



# Muslim News

27 January 2011 , 22 Safar 1432

## MAC Islamic Girl Youth Camp holds on the blue skies grounds

By Maysoon Salama

A total of 60 happy campers attended Muslimah youth camp on the blue skies grounds 15 minutes north of Christchurch. They were without exception beautiful, polite, young women of Eeman and with the freshness of youth.

The committee and few others too put a lot of time and effort into the camp and may Allah accept this from us all. Al hamdulillah we enjoyed our 3 days with our Muslimah youth and girls. With the grace of Allah it was a very successful camp.

Our sincere appreciations to the Federation of Islamic Associations of New Zealand and the Islamic Women's Council of New Zealand for funding the camp. Due to their generosity we were able to have a guest speaker from Hamilton, namely Sr. Aliyah Danzeisen, lead coordinator for the Women's Organisation of the Waikato Muslim Association (WOWMA). Sr Aliya, has a lot of experience working with the Muslimah youth in Hamilton and her participation in our camp was invaluable.

We have extended an invitation to Dunedin sisters and we were happy to have sister Nilay Baycar join us. She was very enthusiastic, lovely and keen to participate in each and every activity.

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## Muslims are main victims of terrorism: Forum

RIYADH: A scientific forum was opened at Prince Naif University of Security Sciences in Riyadh this week to caution the public against possible abuse of the Internet to promote terrorism and extremism.

Speaking at the forum, Abdul Aziz Al-Ghamdi, president of the university, said Muslims were the largest victims of terrorism in the world. He emphasized that Islam had nothing to do with terrorism.

Prince Bandar bin Abdullah bin Mishari, director of the National Information Center at the Ministry of Interior, opened the forum, which focused on the role of the Internet in combating terrorism and extremism.

The forum was organized by the Saudi university in association with the anti-terrorism team at the United Nations, Global Counterterrorism Center in the US and the German Ministry of Interior.

Prince Bandar underscored the Kingdom's achievements in combating terrorism and extremism, referring to its pre-emptive strikes against terrorists. "We have foiled about 220 terrorist attacks in the Kingdom," he said, emphasizing the Kingdom's firm stand against terrorism. "We have become a model to follow in this field."

He also pointed out that the Arab Anti-Terrorism Agreement, which was signed during a joint meeting of Arab interior and justice ministers in Egypt in 1998, was the first of its kind in the world. The Organization of the Islamic Conference and Gulf Cooperation Council have also signed similar agreements.

"We give top priority to security cooperation with other countries to fight terrorism and other crimes," Prince Bandar said. He also referred to King Abdullah's initiative for cultural dialogue, saying it reflects the Kingdom's

# ISLAMIC PARENTING:

## Some key Questions

By Farid Ahmed

Parenting has begun from the beginning of human civilization. The first parents were the first man Adam and the first woman Hawa. Both of them were Muslims. They followed Islamic parenting code prescribed by the creator Allah [swt].

Children are the future of any society. Their training begins from their own home. Parents are the main teachers for children. Islam provides a unique guideline for parents to help them in proper parenting.

In this write-up we shall answer some key questions to insight into the Islamic point of view about parenting, Insha Allah.

### Q: 1. WHO GIVES US CHILDREN?

This is the most fundamental question for each parent to ask themselves, "Who gives us children?" The answer to this question has to be right to make right decision about best parenting. Parents may make guess about procedures and methods but Islam comes up with accurate answer. Islam says that the Almighty creator, the creator of everything including human gives us children. He makes us parents. Every child is being born according to His master plan. Holy Quran states: [42.49+] "To Allah belongs the Kingdom of the heavens and the earth. He creates what He wants. He bestows female [children] upon whom He wills and bestows male [children] upon whom He wills according to His will [and His plan] Or He gives both males and females, and He leaves some whomever He wills, barren: Verily, He is full of knowledge and power."

Islam teaches that Allah is the real owner of the children. He bestows a child to the parent for a high purpose. He then gives the parents the divine code of parenting to achieve that high purpose and so on.

### Q: 2. WHY ALLAH GIVES US CHILDREN?

Again every parent needs to know, why does Allah give us children?

What is the high purpose behind it? If we don't know the correct answer then how can we fulfill the purpose in parenting? Allah [swt] kindly informs the parents the purpose of giving them children in holy Quran. [8.28] "And you know that the things you own and your children are only a trial."



So the answer is: Allah gives children to test the parents. The test can be many ways like:

- \* Do parents remember all the time that Allah is the real owner of their children and so do they perform their duties as trustee?
- \* Do parents only feel proud about their children or are they grateful to Allah for the gift [children]?
- \* Do parents follow Allah's code [Real owner's code] in parenting or do they follow their own desires or satanic code?
- \* Do they love their children within the boundary Allah has allowed or do they exceed it?
- \* Do they become possessive in the love of their children and ignore loving the real giver Allah, and thus lose the balance in love?

### Q: 3. WHAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT DUTY ON PARENTS?

Without discharging their duty and

obligation no parent can pass the test that Allah has set for them. Success and failure in proper parenting depends on this question and its answer. The good news is that Allah has provided all the answers in Holy Quran and Sunnah. So no parents will be in the darkness about their duty as parent. Allah [swt] commands the

believers in holy Quran: [66.6]. "O you who believe, save yourselves and your families from a Fire whose fuel is men and stones."

Holy prophet [saw] says, [Narrated by Abdullah ibn Omar R.A] "Each of you are a shepherd and each of you will be questioned by Allah for your own responsibilities [In the Day of Judgment]."

So the most important job for parents is to try hard to save their beloved children from the Fire of Hell. Off course parents love their children very much but what is the real love towards children? Is the real love to try provide all the material objects and requirements for the children in this temporary life and neglecting the happiness in the everlasting life?

### Q: 4. WHAT KIND OF CHILD PARENT MUST WISH FOR?

What nature in child makes parenting job easy? What kind of children

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# OIC intra-trade to reach 20 percent by 2015

JEDDAH: Trade exchange between the member countries of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) is expected to cross 20 percent of their total trade by 2015, Dr. Ahmad Mohammed Ali, president of the Islamic Development Bank said on Sunday.

“We have already achieved an intra-trade rate of 17 percent, which is close to the 20 percent target set by the extraordinary Islamic summit held in Makkah in 2005 at the initiative of Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Abdullah,” the IDB chief said.

Addressing a donors’ meeting hosted by the IDB to discuss the program for regional cross border trade facilitation and infrastructure projects for Mashreq countries, Ali highlighted the bank’s role in boosting trade between the OIC member countries.

He said the IDB was targeting an intra-trade rate of 30 percent for the 57 member countries. “The Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC) will set a new goal to raise the level of intra-trade to 30 percent,” he added.

Since 1975 the IDB has allocated more than \$42 billion to finance trade deals between OIC countries. “This was done through intensive programs set by the bank to finance exports and imports through the International Islamic Trade Finance Corporation (ITFC) to increase the size of trade between member states as well as with other countries,” he pointed out.

Shamshad Akhtar, vice president of World Bank for Middle East and North Africa Region, said persistent

unemployment among the youth, low competitiveness and productivity, and low quality of education and skills were affecting Arab economies.

The meeting looked into prospects of financing specific projects over the next five years as part of a broader 15-year program based on the recommendations of a recent World Bank study. The Mashreq region covers Egypt, Syria, Jordan, Lebanon and Palestine.

“The target projects are designed to reduce trade impediments and address major transport infrastructure constraints (both physical and non-physical barriers),” the IDB said. The World Bank has estimated that, if fully implemented, by 2020 the program could increase the total non-oil international trade of Mashreq countries by up to \$4 billion annually, and bring intra-Mashreq trade up to 22 percent of the total (compared to the current 17 percent).

It is estimated that the proposed projects during the next five years would cost about \$300 million per year, and that the overall program would cost about \$6 billion over 15 years. These amounts are beyond the capacity of any single country or investment institution and will need to be addressed collectively.

The program will create a pipeline of projects suitable for investment under the new Arab Financing Facility for Infrastructure that was recently launched by the World Bank Group and the Islamic Development Bank. The facility will also provide a suitable framework for coordinating investments in this area.

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## Islamic parenting

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would co operate with parents to be saved from Hell Fire? What character in child will make him/her happy to obey the parents in good deeds? Parents must know the answer well before they have a child. In successful parenting there is no room for confusion.

The Holy Quran presents Hazrat Ibraheem [a.s] as a model parent. He prayed to Allah for a child and he knew exactly what kind of child he must have prayed for. [37.100]

“O my Lord! Grant me a [progeny] of the righteous.”

So the answer to our question is that parents must wish for a righteous child. The righteous child makes the parenting job easy for the parents. Besides, there are so many other benefits of having a righteous child like:

\* Righteous child brings happiness for parents, not pain or

embarrassment

\* Righteous child happily follows Allah’s commands

\* Righteous child prays for parents after their death and through these parents receive continuous good deeds

\* Righteous children will be allowed to request for their parents in the Day of Judgment

\* Righteous children contribute peace and happiness to any neighborhood, community or a country and so on.

Allah [swt] is teaching the believers in holy Quran to wish for righteous children for their own good. [46.15]

“[O Lord] and be gracious to me in my [righteous] offspring.”

May Allah grant us righteous children, Ameen!

[TO BE CONTINUED]



## News in Pictures: MAC Islamic Girl Youth Camp holds on the blue skies grounds, 8-10 January 2011





## MAC Islamic Girl Youth Camp holds on the blue skies grounds

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The facilities at Blue skies were reasonably tidy including a large kitchen, meeting room, a swimming pool, confidence course and Abseiling tower.

Al hamdulillah we believe we achieved our goals of fun and social interaction for our youth and girls in an Islamic environment. There was a really pleasing mix of ages and ethnic groups and great turn out overall. The girls and youth mixed with old friends and also forged new friendships. There was a warm atmosphere amongst everyone at the camp and many expressed regret at the finish of the camp. The committee members have all had a lot of positive verbal feedback and many girls are eagerly awaiting the next camp!

The programme included a range of activities to try to cater for everyone.

The Islamic sessions with our guest from Hamilton were popular. Sr Aliyah had 4 workshops with the youth)

a) "You Are Not The First"...Muslims have lived in non-Muslim countries since the religion's inception and have been successful. b) "Integration Is Not Assimilation"... You Can Become Part of New Zealand Society Without Losing Your Faith. c) "What is a Kiwi-Muslimah? Define Yourself!" [This is an interactive session, where they had to write things down and set up goals and wish-lists for themselves as well as their community. d) "Soft Dawa'ah: How To Reach Out to Non-Muslims Without Confrontation" [some visuals, some practice situations, role play and high impact...]

Sister Aliyah was sincere, experienced, enthusiastic and a capable speaker and our youth responded really well to her.

Abseiling, "the high light of this camp", was a fantastic activity which thrilled the girls as it was the first experience for most of them and it was the first time we are able to organize. We were lucky to have 6 lady instructors volunteer their time. It has been always difficult to find female instructors for this challenging, scary, freaky yet awesome, rewarding, exciting, and excellent activity for increasing self confidence. Our younger girls were noticeably impressive and daring. The abseiling instructors were astounded by how polite, well behaved and lovely all of our girls are. We felt proud of them. Way to go masha' Allah and great "soft Dawa".

Swimming was another general favorite and easy to organize. The weather was fantastic and allowed both the girls and the organizers to have a relaxing dip in the pool in full privacy when convenient.

The team competitions were very successful. The Islamic scavenger hunt (As-serata almostaqeem for clues around the confidence course was a hit enjoyed thoroughly by all teams for a good two hrs. All team members were challenged physically and mentally memorizing some verses of Qura'n or Hadeeth on the spot and solving

Islamic puzzles. Islamic questions and answer session was well received by the teams as were the Pizza and salad making competitions. The judges enjoyed tasting some creative and nicely presented salads and pizzas.

The prayer in Jama'ah went very well on the first day & followed through to the last day so well. A special powerful tathkira was given after each prayer and was received very well by the girls.

Crafts, Henna, Hijab dress up, fashion show and funny acts were popular and new talents were discovered.

The mothers who joined during the day ended up staying much longer than they planned, thus indicating their great interest in the programme. The fact that very few children attended was a key factor behind the success of the program as minimum distraction was experienced during the Islamic sessions

Ma sha allah the cooks all did a fantastic job preparing delicious meals and snacks and the girls were very supportive in setting up for meals and cleaning up after meals.

The clean-up proved to be a very big job as usual but almost everyone gave a helping hand. A small tired group was left to do the final touches following the clean up instructions exactly as stipulated in the conditions of hire.

There is a need for more activities, outdoor adventures and gatherings for our Muslimah youth. Most of them are attending high schools very few or no other Muslims. They are isolated amongst the dominant culture. Few have the knowledge, the conviction and the confidence to conduct themselves as Muslims in such an environment. They would benefit from more interaction with other Muslimahs. We look forward to having more of such activities and hope to get the support needed.

### Write to us

Muslim News is published fortnightly by the Federation of Islamic Associations of New Zealand. We welcome news and information about the Muslim community in New Zealand and the world. Please email news, views and photos, to [nzmuslimnews@gmail.com](mailto:nzmuslimnews@gmail.com)

PUT  
YOUR  
FAITH  
INTO  
PRACTICE!

# Help Us Expand An-Nur Mosque In Christchurch



**The Prophet (peace be upon him) said: “Whoever builds a mosque for Allah, Allah will build for him likewise in Paradise.”**

**Dear Brothers and Sisters: As-Salam alaikum wa rahmat Allah wa barakatoh** Muslim population in Christchurch has been growing over the past years, the space and facilities of An-Nur mosque have simply become inadequate and over stretched , and because of this there is currently a project to upgrade the prayer and ablution spaces. When completed, An- Nur mosque will be better placed to cater fully for the needs of the growing Muslim population. **To this end you are humbly invited to donate generously towards this noble project. Details of Bank and postal address as following.**

**Bank Details**  
Muslim Association  
Canterbury  
Bank of New Zealand  
Account number  
02-0800-0041468-01



**Postal Address**  
Muslim Association Canterbury  
101 Deans Avenue  
Riccarton  
Christchurch 8011  
03 3483930

# ANNOUNCEMENT

## **NEW LYNN ISLAMIC CENTRE - Information and Donation Request**

*Assalaamu Alaikum Wa Rahmatullahe wa Barkatahu*

"By grace of Allah swt we are pleased to announce that an Islamic Centre is being purchased at 13 Ward st, which is within walkable distance from Lynn Mall shopping centre.

Total land area is 2745 sq metres.

Purchase price \$1.2million

Deposit of \$100,000 has been paid.

\$610,000 payable on settlement on 3rd February,2011

Interest Free Vendor Finance for 2 years payable as follows for the balance:

\$245,000 on 3rd february 2012

\$245,000 final payment on 3rd February 2013.

## **DOOR TO DOOR COLLECTION IS UNDERWAY**

**PLEASE REQUEST EVERY ONE TO CONTRIBUTE GENEROUSLY FOR THIS NOBLE CAUSE.**

**FURTHER CONTACT : HAROON HUSSIEEN 0274300177  
SHAMIM KHAN 0274876429**

**Jazak Allah**

**REQUESTED BY Shamim Khan and Iqbal Ahmad**