would like to thank Allah (SWT) the Most Merciful and the Most Beneficent for giving us the strength to be persistent in publishing this edition. As we all know this is the only Muslim Media in New Zealand, we aim to be a unique and a most helpful guide, to the New Zealand Muslim community.

One of the challenges we faced is to obtain advertisements from our community. For us to sustain and continue publishing this free resource, we are planning to go out to the wider community to get ads from businesses and organisations that cater to the needs of our Ummah in future editions.

The 3rd edition of the directory was released in July 2011. Allah's mercy, sincere hard work and numerous challenges have materialized this edition. For the first time we have included articles mostly written by our local scholars and individuals among our community. The directories were distributed throughout New Zealand after Jumma Salah. In Auckland and Palmerston North on the 22nd July 2011, in Hamilton, Tauranga and Wellington on 29th July, directories have reached New Plymouth, South Island and Wellington and will be distributed soon. We thank the Imams and committee members of the Islamic centres for the supervised distribution. Those people who have missed out on getting the directories can contact their local Islamic centres.

This would not have been possible without the help of our advertisers, local organisations, Ulema Council, FIANZ and our Ummah. I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for supporting us in this effort. I would like to humbly request our community to acknowledge Kiwi Muslim Directory when they access

Serving the Community Professionally



3rd Edition




2011-2012

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Contents include: Halal Food, Business & Services, Masjids, Prayer Timetable, Islamic Calendar, Support Organisations, Muslim Names, Zakat Guide and much more .

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News in Pictures: South Auckland Muslim Association Iftar program

Like previous years SAMA has is hosting 30 days of Iftar at Masjid Al Mustafa. Alhamdulillah, 300 to 400 brothers and sisters come for Iftar every day. The Iftar is sponsored by or members and the food is cooked and distributed by our dedicated team of volunteers. The Taraweeh prayer is led by the visiting Alim from India, Hasrat Maulana Sayed Muhammed Yawar Razvi. After the prayers a 10 to 15 minutes of lecture is delivered by the Imam explaining what was read during the Taraweeh prayers. Eid prayer will be at 7:30am.



Ramadhan activities in Dunedin

By Mohammed Zubair Rizwan

Ramadhan Mubarak. I am delighted to inform the rest of New Zealand Ummah, that we, the Otago Muslim Community are delighted once again on the arrival of Ramadhan. It always is a happy occasion for this community as it is one of the very rare occasions where we get together on a daily basis and work as a community to increase our Ibadah and purify our soul.

During the month of Ramadhan, the Al-Huda Masjid is a 'happening place'. We have for the past several years succeeded in completing daily Iftaar with large numbers present. And insha allah, this year we are aiming for another successful completion. This brings together some familiar and not so familiar faces who, stay on to become familiar faces. The daily iftaar is financed by contributions from the community, mostly who are able to attend the iftaar gatherings. We are sometimes fortunate enough to receive iftaar donations from outside of Dunedin or New Zealand as well. May Allah reward everyone for their humble contributions. This is supplemented with volunteers who are ready to cook, with a different chef everyday. Therefore, we are fortunate enough to experience different

tastes of food.

Alhumdulillah, this year we were blessed with the arrival of Sheikh Ahmed, a hafeez from Saudi, who has come to Dunedin especially to lead the Taraweeh prayers. He has transitioned extremely well into Dunedin's harsh conditions. Apart from leading the Taraweeh prayers, Sheikh Ahmed also gives short Khutbahs between Salat-ul

Isha and Taraweeh daily. As well as performing Halaqatul Quran after Fajr salat daily with a smaller group. He gives a Tafsir followed by recitation of specific verses from the Quran.

Other activities carried out in the Masjid during the month of Ramadhan are daily quizzes for the young and old with a number of prizes. There is also a Quran competition organised on Sunday the 14th, August. These activities are organised by our Student Association

(MUSA). Furthermore, every Saturday there is a viewing of Islamic related videos or documentaries. May Allah bless our fasting and accept our supplications.



Imam of Al-Huda masjid, Sheikh Asrahul Haque Obaidullah translating Sheikh Ahmeds Khutbah



Members of the community listening to the Sheikh Ahmeds Khutbah

News in Pictures: Iftar at Wellington Islamic Centre



Iftar at Wellington Islamic Centre in Kilbirnie is held on all weekends and attended by between 500-600 people.

Because of the rich multi ethnic nature of the Wellington Islamic community, different ethnic communities are being given opportunities to organise the community iftar utilising their own unique flavour. The Iftar schedule for Kilbirnie looks like this;

Iftar sponsor

Sat 06 August/ 6th of Ramadhan
Arab community

Sun 07 August / 7th of Ramadhan
Malaysian/Singapore/Indonesian community

Sat 13 August / 13th of Ramadhan
IMAN Youth Wing

Sun 14 August / 14th of Ramadhan
Fijian community

Sat 20 August /20th of Ramaqdhan
Individual brother

Sun 21 August / 21st of Ramadhan
Cambodian community

Fri 26 August / 26th of Ramadhan
Saudi Students

Sat 27 August / 27th of Ramadhan
Indian community

Sun 28 August / 28th of Ramadhan
Pakistani community

The President of IMAN Br Asif Koya said that “organising an iftar for 500-600 people is a huge logistical exercise, due to the obvious time deadlines, however the organizers so far have done an excellent job in not only cooking and feeding such a large number of people, but also cleaning up and leaving the venue in a ‘ready’ state for the next day’s iftar”.

“Although at an organizational level the Iftar is organized along ethnic lines, in reality everybody works together and everyone helps out where possible. During iftar we sit and stand together as ONE community. This is a formula that works best for Kilbirnie and therefore we are happy to continue along these lines”, he said.

Regular iftar is also held at Lower Hutt, Porirua and Newlands Islamic Centres.



Haram's northern courtyards to be completed by mid-2012

MAKKAH, August 16 (IINA)-The massive expansion of the Grand Mosque's northern courtyards will be completed by the middle of next year, Abbas Qattan, Assistant Deputy Mayor for Construction and Projects and Chairman of the Committee for the Development of the Northern Courtyards (CDNC), said here recently.

The project will see the construction of four floors with parking lots and restrooms, Qattan added. It will be as high as the new Masa'a, with three circle-shaped courtyards, each with an area of 40 meters. Underneath the courtyards, there will be floors with police stations, Civil Defense offices, ambulances, security forces and large restrooms, Qattan said. "The huge King Abdullah Bin Abdul Aziz Gate will be in the northern part. On top of the gate there will be two huge minarets engraved with Islamic decorations."

Dr. Yousuf Al-Wabil, Assistant Deputy President for Services at the General Presidency of the Affairs of the Two Holy Mosques, said the expansion plan has taken into consideration the requirements of the presidency and the security forces and built facilities and offices for them. There are also modern mechanical and electrical systems, fountains for drinking water, waste disposal equipment and security systems. The outside courtyards will be covered to provide protection from the sun and will

be connected to the Masa'a by several bridges. There will be escalators and elevators that save energy and

resources. When the expansion is complete, over two million people will be able to pray in the courtyards." The total area of the new expansion project is 356,000 sq. meters. The previous expansion projects covered an area of 152,000 sq. meters, Al-Wabil added.

Muhammad Abdullah Idris and Abdullah Muhammad Fodah, researchers

at the Department of Urban and Engineering Research, recently conducted a study called "Urban Study to Develop the Grand Mosque's Northern Courtyards" which revealed that the courtyards are connected to the roads and paths of the Central Area. These courtyards play a major role in reducing overcrowding in the Grand Mosque because they accommodate large numbers of worshippers.

The study has also revealed that although enormous projects have been implemented in the northern courtyard of the Grand Mosque, it is the smallest area possibly due to topographic reasons. The area is 10 to 40 meters higher than the ground of the Grand Mosque. Idris and Fodah said that the study looked at further development of the northern courtyards without changing the natural environment of the area.

To produce the right vision, the study has taken into consideration economic and architectural factors and traffic flow into the area.



News in Pictures: Iftar at Ranui Mosque, Auckland



WHY DO WE HAVE TO FAST?

By FARID AHMED

In Quran class, children ask very clever questions. They like to know more and they speak of their mind. Here I shall try to answer one of their frequent question about fasting is “Why do we have to fast in the month of Ramadan?” May Allah guide me to write it in simple terms, Ameen!

There are many good reasons for which we have to fast during the month of Ramadan as long as we are matured, sane, and healthy and so on. Children under age fast half day or full day to develop habit, to train so that once they are matured; they will feel very much used to. In this essay I shall try to describe only 3 good reasons for fasting.

Reason one: We fast for lofty reward from Allah and nothing wrong with that. In normal life we study hard if we know that the outcome is going to bring huge benefit. Allah has promised lots of rewards for the Muslims who fast during the month of Ramadan for His pleasure only.

What are those promises? Briefly according to the authentic Hadis some main promises for rewards are:

- Fasting will qualify one to enter into paradise through a special GATE called RAIYYAAN
- Normal reward for good deed is from 10 up to 700 times but Fasting reward will be exceptional and special. Allah will give that special reward in paradise
- There is a night in Fasting month, prayer in that night will give 83 years 4 months equivalent reward
- The Quran and the night prayer will intercede on behalf of the worshipper on the Day of Judgment and so on.

All these promises that Allah makes are true. His sincere servants will find them true in the paradise. They will praise and thank Allah once they entered into paradise for fulfilling His true promise. Holy Quran describes: 39.74

“And they will say: All praises (and thanks) be to Allah, Who has truly



fulfilled His promise to us, and has given us land (Paradise) in return: We can live in the paradise like we will: How excellent a reward for those who work (righteously)” Allah is so generous promising so much reward for few hours of fasting. We do need those rewards. We do need paradise for eternal life in the hereafter, don’t we?

REASON TWO: We fast because we fear Allah’s punishment if we don’t fast. Fasting in Ramadan is Allah’s order on us. Allah orders Muslims in holy Quran: 2.183

“O you who believe! Fasting is prescribed to you: as it was prescribed to those before you that you may (learn) self control (Taqwa)”

Just think for a moment. If we don’t fast police won’t arrest us. If we eat secretly, no one can see us. Yet why do we fast? We fast because Allah is all aware of what we do and He will judge us on the Day of Judgment. If we disobey His orders like FASTING then He may punish us. That’s the fear that prevents us from eating or drinking even secretly.

Allah doesn’t want us to be punished, that’s why He has given us FASTING with so much bonus rewards, so we can avoid any punishment in next life. Look! How beautifully Allah describes the traits of true believers who fear HELL FIRE (Punishment place) so much and beg Allah to save them from it: 25. 65

“And those who say: “Our Lord! Take away from us the torture of Hell, Verily, and its torture is an eternal severely painful punishment.”

We all do fear about Hell, don’t we? That’s why we need to fast as a token of Allah’s obedience to avoid any punishment.

REASON THREE: We fast to show our gratitude for Allah. It is called “Shokr” such as “Tashkoroon—you show gratitude”. Let me explain this simply. If someone gives us something we say “Thank you” to show our appreciation and gratitude.

Now think for a moment, Allah gave us everything we have. He made us and made everything in this world for us. Besides He has given us guidance “Holy Quran” in this month so that we can follow it to attain Paradise. Should not we be grateful to Allah for all these? Moreover, He made the fasting easy for us like the sick and tired travelers can make up later; should not we show our gratitude then?

Look at the verse in holy Quran: 2.185
“Allah intends every facility for you; He does not want to put you into difficulties, to complete the prescribed period, and to glorify Him because He has guided you; and for this reason, you should be grateful to Him.”

We know from authentic Hadis, prophet (SAW) used to stand long time in prayer during night. When he was asked why he was doing it since Allah had forgiven him completely, he replied “Should not I be grateful to my Lord? [For giving me everything]”

When we pray or fast or pay charity and so on with the feeling that we must do it to thank Allah; then we never feel burdened doing it. We rather enjoy and love doing it.

One has to fast for Allah and for the love of Allah. Then surely Allah will love granting His mercy, forgiveness and blessing lavishly.

Iftar at An Nur Mosque

Ramadan started at An Nur mosque on Monday, 1 August 2011, like the rest of New Zealand. Like previous years, MAC is providing daily Iftar to the community where attendance has been consistent between 80 – 160. Other programmes, during Ramadan include a daily lecture by Bro Farid Ahmed before Isha prayers and another lecture by Dr Mohammad Alayan between the taraweh prayers.



Children Summer Programme at An Nur Mosque Christchurch

A summer programme for children took place at the An Nur mosque in Christchurch with about fifty children in attendance. The programme lasted for one week between 18th and 21st where lessons in Qur'an, Tauhid, speech delivery etc took place. Prizes were distributed to the children after the programme.





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Wednesday, August 17, 2011

The Federation of Islamic Associations of NZ
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Wellington 6140

Dear Sir

As per conversation with Dr Ghani, we are confirming that the wrong (old) audio was attached in our system. We have rectified the matter and appreciate your understanding; we further apologize for this mishap.

Thank you,

Linda Christiansen
Schedules Manager

Continued from Page 1

is 60 stories. The entire complex with 11,000 rooms and suites can accommodate 35,000 pilgrims.

Al-Khozaim commended the king for taking the initiative to implement a number of vital projects for the welfare of pilgrims. They include the Mashair Railway connecting Mina, Arafat and Muzdalifah, the Haramain Railway to link the two holy cities of Makkah and Madinah, the Jamrat bridge complex, the Central Zone Development project, the King Abdul Aziz Road, new ring roads in addition to flood drainage projects in the holy sites.

The Jamrat Bridge project, which was carried out at a cost of SR4.5 billion, was instrumental in preventing stampedes during the stoning ritual. It is designed to accommodate 5 million pilgrims. The Mashair Railway will become fully operational before the upcoming Haj in November. The metro service will operate 17 trains with 12 coaches in each train. A train will carry 3,000 pilgrims.

Bahrain Islamic megabank seeks to raise \$100bn

MANAMA (Bahrain) August 17 (IINA)-A new Islamic investment bank to open next year in Bahrain is planning to raise \$100 billion in its first 10 years to fund projects in Muslim countries and challenge the top underwriters in the sukuk market.

The lender, scheduled to begin operations in January, will start with \$10bn of capital and help provide financing for "profitable" ventures among the 57 member nations of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, Abdulmohsen Linjawi, general manager of the Business Owners Union, an OIC unit, said.

The lack of institutions within the \$1 trillion Islamic finance industry capable of handling large deals that conform to the religion's ban on interest spurred Malaysia to announce last month it will issue a license to Asia's first Sharia-compliant "mega" bank.

Offerings of Islamic bonds, known as sukuk, more than doubled this year to \$16.8bn, and the debt has returned 6.7 percent in 2011, compared with 6.4 percent on other developing-country bonds, according to JPMorgan Chase & Co's Global Emerging Markets Bond index.