



# Muslim News

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## FIANZ delegation visits Kuwait

A FIANZ delegation comprising Dr Anwar Ghani, Dr Muhammed Musa and Sheikh Anwar Sahib visited the State of Kuwait from 18th-23rd November 2011.

The visit was aimed at strengthening the bond of brotherhood that had existed between Kuwait and the New Zealand Muslim community.

At the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs the FIANZ delegation was received by the Under Secretary Dr Adel Al-Falah who expressed gratitude for the visit and urged the delegation to feel at home while in Kuwait because they are among their brothers and sisters.

In his remark, FIANZ president Dr Ghani introduced members of the delegation and gave a brief overview of FIANZ and Muslims in New Zealand. He expressed the view that even though Muslims in New Zealand are minority in a Western world they are living in harmony with the wiser society. Dr Ghani highlighted the various daawa projects and initiatives



going on in New Zealand as well as commented on the New Zealand Baitulmal that was recently launched for the purpose of helping the needy as well as providing direction and organization to our existence.

## OIC Sec. Gen. calls on members of the OIC Human Rights Commission to prove its credibility in the shortest time

JEDDAH, 7 Dec. (IINA)- The Secretary General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), Professor Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu, in his speech at the opening session of the orientation and preparatory meeting of the OIC Independent Permanent Human Rights Commission (IPHRC) in Jeddah on Wednesday, 7 December 2011, called on the members of the Commission to prove its credibility in the shortest time



possible.

The OIC Secretary General outlined five points that

have to be considered in the Commission's endeavour, notably its complementarity, as the Commission cannot and must not be compared to any of the existing human rights mechanism or seen as duplicating its work. He pointed out that it follows introspection founded in a remedial and not a judgmental approach, emphasizing that the Commission must build capacities and provide solutions for the Member States in the area of Human Rights.

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# ANGER CONTROL IN ISLAM

(Part Two)

By Farid Ahmed

## What is anger control?

Does it mean not to feel angry at all? Does Islam teach not to feel angry at all? Not really. Anger is an element of our emotional plane, it is part of us, and often we need it for motivation to stand up for our just right. We need it to fight against oppression and tyranny. Anger gives us energy to eradicate injustice, abuse and all other evil practices that destroys peace and increase sufferings.

But this anger has to be within control, our mind should control it with wisdom. If anger is out of control then it takes away benefit and causes chaos. I can give an example: Anger is like fire. If we use the fire in a controlled manner like in our safe stove, we can cook with it for our benefit. But when the fire is out of our control, then the fire burns us into ashes and destroys us severely.

In holy Quran Allah (s.w.t) admonishes us for "Controlling our anger" not for "Not feeling angry" 3.134 (Al-Quran)

"Who controls anger and pardon (all) man: Verily Allah loves those who do good."

## Why do we feel angry?

I want to ask the readers this question, "Why do you feel angry" or in other words, "What makes you feel angry?" It is a frequent question I ask my patients because it describes the mind pattern. I don't want an answer from you but I believe if you ask yourself this question and find the answer, it will help you to control your anger.

Usually people say, "I feel angry"

- When I see injustice
- When someone lies to me
- When someone criticize me
- When someone tells me off
- When someone put me down
- When my child doesn't listen to me
- When I am sick and so on.

But I think, these are not the main reasons for anger. To me these are secondary reasons. Let me give you an example to explain this. Suppose! A child is talking to both parents and while talking the child said, "You silly dad!" That comment made the mother angry and she said, "What did you say? You must apologize to your father." At the same time, father said, "Don't worry! We didn't teach our child well. It is our fault."

My point is, why is it in this case that one

person is angry and the other is not? The answer is that both parents had two different mind set, two different ways of looking at the same thing.

That's why I believe, the main reason why we feel angry depends on our mind set. A mind set is a combination of how we see things, how we analyze them, how we rationalize them and how we see the results and so on.

Allah (s.w.t) gives guidance to a person who uses his/her mind for thinking, reasoning and so on: 3.191

"Men who remember the praises of Allah, standing, sitting and lying down on their sides and contemplate (wonders of) creation in the heaven and the earth."

## How can we control our anger?

Now we know, we feel angry depending on our mind set. So if we want to control our anger, we have to control our mind set. The things that make us angry will be the same occurrences in our life. Can we remove all these occurrences not to feel angry? Can we change the world to suit us for not to feel angry? Will we ever have a perfect world where we will never feel angry?

No! We can't change the whole world and its imperfection but we can change our mind set. That will fix the problem, we will see the same disruption yet we will feel controlled and wise and we can use our anger in a controlled manner to achieve positive outcome.

That's what the Islamic teaching is about. Islamic teachings target our mind to be equipped with:

- The right information
- The divine teachings
- The tips from Almighty creator
- How to see the result before an action and so on.

Allah's teaching is not faulty, not imbalanced, rather it provides guidance in every inch of our life (Including anger) and guarantees successful outcome: 2.38 (Al-Quran)

"And there will come to you guidance from Me; those who follow My guidance, for them there shall be no fear, and they shall not suffer."

## Anger and Satan!

We learn through the divine information that anger and Satan have close link. Enemy Satan looks for every opportunity to take us out of control. When we are out of control, we tend to make mistakes and

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## News in Pictures: FIANZ Delegation visits Kuwait





# FIANZ delegation visits Kuwait Department of Food Import

FIANZ delegation comprising Dr Anwar Ghani, DR Muhammed Musa and Sheikh Anwar Sahib visited the Kuwait Municipality Department of Food Import.

On arrival, the delegation was received by the General Manager Engineer Istiglal Abdulla Al-Musallam who expressed delight by the visit.

After introducing the delegation Dr Ghani thanked the General Manager for the confidence the Department has maintained on FIANZ since it appointed the latter its certifier for halal imports into Kuwait from New Zealand. Dr Ghani assured the GM and her staff that FIANZ is committed to upholding the GCC standards in certifying products and invited suggestions on how the organization can better serve



the expectations of the Department.

Among others Dr Istiglal requested that certificates be made accessible online.

## Anger control in Islam (Continued from Page 2)

mistakes take us closer to the Hell Fire. Messenger (P.B.U.H) of Allah informs us (Hadis from Abu Dawood): AL GADABU MINASH SHAITAAN "Anger is from Satan."

What does that mean? We learn from other hadis that when someone feels angry about something, Satan pushes that anger button and doesn't let it go. Why? Satan wants the person to feel angrier and do something terribly wrong so that the person will lose something forever, or will regret forever or will be depressed and be totally negative about everything. Satan wants one bad snap to ruin love relationship, to ruin reputation, to ruin precious faith etc.

This information about Satan and our anger gives us deep insight, a most valuable clue to understand our anger and the aim of our open enemy and help us to set our mind in a wise manner. It gives us awareness about the worst case result and motivates us to take full control our own anger.

How to drive Satan away when angry?

Now we know, when we are feeling angry, we are not alone; Satan is with us to misguide our anger towards reckless and dangerous direction. Our task then is to drive the Satan away so we can control our anger to use it in a wise and constructive way. Because we do not see Satan (he can see us), it becomes an uneven battle for us. It is an enemy we must drive away but we can't see which direction he is attacking us from.

Here again, Islamic knowledge, divine knowledge from Almighty creator offers us rescue plan. This rescue plan we can't find in any science laboratory or any reputable university except the divine holy book from Almighty Allah. 7.201 (Al-Quran)

"If a suggestion from Satan attacks your [mind], find [your] shelter with Allah; Verily, Allah hears and knows [all things]"

How do we seek shelter with Allah when we are angry? It is simple. We got to say 3 times (Teaching of Hadis)

AU' DHU BILLA HI MINASH SHAI TAA NIRRAZEEM- "I am seeking refuge in Allah from the cursed Satan".

Satan is terribly scared of Allah and he runs away from us when we seek refuge with Allah. It is easy and simple, isn't it? We don't need a knife, a gun, a tank or a bomb. We don't need to be violent. Merciful Allah taught us a very easy, peaceful way to drive away our greatest enemy.

# Food issues seen as key to Islamic trade agreements

BANGKOK, Nov.26 (IINA)-Thailand aims to form networks with Islamic states by helping them with food security, says the Department of Export Promotion.

The country recently observed an economic committee meeting of the Organisation of the Islamic Cooperation (OIC).

Nuntawan Sakuntanaga, the director-general of the Export Promotion Department, says Thailand is focused on developing new markets and creating trade partnerships; the involvement with 57 OIC members is one strategy for achieving that goal.

The kingdom is set to expand trade with these countries to account for 20% of total products traded by 2015.

OIC members are keen to reduce tariff and non-tariff barriers as much as possible, and six members signed an agreement on a trade framework. They are Malaysia, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Turkey and the United Arab Emirates.

Panumas Malasee, who directs the Thai Trade Office



in Istanbul, says that countries in the Middle East have expressed concerns about agriculture related to food security and water quality.

OIC members currently have different halal standards and do not want a single standard, so three regulation frameworks will be drafted for consideration in future.

Mr Panumas said since Thailand has potential to tap the market, especially for crops, the country should engage in trade activity and exchange missions with OIC members, but such activity depends on the OIC's approval.

## OIC Sec. Gen. calls on members of the OIC Human Rights Commission to prove its credibility in the shortest time

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On the other hand, Ihsanoglu stressed that the Commission is not expected to perform its duties perfectly immediately after its establishment and cannot be expected to do everything at the same time, pointing out to the need to identify its work priorities. He emphasized in the meeting, which he considered as a turning point in the OIC history, on the need for the Commission to go through a developmental stage.

The OIC Secretary General expressed a high degree of confidence that the Commission will introduce a paradigm shift within the OIC in the way universal rights and freedoms flow together with Islamic values to offer a coherent and strong system and will constitute an important pillar of the ongoing process of reform at the OIC.

Ihsanoglu stressed on the importance of time frame consumed to establish the IPHRC, and which took less than the stipulated time afforded by the Ten-Year Program of Action which called for its establishment during the Makkah extraordinary Summit of 2005. He also pointed out to the timing of the establishment of the Commission which is an era of transformation.

Ihsanoglu underlined the importance of the Commission, taking into consideration the aftermath of 9/11 tragedy which formed a source of deep concern to the OIC, in addition to the rising trend of the phenomenon of Islamophobia with its multi-dimensions aspects which resulted in wrong misperceptions regarding incompatibility between Islam and Human Rights.

# Majelis Ulama Indonesia (MUI) visits New Zealand

A delegation of Majelis Ulama Indonesia (MUI) visited FIANZ headquarters on Saturday 19 November 2011. Leading the Indonesian delegation which also included an Indonesian embassy staff was Sheikh Maaruf.

On hand to receive the important delegates were Chairman of FIANZ Ulama Board, Sheikh Mohamed Amir, Chairman of Daawa and Outreach Dr. Mustafa Farouk, Acting Office Executive Coordinator Br. Asif Koya as well as member of FIANZ Halal technical committee Br. Tabrez Deen.

After a brief introduction and welcome by Br. Asif Koya, Sheikh Amir made an opening Dua.

Dr. Farouk gave a power point presentation on FIANZ halal certification system. Br. Tabrez also made a presentation on Halal processed food certification. Both presentations were followed by



lively Q&A sessions.

In his speech Sheikh Amir reiterated the benefit of these kind of visits. He also advocated for a regular exchange of visits among scholars of MUI and their New Zealand counterparts. Such a visit, he said, will go a long way in enriching knowledge.

In a response on behalf of the MUI delegation Sheikh Mauroof challenged FIANZ on working with MUI and World Halal Council.

He further assured that the delegation is pleased with FIANZ procedures and prepared to work with the organisation in certifying Halal exports to Indonesia.

