

The Muslim Woman

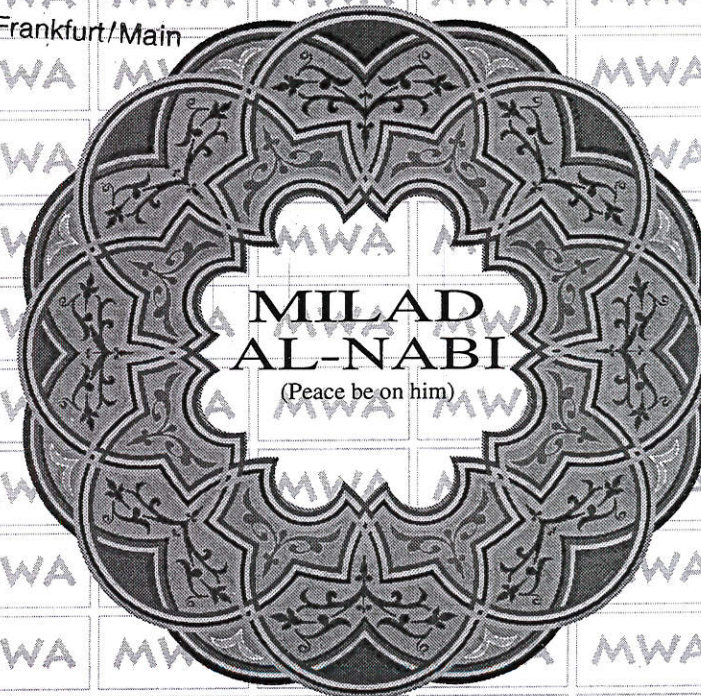
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The MUSLIM WOMAN

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IN THIS ISSUE

- Editorial	3
- Obituary	5
- Junior's Corner	6
- Poetry	7
- A Letter from Bosnia	9
- MWA Business	11

Membership of The Muslim Women's Association is open to all Muslim Women. Membership Fees (which includes the subscription to "The Muslim Woman") UK £10.00 Abroad £15.00 Life Membership UK £80.00 Abroad £100.00

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All articles and news for publication should be sent to the editor.

THE EXECUTIVE & COMMITTEE
FOR THE PERIOD DECEMBER 1993 TO NOVEMBER 1995

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2. Secretary

Mrs. Khadija Knight

3. Assistant Secretary

Mrs. Shafqat Ghaffar

4. Membership Secretary

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5. Social Secretary

Mrs. Firdous Arif

6. Treasurer

Mrs. Ilse Ahmad
London UK

7. Editor

Dr. Zubeda Osman

8. Religious Advisors

Mrs. Gul Amin

Mrs. Souraya Youssef

**MILAD
CELEBRATION**

10th September 1995

at

The Islamic Cultural Centre
146 Park Road, London NW8 7RG

Time: 4.30 pm

OUR NEW ADDRESS

All Correspondence should be sent to our new address
The Muslim Women's Association
P. O. Box 6119, LONDON SW20 0XG

Articles, letters and other matter appearing in this publication do not necessarily express the official views of the Executive Committee of The Muslim Women's Association.

Meetings of the MWA take place on the second Sunday of each month

EDITORIAL

السلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته
Assalaam-o-Alaikum

This month has seen millions of people all over the world getting together in groups to celebrate the coming of the prophet Mohammed (peace be upon him), and to remind themselves of the purpose of his Mission. His life was simple, and very very lonely at first - His parents died. Later he suffered terribly at the hands of his enemies. Nowadays, there are millions of orphans who are suffering untold misery. Reading newspapers and watching television has become a nightmare, and the horrors perpetrated by human beings upon each other cause agony to many of us.

The helplessness felt by most people hearing the news of cruelty and violence inflicted upon human beings by others becomes intolerable sometimes.

Yet now we can do so much to help them - There is our prayers of course - and then there are innumerable charities and organisations who are trying their utmost to help relieve the suffering of those in need.

We the Muslim Women's Association is totally dedicated to the needs of Children in this country. The creation of Madina House, a home for children in need has been achieved with great effort and with Allah's blessing - However we need new premises and we have to raise funds to buy a new building.

The members of the Association and readers of this magazine are requested to give as much, or as little as they can possibly afford, and the rewards of your generosity will be great in this world and in the Hereafter

Please try to attend our MILAD-UN-NABI on the 10th of September (Sunday) at 4.30pm. You will have an opportunity to listen, and learn, and give: and the giving is the most rewarding of all actions.

May the Blessings of Allah be with you. Amen.

Milad Al-Nabi



The Celebration of The Birthday of The Prophet

(Peace be upon him)

* * *

The Muslim Women's Association
will celebrate the Birthday of the
Prophet Muhammad

(Peace be upon him)

on
Sunday 10th September 1995
at 4.30 pm

OBITUARY

DR. SAID RAMADAN

Dr. Said Ramadan, writer and Muslim scholar is dead. When the news broke it was as if the whole world had stopped breathing for a moment.

Dr. Ramadan died in Geneva, Switzerland, on August 4 aged 69. He was born in Tanta, Egypt.

As an active supporter of the Islamic Movement he lived and worked in Geneva, where he established the first Islamic Centre in Continental Europe in the late 1950s. His dedication to Allah, Islam and the Centre was exemplary. He was a well known author of books and pamphlets on Islam. His Book "Islamic Law - its Scope and Equity" came out in English, French and German. Dr. Ramadan has also published "Al-Muslimoon", a religious monthly magazine, which he edited for many years. It was the most famous Islamic publication in Arabic.

He always showed a warm interest in the activities of the Muslim Women's Association and thanks to his recommendation our organisation received the occasional financial support from well-wishers.

Dr. Ramadan was laid to rest in Cairo near his father-in-law Hassan al-Banna, the founder of the Muslim Brotherhood.

We beg God Almighty to grant his soul the well-deserved rest in eternal peace. We also pray for his dear widow Wafa, their daughter and their sons. May they all be given strength to overcome their grief. Ameen.

Samina Hasan

Juniors's Corner**RESPECT THY SELF**

Olive Toto

The palm tree in the oasis looked so tall and the water beneath them looked so clear and fresh. A man sitting by this water was saying to himself "How I wish those dates on that palm tree were ready for me to eat".

For this man knew that if there was any fruit on that tree he would eat it and then drink the water, and go to sleep, because he had no food at home to eat nor work to do. "Well", thought the man, "I will beg from my friends and they will give me something to eat or some money to buy some food".

He did not seem to feel in the least ashamed of going and asking his friends for help. He thought of a very good man called Muhammad. He knew this man would not refuse him because he was always saying, "Do good unto others and also feed the starving".

Off this man went to the Prophet, and asked him for help. The Prophet looked at him and saw this man was strong and healthy. The Prophet said: "My good man, do you possess anything?" The man said, "I have only a cup to drink from, and a sheet of cloth with which I cover myself and a bedstead".

The Prophet said: "Bring two of these articles to me". This was done and then the Prophet asked his friends around, "Who will buy this man's goods?" At last someone bought them for two dirhams. The Prophet turned to the man and said: "Here are two dirhams, with one of these buy food, and with the other go and buy a piece of rope, then go into the woods and collect pieces of wood, tie them up, put them into bundles and sell them in the market".

Two weeks passed and then the man came back. He told the Prophet that he had saved 15 dirhams, and that with some of the money he had bought cloth and food, and still had some money left. The Prophet asked. "Which is more praise worthy - this way or to go on to the day of Judgement branded with the mark of begging?" The man went away happy and proud, for now he had his self-respect back. □

POETRY**ALLAMA IQBAL**

We are gone astray from God;
 He is searching, upon the road,
 For like us, He is need entire
 And the prisoner of desire.
 On the tulip's petal He writes
 The message His heart indites,
 Yea, and His voice is heard
 In the passionate song of the bird.
 He lay in-the iris fold
 Our loveliness to behold;
 Bright cup of the ardent gaze
 Whose glance is a hymn of praise!
 Parted from us forlorn
 He sighs with the breath of morn,
 Within and out He doth stand,
 Around, and on every hand.
 Hidden in every grain
 Not yet is He known to man
 Though bright as the full moon's grace
 In cottage and street is His face.

(Translation by A .J. Arberry)



The Muslim Women's Association (U.K.)

Headquarters London

Registered Charity No. 264608

P. O. Box 6119, London SW20 0XG

Date:

RENEWAL FOR MEMBERSHIP

Dear

Your yearly MWA-Membership (which includes the subscription to "The Muslim Woman") will be/was due for renewal on

We trust you have enjoyed the past meetings/functions and reading "The Muslim Woman". We look forward to your renewal of membership and request you kindly to pay the annual fee of £10.00 within the next thirty days (Life Membership £80.00).

Please fill in the form below and send it together with your payment to our Membership Secretary. (Please ignore this form if you are a life member, or if you have already paid this year's subscription). Thank you for your continuous support.

----- Cut and Post -----

To:

Membership Secretary

Miss Shirin Hassan

In order to renew my Membership of the Muslim Women's Association (U.K.) and the subscription to "The Muslim Woman", I enclose a crossed cheque/postal order for £ payable to the "Muslim Women's Association (UK)".

Title (Miss, Ms., Mrs., other) First Names
 (Block letters please)
 Surname
 Address: Street
 Town County Postal Code
 Country Telephone number
 Signature Date

A LETTER FROM BOSNIA

Dear Readers,

Today I had to stop the class as the grenades fell fifty metres from the Opstina of Jablanica. It was quite scaring. But I became very brave as I noticed the children were very much frightened. So naturally Allah gave me the courage to lead them all to the basement. The security guards were all there helping us. The two grenades fell just outside Landeva hotel, the place where Raschid had come and where I stayed with Asad's mum for two months. Luckily not much damage was done; except the big lorries and vans which bring food and are usually parked outside were sham. A girl whose name is Amira and who is ten years old was hysterical as her father had died three months ago while I was in Jablanica last time. It was hard to control her.

I wish I had a movie camera as I went outside to witness it. I am now quite used to the grenades as in Konjic we heard almost daily and witness it every evening. So the class was finished and I tried to make a phone call to London but of course there was no phone. So I went to Robert's office who was having a drink and frantically trying to reach Mejigore office. But his phone also did not work so I did not want to bother him as he was busy. I just told him that I am hitting for Ostrozac and then for Konjic; and if something happens to me just call London and give the news to my son. But in my heart I know that nothing like this will happen to me and I will die inshallah peacefully near my dear ones. The only thing is that I must do something good so All forgive my many sins. Amen.

The house in Ostrozac is slowly but surely coming up as Aziz is a perfectionist and also the workers are called to the front, so sometimes we have nobody. The Mercedes van which Aziz has been driving is broken down completely. It was given by Asad and it has been functioning so far, but the roads in Bosnia are terrible, in fact there are no roads at all. There are some goat roads and some good ones. But the good ones are shelled and there is no asphalt or betumin in the country to repair the roads. Please read my letters to your children, or ask them to read loudly. For this is life, and some of the facts of life they will learn from my letters. How Allah's azab can come sometimes due to our sins and mistakes, and sometimes Allah wants to see us if we really will remember Him in distress and in war, as well as in happy times. I am not doing very well at the moment as I am still quite shaky with the grenades. My computer's manual and the instructions plus the paper that Jamil had packed has gone.

Many people specially children steal here. Also the mugs for the tea which I bought have walked from the same packet. Please inform Kulsum if she is still in London that I have delivered all her letters and parcels to the people.

Tomorrow is UMPROFOR's meeting at Jablanica. I am driving daily from Konjic to Ostrozac and then to Jablanica and return at night at ten. The day is quite happy and busy. Asad has hired someone from Pula. He is from Sudan and is married to a Croatian lady. He is very kind and has been a help in Ostrozac. I shall write again soon inshallah.

Saida Sharif - Wednesday, 1st May 1995

Continued from page 11

Content of programme:

- 1) Dr. Abdul Haleem, Imam of the ICC to recite from the Qu'ran to open the proceedings.
- 2) A short speech by Dr. Abdul Haleem.
- 3) Speech on Bosnia.
- 4) Recitations and short readings by the following children:
 - i) Mohamed Yusuf Islam (son of Yusuf Islam) and friends.
 - ii) Attar Shah's son and daughter
 - iii) Firdous Arif's son and daughter
 - iv) Dr. Ghamdi's sons, Salim and Amir.
 - v) Jasmine Ansari's two children.
- 5) Naats: i) S. Siddiqui ii) An acquaintance of Firdous Arif
- 6) Salaam - by All present.

Contributions for refreshments for Milad:

Catering for 300 people

Cakes: 100 cakes from Firdous Arif & 100 cakes from Mrs. K. Hassan

Burfi: Mrs. Shafqat Ghaffar (donated £25.00 towards cost of Burfi)

Water: 18 bottles of water from Mrs. K. Hassan

Soft Drinks: Dr. Osman

Milk and Sugar--- Tea--- Smosas--

Pokaras: 100 Pakaras from Mrs. K. Hassan

Sweets for children: Souraya Youssef (donated £10.00)

Mrs. Azra Rikhi Contributed £25.00 towards the Milad.

It was decided that members not present should be invited to contribute towards the refreshments.

After a break for Asr prayer the meeting continued. Dina Samara displayed a range of jewelry which was nickel free.

Mr. and Mrs. Shafqat Ghaffar donated £500 towards the Bosnian Fund.

The meeting was closed with a Dua by Souraya Youssef. Tea was served.

MWA BUSINESS -August 1995

Minutes Minutes of the monthly Muslim Women's Association meeting held on on Sunday 13th August 1995 at the Islamic Cultural Centre.

Members present:

Mrs. K. Hassan, Dr. Z. Osman, Shafqat Ghaffar, Swadeka Ahsun, Firdous Arif, Souraya Youssef, Sharifa Sharif, Shirin Hassan.

Guests: Dina Samara, Diba Kopic

Apologies: Mrs. Q. Bashir, Mrs. Samina Hasan

Souraya Youssef opened the meeting with the recitation of Sura Al-Fatiha. Sharifa Sharif then recited and explained the meaning of Sura Al-Hadid, verses 1-6.

Business Matters:

1. Preparation and organisation of Milad-un-Nabi to be held on Sunday 10th September. The President, Mrs. Khanam Hassan asked Firdous Arif to finalise arrangements for the booking of the Hall with Mr. Ali. Firdous Arif then showed a fax she had sent to Sunrise Radio advertising the MWA bazaar held in July. It was agreed that she should contact Sunrise Radio, who are extremely helpful, to announce the Milad-un-Nabi celebration on Sunday 10th September. The members then discussed the arrangements for the organisation of the Milad, in terms of content and resources.

Milad-un-Nabi: The following was agreed:

Event: Milad-un-Nabi Place:- The Islamic Cultural Centre

Day:- Sunday 10th September Time: After Asr Prayer (4.50 pm)

Continued on page 10