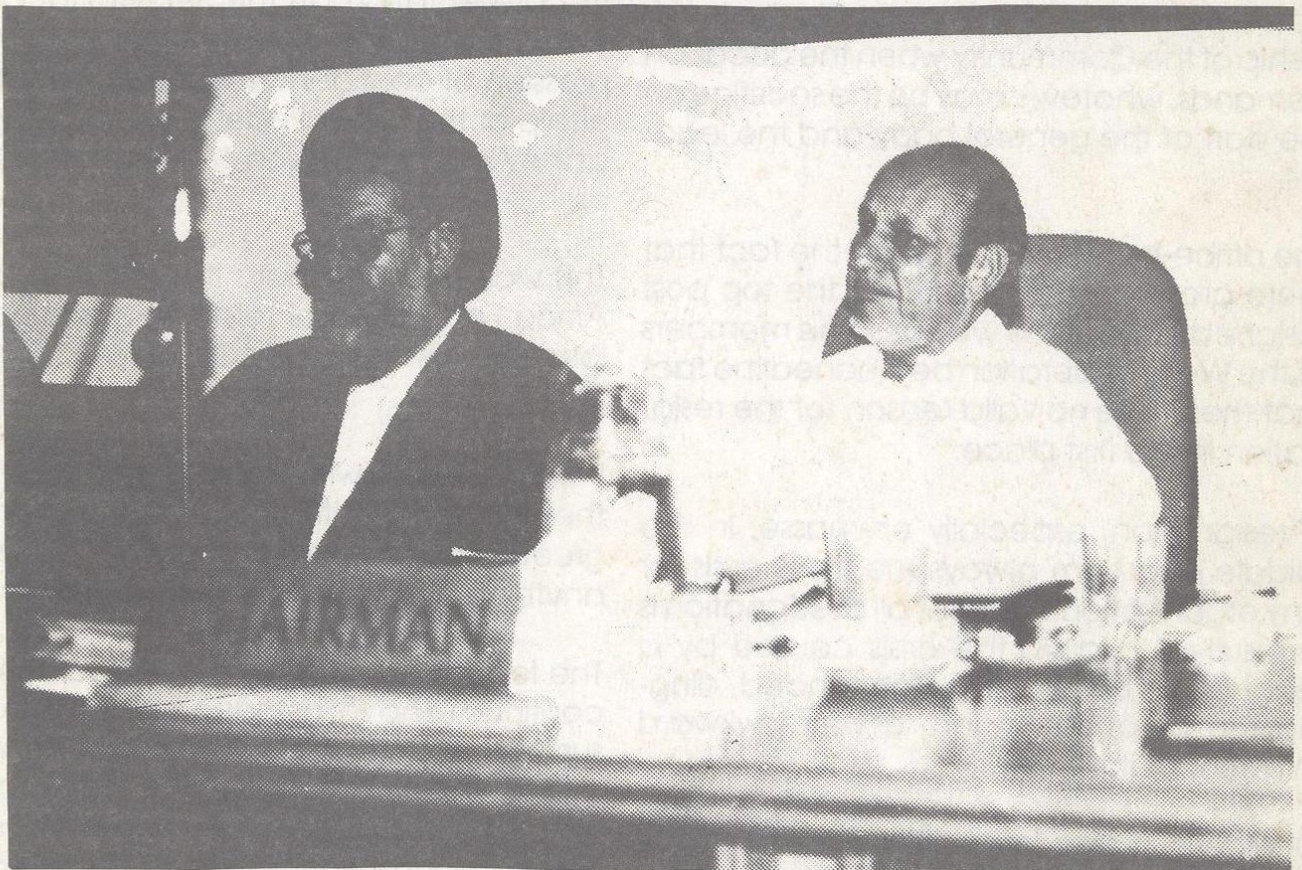


July 1993



Federation Samachar

Seyyed Jawad participates in Dar Council Session.



The Chairman of the Africa Federation, Alhaj Habib Mulji pictured with Seyyed Jawad Gulpaegani, the son of our Marja-e-Muazzam, Ayatullah Ozma Seyyed Reda Musavi Gulpaegani, who represented his father and delivered the closing address at the 51st Session of the Supreme Council held in Dar es Salaam.

Also inside :

A Sigh of Relief on Withdrawal of Resignations.
How you can be the Sportsman of the Year.
Morogoro gets new Mosque Complex
An appeal to a Zakir.
Why Die before death?

★ ★ ★ INTRODUCING -- PAGES ON HEALTH



From the Editor's Desk

A Sigh of Relief on Withdrawal of Resignations

We commend the withdrawal of the resignation which had been tendered earlier by the office-bearers of the World Federation in the heat of the moment.

The withdrawal signifies that a wise counsel can always be made to prevail in the leadership of the Community when the occasion demands, whatever may be the sacrifice on the part of the general body and the leaders.

The office-bearers bemoaned the fact that there arose no candidates for the top post resigned in the same way as some members of the World Federation bemoaned the fact that there was no valid reason for the resignation in the first place.

A resignation, especially en-masse, in the middle of a term always means a crisis for any organisation. And if at all a resignation is a result of a crisis, the crisis caused by a resignation becomes compounded, flinging the organisation into a very awkward moment of its history.

Obviously, it becomes difficult for capable persons, however enthusiastic for serving the organisation (and the Community does not lack them) to offer themselves as candidates. Candidates for the new term will find themselves at ease with regard to their own performances confined only to their own whole term or terms on the posts or new posts. It is under these circumstances that the members of the World Federation had to

rise to meet the challenge of the new situation caused and exercise pragmatism to bring about continuation to the end of the term by the same office bearers.

In this light therefore, we highly commend the presentation by the Secretariat of the Africa Federation of the Resolution of expression of confidence in the present leadership of the World Federation for adoption at the April, 1993 Session of its Supreme Council.

This was consistent with the tradition of the Africa Federation of remaining alert to the long term interest solely of the World Federation.

It was therefore with a sigh of great relief that the decision of withdrawal of resignation was greeted by us even though the option for anything else was seen remote all the time.

The leadership of the World Federation will continue to have, as indeed they should, the support and co-operation of its members to assist in the completion of the term successfully. Such a support and co-operation must be full and continuous in the interest of our organisation.

It is such a support and co-operation which will induce candidates to come forward and demonstrate their style of performances before the Community.

Editor.

FEDERATION SAMACHAR

A Publication of the Federation of
Khoja Shia Ithna Asheri Jamaats of
Africa.

Volume 27, No. 3
Safar 1414 A.H. / July, 1993

Editors: Mohamedali Chagani
Munir Daya



Editorial Assistant :Mukhtar Damji
Advertising: Amir Lakha
Distribution: Fazleabbas Dhirani
Photography: Murtaza Jivraj

The Editors welcome readers to submit letters, articles, comments or photographs to the Samachar. Photographs should preferably be black and white but coloured pictures are acceptable. For those wishing to have photographs back, return addresses should be provided.

Printed by

CATS LIMITED

Typesetting and layout

MUNIR DAYA

Dear Brothers,
Assalamu alaykum.

The last issue of the Federation Samachar I had access to was published in March, 1991 (Ramadhan 1411 - Vol. 25 No. 2). In that issue, as well as the previous issues, photographs entitled 'Down Memory Lane' are included.

This inclusion is good and important but if names of the people in the photographs are also included, the interest that may be generated could be greater than is now, especially for the younger generation.

I shall meanwhile be grateful if you kindly add my name on your mailing list for the Samachar and if possible, the circulars that are distributed by the Africa Federation to member Jamaats so that I can keep myself informed on news from 'HOME'.

With salams and du'as.

Aliraza M. Alidina
Edmonton, Alberta.

Thank you for your comments. However many of the photographs published are over two decades old and hence it is not always easy to obtain names.

The last copy [April,1993] Issue of the Samachar was mailed to you and so will future copies.

EDITOR.

Dear Brothers,
Assalamu alaykum.

I am surprised that while on the one hand there is a claim that the awareness of Sharia has risen in the Community, there has now started a new trend of week-end or school or Christmas holidays being spent at tourist resorts.

If God has blessed us with money, we have to spend it according to the Sharia and not for sinning.

It is not right that we spend money on expensive holidays at such tourist resorts when there is an obvious sign of najaasat in food and where halal food cannot be assured whilst the environment is of an indecent and permissive type with music blaring most of the time and with drinks [liquor] being continuously served.

The irony is that we also take our children with us and give to them a negative portrayal of our commitment to Islamic values for them to follow.

We must be selective on where we spend our holidays and our judgement should be consistent with what we profess or claim to profess.

'DISTRESSED'
Mombasa.

Dear Brothers,

Assalamu alaykum.

Thank you for yet another fine issue of *Federation Samachar*.

A publication such as this is vital to the community, not only in Africa but also around the world where community members from East Africa have migrated. For us in Canada the *Samachar* helps keep alive that link with East Africa.

Producing the *Samachar* on a regular basis must take a lot of time, effort and organisation. The Editors and indeed all those involved in its production must be congratulated on doing such an excellent job. May Almighty give them the zeal and resourcefulness for continuing this work and reward them as He knows best, Amen.

Our community is blessed with many workers who take on tasks for the benefit of the community. Personal gains or publicity are not their motives but they are driven by that spirit to help the community fill a gap or meet a need. Many a times, their work is not fully appreciated but simply taken for granted.

May I suggest that you help in making us all aware of these good samaritans. Coverage in the *Samachar* on these individuals and their activities will make us realise that **it doesn't just happen but someone, somewhere has gone out of his way to make it happen.**

Nazmul Damji
Toronto, Canada.

YOUTHS QUIZZED IN NAIROBI

The Nairobi Jamaat organised an educational youth Quiz cum Speech competition in July this year with four Jamaats namely Arusha, Dar es Salaam, Mombasa and hosts Nairobi taking part. The Convenor for the event was Haji Shabir Alidina and the main Organiser was Brother Mohamedarif Suleman.

On the opening night, the Chairman of Nairobi Jamaat, Haji Zulfikar Khimji, officially declared the event open after the organiser Mohamedarif Suleman had addressed the august audience. This was followed by a warm speech by the Chief Guest, Alhaj Manzoorali Kanani who is also the Vice President of the World Federation.

The three day event solely sponsored by Alhaj Mohamed Kermali was competitively contested but the spirit of fraternity and togetherness prevailed at all times.

In the boys' Quiz event, Dar es Salaam 'A' clinched the title by beating the 'never say die' Mombasa team in a tension gripped final. Arusha were declared the most disciplined team of the tournament.

In the girls' event, Nairobi 'A' defeated rivals Dar es Salaam 'B' in the final. Nairobi 'B' were acknowledged as the most disciplined side of the event. Mombasa fought with valour but lost by marginal points differences. Arusha did not send a girls' team.

The quiz event was tailored to meet the needs of effective leadership with captains having to make crucial decisions to decide the fate of their teams. The teams were also taken on an educational field trip.

The Speech Contest was won by Tehsin Takim of Dar es Salaam jointly with Rizwan Janmohamed of Nairobi. The girls' event was won by Akeela Dhalla. This event called upon each speaker to go on stage thrice on the same day and whilst the prepared speeches were pregnant of sense and sensation, the impromptu deliveries were full of humour and laughter.

The presentation ceremony featured a speech by Murabbi Yusuf Kermalli of Mombasa, an immediate member of the sponsor's family and Zulfikar Khimji, the Chairman of Nairobi Jamaat congratulated the organisers for a job well done.

How you can be the Sportsman of the Year

Nomination of the best sportsman is done every year by the Sports Council of the Supreme Council. However many of our sportsmen and sports officials are not exactly aware on the actual criteria used for selecting the best sportsman and this situation has led to circumstances where selections are alleged to be biased or irrational.

It is important for all sports institutions in different Jamaats to enlighten their members on the criteria being used by the selectors. This will help in understanding selections better and if there still are disagreements, at least the objections would then centre on why not, the known criteria, was not followed rather than on vague contradictions.

After the Sports Council receive the names of nominees from different Jamaats, selection of the winner is done through a points system with different merits being rewarded.

The full 100 points system for award of the Abul Fazal Trophy is :

- 1] Age : Below 25 5 points.
- Below 30 4 points.
- Below 35 3 points.
- Below 40 2 points.
- Below 50 1 point.
- Over 50 0 points.

Maximum ; 5 points.

2] Games played at Club Level in the current year [maximum three games] :

- First Eleven in a game - 10 pnts.
- Second Eleven in a game -5 pnts.
- Third Eleven in a game - 2 pnts.

The duration of such representation is considered when contestants have tied on points.

Maximum points : 30 points

3] Games played at Town or City Level in the current year :

- Actually played games : 10 pnts.
- In the team but not played :5 pnts.

Maximum points : 10 points.

The duration of such representation is considered when contestants have tied on points.

4] Representation at Country Level in the current year :

- Actually played games : 10 pnts.
- In the team but not played :5 pnts.

The duration of such representation is considered when contestants have tied on points.

5] Details of awards or trophies won

during one's sporting carrier:

Maximum : 5 points.

6] Details of nominee's outstanding performance(s) during the year qualifying him for nomination :

Maximum : 10 points.

7] Contribution towards development of sporting activities at Jamaat or Club level in such capacities as Captain, Vice Captain, Practice Captain or a member of committees etc. :

Maximum : 10 points.

8] Discipline record on and off the field - **Maximum : 10 points.**

9] Contribution and services at Jamaat Level - **Maximum : 10 points.**

Any nominee whose name comes in for award consideration for a second or third time will have 10 points deducted from his total whilst nominations not received in the prescribed manner will not be considered.

Nominations received after the dead-line will have 10 points deducted from the total.

Study Girls, Study!

The Africa Federation has sought clarification and guidance from our current Marja-e-Taqleed Ayatullah Gulpaygani on higher female education.

His Eminence guided that if a female student in Hijab is obliged to attend a co-education institution where she may

have to attend a class addressed by a male teacher, she may do so as long as she observes all the Islamic Laws applicable to her. This positive ruling paves way for the Higher Education Board to invite female applicants for overseas or local higher education scholarships.

Songea Elections

At a general meeting held on 23 May, 1993 the following members were elected to serve Songea Jamaat for a two year term :



H. Rajani

Husseinali Rajani	President
Mohamed Versi	Vice President
Azizul Husain Rajani	Secretary
Ali Husain Lilani	Jnt. Secretary
Mustafa Jaffer	Treasurer
Bashir Sultan	Mukhi
Bashir Versi	Member
Amir Panjwani	Member
Fidahusein Rehmtullah	Member
Azad Khimani	Member
Ghulam Rajani	Member
Alidina Pardhan	Member
Rizwan Dhalla	Member
Aunali Rajani	Member
Aunali Mauji	Member

Meanwhile in the coverage of the Council delegation's visit to Songea carried in the last issue of the Samachar [Vol. 27, No 2], the report on the visit to the Government Hospital was not included.

The Songea Jamaat and its members have made substantial financial contributions towards this hospital which was built under the supervision of the Jamaat Chairman, Alhaj Husseinali Rajani.

The Shs. 3.7 million hospital

building project was initiated at the time of the 1400th birth anniversary of Imam Husein A.S. in 1984. The foundation stone was laid by the then Tanzania Prime Minister, Hon. Salim Ahmed Salim whilst the opening was done on 23 October, 1988 by the President of the United Republic of Tanzania, Alhaj Ally Hassan Mwinyi.

Uganda gives deadline to property owners

The Uganda Government has issued a reminder notice to all persons who left properties in Uganda during the 1972 Asians exodus that the Government is still receiving and processing applications for repossession.

Applications are grouped under two categories:

1] Those from persons who were citizens of Uganda in 1972 (including limited liability Companies and Trusts) which are not subject to the provisions of the Expropriated Properties Act of 1982.

2] Those from persons who were not citizens of Uganda in 1972 and were consequently expelled under the Immigration (cancellation of entry permits and certificates of residence) Decree, 1972.

Although these persons were, under the Expropriated Properties Act of 1982, given 90 days within which to apply for the repossession of their properties, the Minister of Finance is using discretion provided

under the Act to still accept and handle applications. Persons who had applied for compensation are encouraged to take physical possession of their properties.

The Government has announced that **no application will be entertained after 30 October, 1993** and properties which are still unclaimed will be deemed abandoned by their owners. The Minister responsible will then proceed to make appropriate orders in conformity with Section 8 of the Country's Expropriated Properties Act of 1982.

Career counselling in Nairobi

The first ever regional CAREERRAMA cum counselling session was held in Nairobi on 16 May, 1993. The Programme was organised by the Education sub-committee in conjunction with the Higher Education Board of the Supreme Council. A total of 60 students attended this very informative session.

The Programme was opened by the Vice Chairman of Nairobi Jamaat, Alhaj Akber Karawalli, who accentuated on the need to promote education within our community.

The main speech by Bwana Ali Shariff of Arusha centred on the importance of education and outlined when and how to

.....cont. page 7

AROUND AFRICA

ZAKIR AND ZAKIRA SEMINAR A SUCCESS

The first ever Zakirs and Zakiras Seminar was organised by the Tabligh Committee of the Supreme Council between 30 April and 2 May, 1993 at the Dar es Salaam Imambara. The objective of the Seminar was to discuss on ways of improving propagation methods especially for youths who now expect convincing and logical presentations.

After a welcome speech by the Chairman of the Organizing Committee, Alhaj Mehboob Jaffer Somji, the Chairman of the Supreme Council, Alhaj Habib Mulji and the Chairman of the Host Jamaat, Alhaj Aliraza Rajani briefly addressed participants outlining the importance of the Seminar.

The Seminar Chairman, Alhaj Dr. Shiraz Dattoo of Morogoro then outlined the papers to be discussed and introduced the first speaker, Alhaj Ali Sheriff of Arusha who spoke on 'The Honorary Services rendered by local Zakirs and Zakiras in the history of the Khoja Community in East Africa'.

The second paper was presented the next morning by Mohtarama Mrs. Fatma Dewji who spoke on 'The Facilities necessary to local Zakirs and Zakiras for Development of Zakiri'. Thereafter Alhaj Muslim Bhanji of Dodoma presented a paper on the 'Preparation of Majlis for effective preaching according to modern needs'.

After lunch, Alhaj Mulla Muhammad Kassamali of Nairobi delivered a paper on 'Priorities of Subjects and Options of languages for effective preaching'. The final paper was presented by Alhaj Muhammad Khalfan who spoke on 'Ways and means for maintaining the tradition of local Zakiri in the Community'. Question and answer sessions were held after all presentations.

Group discussions to frame resolutions were held at night and the next morning a visit was organised to the Bilal Muslim Mission before participants congregated again at the Imambara for presentation and adoption of resolutions [see page 8].

Federation Samachar

MOROGORO GETS NEW MOSQUE

The opening ceremony of the Morogoro Mosque Complex was done on 20 June, 1993 by the Chairman of the Federation, Alhaj Habib Mulji who was also the Chief Guest.

After the official opening the Chairman of Morogoro Jamaat, Alhaj Ibrahim Manji Haji took the visiting dignitaries who included the District Commissioner and the Mayor, around the Complex which includes a Mosque, Imambara, a flat for a resident Alim, a self-contained rooms Musafirkhana and a spacious terrace for organising social functions. A Ghushkhana has also been pledged and the Madressa and a audio-visual library will soon move to the Complex. A 4 acre Kabrastan plot has also been acquired by the Marhum M.P. Ladha family.

The Master of Ceremonies was the headmaster of Forest Hill School, Morogoro. Proceedings commenced with recitation of Quranic verses by Master Sajjad Pardhan. The Morogoro Jamaat Chairman, Ibrahim Haji then gave a welcome address after which Dr. Shiraz Dattoo outlined the history of Morogoro Jamaat. The first Community member came to Morogoro in 1936. Another family arrived there 28 years later, in 1964. Two more families arrived after four years and by 1969 our population numbered about 40.

In 1968, Marhum Gulamhusein Meghji established regular Majalis at his residence and in 1969 these facilities were moved to the residence of Ibrahimbhai Haji who for the past 25 years has selflessly provided his residence for religious activities. The first

Morogoro Jamaat directory was recently published and dedicated to Ibrahimbhai for his great contribution.

In 1989, Morogoro had 70 members and in 1990 about 100 members, which thus raised the issue of having a larger place for worship. A plot was hence purchased and the Foundation laid on 20 January, 1990.

Special acknowledgements were made to Mohamedali Kara [who recently passed away in Dar es Salaam] for his great financial and moral support and to Alhaj Munawar Khalfan, a consultant engineer based in Dar es Salaam who provided continuous honorary professional services.

The District Commissioner said the Mosque Complex was a great stride for a relatively new Community and looked forward to mutual co-operation. The Dar Jamaat Chairman, Aliraza Rajani said the Mosque was a milestone for Morogoro whilst the Council Chairman, Alhaj Habib Mulji commended Morogoro Jamaat for keeping up with the century old tradition of the Community - that of building a Mosque in any new settlement. He says this tradition portrayed commitment to Islam and to one's nation. He then pledged Shs. 2 million as cost towards furnishing the resident Alim's flat.

This was supported by the Iranian Ambassador who pledged Shs. 500,000/-, Tanga Jamat which pledged Shs. 50,000/- and various individual donors who also pledged 137 school desks for the Morogoro municipality.



Alhaj Habib Mulji pledges desks to the Morogoro District Commissioner as the Mayor looks on, at the Mosque opening ceremony. Alhaj Ibrahim Haji is seated behind.

.... from page 6

start choosing a career. An advisory on careers was also circulated after which students received individual counselling from Bwana Ali.

Meanwhile the Nairobi Education Board has appointed Ahmed Hassanali as a member thereby bringing to four the number of representatives on it's Board. Others on the Board are Shabbir Alidina, Shabbir Janmohamed and Sajjad Walji.

Two more Councillors

In pursuance of the power conferred on the Chairman of the Supreme Council, Alhaj Habib Mulji, as per Article 23 of the Constitution, he has nominated two more Councillors for the 1992 to 1995 term. They are Alhaj Ashikhusein M. Rashid of Nairobi, Kenya and Alhaj Asaf M. Gulamhusein of Mombasa, Kenya.

Al-Muntazir Islamic Seminary improves ranking.

The Al-Muntazir Islamic Seminary which is run under the auspices of Dar es Salaam Jamaat improved its overall National Form 4 [O' Level] ranking in 1992 amongst other schools in Tanzania.

The school was last year ranked 11th out of 356 schools in the country which is a good leap ahead compared to it's ranking in 1991 when it was placed 65th out of the then 343 schools in Tanzania.

The school had 63 candidates in 1992 and 52 candidates in 1991. Of the total candidates, 17 students obtained First Division passes in 1992 compared to 5 students in 1991.

ZAKIRI SEMINAR RESOLUTIONS

[Full Report on Page 7]

The following resolutions were adopted at the Zakiri Seminar held in Dar es Salaam :

- 1] That the good works of past preachers should be retrieved and checked and the material found suitable should be published;
- 2] That proper respect, prospects, facilities and opportunities be provided by all Jamaats to Zakireen of various ages in order to enhance their image in the Community and encourage them to perform Zakiri on as many suitable

occasions as possible;

3] That appreciation should be demonstrated to Zakireen by presentation of 'Hadiya' books, cassettes etc. upon completion of a series of Majalis;

4] That a training programme be instituted to train Zakireen on various aspects of Zakiri in order to enhance their effectiveness. By way of examples, a 4-week refresher course at regional level and a week-end refresher course at local level should be organised and extensive use of video cassettes be made. Furthermore, courses during vacations for Form IV and VI leavers be conducted and for further training students should be sent to Hawzas like in Iran where special courses catering for our needs could be organised for a 3-4 year period;

5] That separate sessions of Zakiri for young children, youths and elders should be organised;

6] A panel of experts be appointed to suggest recommended text books in Aquaid, Fiqh, Akhlaq, Tarikh, Tafsir which should be made available to all Zakireen together with reference books, magazines, journals, periodicals, video and audio cassettes of relevance in a library equipped with photocopying facilities, computerised indexing and storage of data;

7] That the Tabligh Committee of the Supreme Council appoint a panel of experts to prepare subjects and guidelines for Zakiri reference;

8] That topics in Majalis should include subjects relating to up-bringing of our new generation under present conditions and matters relevant to this generation;

9] That as women lack the facilities of instructions on fiqh/masael, Jamaats should nominate such Zakiras who can communicate with Resident Alims or those who are aware of [conversant with] the masael and instruct women accordingly in their gatherings;

10] The scope for the use of medium of instruction should be expanded so as to include other languages if necessary which are preferable to the Community members and in which Zakireen can express themselves better;

11] That Question and Answer Sessions be included after or during Majalis;

12] That an Anjuman of Zakireen be established to, among other things, further training of Zakireen and provide facilities and incentives and that the Secretariat provide terms of reference and funds for the functioning of this said Anjuman;

That members of Anjuman in each Jamaat should meet to discuss matters related to Zakiri.

Kigoma Update

In our last issue we carried election results for Kigoma Jamaat. Photographs of the main office-bearers are carried hereunder:



Bashir Mulla - Chairman



Asgher Rehmtullah - Vice Chairman



Mohamed Dossa - Secretary

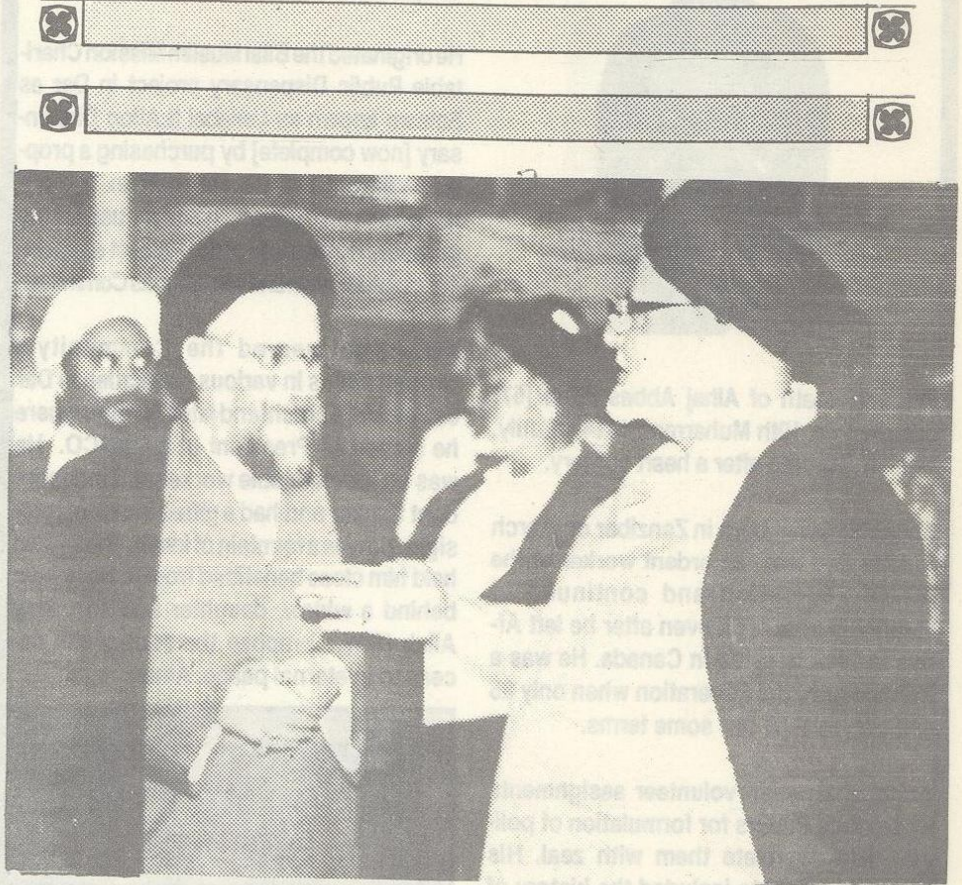
Seyyed Jawad Gulpaegani visits Tanzania

At the invitation of the Chairman of the Africa Federation, Alhaj Habib Mulji, Seyyed Jawad, the son of our Marja-e-Taqleed, Ayatullah Al-Ozema Seyyed Mohamed Redha Gulpaegani visited Tanzania during the 51st Session of the Supreme Council held in Dar es Salaam between 9 to 12 April, 1993.

Seyyed Jawad attended the Council Session at night on the day of his arrival in Tanzania. Prior to that a dinner was hosted at the residence of the Iranian Ambassador in Dar es Salaam by the Ambassador in honour of the visitor, delegates and councillors.

Hujjatul Islam, Seyyed Jawad delivered the closing address at the 51st Session to a packed and engrossed gathering at the Dar es Salaam Imambara which disregarded the time which was past midnight. Seyyed Jawad conveyed the salaams and message of prayers of the Marja-e-Muazzam and praised the Meeting participants for sparing their worldly time in the interest of Islam. He ended his address with various advices to momineen, emphasising the importance of remembering Allah [S.W.T.] in all of one's actions and deeds.

During his visit he also addressed the Dar es Salaam Jamaat and visited Jamaats in Moshi and Arusha from where he accepted a Game tour to Lake Manyara and Ngorongoro



.....with Seyyed Saeed Akhtar Rizvi in Dar es Salaam.

Crater. Earlier he had visited the Mikumi National Park from Dar es Salaam.

The office-bearers of the Federation, including the Trustees based in Dar es Salaam, had a meeting with him whilst the Chairman of the Federation, Alhaj Habib Mulji had a series of discussions with him on various subjects concerning the religious needs and activities of the Community.

Seyyed Jawad inspected various institutions and projects of all the Jamaats he visited and was impressed. He showed special inter-

-est in propogation efforts being undertaken by the Community and also visited the Bilal Muslim Mission Complex at Temeke. He was also impressed with the tradition of centralization in the Community which promotes unity and discipline and ensures accountability.

His visit was scheduled to cover Nairobi and Mombasa Jamaats but he could not do so because of unavoidable circumstances. He left for Iran on 21 April, 1993 and indeed it was an honour for the Africa Federation for the interest shown by the Marja in its activities through his representative, Seyyed Jawad.

OBITUARIES

Inna Lillahi Wa Inna Ilaihi Raajiun



The sad death of Alhaj Abbas Alloo [57] occurred on 10th Muharram, 1414 (1 July, 1993) in Toronto after a heart surgery.

Abbasbhai was born in Zanzibar on March 5, 1936 and was an ardent worker of the Africa Federation and continued to staunchly support it even after he left Africa in 1982 to settle in Canada. He was a Councillor of the Federation when only 25 and served thus for some terms.

Abbasbhai would volunteer assignments to produce Papers for formulation of policies and complete them with zeal. His favourite subjects included the history of the Khoja Community in which he was compiling a book believed now to be almost finished, voluntary migration and professional education.

Abbasbhai entertained a vision of a glorious path on which the Community should tread towards progress - a true, conspicuous and tangible progress at the global level - and he advocated constant consultative contacts at the global level in this age of advancement in the communications system as conducive to mutual trust and goodwill so essential for progress. This aspiration showed bright prospects of benefit for the Community in future leadership.

Abbasbhai, in view of his experience in the Dar es Salaam Merchants' Chamber for a number of years, pioneered the concept of what now has materialised as International JIBA and ardently sought the support of the Federation to the concept much earlier and

earned it. He also organised the Ontario Chapter of JIBA.

He originated the Bilal Muslim Mission Charitable Public Dispensary project in Dar es Salaam known as Leilabai S. Alloo Dispensary [now complete] by purchasing a property adjacent to the main complex and donating it in his mother's name for use for the purpose. He was one of the earliest supporters of the Mission and served on its Committee.

Abbasbhai served the Community's Organisations in various capacities in Dar es Salaam, Karachi and later Toronto where he served as President of NASIMCO. He was an indefatigable worker and independent thinker and had a gifted knack of foresight. He was a fountain of ideas. Those who held him close benefitted from it. He leaves behind a widow, daughter and son. May Allah [S.W.T.] repose the soul of the deceased in eternal peace. Amen.

THREE KENYAN FAMILY SOCIAL WORKERS DIE

Three deaths occurred over a period of two months of members of one family who served Nairobi Jamaat for a long period in the 60s. The Marhum in are :

Sheikh Rehmatali who passed away on 2 January, 1993 in London. He was Hon. Secretary from 1964 to 1971;

Sheikh Manzooralali who passed away on 2 February, 1993 in Nairobi. He was the Hon. Treasurer of the Jamaat from 1964 to 1971;

and

Sheikh Karamat Ali who passed away on 3 March, 1993 in Glasgow, Scotland. He served the Jamaat as Chairman from 1963 to 1974.

May Allah [S.W.T.] repose the departed souls in eternal peace. Amen.

SHIA CENTRES PROGRAMME LAUNCHED

The Programme for establishment of Shia Centres under Bilal Muslim Mission of Tanzania was approved by the Supreme Council in 1991. The aim is to assist Shia members who are not members of the Jamaats to run their own Centres under Bilal Muslim Mission and cultivate among them a sense of belonging with a common identity with the ability to attract new converts.

It was decided to lease apt premises to commence the Programme while efforts continue to acquire plots. The Mission is expecting allocation of a piece of land in the Kigamboni area of Dar es Salaam after payment of compensation to present plot dwellers. Land has also been acquired in Boko, Dar es Salaam where plans have already been commissioned. Plans for Tabata in Dar es Salaam have been submitted for approval.

Plans for construction of a Centre in Dodoma are awaiting approval while in Arusha the first leased Centre has now commenced. Other Centres to Insha'allah begin soon will be in Singida, Ujiji, Lushoto and Pangani.

Where Jamaats are not functioning and their religious premises not in use, these will be licenced to Bilal Muslim Mission for conversion to Shia Centres.

The Programme requires a lot of finance and pledges to this effect can be made to the Federation.

Railey Honoured

The Honorary Treasurer of Mwanza Jamaat, Rizwan Railey was honoured by Mwanza Jamaat as the 'best social worker' after this year's Eid-el-Haj prayers held at the Mosque there. He has been serving Mwanza Jamaat in the same capacity for the past twelve years.

At the Flag raising ceremony held after the Eid prayers, Railey was given a special privilege of hoisting the Federation flag.

Kampala Vice Chairman passes away

Just before going to press we received the sad news of the sudden demise of Alhaj Roshanali Mohamedali Alibhai Ramji which occurred on 29 July, 1993 in Kampala.

The late Roshanalibhai was the Vice Chairman of Kampala Jamaat and a devoted Community worker.

May Allah (S.W.T.) rest the soul of the deceased in Mercy and we offer our condolences to his family and Kampala Jamaat.

Hirani is new Councillor

The Chairman of the Federation, Alhaj Habib Mulji has appointed Alhaj Asgharali Jaffer Hirani, presently the Vice-President of the Tananarive Jamaat, a Councillor on the Executive Council of the World Federation.

Songea awards two

The Chairman of the Federation, Alhaj Habib Mulji early this year presented appreciation awards, on behalf of Songea Jamaat, to Alhaj Bashir Versi and Alhaj Huseinali Rajani for their outstanding service to the Songea Jamaat for the past twenty years. **[Picture will be carried in the next issue of Federation Samachar].**

Calling on Zakireen

Resident Alims plus locally based Zakirs and Zakiras who each year volunteer to assist the Secretariat for Zakiri in Africa or abroad have just completed yet another year of Zakiri for Muharram, 1414.

The Tabligh Committee of the Supreme Council is compiling a list of all Zakireen and lecturers on Islamics who are resident in Africa Jamaats. The list will be maintained for general

information and records.

To assist in a successful compilation, Zakireen and lecturers are requested to provide to the Committee, through the Secretariat, their names and addresses, telephone contacts with also a mention of the languages they prefer to use.

Jamaats overseas which are desirous of the services of any particular Zakireen or any Zakir or

Zakira can communicate with the Secretariat through the World Federation Islamic Education Board **at least two months** before Muharram so that the Secretariat has adequate time to plan to satisfy the requirements of all Jamaats including the ones abroad.

Muharram and Safar are the best occasions for preaching because attendance is high. The rotation of Zakireen each year, with mutual co-operation, is essential for effective and productive preaching with due regard to also the unfortunate language constraints and the need to obviate them for fruitful results.

CONGRATULATIONS

The Annual Best Students of the Year Award for 1992 was all a Nairobi affair with both the best students coming from there.

The Best Male Student Award for the Marhum Rashid Moledina Trophy was won by Kassim Akber Karawalli whilst the Best Female Student Award for the Marhum Rafik Somji Trophy was won by Zainab Ashiqhusein Rashid of Nairobi.

Each winner won a cash prize of T. Shs. 17,500/- donated for the 'Isaale Thawab' of Marhum Nasser Virji Mohamed Jaffer of Mwanza and Marhum Safdar Jaffer of Mombasa.

Congratulations to the winners and their parents. Remember - it is education that adds to the dignity of a Muslim.

NAIROBI STEAL THE ACAMEDICS SHOW

DAR HOSTS 51st Session

The 51st Session of the Supreme Council was held in Dar es Salaam from 9 April, 1993 to 12 April, 1993. Prior to this Session, an Extra-Ordinary Conference to discuss and adopt a new constitution for the Federation was held on 8 April, 1993.

With a few amendments moved by the delegates, the proposals tabled by an ad-hoc Committee were adopted. This is the fourth new constitution after 13 years and will come into effect on 1 October, 1994 - about 6 months prior to the next Triennial Conference.

On the opening night, the Chairman, Alhaj Habib Mulji was welcomed at the gate by members of the Dar es Salaam Jamaat Managing Committee and the organising committee spearheaded by Alhaj Roshan Fazal. Students of Al-Muntazir School and Huseini Madrassa were also there reciting qasidas.

The Session was formally declared open by the Chairman of the Supreme Council, Alhaj Habib Mulji when delivering his keynote speech for the year. This was after recitation of verses from the Holy Qur'an followed by a welcome address by the Chairman of the host Jamaat, Aliraza Rajani wherein he also outlined his Jamaat's current and future plans.

The Chairman's speech, which was limited to about 30 minutes only, covered all the current key issues of the Federation. He said the passing away of our previous Marja, Ayatullah Abol Kassam Al-Khui was a major blow to

the Community which had been accustomed to his rulings for an uninterrupted period of 22 years. He said the transition to a new Marja-e-Taqleed was not an easy task but through the unity, maturity and solidarity of our Community, the change was smooth.

The Chairman drew particular attention to the ongoing census being conducted by the GENSTA Committee and called on all Jamaats to respond well because the results will enable better planning by the Federation for the future needs of its members. Constituent Jamaats will also find the statistics an invaluable source of information, he said.

On education, he mentioned of the registration of the Jaffery Education Trust Fund which would provide students loan assistance for higher education and also thanked Iran for the scholarships it has provided for our students to study in Iran.

The Chairman also emphasised on the need to implement the Shia Centres Programme with a degree of urgency and said in wake of the increased bias against the Shias worldwide, the need for tabligh is an obligation.

He said that through the Shia Centres programme, those outside the Community who have embraced the Shia faith will manage their own Centres which will promote a sense of belonging through their own cultural identity and, in this process attract more converts for growth.

Others who addressed the gathering

on the opening night were, the Iranian Ambassador to Tanzania, The Vice Chairman of the World Federation, Alhaj Manzooral Kanani, the Chairman of Mehfile-Murtaza, Zainabia Trust and Vice Chairman of Al-Murtaza School in Karachi, Alhaj Anverali Rajpar plus Alhaj Barakat Rajani for the Council of European Jamaats, Alhaj Aunali Salemohamed from Kutch Federation, and a nominated councillor of the World Federation, Dr. Sibtain Panjwani along with Alhaj Umedali Merchant of the Gujarat Council.

During the proceedings, there was a brief interlude when the Chairman of Nairobi Jamaat, Akhaj Zulfikar Khimji presented Appreciation Awards to those who assisted Nairobi Jamaat during the recent multi-party crisis in Kenya. Awards were presented to the Supreme Council for effectively monitoring the the situation and to Arusha, Moshi, Tanga and Dar es salaam Jamaats which hosted members from Nairobi. A special award was made to Gulamabbas Mukhtar of Arusha for his individual efforts to this effect.

The prevalent serious atmosphere was eased by Alhaj Asgharali Sopariwalla previously of Somalia and now residing in Dodoma who delivered a number of thought-provoking and at times humorous Shairis.

The following annual reports were discussed and consequent recommendations as guidelines were moved :

1] Report by the Secretariat of the Federation;

- 2] Tabligh reports by constituent Jamaats, the Secretariat and the Tabligh Committee;
- 3] Report of the Bilal Muslim Mission of Tanzania, Kenya and Madagascar;
- 4] The Education Board report;
- 5] The Sports Council report;
- 6] The Central Health Board report;
- 7] The Sociology Committee report;
- 8] The Think Tank report;
- 9] The *Federation Samachar* Editorial Board report;
- 10] The Setwel Board report;
- 11] The CENSTA Committee report;
- 12] Reports from the Madagascar Territorial Council and the World Federation.

The Recommendations will appear in the next Issue of the *Federation Samachar*.

The Accounts for the year ended 30 September, 1992 and the budget for the coming year were also adopted. The Session was closed by Seyyed Jawad of Iran who represented our Marje-e-Taqleed, Ayatullah Al-Ozema Seyyed Mohamed Redha Gulpaegani. His closing address dwelt on a religious exhortation and general relevant guidance.

The Session was very well attended and the office bearers present included :

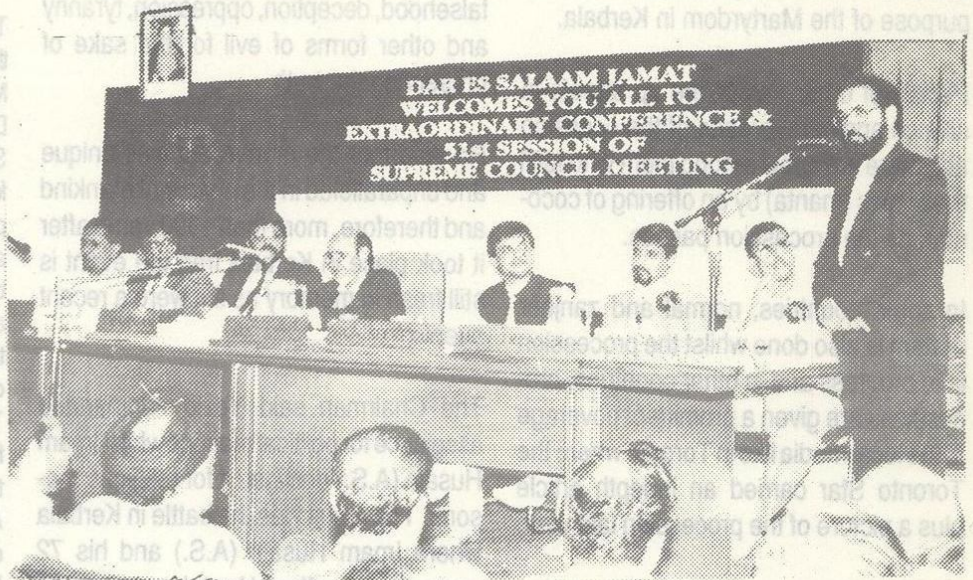
- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| Alhaj Habib Mulji | Chairman |
| Alhaj Habib Virani | Vice Chairman |
| Alhaj Murtaza Walji | Secretary |
| Alhaj Mohamed Hassam | Hon. Treasurer |
| Alhaj Murtaza Nanji | Asst. Secretary |
| Alhaj Ahmed Aloo | Asst. Treasurer |
| Alhaj Gulamabbas Janmohamed | Trustee |
| Alhaj Mohamed Khalfan | Trustee |

The proceedings of the Session were temporarily stopped for two occasions. One was for the official opening of the Al-Muntazir Islamic Seminary and Computer Class which was done by the Chairman of the Federation, Alhaj Habib Mulji and secondly for a dinner hosted at the residence of the Iranian Ambassador in honour of Seyyed Jawad, delegates and councillors.

Delegates and councillors also attended the Foundation laying ceremony of the Bakir and Sajadia Flats plus the Al-Ghadir building in Dar es Salaam.

The organising committee ensured all participants were well informed and comfortable during the ongoings. The Committee includ-

-ed Roshan Fazal [Chairman], Shakil Dharamsi [Secretary], Firoz Bandali [Volunteer], Rizwan Mamdani [Food and drinks], Murtaza Jivraj [Video and Photographs], Auni Kassam [Immigration and transport], Amir Lakha [Public Relations], Mushtaq Damiji [Al-Muntazir] and Dr. Fuad Sheriff [Medical].



The Iranian Ambassador addressing the Session.



Volunteers at the Session -- they did a great job!

Mourning Processions in Muharram

Many Jamaats worldwide, especially the large ones, again organised the traditional mourning processions on the eve of Ashura this year.

The purpose of such processions is to raise awareness amongst the public of the annual mourning occasion and the purpose of the Martyrdom in Kerbala.

People of other Faiths line up streets in silence and in reverence of the occasion and there are a few among them who fulfil their vows (manta) by an offering of coconuts as the procession passes.

In some countries, normal and zanjeer matam is also done whilst the procession is in progress and in other countries, processions are given a prominent coverage in the local media like in Toronto where the Toronto Star carried an indepth article plus a picture of the procession last year.

Observers have commented that the procession in Dar es Salaam was this year the longest ever, indicating a record participation. The Dar es Salaam procession and the public were addressed by the Chairman of the Federation, Alhaj Habib Mulji outside the Dar es Salaam Mosque.

Alhaj Habibhai told the gathering that the night's procession was a sad one and that the Shias of Dar es Salaam were joining millions of other Muslims around the world in commemorating the martyrdom of Imam Husain (A.S.).



Ashura Procession in Mombasa this year.

After giving the reason for the yearly mourning, he said that the purpose of it was even more noble - that of keeping Imam Husain's (A.S.) example of sacrifice, the sacrifice of his life and those of his children, relatives and companions for TRUTH. He said that Imam Husain (A.S.) left for mankind an example of rising to the challenges of falsehood, deception, oppression, tyranny and other forms of evil for the sake of preserving the truth.

He said that the martyrdom was unique and unparalleled in the history of mankind and therefore, more than 1300 years after it took place in Kerbala, Iraq the event is still fresh in memory as if it were a recent event.

The Chairman said Yezid demanded allegiance for political reasons whilst Imam Husain (A.S.) declined it for religious reasons. The result was the battle in Kerbala where Imam Husain (A.S.) and his 72 companions suffered brutal massacre by preferring dignified death and leaving behind a message of hope and inspiration.

He said martyrdom is a weapon but effective only when it is in the hands of those who are on the right. Many a martyrdom has changed the course of events but Imam Husain's (A.S.) martyrdom changed the course of the history of Islam. He said Islam is alive today and the struggle continues because the message of Husain(A.S.) is alive.

Sajjad is Nominated MP in Kenya



The Federation Samachar belatedly congratulates the Hon. Sajjad M. Rashid on his nomination as a Member of Parliament in Kenya by His Excellency Daniel Arap Moi, the President of Kenya.

Sajjadbhai was the Chairman of Mombasa Jamaat for many years until recently when he vacated the post to shoulder national duties. He is the holder of a Haidery Medal of the Federation which was bestowed upon him in 1991 in appreciation and acknowledgement of the daring sea-borne operation which he led to rescue and evacuate members of the community from Somalia.

The nomination of Sajjadbhai is a matter of pride for the community and an acknowledgement by the nation of Kenya of the contribution of Kenyan Asians to the nation in all fields including political development at the national level.

May Allah (S.W.T.) inspire and guide Sajjadbhai to achieve success in his national duties - which should represent for himself a true success of this world and the Hereafter.

WORTHY TRIBUTE TO A WORTHY WORKER

In a traditional address at the end of the 12th night majlis of Muharram, the Chairman of the Dar es salaam Jamaat, Alhaj Aliraza Rajani included the Jamaats tribute to Alhaj Abbas Alloo who died in Toronto on Ashura Day. The Jamaat also arranged the rites of Ziarat for the departed soul which included a khitma of the Holy Qur'an.

NASIMCO and Mehfile Murtaza, like the Africa Federation, also issued circulars of Tributes and similar gatherings were organised by Toronto Jamaat and NASIMCO for the sawab of and in remembrance of marhoom.

Many of Abbasbhai's services were rendered privately and avoided publicity. He was active as a Councillor on the Executive Council of the World Federation while he was representing Nasimco. Life is a blessing only because it offers death - as an access to an eternal bliss.

Election News from around the World

Trollhattan

At a General Meeting, the Trollhattan Muslim Shia Forsamling (Community) Jamaat elected the following :

Anwar Alladin	Chairman
Asim Rashid	V.Chaiman
Zahid Govani	Secretary
Sajjad Govani	Treasurer
Arif Govani	Member
Mukhtar Hirani	Member
Mohsin Panjwani	Member

Toronto

The following were elected to serve the 1993-1995 term in Office for Toronto Jamaat:

Mohamed Alibhai	President
Dr. Haiderali Fazal	V. Presd.
Zulfiqar Habib	Secretary
Sajjad Haiderali	Treasurer
Ebrahim Kassam	Mukhi
Sr. Zarina Sajan	Chairlady

Florida

The present office-bearers of the Islamic Jaffaria Association of Florida are :

Dr. Mohsin Jaffar	President
Mohsin Zaidi	V. Presd.
S.V. Mir Baqer Ali	Secretary
Nisarhusein Lakhani	Treasurer

Council of Gujarat

The current office-bearers are:

Rajabali Dossani	President
Ramzanali Assaria	Vice Presd.
Hassanali Merchant	Secretary
Haiderali Munir	Asst. Secretary

Karachi

The current office-bearers of the Khoja (Pirhai) Shia Isna Ashri Jamaat of Karachi are:

Hamid Ali Bhojani	President
Dr. Sibtain Dossa	Vice Presd.
Dost Bhojani	Secretary
Safdar Noorani	Jnt. Secretary
Iqbal Bachoo	Treasurer
Afsarali Tajri	Member
Amanullah Hemani	Member
Bahadur Somani	Member
Hussain Merchant	Member
Mohammed Ladhubhai	Member
Mohammad Jafri	Member
Mehboob Merchant	Member
Sadiq Jewani	Member
Yasin Gheewala	Member
Yousuf Kalyan	Member

Council of European Jamaats

The new Office-bearers of the Council of European Jamaats for the new three year term are :

Kassim Manji	President
Anwer Dhanji	V. Presd.
Shabbir Mamdani	Secretary
Karim Ashikali	Asst. Secretary
Mustafa Jaffer	Asst. Secretary
Mohamed Alibhai	Treasurer
Moiz Gulamhusein	Councillors
Liyakat Asaria	Councillors
Barkat Rajani	Councillors
Hussein Walji	Councillors
Hasnain Kara	Councillors
Salim Gavani	Councillors

NEW COMPLEX FOR PETERBOROUGH

The Imambara and Madressa Complex at Peterborough was used for the first time in Muharram this year. Work on the Masjid is also in the final stages and this should be opened in the coming few months, subject to the availability of funds to finance the current deficit.

The projected cost for the Complex is about Sterling Pounds 450,000 but there was a shortfall of almost Sterling Pounds 100,000 which was to be raised to avoid implementation delays.

Chad

The Constitution in Chad has been amended to provide for the adoption of Islam as the official religion of the state and the basic source of legislation in the country.

This development has come in response to the popular demands of the Muslims who constitute an overwhelming majority of about 85% of the country's 5 million population.

Negative Reporting

Foreign Broadcasting Stations have been undermining, through their Arabic programmes, the image of Islam and Muslims. The Stations, which include the BBC, Voice of America and Radio Israel concentrate on news and topics which reflect the negative traits of the Islamic personality, such as terrorism, extremism, violation of human rights, treason and deception.

This reporting is in wake of the ongoing historical and cultural struggle between the West and the Islamic World.

Japan

The number of Japanese embracing Islam has multiplied by over 15 times over the past decade with University students voraciously reading about Islam in their search for a religion based on rational proof which provides psychological and intellectual stability.

A Report from the Gujarat Council

A Report from the Council of Gujrat Khoja Shia Isna Asheri Jamaat, Mahuva indicates a serious housing problem in Gujrat where our population is plus 12,000 members from about 2500 families.

Housing assistance was initially required by about 800 families of Mahuva, Surat, Bhavnagar, Ahmadabad, Talaja, Rajula, Palitina and Wapi. Of these some 178 families from 6 towns were selected for the first housing project.

At least 600 Flats are now required in Gujarat with housing particularly needed in Gadaswami, Kukad and Surat in wake of the recent religious riots in which some families lost all their possessions.

The Gujarat Council has laid down an ambitious housing project divided in two phases which involves building a projected 497 houses in 20 towns. The limitation is on funds which are acute and the Council has made a worldwide pledge for support.

Meanwhile the Gujarat Council has maintained it's Widows Scheme whereby widows are paid Rupees 150 assistance allowance per month. Presently there are 257 Khoja widows on this scheme plus 100 Sadaats and 50 non-Khojas.

Under it's Medical Scheme, the Gujarat Council also faces a financial deficit. Medical assistance between April last year and March this year was in the tune of half a million rupees of which only a little more than half has been received. The medical assistance covers Accident cases, Heart valve operations, Cancer and T.B. treatments, Eye operations plus pregnancy and skin disease cases amongst others.

To encourage marriages, the Council arranges mass marriages [Samuh Lagan] at Mahuva or Bhavnagar which are very cost-effective and do enable members without

financial means to get married. In 1989, 31 marriages were conducted for couples from 22 different places. In 1990, there were 44 marriages for couples from 32 places while in 1991, 44 couples from 29 places got wedlocked. In 1992 there were 56 marriages and this year there were 53.

The cost of each marriage is about Rupees 7000 of which Rupees 6000 covers necessary belongings whilst Rupees 1000 goes towards food plus hall hire and relevant marriage expenses. This is financed by the Gujarat Council. All marriages are conducted without traditional ceremonies.

On the education side, the Zainabia Child Sponsorship scheme under the World Federation benefits over 2500 members in Gujarat and over 200 in Kutch. This Scheme finances basic education. A Vocational Training Scheme has also commenced this year in co-operation with NASIMCO.

Resignations Withdrawn

The Extra-Ordinary Conference of the World Federation which was earmarked for 16 May, 1993 in London was cancelled after the office-bearers of the World Federation graciously withdrew their notice of resignation in response to resolution from different World Federation members, including the Africa Federation.

The Africa Federation resolution to this effect was adopted at the recent Supreme Council Session in Dares Salaam urging the office-bearers, in the interest of the World Federation, to withdraw their resignation and to complete their remaining term in office, assuring them of confidence in the present leadership.

Kutch Federation in perspective

Kutch is situated in the western part of India near a desert and has a dry climate with a history of many famines which have retarded development there. As a result our Khoja Community members are economically and educationally backward there.

The Federation of Kutch K.S.I. Jamaat consists of five main Jamaats in Kera, Bhuj, Mundra, Nagalpar and Mandvi with a population of about 600 people. Most of our members are involved in manual jobs and services with only a few indulged in very small scale businesses.

Most of our people do not have their own house and as a result have to pay a substantial part of their meagre earnings on rent.

The Zainabiya Child Sponsorship Scheme is helping towards education and to this effect a Boys hostel building has also been built at Bhuj through assistance of the World Federation. The school was expected to be launched in June this year.

The Kutch Federation moreover operates a Scheme of assisting our brothers who wish to establish businesses or become self-employed. However, like in Gujarat, the shortage of funds is a bottle-neck to the improvement of the general welfare of our brothers.

Report from Ramzanali G. Lamani, the Chairman of Kutch K.S.I. Jamaat.

An Appeal....to a Zakir

The present situation in the Muslim world is no better than the conditions that prevailed during the later decades of the life of al-Husayn ibn Ali (A.S.). All waymarks of the Islamic culture have been washed away in the deluge of modern paganism. The greater part of the Muslim world is under direct or indirect domination of non-Muslims. The sad signs described in a prediction of al-Imam Ali (A.S.) have already come true:

"A time will come when nothing will remain of the Qur'an except its script, and nothing of Islam except its name. The Mosques in those days will be flourishing with regard to architecture, but desolate with regard to guidance. Those staying in them and those visiting them will be the worst of all on the earth. From them mischief will spring up and towards them all wrong will turn. If anyone isolates himself from it (mischief) they will fling him back towards it, and if anyone hesitates, they will push him towards it....."

In such conditions how can any discourse about the great struggle of al-Husayn ibn Ali (A.S.) be unaccompanied with a discussion of the lamentable condition of the Muslim Ummah? Is it not the height of callousness and hypocrisy to pass by in silence the aims and ideals for which he stood against the regime of Yazid?

Is it not the very extreme of injustice to deprive Muslims of the great potential of the majalis which are held in memory of al-Imam al-Husayn (A.S.)? Is it right not to use the great devotion of the Muslim masses to the Ahl al-Bayt (A.S.) and their great enthusiasm during the months of Muharram and Safar, when their hearts are softened by the stupendous tragedy of Kerbala to receive the teachings of the martyrs who sacrificed their lives with al-Imam al-Husayn?

The Shi'ites have admired Ali and his sons (A.S.) and their leaders and guides for centuries and wept over accounts of their sufferings. Is it not time that we should start following them in deed, in all walks of our life? After all they are our Imams, our leaders and our teachers, who underwent sufferings and hardships in order to instruct us and guide us to the Path of Allah. Should we not question our sincerity if we persist in our refusal to be benefitted by their efforts to improve our lot, to purify our souls and to guide our intellects?

The majlis should inform and instruct. It should inspire and enlighten. Like al-Husayn ibn Ali (A.S.), his Zakir, who occupies the mimber of the Ahl al-bayt (A.S.), should aim at resurrecting the spirit of Islam

and the message of the Qur'an. The majlis should instruct the people on the Usul and the Ahkam of the Shari'ah and the Akhlaq of the Imams (A.S.). If the majalis of al-Imam al-Husayn (A.S.) do not help our youths and adults to understand Islam profoundly, who else can stop them from falling into the clutches of deviate philosophical schools and to the tide of the pagan culture? Would it not be more beneficial to discuss the great merits of the Ahl al-Bayt (A.S.) as ideal human beings and ideal teachers of mankind instead of discussing them as metaphysical entities to be revered but not be obeyed, to be glorified but not to be emulated, to be invoked for assistance in worldly needs and affairs and to be ignored in vital matters of our duties, obligations and responsibilities as Muslims?

Only when our majalis become classes for dissemination of the teachings of the Ahl al-Bayt (A.S.) which lie buried in hadith texts, only when our majalis become platforms of Muslim unity instead of being instruments of division and disunity, only when our majalis and mimbers become the seats of the duty of *al-amr bil ma'ruf wa al nahy an al-munkar*, only when the Qur'an is made again the book of our life and the light of our majalis, only then can it be said that our majalis and mimbers are doing justice to al-Imam al-Husayn (A.S.) and to the people whom the majalis were originally instituted to nourish spiritually, morally, and intellectually.

[Excerpt - - Al Tawhid Editorial (1984)]

"This Appeal is even more relevant now and applies to our Community also"

Editor



Thank you for
pledging a
page!

MASUMIN PRINTWAYS AND STATIONERS LTD.
P. O. Box 20073, DAR ES SALAAM
Tel : 37027 / 36344 / 37704
Wholesale and Retail Stationers.
'Our true nationality is mankind'

DAR ES SALAAM PRINTERS LIMITED
P.O. Box 845, DAR ES SALAAM
Tel : 21836 / 21989
The Symbol of better Printing.
'Youths are the trustees of posterity'

OLYMPIA AUTOPARTS LIMITED
P.O. Box 22777, DAR ES SALAAM
Tel : 35180 / 20515
Suppliers of ISUZU TX, TXD, CVR & NKR parts.
'Youth is like a fashion. Both fade quickly'

DALLAS ENTERPRISES
P.O. Box 71109, DAR ES SALAAM
Tel : 20497
Self Service Supermarket
'What counts most is not to live, but to live aright'

GOLD STAR PAINTS
P.O. Box 4509, DAR ES SALAAM
Tel: 46708 / 33859; Fax : 46709
Telex: 81085 GOLSTA
Make your life more colourful with our paints.
'Little liberty brings stagnation and too much brings chaos'

RENTOKIL TANZANIA LIMITED
P.O. Box 3076, DAR ES SALAAM
Tel : 26005 / 30821 / 27030 / 34296. Fax: 27030
Pest Control and Hygiene Services. Suppliers of fumigants, safety equipment, hand dryers and smoke detectors.
'A danger foreseen is half avoided'

M.A. HASSAM AND COMPANY
P.O. Box 20719, DAR ES SALAAM
Tel : 37352 / 3 / 39834 / 34071. Fax : 46175
Accountants and Auditors
'The narrower the cage, sweeter is the liberty'

IMPEX COMPANY LIMITED
P.O. Box 1654, DAR ES SALAAM
Tel : 22119. Fax : 31044
Insurance consultants
'The worst tempered people are those who knew they were wrong'

SUMAR VARMA & ASSOCIATES
P.O. Box 486, DAR ES SALAAM
Tel : 28776 / 28777. Telex : 41475 SUMAR
Chartered Architects and Planners
'The Time to stop talking is before people stop listening'

S.A. JAFFER & COMPANY
P.O. Box 3598, DARES SALAAM
Tel : 27950
Accountants and Auditors
'If at first you do succeed, try something harder'

G. BHIMANI LIMITED
P.O. Box 21182, DAR ES SALAAM
Tel : 33573 / 46375. Fax : 46540
Dealers in Electrical Goods and Sundries
'Courage is not the absence of fear but the mastery of it'

THIS SPACE CAN BE YOURS. CONTACT
ALHAJ AMIR LAKHA OR SEND US YOUR ADVERT
ON P.O. BOX 6710, DAR ES SALAAM.

ADVERTISERS PAGE

TANZANIA SIGNWRITERS & ENGRAVERS
P.O. Box 20300, DAR ES SALAAM
Tel : 22807 / 20468

Signwriters and Engravers
'The miracle is that the more we share, the more we have'

FIDAHUSSEIN & COMPANY LIMITED
P.O. Box 816, DAR ES SALAAM
Tel : 22976 / 28229 / 35201 / 63595
Telex : 41617 A/B FIDCO TZ

Commodity Importers and Exporters
'A happy family is but an earlier heaven'

DAR ES SALAAM GLASS WORKS LIMITED
P. O. Box 253, DAR ES SALAAM
Tel : 36499 / 38819 / 20203. Fax : 20211
Telex : 41883 GLASCO TZ

Glass and Aluminium Fittings Suppliers
'Whoever gossips to you will gossip of you'

ABBASI EXPORTS LIMITED

P. O. Box 70, Tel : 2430, 2159, MTWARA
P.O. Box 4510, Tel : 37639, DAR ES SALAAM
Exporters of sesame seeds, pigeon peas, soya beans, cassava roots and cashew nuts
'To have people think well of you, hold your tongue'

DAR ES SALAAM COTTAGE INDUSTRIES
P.O. Box 6686, DAR ES SALAAM
Tel : 34750. Fax : 64973

Manufacturers of Aluminium Utensils [Sufurias]
'When reason rules, money is a blessing'

DISTRIBUTION CENTRE LTD.

P.O. Box 21539, Tel : 28867, DAR ES SALAAM
Suppliers of Spares for Isuzu Trucks and Pick-ups
'They live ill who expect to live always'

AL SHAAF BARGAIN CENTER LIMITED
P.O. Box 1931, DAR ES SALAAM
Tel : 31492 / 3 / 4 Fax : 46340

Dealers in Fridges, Air-conditioners and Computers
'A happy family is but an early heaven'

TOFFY'S GIFT SHOP LIMITED
P.O. Box 6672, DAR ES SALAAM
Tel : 30620

Dar's largest collection of gifts and toys
'Useless laws weaken necessary ones'

AUTO RANGE LIMITED

P.O. Box 15062, DAR ES SALAAM
Tel : 27878 / 35901

Land Rover, Defender/Discovery & Range Rover specialists.

'This is servitude, to serve the unwise'

SEA EXPRESS SERVICES LTD.

P.O. Box 5829, DAR ES SALAAM
Tel : 27822 / 27669. Fax 051- 38507

Telex 41774 KITMEETZ
P.O. Box 4096, ZANZIBAR. Tel : 32619
Travel to Zanzibar in speed and comfort with us
'He that is shameless is graceless'

SANITARY APPLIANCES & HARDWARE LTD.

P.O. Box 1557, DAR ES SALAAM
Tel : 23191 / 20252. Fax: 46197
Suppliers of Aluminium windows and doors, locks and other sanitary fittings
'To be furious in religion is to be irreligiously religious'

M.J. MULLA & SONS LTD.

P.O. Box 26, Tel : 0695 - 2020, Fax 0695 - 3181, KIGOMA
Dealers in sundries, household, hardware & electrical goods.
'Growth begins when we start accepting our weaknesses'

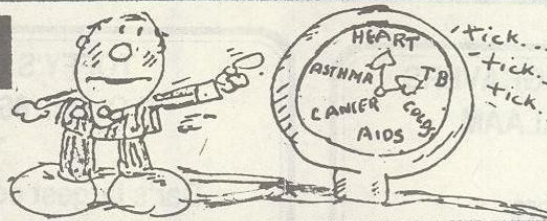
RUPAM STORE LTD.

P.O. Box 22160, Tel : 36064, DAR ES SALAAM
Dealers in garments, sundries, footwear and cosmetics
'Being proud of education is ignorance'

KAS MEDICS

P.O. Box 7856, DAR ES SALAAM.
Tel: 28978 / 32595 / 39439 / 39682. Fax : 46619; Telex: 41549
Wholesalers of Pharmaceuticals & Surgical items
'A great man has faith in God. A small man puts his trust in a great man'

HEALTH WATCH



A healthy Community is a prosperous one. Beginning from this issue the *Samachar* will regularly feature pages on Health.

WASTED BRAINS

Maintain a healthy diet, keep a low-stress outlook and get plenty of exercise to keep your blood pressure regular and thereby prevent an insidious drain on your brain.

Researchers looked at the brains of 18 men (ages 51 to 80) with high blood pressure and 17 normal men of similar age using MRI (Magnetic Resonance Imaging) - a technique that shows detailed pictures of brain matter without exposing the person to radiation.

It was observed that men with hypertension lasting over 10 years had a significant decline of brain tissue on the left side and major increases in fluid on both sides of their brains. The healthy men had none of these abnormalities.

The damage from Hypertension, in time, may lead to problems with memory and language. A possible reason for the brain shrinkage is that high blood pressure hinders small blood vessels which provide blood and nutrients to the brain. As hypertension continues, these areas are less able to function and one begins losing brain matter.

SECOND-HAND SMOKING

It is reported that there are about 30,000 lung-cancer deaths per year in the U.S. through inhalation of smoke from other people's cigarettes. 'Second-hand' smoking increases the risks of pneumonia and bronchitis in children, the report says.

SMOKERS BEWARE!

During a trial, an ultrasound probe was inserted into the arteries of 31 smokers and 28 non-smokers. During stress, non-smokers' arteries opened up and rushed four times as much blood to the heart. Smokers' arteries could not and their hearts were starved of blood.

This applies to smokers at all times but particularly when they are actually smoking, say scientists. The important thing for smokers to note is that this damage does not show in ordinary heart tests.

BLOCKING CANCER

The cause of cancer is still largely unknown but scientists have now come to recognise the path that the disease takes. And one way of treating cancer is to block this path before it goes too far.

The change in some key genes is recognised as one primary step leading to cancer. Such genes produce a protein which makes cells grow in an abnormal and uncontrolled way. This abnormal growth is cancer.

If this protein is blocked and nullified, malignancy could be prevented, say scientists. Attempts are now being made to create an antibody that will nullify the 'bad' protein.

For testing, laboratory mice expected to get cancer at the age of 35 weeks, were chosen. When treated by the antibody, some of the mice didn't develop cancer at all while others got it much later than expected. Trials on human beings are expected to begin soon.

'FEELING' LEGS

Artificial legs can now be surgically fixed in a way that the bone integrates with the false limb. This enables the wearer to get a 'feel' of the ground, something which was not possible with strapped-on limbs.

This prostheses is based on the fact that the metal titanium is acceptable to the human body and bones are therefore able to knit to this metal.

The first person to benefit from this process is a young woman who lost both her legs in a tram accident. The stumps were too short to take on other kinds of artificial legs. Thanks to this new process, she now can stand on her 'own' two legs and is also learning to walk.

VITAMIN E FOR CANCER?

People who regularly take Vitamin E supplements (at least 100 IU) appear to have half the risk of oral and pharyngeal Cancer as people who get little or no extra Vitamin E.

GENETICAL CHOLESTROL

Blood studies at the Human Nutrition Research Centre on Aging at Tufts University, Boston reveal that levels of LDL cholesterol [the artery-blocking kind] are very similar in identical twins, suggesting that genetics plays a big role in cholesterol problems. The researchers' advice: If anyone in your family has a high cholesterol level, start modifying your own diet now.

BAD BREATH SOLUTION

Dental researchers in the UK who tested 10 volunteers found that brushing with hydrogen peroxide toothpaste reduced odour-causing chemicals in their saliva five times more than did a regular toothpaste.

Walking leaves your health problems in the dust

For the out-of-shape and overweight, walking is an excellent health measure. For others walking offers even more, it is a path to recovery and a prescription for healing. And no one can appreciate it more than those who have literally walked away from major illnesses. And if they could do it, so can we all.

At the recent Supreme Council Session in Dar es Salaam, an elderly Councillor [around 70 years of age] who was active all through the four day Meeting indicated that his principal fitness strategy is walking. He suggested that our elder community members be enlightened on the advantages derived from walking which in turn would help increase the life span of our members.

DIABETIS

Walking is not only necessary to maintain fitness but also helps eliminate diseases that we may be vulnerable to. A man who once collapsed in his office through a diabetic coma because his blood sugar had rocketed to 700 (80 to 120 is normal), confessed that he had been inactive at 290 pounds. His doctor had warned him that

he would not be around for long if he did not amend his laziness and later he collapsed in his office but survived.

Knowing that he had to take remedial measures urgently, he took part in a one-mile fun walk though he had never before done anything like that. He finished the walk huffing and puffing but a few walks later he was hooked. Within three months he entered his first official racewalk, a two-miler and by that time he had lost 50 pounds and his blood sugar had dropped to 250. His doctor soon took him off all medication and his weight dropped to 190 pounds and his blood sugar to between 75 and 90.

There is a big improvement in all diabetic patients who walk and it is particularly good for them to walk after dinner, when blood sugar peaks. Exercising when blood sugar is low can cause dizziness in diabetics but exercising after dinner won't have that effect and can actually help normalise blood sugar.

ASTHMA

In another case a 63 year-old person afflicted with a double dose of asthma and emphysema had to adjust his life to accommodate the breathlessness that resulted from his bad lungs. He would take a bus so he wouldn't have to climb the subway stairs and he would hail a taxi rather than walk a few blocks. He knew his four packs a day cigarette habit was a big part of the problem but he could not quit. He kept smok-

-ing even after severe asthma attacks landed him in the hospital four times! His doctor then warned him that his next attack could be his last.

On a friend's suggestion, he started walking, just a block or two at first but slowly was able to walk farther and farther and he began to realise that smoking interfered with the 'exercise high' that he got when he walked - - so he stopped smoking!

Soon after that he enrolled in an exercise training programme for asthmatics and began walking 15-minute miles on an Exercise machine [Treadmill] and did other exercises while his breathing was monitored. His asthma attacks lessened and for the first time in years he felt he could breathe freely. Today at 73, he logs about four miles a day.

It is not unusual for out-of-shape asthmatics to have attacks during physical exertion because when they start to breath heavily their bronchial tubes go into spasms and they really have to fight for their breath. But by conditioning the lungs - through gradually increasing activity - bronchial tubes become less reactive. This allows people with asthma to be physically active.

Anyone with asthma should however consult a physician before beginning a walking programme so that basic precautionary instructions like keeping an inhaler at hand and the like can be advised.

HEALTH

HEART ATTACKS

A person was having chest pains for the previous few weeks and when once his arms and neck also started to ache he headed for the hospital where his fears were confirmed - - he was having a heart attack. He had two blocked arteries which were opened with balloon angioplasty and then heeding to his doctor's advice, he started to exercise [something he had been postponing for years].

Within days of his heart attack, he was given an exercise stress test and soon he began walking, first about a mile a day and eventually up to five miles a day, at least thrice a week. He has now lost 30 pounds; his cholesterol and triglyceride number are in the safe range; his resting pulse rate has dropped 30 points. "It's nice to have a second chance," he says. "I haven't felt this good in years."

Walking is integral to cardiac rehabilitation and because many heart patients are out of shape, they are eased into exercise slowly through an incremental walking programme which lasts for between four to six months after the attack. Many patients enjoy walking so much that they continue indefinitely. Whilst heart patients can benefit from walking they first need to have their doctor's go-ahead.

The stress test is a prerequisite to any cardiac rehabilitation programme. It shows the doctor if any heart blockages remain and how long a patient can walk without stressing his

heart. Regular walking offers unbeatable benefits for most hearts: It often lowers triglycerides and bad (LDL) cholesterol, raises good (HDL) cholesterol, improves cardiac conditioning, can help reduce blood pressure and encourages weight loss. (Excess weight puts a strain on the heart).

OSTEOPOROSIS

Previously patients afflicted with Osteoporosis wore an old-fashioned brace to support their weakened spine not knowing that the immobilising corsets made their spines weaker.

Today, instead of cutting down on action, Osteoporosis patients step theirs up. Exercising is an important part of a rehabilitation programme that includes hormone or fluoride treatment and calcium supplementation.

The important thing is to maintain people's bone strength. Weight-bearing exercises like walking help to keep bones dense, just as weight-lifting helps strengthen muscles. Walking improves muscle tone and balance which help to avoid falls. Recovered patients are known to walk even 4 miles a day and can maintain their bone mass for 20 years or more.

Too much, too soon, can cause stress fractures, especially in the delicate bones of the feet and shins. Foot, leg, hip or back pain is a sign to stop walking and see a doctor because older bones may already be weak and need to build up slowly. Recovering patients normally start with a few minutes of walking and then add up.

STRESS

When under stress do not resort to medications which can later be addictive. Try walking and the chances are that you can feel the tension draining away from you.

Stress triggers your body to produce adrenaline which readies you for action. If you do not take action, though, adrenaline can accumulate and cause muscle tension and feelings of anxiety.

Walking is a positive way to move you into action. It uses up adrenaline and causes the release of calming brain chemicals called endorphins which reduce tension and anxiety.

BACK PAIN

A patient lay in bed for three weeks with back pain before he agreed to have surgery. He was on his feet the same day as the operation and the next day he hobbled the hospital hallways; the day after that, he walked a few minutes on a treadmill [Exerciser] and since then he has walked every day, frequently for an hour in the morning and a half-hour at night. His back pain has now greatly alleviated.

Pain-reduction exercise programmes are used by backpain sufferers because to have strong, aerobically trained back muscles is very important for the prevention and treatment of back pain.

The flexibility of these muscles can be increased with stretching exercises but increasing endurance is harder. One good way to do this is to walk, swinging your arms.

But no one with a bad back should start walking without consulting a doctor. Rest, not exercise is best for acute back pain because walking can worsen problems like degenerative disk disease.

So, do we start walking now?

Religious Edicts of Ayatullah Ozma Sayyed Reda Musavi Golpaegani

Travel with intent to commit a Sin

A person returning from a journey of sinful nature should say a shortened prayer, if the return journey constitutes a legal distance, provided that he abandoned his intention of committing the sinful act or considered this return journey as an independent one (i.e. it has nothing to do with the outward journey). However, if the return journey does not constitute a legal distance and that the combined distance of his outward and return journeys constituted the legal one, he should say his prayer in the two forms (shortened and complete); this is based on obligatory precaution.

Travel for recreation

If a person goes out hunting for pleasure, he should perform complete prayer. However, if the same journey is made for earning a living, he should perform a shortened prayer.

Congregational prayer

If the entire front row or one of those who is in it decides (for a reason or another) to pray individually, the prayer of all those who are in the row immediately behind them will revert to an individual prayer, even though the persons in the front row divided to rejoin the congregation without separation.

Man and Woman in prayer

It is abominable for a woman to be ahead of a man or parallel to him in prayer. It is preferable that she should lag behind so much so that the place of her prostration be behind the place of his standing.

Qibla

If one does not have any means to locate the direction of the qibla or in spite of his efforts is not certain as to which direction he should pray, he should then pray in four directions if he has ample time at his disposal. Otherwise, he should pray whatever number of prayers (short of four) within the time available to him.

Doubts In Connection with Prayers

There is no difference between the mandatory and recommended part of the prayer. Thus if a person doubts on whether or not he has done the recitation of a 'sura' prior to the 'qunut', he should continue with his prayer without cutting the 'qunut' short and going back to do the recitation.

Inheritance Tax

An Inheritor has to pay khums on money left by a deceased if the deceased had not paid his dues. In case of doubt whether khums was paid, the inheritor still has to pay.

Reciting Loudly or in a Whisper

If a person forgets to recite a sura loudly or in a whisper as the situation demands, then remembers but does not rectify the error, whether remembering took place during the recitation or after it, he should carry on with his prayer without paying attention. Ignorance of the ruling regarding recitation is treated in the same way as forgetfulness.

Recitation of Suratul Fatiha or chanting the praise of Allah - 'Tasbeeh'

It is recommended to recite openly during Friday and Mid-day prayer the 'Sujud As-Sahu' Prostration in lieu of forgotten acts in prayer.

It is obligatory to perform prostration for forgetfulness (Sujud As-Sahu) for:

- 1 - Talking inadvertently during prayer or even for thinking of talking.
- 2 - Reciting salam where it should not be recited.
- 3 - Forgetting one's prostration.
- 4 - Forgetting Tashahud while not in a position to rectify the mistake.
- 5 - Doubts between a third and fourth bowing.

The Earth as Purifier

The earth is a purifier. It renders pure the sole of the foot and that which is worn such as shoes provided the original impurity [najaasah] has been removed from the outset. Earth includes stone, soil, sand, rock, gypsum and lime provided they are dry and pure. Tarmac is not defined as earth.

DOWN MEMORY LANE



The Sabile-Husein Stand in Dar es salaam at the garden space opposite the current Chick King [previously Naaz Hotel]. This was in the year 1938. Photo Courtesy : Murtaza Jivraj.

DOWN MEMORY LANE



If you have historic photographs for Down Memory Lane, please submit these to :

Alhaj Murtaza Jivraj,
Federation Samachar,
P O Box 6710,
Dar es Salaam.

All photographs can be returned within a week after receipt.

Editor.

Union Sports Club with the 'MORAF Tennis Cup' which they won against visiting Jaffery Gymkhana from Arusha during a Saba Saba encounter in the 1960's. Photograph from left to right:

Sitting: Baker Tejani, Sadik Somji, Ebrahim Kermali.

Standing : Hassan Taki, Ebrahim Hirji, Raza Virji.



Picture of the Ithna-Asheri Scouts - Zanzibar taken in the 1940s. Standing from left, Babu Jessa, Fida Rashid, Shuli Jaffer, Gulamhusein Alarakhia, Anver Rahim, Jaffer (Bajja) and Fida Kassam. Sitting on chairs from left, Abdulhusein Bhalloo, Hamza Chatoo, Scout Master Mohamedhusein H. Ahmed, Mohamed Darwesh and Jaffer Rajabali Jaffer.

Sitting on the floor from left, Anver Hasham Alidina and Ibrahim Rahim.

HELL IN BOSNIA

We produce excerpts of a letter sent by a Bosnian journalist fighting in Sarajevo to his wife and sons after twelve months of separation.

My dear wife and two sons,

How I long to see you and know of what you are doing and how you are. I am left without a family and house and the only thing I now have left is my life, and that might change too. Every day people get killed, for no reason. Why? Those of us who are still alive can only thank Allah for that because there is no logic in who stays alive and who gets killed.

Life in Bosnia is like hell with so many lives lost, so many women raped and so many houses, villages and towns burnt. Those who are not here will never understand what sort of hell we are going through..... Sarajevo is without electricity, without water, without heating and most of the time without telephone links. Only grenades are in abundance and these fall on us like rain and are randomly fired. Every body is emaciated and we all look like ghosts having lost 20-30 kilogrammes of our normal

weight. I have not lost so much because I eat bread when I am nervous or angry.

Sarajevo looks like a ghost town with many of our oldest, biggest and most beautiful buildings being either burnt or destroyed. There is no transport, the tracks have been cut and many cables too. Fresh water supplies have been ruined and nothing is as it used to be.

People fall like pears off the trees, some in battle, some in their everyday struggle to survive. The cemeteries are full up, everywhere. We only eat what humanitarian organisations give us - - mainly rice and pasta. We long for everything but have forgotten what meat, milk, eggs and cheese taste like.

How are my dear sons, are they studying hard? If I get killed, they must know that I have not dishonoured their names, I have fought for my Bosnia and Hercegovina. It has been a year since I first went into the trenches and I am there every day with our brave soldiers in mud and clay. I have become the deputy Commander of the best brigade here which consists of over 5000 fighters and I barely ever manage to

go home. Grenades are falling, snipers are firing from guns and tanks--you name it and they are all against us. The young are getting killed all the time and we are thus losing our young generation.

There is hardly anything to come back to but I will fight on and on... as long as it takes. Then I shall think what to do. Please work hard and be happy that you are there and not here.

Your beloved husband and father.

Meanwhile Serbian forces are reported to be holding over 100,000 civilians in concentration camps where executions are common. The Serbs have created over 100 such camps in Bosnia, Serbia and Montenegro.

More than half of Bosnia's 2.5 million Muslims have been driven from their homes and many have left the Republic in the wake of massive executions, mutilations, rape and torture.

In the Muslim town of Foca a dozen Mosques were burnt by the Serbs and to date the destruction continues. And the Western countries in their traditional bias against Muslim have contrived a U.N. arms embargo even against Bosnian Muslims who are defenceless and victims of aggression.

Islam and the West

Confrontation or Co-operation

The West is edging towards an unnecessary confrontation with the Muslim world and though the so called fundamentalists are the declared target at the moment, eventually all political Muslims could be branded as a danger to the Western way of life. Political Islam is gradually dominating the Muslim map but how realistic is the mutual threat? Does the West really fear an Islamic revival? Do Muslims believe that the Christian capitalist world is out to suppress and exploit them? Or, is there a misunderstanding and a misconception?

Ever since the collapse of the Communist empire, the West has felt threatened by a political 'dogmatic' Islam which with its demographical, economic and historical strength makes it far superior to communism.

Islamic 'fundamentalism' is prevented from gaining a foothold anywhere in the Muslim world whilst others call for co-operation because they sincerely believe that Islam cannot be defeated or be wiped out but can be contained through mutual co-operation. These advocates accept that moral and other social values projected by 'moderate' Muslims are compatible with Christianity. Indeed Islam does provide political tolerance and economic prosperity akin to that fostered by democratic and free market societies but not as avenues for exploitation of man by man.

There are many outstanding issues between the West and the Muslim world including the Western double standards in dealing with Middle Eastern political and diplomatic crisis. The West supported Saddam Hussain in his war against Iran and did not protest loudly when he used chemical weapons. However, when oil installations in the Gulf were threatened, the U.S. and its allies deployed over 500,000 soldiers to fight Saddam. And when the Iraqi people revolted to topple the dictator, the Allies stood by while the Iraqi republican guards massacred civilians.

The West maintained pressure on Saddam to disarm Iraq under the pretext of UN resolutions but when UN resolution 799 was passed, calling on Israel to reverse its decision to expel over 400 Palestinians, no one seemed very keen to implement it. Nor is the UN willing to impose sanctions on Israel. The Western stance towards Serbian aggression against the Muslims in the former Yugoslavia is also ambiguous.

The West is giving support to many autocrats in the Middle East, as long as they suppress Islamic aspirations. Thus, while calling for democracy everywhere else, the West kept silent when the Algerian generals staged a coup in January 1992 and prevented the Islamic Salvation Front from winning through the ballot box. A con-

sortium of Western banks then assembled in Paris to bail out the socialist generals and put them in power but the West raised dust when the Election results in favour of the South in Nigeria were annulled.

Many Muslim thinkers blame the West for lack of democracy and the continuous Israeli occupation of Palestinian land. The irony is that if there is a struggle in the near future, it would be within the Muslim nations rather than between East and West because many disputes between Muslim countries are not settled yet.

Amidst all this, Israel stands to benefit most. When the threat of a Soviet expansion in the oil rich Middle East was no longer there, Israel lost an important card in its relations with the West. It no longer is required as a strategic forward base to contain the threat. Regional threats to Western economic interests such as the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait are best contained without Israeli involvement and Israel has also lost the so called moral high ground it used to claim, following its treatment of Palestinians in the occupied territories and Lebanese camps. A new crusade against Islamic countries may help Israel regain lost ground with the West.

The West can seek peaceful co-existence with Muslims but this not only requires dialogue but firm steps and different orientations towards the Middle East, Asia, Africa and the Balkans. Surely the last thing the West would want is to be on a collision path with the current world population of about one billion Muslims.

SOCIAL MINGLING AMONGST THE SEXES

The involvement of women in the fields of work, education and even politics does have negative effects on their social, educational and family life, if not handled right.

Foreign western practices, with all its underlying values and concepts have their good points outweighed by bad ones and problems arise when in the heat of transformation to a new, so called liberalism culture, a line is not drawn to separate the few good points from the bad ones.

The case of whether women should mingle freely with the opposite sex is one such point. Under the pretense of progress, advocates calling for social intercourse put up an argument based on the proposition that mixing eases sexual instinct and that when both sexes mix with one another in public places, sex becomes a familiar thing thereby deluding passions which would have stimulated if one was isolated. They refuse to accept the reality that a young man left in the companionship of a beautiful girl in say, a university, is bound to be drawn towards her and hence the step towards an illegitimate relationship. To say that no man can behave in such a manner unless he lives in an environment that separates between men and women is indeed a folly.

An objective look at prevalent realities in western countries

that encourage social mingling and equality amongst the sexes is enough to depict the negative results arising therefrom.

Statistics show that one sixth of British women who got married were pregnant before marriage. They also show that one out of twenty children born in Britain is illegitimate. In America there are about 400 thousand illegitimate children born each year. And before the First World War, whoredom in France reached an unprecedented level to the extent that half a million women were professional whores.

About a quarter of newborn children in France are illegitimate. And there are about 250 thousand cases of divorce that occur each year and more than two million French women are unmarried mothers.

Also in France police records register 22 thousand rape incidents each year and these are only the reported ones. All this is plainly the result of the aggravation of social mingling.

The yielding of both sexes to their sexual desire is openly demonstrated in Universities and many work places whilst mixed education has negative repercussions on the psychological, emotional and moral levels of both children and teenagers. Putting adolescents together in school leads to the stimulation of sexual emotions

that often hurt love and marriage in adult life.

In America, mixed education has led to negative results in almost all schools and universities with girls and boys often practicing sexual relations. For this reason some educational experts are advocating to separate the boys from the girls in pre-university education.

As for mixing in work and public life, it can be said that if such social intercourse is practiced with no restrictions whatsoever, it will increase sexual harassment and the potential of catching some serious sexual illnesses. It could also transform sexual desire into an emotional longing and a need that cannot be satisfied.

Muslim jurists have not banned women's presence in public places. Women are allowed to engage in business deals and take part in certain public activities such as going to the Mosque and the like.

It is also lawful for women to learn and work provided the women's presence in public is in decent veil and does not attract the attention of men.

The Holy Quran says : **"Say to the believing men and women to turn away their eyes (from what is unlawful) and to restrain their sexual desires. This will make their lives purer. Allah has knowledge of all their actions. Say to the believing women to turn their eyes away (from temptation) and to preserve their chastity; to cover their adornments except such as are normally displayed; to draw their veils over**

their bosoms and not reveal their finery except to their husbands, their fathers, their husbands' fathers, their sons, their stepsons, their brothers, their brother's sons and their sister's sons." (Al-Noor 30-31).

Islam has attached great importance to good manners and to the adherence to chastity and virtue. It emphasises on the necessity of a legal relationship between men and women but does not ban participation of women in social activities provided that such participation remains within

moral limitations.

Women do participate, as a duty, in certain activities such as the Pilgrimage and Jihad, in the case of an invasion. It is reported that the Prophet (P.B.U.H.) used to take women to war to tend the wounded. Women can also participate in congregational prayers and are not prevented from participating in funerals though the Prophet (P.B.U.H.) has urged them not to.

At a Mosque, the Prophet

(P.B.U.H.) has said that one gate be assigned for women and another for men and that women leave the Mosque after evening prayers before the men to avoid their mingling. This is relevant to an Islamic society.

Islam thus does not encourage social intercourse between sexes because of the imminent risks involved but is not against women's participation in social life as long as this does not contradict with Shariah on the need of preserving chastity and dressing modestly.

SOME USEFUL TIPS...

- ☞ You can clean window panes and mirrors with boiled tea leaves. Wipe off first with an old newspaper and then with a soft cloth and see the glass shine!
- ☞ Keep your matchbox in a container of tea leaves to prevent the matches from turning soft in humid weather.
- ☞ A currency note or a torn book page can be patched by applying the white of an egg. Let the book or currency note dry before using.
- ☞ After finishing tablets or capsules do not throw away the foil in which they were packed. Aluminium vessels sparkle when they are scrubbed with these foils.
- ☞ To protect salt from moisture, keep a piece of blotting paper at the base of the salt container and another piece on top of the salt. This helps in removing the moisture from the salt.
- ☞ A tablespoon of salt added to water before boiling eggs will prevent the egg from cracking.
- ☞ If your rice or vegetable gets burnt at the bottom, hold a slice of bread over it (when steaming hot). This will take away the burnt smell. While storing rice or grains add a few neem leaves to avoid insects.
- ☞ Used tea leaves are a good fertiliser for rose plants. Crushed egg shells which contain a lot of calcium are also very nourishing for plants.
- ☞ Children often stick chewing gum to their garments. Rub some ice cubes on the affected area and see how easily it comes off.
- ☞ To remove a stubborn cork from a bottle, wrap a hot cloth around the neck of the bottle and squeeze a few drops of chilled water on the cork. The difference in temperature will loosen the cork.

WARNING!!

Many a Muslim will have saved himself/herself from the chastisement of hell by the Mercy of Allah [S.W.T.]. It is however doubtful that those ignoring or preventing full *Shar'ee* Hijab despite its emphasis in Islam will readily benefit from the Mercy.

Let us be dutiful to Allah [S.W.T.] while we have time yet for forgiveness and to turn aright. Remorse or repentance later when the soul witnesses the truth is too late for any avail. Remember always that you have read this as a timely warning and yet if you choose to ignore it you will be a victim of this grievous sin.

Please also remember that pretension or an ostentation of Hijab can be equally sinful for it confuses and thus sabotages the Islamic tenet of Hijab.

ANONYMOUS

RIGHT OVER MIGHT - - A Tribute to the Martyrs of Kerbala

Humanity is indebted to those who have devoted their lives for the cause of Truth; who sacrificed themselves and their belongings, so that others could enjoy Justice; whose aim in life was to save lives from the disgrace of immorality; who preferred death of honour compared to a life without honour; who faced willingly and in high spirits all the difficulties and obstacles they came across for the Cause that they were serving; to whom life was not an end in itself but a means towards an end - - the life hereafter.

Generation after generation when the knowledge of history unwinds itself, coupled with the experience that Man gains in everyday life which witness gross exploitation and oppression of might against right clearly show that Man should not be enslaved by Man and should not pay allegiance to anything made by himself. His obedience and total surrender should be to his Creator.

It is to save Man from the slavery of his misdeeds, passions, whims, fanaticism, unbelief, superstition, self-fear, self-oppression and self-exploitation that Prophet Muhammad [S.A.W.] was sent to invite humanity towards the true path and under the Realm of Allah [S.W.T.], the

absolute One and the Creator of the Universe.

It is to save the achievements of Muhammad [S.A.W.] from Satanic mischief that Imam Husein [A.S.] set out to prove once again as his blessed predecessors that, *might* has to surrender to *right*. Al-Husain [A.S.] patched the wounds inflicted on the dignity of Islam with his and his follower's blood and raised his voice against the injustices of the time which to date is still threatening the Yazids of our time.

Imam Husain [A.S.] set out to restore the basic right of human-beings [to be born free and to live free within the commandments of Allah [S.W.T.] which is still being ideologically opposed by those who are determined to enslave the servants of Allah and their nation under the servants of Satan in return for a reward - - the reward being coveteousness and security of power and might. Imam Husain [A.S.] saved human morals from the wrecks of degradation.

History is echoing the call of Imam Husain [A.S.] by his deeds that the Sufyanian, Muawiyian and Yazidian treachery cannot be carried out unopposed on the Muslim lands and against the Muslim people. Tyranny cannot be allowed at any cost

against Islamic beliefs because this is tantamount to treason against Allah [S.W.T.].

Allah has purchased of the believers their persons and their goods, for theirs (in return) is the Paradise. They fight in His Cause, slay and are slain. A promise binding on Him in Truth, through the Toorah, Injeel and the Qur'an. And who is more Faithful to his covenant than Allah? Then, rejoice in the bargain which you have concluded; that is the supreme achievement.



A mother was preparing her 6 year daughter for an entrance test for admission into a reputable school. On the day of the test, she told her in all seriousness, "You have to do well in the test or else you will not get a seat in the school."

Her daughter blinked her eyes and said, "Oh! Do I have to keep standing in the class all the time then?"

====

A man invited some very important people for dinner and his 5 year son was repeatedly told that some VIPs were coming, so he should behave himself.

All went fine until the visitors were leaving when the young boy stunned all by screaming from inside, "Mummy have the PIGs gone?" He had confused between VIPs and PIGs.

Why Die before death?

By Munir Daya, Dar es Salaam.

There is a noticeable trend within our Community that when people pass the age of 55 years [in some cases, even 50], they begin to adopt a lethargic attitude towards life which then often becomes very frustrating for family members.

The children may ask their daddy for an outing at the beach or if he is [or was] a sportsman, a game of say squash or tennis but daddy will have a stereotyped answer of : " Sorry, I am tired or busy today. We will go next week" or even "I am too old for that now." Very often the 'next week' never comes and in this way the parents get old faster and the children grow into independant boys having been deprived of, to some extent, the grass-root guidance and company of their parents for recreation.

Psychologists have proved that the more active a person is, the better are his chances of living longer. Very often we are not old but make ourselves feel old. For some, simply an old age makes them bigoted and passive but is not life at any age worth living fully?

To keep the heart unwrinkled one however needs to be hopeful, cheerful, active, reverent and in regular supplication towards Allah [S.W.T.] -- and this a triumph over old age.

Old age should mean 10 years more than your current age and remember that no one is so old not to expect to live at least one more year. There is so much that one can do in an year and rather than stay to yourself, why not take a nimble approach and at least use your wealth of experience constructively.

Some of us may think it is rather too late now to start something new. On the contrary, experience itself is the most important ingredient of success and the older we get, the more experienced we are in handling different aspects of our life.

One man who retired at the age of 55 years used his life savings to open a small shop. His primary aim in life was to earn his daily bread and to stay occupied. However his inner self was ambitious and his enthusiasm saw him expanding his business from one shop to another. At 81 years he held a chain of supermarket stores and joined the 'millionaired' batch.

His strategy was simple. When trying to achieve his objective, he said to himself that he would go all out to succeed but would not despair or shed tears if his ambitions were dented due to ill-health or for any other reason. With this open attitude, he kept on achieving whilst always being prepared to lose out!

He was not over ambitious when he started in spite of starting late because he new things had to be done gradually. Gradually, as minor goals are achieved, one gains self-confidence and personal satisfaction which motivate him to achieve even better results. By aiming too high one is often discouraged and disappointed through repeated failures and this is when 'withdrawal' and 'discontinuation' symptoms creep in.

The point here is not the money but the advantage of engaging oneself in constructive activity. The form of activity need not be limited to the office. It can be in the form of rendering honorary Community services or forming an elderly peoples' recreation association involving the elderly in discussions and physical exercises like walking and swimming.

At home, reading, gardening and watching healthy documentaries or Majalis over the TV helps one develop a more gregarious attitude towards life. Those with outstanding prayers or debts should repay them and at the end of each day, one's conscience should be at ease that one has spent the day constructively, as per the dictums of Allah (S.W.T.). The fear of death subsides when one's lifestyle is adapted to that required by God. Death is destined to come whether you fear it or not -- and do we not see the young, the weak, the strong, the poor or the rich leaving us at one time or another. Imam Ali (A.S.) has said that "the fear of God makes one secure." and the irony is that people can have a valid fear of death if they continue in their sinful indulgences.

Allah (S.W.T.) is all-forgiving for those who sincerely repent for their sins. Why don't we seek God's forgiveness and then keeping God in mind, start being more energetic in our disposition. It's never too late to start. Rather than being idle and grieving for what one has not achieved, it is better to vie and at least try to achieve the blessing of this world and bliss of the next world!

My mom and her purse

- My MOM has everything in her purse;**
- If I want some candy, it's in MOM's purse;**
- If I need a tissue, or just a chew, it's in MOM's purse;**
- If I want a pencil or even a plastic stencil, it's in MOM's purse;**
- The best thing of all, my MOM's always willing to give but comes not from her purse;**
- But from the bottom of her heart and that is LOVE.**

Shazia Damji, 12
Richmond Hill, Toronto.

—IS 'AZADARI' A CONSOLATION?—

Azadari has an important purpose but the purpose of Hazrat Imam Husain A.S. for his and his companions' martyrdom was not Azadari.

Azadari is a natural (fitri) way of expressing grief and deriving a solace from it on the tragedy of Kerbala. It is however in this process that the martyrdom becomes commemorated and the Martyrs' message is kept alive to inspire the Azaadars to translate the message into daily practice.

The martyrdom teaches us not to submit to injustice, oppression or tyranny against mankind and Islam. What then can be the credentials of us, Azaadars, to be able to follow the teaching if we ourselves inflict injustice against our souls by committing the sin of forsak-

-ing 'wajibaat' - - if we ourselves perpetrate injustice against Hazrat Hujjat (A.F.) by failing to heed to the obligation of Khums and if we are unfair in our day to day dealings and conduct to others in society. Yet we claim to be true Azaadars.

We can however expect the message to be put into practice by those Azaadars who know the purpose of Azadari and who spend their hard earned money in sponsoring Azadari.

Unfortunately, Azadari is considered not complete without having for Muharram/Safar 'professional' Zakirs who are flamboyant and 'professional' reciters of Nauha from abroad. More importance is given to the style than the material - all at the expense of relegating

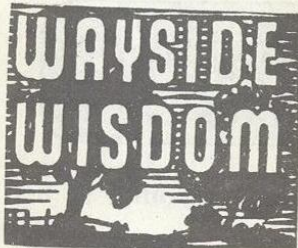
the message of Kerbala to the background if not losing it.

There is a claim that the message of Kerbala has been monopolised by the Shias and confined to themselves, an act considered as a dimension of injustice to the Martyrs.

Is it possible that because the purpose of Azadari has not been understood by all, the message of Kerbala became marginalised and Azadari gained the central focus?

There can also be a claim that this situation has arisen because Azadari serves as a sub-conscious consolation or compensation for failure to translate the message of Kerbala into a daily practice.

The obvious question that arises is that how can one monopolise or confine the message if one does not have a hold on it.



THANK
YOU
GOD!

Once a man was sitting under a walnut tree, lost in contemplation. His eyes fell upon a large pumpkin growing upon the ground and he thought to himself: I do not understand it. God made big pumpkins and placed them on little vines. The pumpkins are so heavy that the vines can only spiral upon the ground. And on the tall walnut tree, the Almighty has placed tiny nuts. He mused: If I were God, I would have done things somewhat differently. I

would have put the little things on the ground and the big things on the large and strong trees. I wonder why God did not?

Just then a walnut fell off the tree and landed on his head. The man looked at the nut and thought, what if that had been a big pumpkin? And he added simply, "Thank you God for Your great wisdom."

Like this man, we often question the Almighty. There are times when we do not understand why God does not arrange things the way we think and which are so obvious to us.

The truth is that God's wonders are there to be appreciated and not to perform because we just cannot attain such perfection.

A perfect human idea is often altered over time to change it for the better but God's way is always permanent and He has a perfect plan for you and for your life.

You may not understand it and you may even question His wisdom out of ignorance but the next time you are hit on the head by a walnut, take a moment to thank Allah (S.W.T.) that it was not a pumpkin.



Mulji Speaks out

The Shia International Magazine featured in its recent Summer 1993 Issue, an interview with the Africa Federation Chairman, Alhaj Habib Mulji conducted in June, 1993 in Dar es Salaam. We present the full interview for our esteemed readers with due courtesy of Shia International.

Q. For how long have you been the Chairman of the Africa Federation?

A. Since 1989. This is my second term of three years and I still have two years to complete the term.

Q. What was your position in the Federation before that and for how long?

A. I served as the Vice-Chairman for two terms, that is from 1983 to 1989.

Q. When was the Federation established and how large is it? Can you categorise its activities?

A. It was established in 1946 and has 41 Jamaats spread over 9 African countries. The Jamaats comprise a total of 18,000 persons. The fields of activities include religious, social, educational, medical and welfare.

Q. What are the achievements of the Federation during your term?

A. The achievements in the form of improvements or new fields include Tabligh outside the Khoja Community under the new programme of self-managed Shia Centres, establishment of the Central Health Board, Comprehensive Census [using professional computerised methods] for data and statistics compilation, functioning Think Tank and the Settlement Welfare Board and adoption of the fourth new Constitution after 13 years.

Q. Was there any crisis the Federation had to face during your term and how was it solved?

A. Our Community in Somalia lay trapped during the civil war of 1991 after seeking refuge in the Mosque. They were eventually saved by rescue operations with the grace of Allah [S.W.T.] and brought to Kenya and Tanzania.

Q. Do you feel that your leadership is successful?

A. The Community is the best judge. However, I do feel that I have not failed them, for never did

I have to complain over their support, loyalty and confidence which I continue to enjoy. For this success, all praise is due to Allah [S.W.T.].

Q. Have you suffered any crisis of confidence?

A. I have not, and am not surprised, because I have always taken pain to frame such decisions and take such actions with due consultation of my colleagues as are in the best interest of the Community, regardless of any consideration for my own personal image or status. And what is even more important, I do not allow my judgement to be impaired by emotion or suspicion, whatever the pressure.

Q. What are the main sources of income for the Federation?

A. Rental income, donations, subscription and religious dues.

Q. The Jamaats in Africa are dominated by males. What is your policy on female participation in the affairs of the Community?

[continued overleaf]

INTERVIEW

... from page 33

A. There is a strong feeling that women in the Community should be made to play a certain suitable role at certain suitable levels of decision-making, within the limits of the Sharia. The Think Tank Committee is inviting views to formulate recommendations for the Secretariat.

Q. What are your plans to promote marriages in the Community through established and systematic avenues and medium of match-making?

A. The Federation has recently adopted a resolution requiring each Jamaat to appoint suitable persons individually who would then communicate among themselves in confidence at Jamaats level to promote match-making. We have yet to see results.

Q. Can you inform on the present state or stage of rehabilitation of the Community dispossessed and displaced in Somalia and the role of the Federation?

A. The great majority of them have been taken care of presently in Tanzania and some in Kenya. The costs are borne by this Federation through its Settlement Welfare Board.

Q. You are prominent in championing the cause of unity. Will you compromise your religious principles for its sake?

A. Unity is exhorted in Islam and therefore the question of compromise cannot arise. It is therefore in the spirit of religious duty that I am outspoken against anyone who would want

to threaten our unity or break the tradition that promotes unity. There are examples.

Q. Is it true that the Madagascar Territorial Council has sent in a notice of withdrawal from your Federation in its bid to join the World Federation and that you are preventing this?

A. The information is not correct. It is the Jamaats who are members of the Federation. No Jamaat in Madagascar has given any indication of wanting to withdraw. The Territorial Council is not a member, but functions with the approval of the Federation as an administrative wing to assist the Secretariat.

And then the Constitution of our World Federation places purposely, in letters and in spirit, restrictions on eligibility of such membership so as not to induce break-up of our Regional Federations which can lead to also the break-up of the World body itself!

Q. How are you combating the trend of social evils and increased cases of divorce in the community?

A. Social evils and unjust divorces is a very old trend or practice in society everywhere. In our Community, there has to be a constant campaign against this trend through religious education, effective preaching, "Munkarat" individually, seminars and parental control. Most worrisome is the rise in the incidence of divorces for petty reasons.

Q. I understand that more girls than boys are acquiring

higher education in Africa. Do you agree that this imbalance is unhealthy in the community?

A. In our case the imbalance is small. We encourage both the boys and girls with impartial emphasis through the Sessions and Careerama. It is interesting to note that we have recently received a large number of applications from boys and girls for the 10 Scholarships offered by the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Q. Tabligh outside the community features high in your order of priorities as seen in your policy speech to your Supreme Council last April in Dar es Salaam. What are your new plans?

A. The programme is to sponsor Shia centres in various towns to be managed by the converts themselves, under our supervision, and to let them acquire their own identity and develop sense of belonging for growth and independence and we would continue to support them financially and materially as may be appropriate.

Q. What is the position of the Jamaats' properties in Uganda which the Government has started to restore? I mean the Asian properties which were previously confiscated?

A. The properties of the Kampala and Jinja Jamaats have been returned. Those of small Jamaats are being followed up. They have to be rehabilitated and looked after but each property has to be considered separately according to its condition, costs involved, prospects of utilization and protection against vandalism.

INTERVIEW

Q. Education is also a top priority in your Federation. Are there plans to operate schools even in rural centres where Jamaats have been established?

A. It is more a question of feasibility and productive results. Not all Jamaats in Africa will find it possible to operate schools as these have to be open to others also. In Tanzania the restrictions on operating private schools have begun to be relaxed. Dar es Salaam and Arusha Jamaats are taking a lead in establishing such schools.

Q. What are the activities of your Central Health Board, popularly known as CHB. How is the relation with the Medical Advisory Board of the World Federation in the U.K.?

A. CHB is showing tremendous performances already, mainly in getting members of the Community screened and advising patients needing medical attention abroad on options available at various costs in countries including India and Pakistan in addition to the West. It also organises sessions at various Jamaats on diet, health care and preventive measures. The mutual relation with MAB is fruitful.

Q. What is the likelihood of the Secretariat rotating from country to country or other towns like Arusha or Tananarive in Madagascar from Dar es salaam?

A. The Secretariat shifted to Dar-es-Salaam in 1983 after a 15 year stay in Kenya. Apart from Nairobi and Mombasa, Mwanza and Arusha too once hosted the Secretariat.

The Secretariat is normally based where the Chairman resides, and this therefore is subject to shift on the results of elections.

Q. What should be the programme for the World Federation while it is approaching the next general election in 1994?

A. The initiatives have to come from the leadership of the World body itself for support by its members - by the present leadership embarking, however belatedly, on promoting in the Community a sense of awareness as to the reality of our situation as a tiny minority everywhere, amidst hostilities present against Islam, Muslims, and Shias in particular. This will facilitate setting a direction in which the Community should move with time but this can only be achieved if the climate in the Community is ensured to be conducive in terms of greater unity, harmony and mutual understanding - free of crisis.

Q. How are your relations with the other members of the World Federation like Nasimco, Council of Gujarat and others?

A. Very good. It is heartening to note that the relation among the members of the World Federation themselves have been very cordial through mutual respect and trust. As it is they who make up the World Federation, and as it is the co-operation of each one which is essential for the success of the World Federation, such relations among themselves should continue to be so in the interest of the body.

Q. How would you see the role of Marjaiyya in the future?

A. I am not aware if this is an issue among the Mujtahedeen presently and if it is, I cannot be sure if it is among the majority or a tiny minority of Mujtahedeen. I am also not sure whether the issue, if at all it is one, is not being distorted by certain radical factions to promote their own hidden agendum.

What I am sure of, however, is that this is not a debate and cannot be one for Muqallideen who are neither an authority nor knowledgeable nor answerable in this sphere of 'ilm' or obligation. And this includes all leaders in the Community.

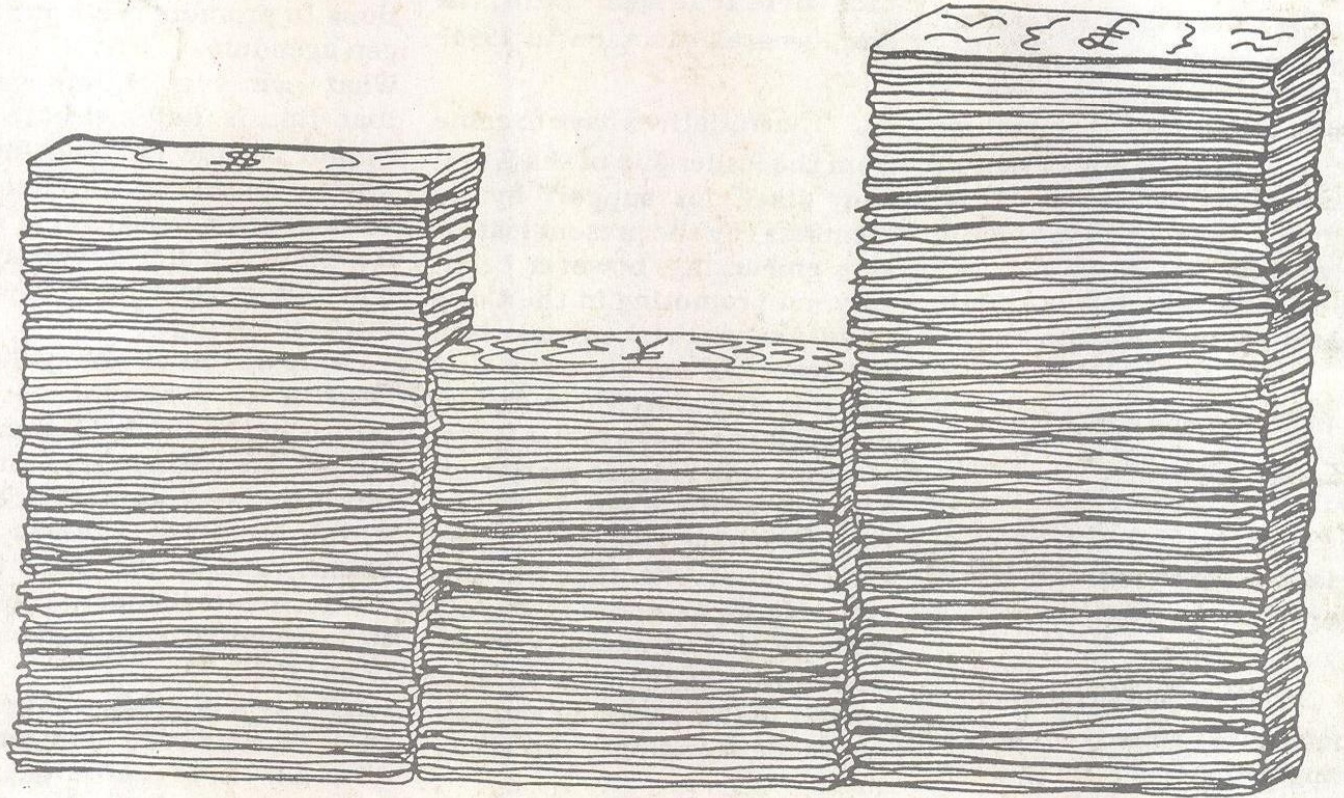
To whip up this as a Muqallideen issue in the community is dangerous and harmful. It is bound to disturb the faith of the Community in the institution of Marjaiyya which involves taqleed and khums, and at the same time, create irreversible divisions only to be exploited by the opponents of our Faith.

It is this type of pitfalls that we have to avoid religiously and pray to Allah [S.W.T.] to protect us therefrom during the difficult period of Ghaibat of Hazrat Hujjat [A.F.].

Q. What is your message to the global community and to the global leadership?

A. My message is short and simple: Remain loyal and devoted to your communal organisations regardless of your personal feelings towards the leadership, for the organisations are there to survive and serve; and it is for the leaders to earn and not demand loyalty and devotion, by proving themselves worthy of the position held. The position of trust demands transparency, accountability, decisions through consultation and democratic principles, and also demonstration of the real Taqwa with consistency, whatever the situation favourable or not.

There's One Thing We Would Never Exchange For Any Amount Of Money



Our Reputation For Trust

Whether you're entrusting your money to a bank, bureau de change, insurance or investment company, it's essential you know one thing about them.

Namely, that they deserve your trust.

That they're the kind of people who'll never try to trick you with false promises or overcharge you for their services.

The kind of people who as well as possessing a deep financial understanding of

your money's importance, also possess a deep moral one.

Here at Crown Bureau de Change we offer two simple guarantees of our trust:

1 The competitive rate your eyes see on our board is exactly the same one your hands will receive. Every time.

2 We'll take no longer than is strictly necessary to clear your banker's drafts etc. Every time.

Because we believe that gaining your trust makes good business sense for us.

Something our growing number of regular customers are proving to us.

