



FEDERATION SAMACHAR

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HUSEIN A.S. AND HIS MESSAGE BY DR. ALI SHARIATI

In these black times the ignorant aristocracy is being revived. Power is being dressed in piety and sacredness. The desires for liberty and equality created by Islam in the hearts of those sacrificed for power or policy are breaking down. Tribal ignorance has replaced the humanitarian revolution. The true Book has been placed upon the spears of deceit. From the minarets of mosques, the sound of the call to profanity is heard. The golden calf is calling for Unity. Nimroud replaced Abraham. Caesar wears the turban of the Prophet of God. The executioner takes the sword of jihad. Faith turns to narcotics. The labors against profanity and the struggles of the warriors are gone with the wind. In place of these, treasuries are gained for the hypocrites. The jihad had become a means for massacre. The religious taxes are a means of public plunder. The prayer is a means of deceiving the public. Unity has been covered with the mask of profanity. Islam has become a chain of surrendering. The Traditions of the Prophet have become the pillars of rule. The qoran has become a means of ignorance, the sayings of the prophet fabricated. Flashes of the sword are once more coming down upon the shoulders.

A man emerges from Fatima's house. He looks at Medina and the mosque of the Prophet, Mecca and Abraham, the Ka'ba which is enchained by Nimroud, Islam and the message of Mohammad, the Green Palace of Damascus, the hungry people, the slaves and ...

Husein teaches that 'black death' is the miserable fate of a humbled people who accept scorn in order to remain alive. For death chooses those who are not brave enough to choose martyrdom. Death chooses them!

Look at Husein. He releases his life, leaves his town and arises in order to die because he has no other means for his struggle to condemn and disgrace his enemy. He selects this in order to render aside the deceiving curtains which cover the ugly faces of the ruling power. If he cannot defeat the enemy in this way, at least he can disgrace them. If he cannot conquer the ruling power, he can at least condemn it by injecting new blood and the belief of jihad into the dead bodies of this second generation of the Revolution revealed to the Prophet.

In all ages and centuries, when the followers of a faith and an idea, have power, they guarantee their honor and lives with jihad. But when they are weakened and have no means whereby to struggle, they guarantee their lives, movements, faith, respect, honor, future and history with martyrdom. They live as Victors or die as Martyrs. For they cannot accept life of humiliation or scorn.

MASS ARREST OF LATE AYATULLAH SYED MUHSIN AL-HAKIM'S FAMILY IN IRAQ

We reproduce below the Press Release dated 18th May, 1983 issued by *International Islamic Commission on Human Rights* of 16 Grosvenor Crescent, London, SW1 7EP (U.K.):

"Mr. Ahmed Ben Bella, Chairman of the International Islamic Commission on Human Rights, has learnt with great shock and profound sorrow of the arrest by the Government of Iraq on 9 May of nearly 80 members of the family of the Late Sayyed Mohsin Al-Hakim, a world-renowned Muslim Scholar."

The news is all the more tragic because among those arrested are not only outstanding scholars, but also very old men and young children — an age range of 14 to 75 years.

Although participation in political activities is a basic human right, none of the arrested persons have ever been involved in any political activities and the only reason for their arrest is that they belong to the illustrious family of three brothers, namely Sayyed Muhammad Baqir Al-Hakim Sayyed Muhammad Mehdi Al-Hakim and Sayyed Abdul Aziz Al-Hakim, who do not kow-tow with the repressive policy of the present Iraqi regime. The senseless and barbaric arrests and execution of the Innocent members of the family of the Al-Hakim brothers, are against all canons of justice and constitute a blatant violation of human rights.

The International Islamic Commission on Human Rights has called upon the government of Iraq to release those arrested and has sent appeals to all human rights organisations, governments, groups and individuals to prevail upon the government of Iraq to effect their release and thus restore to them their freedom which is the birth-right of every human being. We emphatically endorse the call by the International Islamic Commission on Human Rights to the Iraqi Government to set free these innocent persons who have been arbitrarily arrested.

We understand that the Federation of the Khoja Shia Ithna Asheri Jamats of Africa is in close contact with the World Federation of Khoja Shia Ithna Asheri Muslim Communities

in London on this matter and will advise of action taken by the London Federation Council to secure release of the arrested innocent persons.

The grave question that arises is: if the Iraqi government has dared to persecute 48 Eminent Aalims, Aalims of highest calibre including such distinguished personages as Ayatullah Sayyid Yusif Al Hakim, and Ayatullah Sayyid Muhammad Taki Al Hakim, then how long is it before they lay hands upon other Ulama, and finally upon Naib-e-Imam Ayatullah Sayyid Abul Qasim Al Khui?

We have therefore need to take all possible action to ensure our Ulamas are released unharmed and are allowed the freedom to lead us. The releasing of 5 of the Mujtaheds does not mean much. We all know that Ayatullah Sayyid Muhammad Baqir Al Sadr was detained and released to make us all complacent so that the Iraqi government was able to re-arrest him at bisure, to torture him brutally and finally to murder him.

We have first hand reports of tortures being inflicted to prisoners in Iraq. We also know that the Iraqi Authorities do not allow prisoners to even offer their daily prayers. Such is the conduct of the government of Iraq which is supposed to be run by Muslims.

This Press Release has now been overtaken by brutal events: the summary execution of six most prominent Ulamas from this illustrious family. The thirst for blood by the regime has yet manifested itself. Amongst the arrested are not only outstanding scholars but also young children and very old men — ranging from 14 to 75 yrs.

This lashing about by the inhuman Saddam regime in violation of all international norms seems to have been accepted as a matter of course by the so-called champions of human rights who raised such a hue and cry over the execution of self-confessed traitors in Iran.

These champions have time and again revealed their true colours by their silence.

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FEDERATION SENDS A PROTEST

PRESIDENT SADDAM HUSAIN
REPUBLIC OF IRAQ
BAGHDAD.

The Supreme Council of Shia Ithnaasheri Jamaat of Africa learned with deep sense of shock the arbitrary arrest of 90 members of the family of the Late Ayatullah Al-Uzma Seyyid Muhsin Al-Hakim Rahimallahu Alaihim from LE MONDE of Paris and from protest made by chairman of the International Islamic Commission on Human rights, Mr. Ahmed Ben Bella.

Mr. Ben Bella ironically expressed apprehension about endangered lives of the captives.

Recently we learned of the summary execution of six eminent ulamas from amongst the arrested. The murder of innocent servants of Islam as an act of revenge is worthy of condemnation.

The Supreme Council of Shia Ithnaasheri Jamaats of Africa in its entirety is outraged at your regime's atrocity against innocent Muslim ulemas and registers its strongest protest. We demand, immediate release of those still under arrest and a stop to spilling of the blood of the innocent.

ITHNAASHERI COUNCIL OF AFRICA.

SUPREME COUNCIL MOVES TO DAR ES SALAAM

At the 15th Constitutional Conference held at Dar es Salaam on 1st and 2nd April, 1983, the following were unanimously elected as office-bearers of the Federation of Khoja Shia Ithnaasheri Jamaats of Africa for the term 1983 — 1985.

Mr. Mohamed Gulamhussein Dhirani-Chairman
Mr. Habib Jafferli Mulji-Vice-Chairman
Mr. Mohamedraffiq Gulamali Somji - Hon. Secretary.

Mr. Akber Fazal Dhirani-Hon. Treasurer

The following were elected as Trustees:-

Mr. Aliasghar Mulla M. Nanji

Mr. Mohamedjaffer Mulla Hassanali Khaki
Kenya

Mr. Mohamedali Shariff Jiwa

Mr. Rajabali Amersi Alibhai Tanzania

Arrangements are being made to move the Council office from Mombasa to Dar es Salaam at the earliest opportunity.

FOCUS ON CONFERENCE

The 15th Constitutional Conference was held at Dar es Salaam on the 1st and 2nd April, 1983 followed by the 41st session of the Supreme Council on 3rd April, 1983.

Both these meetings played an important role in consolidating our unity and the proof of it was that almost all the delegates expressed their unflinching support for the Federation.

For the first time in the 37-years history of the Federation there was no candidate for the chairmanship. It looked as if the Federation was facing dissolution. But the President of Dar es Salaam Jamaat, humble servant of the community, Al-Haj Mohamed Dhirani, agreed to

take the chairmanship of the Federation. May Allah help him to shoulder the grave responsibilities to serve our community. (Ameen).

Some important items deliberated at the Conference were:

(a) **Molvis and Mulyanis:**

It was stressed by most-of the delegates and finally agreed that the responsibility of acquiring the services of Molvis and Mulyanis must remain with the Supreme Council and all requests for the recruitment of Aalims, Zakirs etc. should be channelled through the Council.

(b) **Shia Academy:**

It was anticipated that a Shia Islamic Academy would be established within a year to cater for higher religious education for male students. Once the men's Section becomes fully operative and achieves the required success, consideration would be given to open a wing for women.

(c) **Religious Education:**

It was agreed to give serious consideration to the introduction of a unified syllabus and common examinations for all the Madressas in Africa.

In the meantime, arrangements could be made for ladies to attend a two year Zakira Course in Karachi conducted by the Bilal Trust of Pakistan:

(d) **The Higher Education Board:**

The Higher Education Board, which was dissolved in 1980, was re-instated to undertake all functions appertaining to higher education including the functions performed by the dissolved Education Board. Mr. Mohamedraza Remtulla of Arusha was unanimously elected as the Chairman of the Education Board for the term 1983 — 1985.

(e) **The World Federation:**

The Vice-President of the World Federation of the Khoja Shia Ithnaasheri Muslim Com-

munities, Mr. Anver Rajpar, spoke on its activities and here is a brief outline of his speech:-

An English medium school, Al-Murtaza School, is being built in Karachi to cater for 700 students. It would cover Primary, Secondary and later on expand to 'A' Level, and ultimately establish a College. It would be the policy of the school to ensure that students from East Africa secure places in any of the classes.

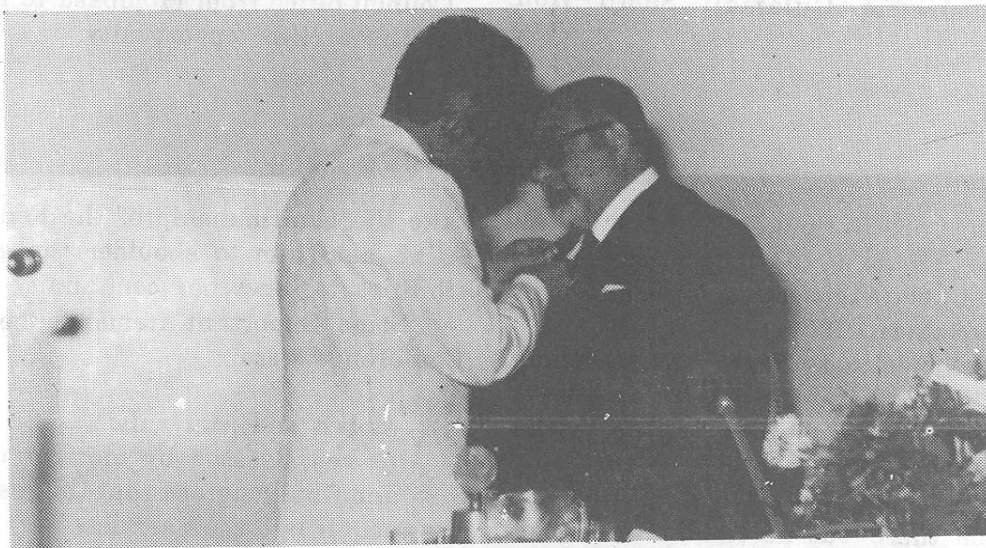
The World Federation has enough funds to offer scholarship to East African students for higher studies abroad. The World Federation could assist in providing medical treatment for serious cases. It also provides medical facilities to Hujjaj in Saudi Arabia during Haj season.

SHIA WORLD:

Enough copies of the "Shia World" would be made available to East Africa Jamaats.

(f) **Award of "Husseini Medals:"**

The retiring Chairman of the Federation, Al-Haj Abdulrasul A. Lakha, presented "HUSSEINI MEDALS" to Mr. Houssenaly Hiridjee and Mr. Asgharly Djaffer, the President and Hon. Secretary, respectively, for the Territorial Council of Madagascar in recognition of their services to the community in Madagascar.



Chairman of Madagascar Territorial Council Haji Husseini Hiridjee awarding gold medal to Haji Abdulrasul A. Lakha retiring Chairman of the Federation.

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CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS AT THE 15TH CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE



Address of the Chairman of the Federation of Khoja Shia IthnaAsheri Jamats of Africa, Haji Mohamed G.M. Dhirani, delivered at the 15th Constitutional Conference held at Dar es Salaam (Tanzania) on Friday, 1st April, 1983 in Gujarati (translation for "Federation Samachar").

Bismillahir Rahamnir Rahim

The Retiring Chairman of the Federation, Al Haj Abdulrasul Ahmed Lakha, Chairman of the Madagascar Territorial Council, Al Haj Husein Hirjee, Councillors and Delegates present, the Invitees and members of the Audience, my elders and brothers:

Salamun Alaikum

I begin by praising Allah, the Only One, Who Has Blessed us with many of His Blessings and like His blessing of breath, He has blessed this Community with a United Organisation like this Federation. We are indeed grateful to Him.

I thank you all for honouring me by electing me as Chairman of this Federation and thank Allah for giving me this opportunity to serve the Community. I am aware of the great religious and secular responsibilities lying with this post but I pray to Allah to make me serve it with sincerity. I shall, by wasila of Fourteen Masumin A.S., try to fulfil the responsibilities entrusted to me by the Community faithfully.

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I had occasion to speak before today and I have aired our appreciation of the services rendered by the retiring Chairman, Al Haj Abdulrasul Ahmed Lakha, during his term of office. Let me add that his services were praiseworthy and there is much for me to learn from him. I am sure that he will stand beside me and will not deprive me of his guidance.

As you know, I had to prepare this speech at the last moment and thus you will not find a detailed review or plan in it nor will it be poetic as that of Al-haj Abdulrasul Ahmed Lakha.

I request that we all stand up and recite Sura-e-Fatiha for our Marhumin.

I am not only delighted but encouraged by the presence in good number of Delegates from Madagascar. Our contact and relations with Madagascar Jamats through Madagascar Territorial Council are very strong. We receive good co-operation from them and hope the same co-operation will be attended to the new office bearers. In appreciation of the excellent services rendered to the Madagascar Jamaats during last two years by Chairman of the Madagascar Territorial Council Al Haj Huseinbhai Hirdjee and the Hon. Secretary, Al Haj Asgheralibhai Jaffer and their co-workers, the retiring Chairman has already presented "Huseini Medals" to the Chairman and Hon. Secretary of the Territorial Council. I propose to pay them a visit with my co-workers shortly and I trust some of the councillors will join me during this trip to Madagascar.

Other provinces like Somalia, Burundi, Zaire, Mauritius and Reunion are not present in this Conference. I sincerely hope they will honour our future meetings with their presence. I shall try to visit all these Countries, after my visit to Madagascar, so that our relations with them are strengthened.

It is my pleasure to welcome Murabbi Haji Gulamali Bhanji who is well known in India by the pet-name of "BAPU". His services to our Central Body are many and his relations with our Federation are close. He always assists us in recruitment of Molvies.

Every Jamat tries to impart religious education to boys and girls. The Council will scrutinise it and try to make it more effective by introducing modern methods. The future generation's character depends on religion and that is why the Council will pay special attention to religious education in small and big Jamats. If it will be found necessary, visits will be made to certain Jamats for this purpose, and to establish Madressas everywhere. Our Holy Prophet (s.a.w.) has said that to acquire knowledge is compulsory on every Muslim and if need be a Muslim should go upto China to acquire it. The Council will encourage in every possible manner for students to obtain Higher Islamic Education after the Madressa Education. The Council will give financial assistance for this purpose.

In the past the Council had issued a Syllabus for use in all the Madressas and arranged for Common Examination. The Council will try to activate Common Examinations so that we have control over all the Madressas and the students get a spirit of competition and thus take more interest in their religious studies.

That there is great need of Muballighs and Aalims in our Community cannot be denied and without them the great responsibility cannot be fulfilled. However, many do not realise problems of trying to find and recruit suitable capable Aalims for our requirements. I have a fair idea of the problems which the past Office bearers had to face in this respect. Despite great efforts, many a times, we have had to be disappointed in not being able to get suitable and capable Aalims for our requirements. Recently, Dr. Khalil of Ahlul Bait Foundation, Dubai, published a Survey of Aalims in India and Pakistan. It can be seen that in India alone they require 1,200 Aalims but at present only 300 to 400 students are studying in Howz. When we are successful in getting services of some Aalims, we do not take maximum benefit of his knowledge. We involve him in other activities and thus deprive ourselves of his real work. I assure you all that in spite of all these difficulties, we shall try our best to obtain services of suitable Aalims for all the Jamats. With the blessings of Allah and co-operation of the Community, we hope to make much progress.

There is great demand for Zakirs and Zakiras during Muharram and this demand is increasing day by day. It shows that people are anxious to get maximum benefit during these days. The demand has increased also because our community is now spread throughout the world and from every centre, there is request for Zakirs and Zakiras. The Secretariat so far has been successful in meeting the demand in East Africa.

The activities of Bilal Muslim Mission are our great responsibility. It is our duty to cooperate fully in this matter. Despite all the difficulties, the workers of Kenya and Tanzania Bilal Muslim Mission are fulfilling this great responsibility. We have learnt with joy that Madagascar also is taking steps in this direction. May Allah give even more success to these activities which are "Success in this World" and "Baqiyatus Swalihah". It is a responsibility of every Shia to spread the True Faith and there is no place for discrimination in it.

If there are any short-comings in the activities of Bilal Muslim Mission, it is the duty of everyone to point out but at the same time we should take into consideration the difficulties they are facing in this respect. May Allah give more strength to the workers of Bilal Muslim Mission to work even harder.

The expenses of Tabligh Section, as you are aware, depend on Khums (Sehme Imam) and you will see from the Accounts that the 50% allowed to the Council is fully utilised. At the same time there is good contribution of Sehme Sadat to the Council which shows the great confidence which this body enjoys among members of the Community. This amount is also being used properly as you will see for the figures to be presented to you.

The success of any organisation depends on its strong connection with the Central Body. In this respect, I wish to strengthen further the relations of the Jamats with the Central Body so that the requirements of all the Jamats are made aware to me at all times.

It is our moral duty to visit all the Jamats. I shall endeavour to pay a visit to all the Jamats during my three years' of office. I am fully aware of the need and benefits of such visits. I wish to make it clear that during these visits, as many as possible of my colleagues will be with me and all the travelling expenses will be borne by ourselves and not the Secretariat.

Our programme of visits will be advised to the Jamats in advance so that members of the Jamats can prepare items for discussion and present their requirements and problems to us.

"Federation Samachar" has always remained the mouthpiece of the Community and at every meeting delegates have discussed its need. It is necessary in order to keep the Community informed as to what is happening in the Secretariat, how far have we been successful, or which problems are we facing. Moreover, we have to inform other Jamats about activities of the Jamats so that closer relations between the Jamats are maintained. We shall strive to have the "Federation Samachar" published regularly. I appeal to all the Jamats to regularly send us news of their activities to be published in

"Federation Samachar". If possible, we shall try to publish important news in Gujarati as well so that those who do not understand English can benefit.

The Office-bearers of the Federation are your honorary workers and at all times are at your service, irrespective of time or place. If not in person, these office-bearers can always be contacted by letter or telephone.

I request you all to send us your suggestions and constructive criticism. No good will come out of criticism voiced among your friends. Whatever you have in your heart, place it before the Office-bearers sincerely and I assure you that we shall sympathetically and seriously consider your views.

Efforts will be made to bring the Secretariat here — in Dar es Salaam — as soon as possible. Until then, it will operate from Mombasa and Dar es Salaam. If because of this, any inconvenience is experienced, I hope you will overlook it.

Higher Education is one of the important functions of the Federation and because of our activities in this field, many youths from our Community have achieved success in life. Recently, however, because of certain dif-

ficulties, many of our young people have not been able to go overseas for higher education. We shall try to do something in this respect and find a solution if possible. With this thing in mind, we have put forward a resolution reviving Higher Education Board. I hope it will be discussed and determined.

I am fully aware of the need to better the economic position of a number of our people and also to make life easier for others which is our moral duty. We shall try to ascertain the needs during our visits to jamats so that we have a fuller picture and know exactly what steps to take in this direction.

The establishment of Federation is our success but to keep it throbbing has called for sacrifice which we workers have readily given. It was only after great sacrifices that this body has been able to exist and if we are unable to sustain it then not only shall we be acting irresponsible but shall have to answer to Almighty Allah for it. This Community will not tolerate any effort to challenge or harm the unity of the Community from any quarter. The Community will not hesitate to make sacrifice for the sake of maintaining the Unity. Let me say that any sacrifice for unity is fully justified.

FORMATION OF BILAL MUSLIM MISSION IN MADAGASCAR

At the Territorial Council Conference held at Tananarive on 20th, 21st and 22nd May, 1983, under the Chairmanship of Mr. Mohamed Dhirani, the Bilal Muslim Mission Du Madagascar was formally established.

It was reported that thirty five indigenous Malagasy in Morondava, ten in Tananarive and one in Majunga have embraced Shia faith. Hitherto, it was believed by Malagasy public that Islam belonged to Asians and Comorians! However, because a Sunni Malagasy Scholar has been delivering lectures on Islam on Malagasy Radio for quite some time, people have started knowing about the true religion.

It was further reported that one male and one female from among the new converts have been sent to Iran for Higher Islamic Studies.

Morondava Jamaat is running a Madressa for new converts teaching Quran and Diniyat. Periodical lectures are also given by the resident Aalim.

The immediate need was to have an African Shia Aalim and the Federation was requested to send one from East Africa on secondment. He could be trained in local language within six months and it was hoped that such an African Aalim would help in spreading the Message of Islam in Madagascar.

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Haji Mohamed Dhirani addressing the meeting of Territorial Council. On his right are Hussein Hirji and Haji Asgar Jaffer — President and Secretary of Territorial Council. On his left are Haji Habib Muji and Haji Akber Dhirani — Vice Chairman and Treasurer of Federation.



Chairman of Federation Haji M. G. Dhirani presenting sportsman of the year Cup to Haji Manzoor Kanani — Chair an of Nairobi Jamaat: who received it on behalf of Munir G. Merali, a member of Nairobi Jamat.



Haji Abdulrasul A. Lakha presenting Hussein Chandrak citation to Haji Hussein Hirji. Photo shows section from l to r. Haji Mohsin Jaffer, Haji Raza Datto and Haji Yusuf Kermali.



Newly elected Chairman of Madagascar Territorial Council Haji Akberali Sunderji delivering acceptance speech flanked by dignitaries of Federation and Council.



Newly elected Vice Chairman of Madagascar territorial Council Haji Raza Hirji. On his left are Haji Akberali Sunderji — newly elected chairman, Haji Mohamed Dhirani and retiring chairman Haji Hussein Hirji.

KNOW YOUR COUNCILLORS

I. KENYA: NAIROBI (2) MOMBASA (8) TOTAL: 10

NAIROBI:

Mr. Manzooral M. Kanani, P.O. Box 42536,
Mr. Murtaza H. Jaffer, P.O. Box 60102.

MOMBASA:

Mr. Razaali M. Raffiq P.O. Box 80184
Mr. Mohamedraza A. Jagani P.O. Box 80612
Mr. Akberali A. Karim P.O. Box 81843
Mr. Akberali H. Pirmohamed P.O. Box 82985
Mr. Jafferali M. Merali P.O. Box 80221
Mr. Mohamedraza A. Kanji P.O. Box 82929
Mr. Anverali Valimohamed P.O. Box 80055
Dr. Mohamedraza A. Karim P.O. Box 81742.

II. ZANZIBAR: (2):

1. Mr. Pyarali Giga (Chairman, Hujjatul Islam) P.O. Box 508.
2. Mr. Mohamedali I. Dharamsi (Chairman, Kuwwatul Isl.) P.O. Box 625.

III. TANZANIA MAINLAND: (29): DAR ES SALAAM (7):

Mr. Habib J. Mulji P.O. Box 1126
Mr. Raza Kara P.O. Box 5416
Mr. Muhsin M R. Allidina P.O. Box 783
Mr. Roshan A. Fazel P.O. Box 5236
Mr. Fidahusein H.M. Khaki P.O. Box 3388
Mr. Murtaza P. Dewji P.O. Box 3389
Mr. Moh'dhusein B. Versi P.O. Box 2265.

TANGA: (4)

Mr. Anwerali M. Siwajee (Chairman) Box 290
Mr. Habib M. Hassanali Box 587
Mr. Mohamed R.M. Walli Box 568
Mr. Gulamabbas P.M. WALLI Box 478.

LINDI: (3)

Mr. Raza S. Dhalla (Chairman) Box 137
Mr. Nassir Z. Esmail Box 183
Mr. Mohamed Y. Pirmohamed Box 136

MOSHI: (2)

Mr. Sherali M. Ladak (Chairman) Box 36
Mr. Roshanali G. Kanji Box 29.

ARUSHA: (2)

Mr. Mohamedraza Remtula Box 36
Mr. Shakir M. Moledina Box 9.

SONGEEA: (1)

Mr. Hassanali R. Jaffer Box 10.

KIGOMA: (1)

Mr. Kassamali Karmali (Chairman) Box 19.

All Presidents of Jamaats are automaticaly Councillors.

SAFE RETURN OF MULLA ASGHAR



A sigh of relief and feeling of great joy spread throughout the community all over Africa, when the news of the safe arrival in London of Mulla Asgharali M. M. Jaffer broke. Men, women and children, in prostration, thanked Allah for saving one of our most respected and beloved leaders.

Soon after receiving the news, the Chairman of the Federation, Mr. Mohamed G.M. Dhirani, spoke to Mulla Asghar on telephone to express happiness on behalf of the members of the community.

In reply, Mulla Asghar, in a moving and emotional tone, said that he was deeply touched by the love of the community. He requested the Chairman to convey his heartfelt gratifications to all the members of the community, as he felt it was their prayers, which ended his ordeal.

The following telegram was sent to Mulla Asghar from the Secretariat, Dar es Salaam. "Extremely happy to learn of your release. The whole community was deeply concerned during the period of your suffering and all shared the grief. The only relief was

through constant prayers and our gratitude is to Allah and His Masumin A.S. for accepting our prayers. The community greatly missed you and we are now looking forward to have you with us."

Earlier Mulla Asghar was given a warm welcome when he landed at Heathrow Airport in London. Scores of telegrams and telephone messages poured at his residence and hundreds of people paid courtesy calls on him. Although he was very weak and pale, he received everyone with a smile.

During his four months in detention in Iraq Mulla Saheb was constantly remembered. The community was constantly worried about him. Special prayers were offered in each Jamaat after Namaaz and the President of Dar es Salaam Jamaat, Mr. Mohamed Dhirani, gave periodical reports to Mumineens. Upcountry Jamaats were also kept informed on the latest developments.

Mr. A. A. Lakha, the then Chairman of the Federation, cancelled all his overseas engagements to remain in Kenya and along with Mulla Saheb's family made tireless efforts to secure his release. Many community members, specially ladies, vowed to Allah (MANTA) either to fast or offer special prayers for Mulla Saheb's safety and release.

Because of all that he had to suffer during his forcible stay in confinement in Iraq, Mulla Saheb had to go for a medical check up in London and was advised complete rest. By the grace of Allah, Mulla Saheb's health has now considerably improved. He now recites Majlises and conducts Islamic Study Classes to prepare our brothers for higher Islamic education.

May Allah grant Mulla Asghar a long and happy life so that the community can derive maximum benefits from his services and vast knowledge. Amin.

NOMINATED COUNCILLORS

- Mr. Abdulrasul Ahmed Lakha — Nairobi
- Mulla Asgharali M.M. Jaffer — Nairobi
- Mr. Kassim N. Panju — Mombasa
- Mr. Ali Hussein Sheriff — Arusha
- Mr. Anwarali Sherali — Bukoba
- Mr. Mohamedbaqir Aloo — Mwanza

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NAIROBI JAMAAT NEWS

The Annual General Meeting of the Nairobi Jamaat was held on 4th February, 1983 at the Imambara Hall during which the following were elected into office:-

- 1) MANZOORALI M. KANANI — Chairman
- 2) ALIASGER M. NANJI — Vice Chairman
- 3) HUSEIN A. RASHID — Hon. Secretary
- 4) MURTAZA H. BANK — Asst. Hon. Secretary
- 5) MUSTAFA A. PIRMOHAMED — Hon. Treasurer
- 6) HASNEIN KASSAMALI — Asst. Hon. Treasurer.
- 7) AUNALI R. DATOO — Committee Member
- 8) FEROUZ H. JAGANI — Committee Member
- 9) RAMZANALI M. NANJI — Committee Member.
- 10) MURTAZA JAFFER — Committee Member
- 11) HAIDERALI SHEIKH — Committee Member
- 12) HUSEIN A. JAFFER — Committee Member
- 13) MUMTAZ KANJI — Hon. Auditor

Immediately after the elections, the management committee met, resolved and approved the formation of various sub-committees to consolidate the administrative set up of the jamaat.

The convenors of each of these committees are to represent on the management committee. The sub-committees formed are:-

- 1) KABRASTAN COMMITTEE
- 2) BUILDING AND MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE
- 3) NIAZ COMMITTEE
- 4) WELFARE AND MEDICAL COMMITTEE
- 5) EDUCATION COMMITTEE
- 6) FINANCE COMMITTEE

- 7) CIRCULARS COMMITTEE
- 8) MARRIAGE, DIVORCE AND RECONCILIATION COMMITTEE
- 9) MADRESSA COMMITTEE
- 10) RE-DRAFTING OF CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE
- 11) GHUSL KAFAN COMMITTEE
- 12) VOLUNTEERS COMMITTEE
- 13) MUSAFARKHANA COMMITTEE
- 14) LIBRARY COMMITTEE
- 15) MASTER OF RELIGIOUS CEREMONIES
- 16) MASTER OF CEREMONIES
- 17) LADIES COMMITTEE

In a hitherto unprecedented move, the jamaat came up with a novel idea of forming a ladies sub-committee through a ballot system.

Twelve ladies were sought to make up this committee and circulars were issued for those above the age of 16 who desired to serve the community. In response, 14 applications were received, of whom two subsequently withdrew, thereby making it unnecessary to hold elections.

Meanwhile we are informed that the Kabrastan committee has put in commendable efforts to compile a list of marhumeens. The committee has come up with a provisional list and relatives have been called upon to submit names of marhumeens who are not on the list.

The Welfare and Medical committee has also been active with an arrangement of dental clinic for children and medical check-ups for adults above the age of 40.

News of some worthwhile capital expenditure has also been received from Nairobi. The jamaat is in the process of converting the area between Ladak hall and the Resident Aalim's house into a full fledged jamaat's office.

This involves an expenditure of some Shs. 70,000/- which also includes the cost of furniture and the installation of an automatic telephone answer system.

Members have been requested to donate generously and to set the ball rolling. Family of the late Mohamed Hussein Nanji have pledged a handsome donation of Shs. 25,000/.

NAIROBI WINS "ABUL FAZL CUP"

Munir G. Merali of Nairobi was unanimously declared "Sportsman of the Year 1982" and became the first Kenyan in 14 years to grab Abul Fazl Cup from his Tanzanian counterparts.

The Sub-Committee appointed by the Chairman of the Federation, consisting of Messrs. Mohamedjaffer N. Virjee, (Mwanza), Habib Mulla Hassanali, (Tanga) and Muhsin M.R. Alidina, (Dar es Salaam) had a tough time to decide on the winner from the following five nominations.

Arusha: Mr. Gulamraza Mahmood Sheriff
Dar es Salaam: Mr. Ebrahim Ali Jivraj

Mombasa: Mr. Zulfikar M.R. Fazal
Moshi: Mr. Ali Abdulrasul Virjee
Nairobi: Mr. Munir G. Merali

It is worthwhile to note that each of the nominated sportsman played a significant role on and off the sports field and all were running neck to neck for the award.

The Chairman of the Federation, Mr. Mohamed Dhirani presented "Abul Fazl Cup" to Mr. Manzoor Kanani, the Chairman of Nairobi Jamaat at the reception held on Sunday, 3rd April, 1983 at the Ithnaasheri Boarding House, Dar es Salaam.

OBITUARY

SAD DEMISE OF SYED MOHAMEDJAFER IMAM IN IRAN

The Council has learnt with deep grief the sad demise of Syed Muhammed Jaffer Imam in Shiraz (Iran).

Marhum Syed Muhammad Jaffer Imam and his brothers were well-known to members of our Community, having been in East Africa for quite some time before going to Iran.

May Allah in His Mercy bless the departed soul. Amin.

All are requested to recite Sura e Fatiha for the Marhum.

SAD DEMISE OF SHEKH ABDULAMIR SHAMSA — NAJAF

The council has learnt with deep grief the sad demise of Shekh Abdul-Amir Shamsa, the renowned Mutawalli of Najafe-Ashraf.

BILAL MUSLIM MISSION OF TANZANIA TEMEKE CENTRE

The foundation stone of the boundary wall of the Bilal Muslim Mission Centre and A Madresa at Temeke was laid by Al-Haj Mohamedali Rajpar on 15th Shaaban 1403, in the presence of the Chairman, the Vice Chairman and Office bearers of the Federation, office bearers of the Dar es Salaam Jamaat and members of the Community.

The ceremony commenced with the recitation of the Holy Quran and a Qasida in praise of Mohammad Ale Mohamed. Then the Vice-Chairman of the Mission, Al-Haj Fidahusein A. Hameer, outlined the history of

Marhum is well known to members of the community having served the Zawars at Najaf throughout his life.

May Allah in His Mercy bless the departed soul. Ameen.

All are requested to recite Sure-e-Fatiha for the Marhum.

SAD DEMISE OF HAJI MOHAMEDBHAJ MANJI WALLI

The Secretariat with deep grief announces sad demise of Haji Mohamedbhai Manji Walli at Arusha (Tanzania) on 31st May, 1983.

Marhum also served as Zakir both in Dodoma and Arusha in the absence of an Aalim in these Jamats.

May Allah in His Mercy bless the departed soul. Ameen.

All are requested to recite Sura e Fatiha for Ithale Thawab of Marhum.

the development of the centre and said "No one had faintest idea that the centre would develop so fast in last 15 years".

He explained that, "Today we have a mosque, a madresa, a Boarding house, an Office Block and our own Press. The Dispensary is nearing completion, and we soon intend to start Religious classes for women, a nursery school and sewing classes."

In the end he thanked Al-Haj Mohamedali Rajpar for having agreed to perform the ceremony and all the Moamineen for having attended the ceremony, inspite of heavy rain.

CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS TO MADAGASCAR TERRITORIAL COUNCIL

In his address to the Madagascar Territorial Council Conference held in Tananarive on 20th May 1983, the Chairman of the Federation, Al-Haj Mohamed Dhirani, stressed the importance of religious education to our children and adults. He said that out of the 14 Jamaats in Madagascar only 3 have been able to secure the services of Molvi or Mulla and the reason for this was the shortage of Molvis prevailing in India.

Mr. Dhirani added that it would be a great crime to debar our children from religious education just because we cannot recruit Molvis and that also Gujarati speaking molvis. Whilst the Federation would try its best to provide molvis and mullas, he advised the Territorial Council not to insist on the demand for qualified molvis but encourage Madagascar youths to train themselves as teachers and mullas. He said that the Federation would provide all the assistance needed for such a training including free scholarships.

On the question of annual meetings, the Chairman explained the significant role such meetings play to solve community problems and to enhance public relations. He emphasised that the Territorial Council must meet each year as provided for in the Constitution.

Mr. Dhirani also announced that efforts are being made to publish Federation Samachar in Gujarati and said that World Federation had already started publishing "SHIA WORLD" in Gujarati.

As to the constitution, the Chairman suggested that the present constitution of the Territorial Council was framed in 1962 and in view of the drastic changes which have taken place since that time, he felt it warrants revision.

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Regarding Ebrahimbhai Manzil, Al-Haj Mohamed Dhirani said that it hurts him to see our Musafarkhana in such a pathetic condition perhaps, because it has no proper management. He urged the institution must provide reasonable and suitable accommodation to the members of our community, who frequently travel to Tananarive. According to him the best solution was for the Territorial Council to take over the management of the Musafarkhana.

The Chairman went on to say that the population of our Jamaat in Tananarive has greatly increased and the influx of our brothers still continues. He thought it was now time to have a Mosque in this capital city of Madagascar, where we can perform prayers and also maintain the foundation of our religion — NAMA AZ, for which Imam Hussein (A.S.) sacrificed his kith and kin. "We must raise the voice of ALLAHO AKBER over the horizon surrounding Madagascar," declared the Chairman.

Mr. Dhirani ended his speech by pleading for unity and discipline. He said he would welcome constructive criticism provided they come from appropriate communal platforms and in the proper manner. Destructive elements have no place in this organisation.

The gathering became jubilant and uttered "ALLAHO AKBER" when earlier in his speech, the Chairman informed them that one of our most respected leaders, Mulla Asgharali M.M. Jaffer has safely arrived in London and was undergoing medical check up. He added that Mulla Saheb had asked him to convey his salaams to all the brothers in Madagascar and has also expressed his sincere gratitude to all the members of the community for having prayed for him during his ordeal.

ARUSHA

The following have been elected, on 24th March, 1983, as the office bearers of Arusha Jamaat for the Year 1983/84.

Chairman Mr. Mohamedraza Rentulla
Vice Chairman Mr. Habib M. Yusufali
Hon. Secretary Mr. Ali M.M. Jaffer
Hon. Treasurer Mr. Firoz M. Bhimani
Manager Mr. Mohamedraza Sultanali
Committee Members:-

Mr. Shakir Moledina
Mr. Gulam Dewji
Mr. Raza P. Suleiman
Mr. Sadiq Gulamali

CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN VISIT TANZANIA JAMAATS

Within three weeks of their election, the Chairman of the Federation, AL-HAJ MOHAMED DHIRANI and the Vice-Chairman AL-HAJ HABIB MULJI paid goodwill visits to various Jamaats in Tanzania to make an on the spot assessment of their needs and problems and also to familiarise themselves with the activities of the Community as a whole.

Whilst the Chairman was visiting Mwanza, Bukoba, Moshi and Arusha his Vice-Chairman, toured Songea, Mtwara, Mikindani and Lindi. Mr. Habib Mulji also visited Mtama, Nachingwea and Masasi and met members of every family residing at these remote centres.

During their tour, both the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman met the Management Committee of each Jamaat and had very useful discussions on communal affairs. They addressed members of the Jamaat at Imambaras and made themselves available to those who wanted to see them for personal advice or discussion. They also visited Madressas and took keen interest in their activities.

At all the places when addressing the Jamaats, Messrs. Dhirani and Mulji briefed the members about the Council's Policy and Programmes and said that with the co-operation of the Jamaats, the Council, Inshaallah, would be able to fulfil its obligations.

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KINSHASA JAMAAT ELECTION

President Fuad Chato
Hon. Secretary: Anwerali A. Moosar
Hon. Treasurer Rustam Dharsi
Members: Husseinali Kassam (wassama)
Roshanali Ladha.

CHAIRMAN IN MADAGASCAR

The Chairman of the Federation Al-Haj Mohamed Dhirani flew to TANANARIVE on 18th May, 1983 to attend the Madagascar Territorial Council Conference held on 20th, 21st, and 22nd May, 1983. He was accompanied by the Vice-Chairman Mr. HABIB MULJI and the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Akber Dhirani.

At the request of the President of the Territorial Council, Mr. HOUSSENALY HIRIDJEE, the Chairman, presided over the Conference which had before it an agenda of 16 items. Throughout the sessions of the Conference, the delegates made very useful contribution and the discussion always remained cordial and lively.

The Chairman, on his own initiative tabled three items before the conference for consideration:

- (1) Revision of the present territorial Council constitution.
- (2) Management of Tananarive Musafarkhana.
- (3) Construction of a Mosque at Tananarive.

Two separate Sub-Committees, were appointed to look into (a) the revision of the constitution and (b) to manage the Musafarkhana named EBRAHIMBHAI MANZIL, in memory of AL-HAJ EBRAHIM SHARIFF DEWJI, one of the past Chairmen of the Federation.

The Chairman's call to build a new Mosque at Tananarive was received enthusiastically and generous contributions were pledged by various individuals.

The following office-bearers were elected:-

Mr. Akber Alibhai Sunderjee — President
Mr. Raza Ali Nurmohamed Hiridjee — Vice-President
Mr. Asgharli Djaffer — Hon. Secretary

Mr. Aounali Lalji — Hon. Treasurer
Mr. Bahadourali Kurji — Auditor

Trustees

Mr. Akber Alibhai Sunderjee — Ex Officio
Mr. Aounali Lalji — Ex Officio
Mr. Issoufaly Fazul Chenai
Mr. Alihoussein Goulamali Nassoor

The President of the Territorial Council, Haji Akber A. Sunderjee thanked the Chairman of the Federation and his delegation for having travelled all the way to Madagascar despite their many commitments at home. He praised

the excellent manner in which the Chairman conducted the meeting and said the success of the conference was, largely due to Mr. Dhirani's able handling of the proceedings.

Haji Akberbhai appealed for unity and discipline and said he would give priority to religious education. He added "we have not been able to get Aalims for all the Jamaats for the last twenty years and yet we are being told that we are two decades behind in religious education as compared to our East African brothers." He then asked "Are we behind or we have been left behind?" He requested the Chairman of the Federation to provide Madagascar Jamaats with as many Aalims as he could possibly do.

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