

The Muslim Woman

The MUSLIM WOMAN

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OUR NEW ADDRESS

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



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Membership of The Muslim Women's Association is open to all Muslim Women.

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THE EXECUTIVE & COMMITTEE

FOR THE PERIOD DECEMBER 1995 TO NOVEMBER 1997

- | | |
|---|---|
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Ms. Shirin Hassan | 9. Religious Advisor
Mrs. Souraya Youssef |
| 5. Social Secretary
Mrs. Firdous Arif | |

NEXT MEETING

SUNDAY 8th June 1997
at The Islamic Cultural Centre
146 Park Road, London NW8 7RG
Time: 4.30 pm

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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

السلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته

EDITORIAL

Some of the things that happen around us today are so shocking and traumatic that we are apt to become impatient, and doubtful about the very existence of Allah.

It is only when we read his message in the Holy Quran that peace is restored to our hearts - for in the reading of the Holy Quran do our hearts find love and rest.

For instance the cruelty and injustice that some people in Power and Authority can inflict on those weaker than themselves. For example those cruel people who possess guns and explosives and are using them against the helpless and innocent ones. Even day to day happenings like serious motor accidents on the roads in which some people are so possessed by their own power of driving fast that they kill and injure innocent people who may have not have made any driving mistakes at all.

Why do these things happen? Why are some lives so cruelly destroyed? Allah in his message to us through the Holy Qur'an explains in parables. In Surah 'Kahf' (The cave); the story of Moses (peace be upon him), when he sees Khizr (peace be upon him), slaying a young man; is an outstanding example. Moses is shocked and asks Khizr (peace be upon him) why he did it. It is later explained to him that the apparently innocent young man was indeed wicked and would have caused great distress to his parents had he lived.

This knowledge is only with Allah and it is in His hands to bestow this knowledge to those of his servants whom he chooses.

Allah's universal will and purpose is difficult for us to understand but we must be patient, and do our best to work deeds of righteousness - Allah has promised that he will bestow Love and Peace on those who believe in him.

Let us pray for the success of our endeavours in his service.

Ameen.

Dr. Zubeda Osman

RELIGIOUS INFORMATION

Mrs. Soraya Yousef

Allah (Subhanahu wa Taala) says in the Qur'an: "Take not with me another God or thou (O Man) will sit in disgrace and destitution".

There is no excuse for man to seek other objects of worship than Allah – for there is none worthy of worship except Him. The foolish turn to false objects of worship. They will not only be disappointed, but they will lose the respect of their own fellow-men, and spiritually they will be reduced to poverty - All their talents and their works will be worthless.

"Thy Lord hath decreed that ye worship none, but Him, and that ye be kind to parents whether one or both of them attain old age in thy life. Say not to them a word of contempt nor repel them, but address them in terms of honour".

The spiritual and moral duties are now brought into one side. We are to worship none but Allah. The kindness to parents is an individual act of piety. They are not to be repelled or treated with disrespect, but shown every kindness in word and deed.

When the parents were strong they looked after the child – So when the child grows up and is strong he or she should return similar tender care to the parents More than that the children should approach the matter with gentle humility, for does not parental love remind them of the great love with which Allah cherishes his creatures? There is something here more than simple human gratitude. It reaches the highest spiritual regions.

Parental love is a type of divine love. Nothing that we can do can ever really compensate for that which we have received. Our spiritual

advancement is tested by this – We cannot perceive Allah's forgiveness if we are rude or unkind to those who unselfishly brought us up. Our prayer for our parents should be "My Lord bestow on them thy mercy even as they cherished me in childhood".

"Allah knows best what is in your hearts if ye do deeds of righteousness. Verify He is most forgiving to those who turn to Him again and again in true penitence".

It is the heart and its hidden and secret motives by which we are judged for Allah knows them all.

"And render to kindred (close relatives) their due rights as also to those in want; and to the wayfarer. But squander not your wealth in the manner of spend thrift. Verily spendthrifts are brothers of Satan, and Satan is to his Lord Himself ungrateful".

A LETTER TO MWA

To: Muslim Women's Association, 63 Coombe Lane, London SW20 0BD
 From: Lahcen Damiri
 GPH, Dept of Language and Linguistics
 University of Essex-Colchester CO4 3SQ
 Tel: 01206 873232

7th May 1997

Dear Brother or Sister, Assalamu Alaykum Wa Rahmatu-Llah,

Could you please notify the members of your respected Association of the following job opportunity details which I received from the headmaster of a language school in Kuwait:

The Roueia Primary School in Kuwait are looking for two practising Muslim sisters to teach English to young female students. Teaching experience for at least one year is required.

Interested sisters can send their details in the form of a CV on fax no: 00 965 2572425.

Jazaakum-Llah for your cooperation, Wassalamu Alaykum,

Yours in Islam, Lahcen Damiri

Children's Corner

ISLAM AND THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PARENTS AND THEIR OFFSPRING

A successful marriage usually leads to children. Parents and their relationship with their children is vitally important. So Islam has given both rights and duties.

The parents has the duties to give each child the equal opportunity to live. They must feed, cloth, shelter, nurse and care for it. A husband is to chose his wife well giving his children the best mother and vice versa to give them a good father. They have a right to be given a good and respectable name. Also a man must only marry a Muslim, Jewish or Christian wife and a woman a Muslim man (as the children are to follow the father's religion). The parents have a duty to teach the child about Islam, the Qur'an and other vital knowledge the child needs to lead a successful life. "No father can give his child anything better than good manners". These are important duties not to be neglected. "Be careful of your duty to Allah and be fair and just to you children", (Hadith). The following story, titled, 'Hasn't a child rights over his father?', is from page 75 of "Islam the Natural Way" by Abdul Wahid Hamid, illustrates this. But a child also has duties and a parents rights. "Paradise lies under your mother's feet", goes the famous hadith. It means that a child must care for his/her parent's if she/he wishes to go to Paradise.

A man once came to Umar bin al-Khattab, the second Caliph, complaining about his son's disobedience to him. Umar summoned the boy and spoke of his disobedience to his father and his neglect of his rights. The boy replied: "O Amir al-Mu'minin! Hasn't a child right

over his father?" . "Certainly", replied Umar. "What are they Amir al-Mu'minin?. "That he should choose his mother, give him a good name and teach him the book (the Qur'an". "O Amir al-Mu'minin! My father did nothing of this. My mother Magian (fire worshipper). He gave me the name Ju'alaan (meaning beetle or scarab) and he did not teach me a single letter of the Qur'an". Turning to the father, Umar said: "You have come to me to complain about the disobedience of your son! You have failed in your duty to him, so he has failed in his duty to you; you have done him wrong before he wronged you".

"A man asked the Prophet, 'O messenger of Allah! Who deserves the best care from me?' The Prophet (ﷺ) said "Your mother". The man said, "Who then?", the Prophet said, "Your mother". The man asked again and got the same reply. For the fourth tim he asked and the reply was "Your father", Hadith. This hadith explains that although you should love both parents you must hold your mother in higher regard, for of course, she did carry you for nine months, go through labour - a most testing time for the majority, suckle you and looked after you as a child. "And We have made it a duty for man to be good to his parents. His mother bears him with one fainting spell after another fainting spell, while his weaning takes two years. Thank me as well as your parents; towards Me lies the ultimate goal". (Qur'an). Allah is telling us here that by obeying our parents we are obeying Him, and we must remember that our ultimate goal of Paradise depends on us pleasing Allah. As a son/daughter you must obey your parents unless they go against Islam. "Your Lord hath decreed that ye worship none but Him, and that ye be kind to parents. Whether one or both of them attain old again thy life, say not to them a word of contempt, nor repel them but address them in terms of honour. And, out of kindness lower them the wing of humility and say: 'My Lord! Bestow on them thy Mercy even as they cherished me in childhood'" (Qur'an 17:23-4). These verses are telling us that in your parents' old age in particularly you must care for them, cook and clean for them if they can't, make sure they have cloths, food and shelter, nurse them

when they are sick and basically care for their well being. The child mustn't be rude, or do things that upset or abuse their parents but respect them highly.

"A father's pleasure is Allah's pleasure, a father's displeasure is Allah's displeasure" (hadith). Here, we are being told that to please Allah we must please our parents, showing how we will get rewards from Allah if we please our parents, and his punishment if we annoy or anger them.

With these rules and guidelines Islam insures that the vital relationship between parents and their offspring is a sound loving one.

Misbah Arif



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

Headquarters London

Registered Charity No. 264608

P. O. Box 6119, London SW20 0XG

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEE AND YEARLY SUBSCRIPTION TO
"THE MUSLIM WOMAN"

U.K. £10.00 Overseas £18.00 (airmail)

Life membership in U.K. £80.00 Overseas £100.00

It gives us great pleasure to welcome you to our Association. We are looking forward to working together for the cause of Islam.

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

Date:

To:

Miss Shirin Hassan

I wish to become a member of the Muslim Women's Association (U.K.) and receive "The Muslim Woman". I enclose a crossed cheque/Postal Order in the amount of £ made 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



”لَنْ تَنَالُوا الْبِرَّ حَتَّى تُنْفِقُوا مِمَّا تَحِبُّونَ وَ مَا تُنْفِقُوا مِنْ شَيْءٍ
فَإِنَّ اللَّهَ بِهِ عَلِيمٌ“

“You shall not attain righteousness unless you spend on others of that which
you love, and whatever you spend, verily God has knowledge of it.”
(The Qur'an 3:92)

MADINA HOUSE

دار المدينة



From

Name

Address

Telephone

I would like to make a donation/Zakat and enclose a cheque for
the amount of £ payable to Muslim Women's
Association 'Account Madina House'.

To be send either to:

THE PRESIDENT,
MWA, P. O. Box 6119, LONDON SW20 0XG

or direct to:

The National Westminster Bank, Royal Garden Branch,
Kensington High Street, London W8 5EQ (Acc no 25941364;
Sort Number 50-30-10).

MADINA HOUSE

**A Muslim Home for Children
in Need of Care in London**

AN APPEAL

MADINA HOUSE is a Muslim home for children in need of care, established in 1981 under the auspices of the Muslim Women's Association (a registered charity which has been functioning since 1962).

From its inception the organisers worked closely with the Department of Health and Social Security and all other Social Services Agencies in order to comply with the current guidelines on the running of Children's Homes. Subsequently Madina House was registered by the Department of S.S.I. under the Child Care Act.

Aim - The main aim of Madina House is to provide an alternative home for children who for whatever reason, are temporarily unable to live with their parent/s. At Madina House we provide a stable, caring background, founded on Islamic principles and practices. Since its founding we have cared for over 400 children.

The present home does no longer comply with today's regulations and we have been asked to find more suitable accommodation. Thus, we are in desperate need of finance to buy an appropriate building. Failing to do so, the future of Madina House is in question.

Please help us by giving generously to continue to care for our children in need.

Donations, whether by Cheques or Banker's Orders would be greatly appreciated.

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

ANNOUNCEMENT

THE MUSLIM WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION ANNUAL CHARITY

BAZAAR

will be held inshallah on
SUNDAY 6th JULY 1997

TIME: 4 pm to 7 pm

at

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

The Bazar will be opened by

Dr. Hamad Al-Majed

Director General, The Islamic Cultural Centre
and London Central Mosque

POETRY

THE EVERLASTING JEWELLERY BY SHAHNAZ SHAH

“dedicated to my daughter Sara and granddaughter Hina”
(adapted from ‘Baheshti Zaiver’ by Maulana Ashraf Ali Thanwi)

One day a young girl asked her mother:
“What is the best sort of jewellery Mum ?”

“Please tell me about the best to have and keep !”

The mother replied : “My darling, listen to my words with care!

My dearest do not value jewellery of gold and silver, as it is short lived
as a moonlit night !

Try to acquire the everlasting !

May Allah grant you a tiara of the ‘Qur’anic’ advice and a necklace of
the prophet’s sunnah;

So that you may walk on the straight path: the path of the righteous
on whom Allah showered his blessings !

May Allah give you earrings of the ‘Hadiths’ bangles of perseverance
and rings of humanity.

May He give anklets of steadfastness for your feet: to keep you steady
in righteousness; and stop you from going astray.

(Ameen summa Ameen)

KITCHEN TALK

CHICKEN TIKKA AND VEGETABLES ON SKEWERS

Shahnaz Shah

Ingredients required :

Bitesize pieces of chicken breast 1 lb
Green/red/yellow peppers (half each cut in manageable pieces)
Button mushrooms – half lb
Courgettes 2 or 3 – cut in thin rings.
Tomatoes 2 or 3 cut in thick chunks

Seasoning :

Lemon juice 2 or 3 tablespoons
Pepper/salt/chilli powder (optional – according to taste)

Preparation :

Marinate the chicken pieces in lemon juice/salt/pepper/chilli powder
(for 10 to 15 mins) arrange the chicken + vegetables on skewers
according to own preference

Example : courgette ring/yellow pepper/chicken piece/onion/tomato/
green pepper/mushroom and repeat

Cooking Instructions :

Grill or bake in moderate to high heat (turning skewers from time to
time) for approximately 10 mins. presentation : serve with oven chips
or on a bed of ‘matar pilau’

The MUSLIM WOMAN

NEWSLETTER



The Editor welcomes
contributions,
articles or news and
illustrations in the
form of calligraphy or
Islamic patterns
would be most
welcome.

MWA BUSINESS – MARCH/MAY 1997

MINUTES OF THE MARCH MEETING

The monthly meeting of the Muslim Women's Association was held at the Islamic Cultural Centre on the 9th of March 1997. Twelve members were present, including one visitor. The meeting was opened by recitation of Qur'anic verses by Sister Soraya Yusuf.

The Eid-ul-Adha Dinner arrangements were discussed and the following decisions were made:

1. Adults were to be charged £4.00 and children half price at the door. Invitations were posted to some people.
2. Mr. Ali was to provide the food and catering.
3. Halls had been booked separately for men and women.
4. Donations from members was voluntary.

The Eid dinner menu was as follows:

Main dish: Mixed vegetable biryani. Roast chicken pieces, meat and spinach dish.

Side dish: Salad and yogurt.

Sweet dish: Gulab Jaman

Drinks: Water, squash, and tea

Volunteers: Aliya, Rawdah, Ayesha and Misbah would help in serving the food. Shirin would be selling tickets with a helper at the entrance.

Khalida and Lubna would prepare raita (yogurt). Shirin would prepare the salad. Lubna and Mrs. Z. Ali would bring squash. Mrs. Khanam Hassan would bring Volvic water. Jasmine Ansari would supply tea and Shirin would bring sugar and milk. Disposables would be supplied by Mr. Ali. Lubna would also bring some. Everyone was asked to bring trays and Lubna and Dr. Usman were to bring some jugs.

Everybody was to bring in some flowers for the tables. Mrs. Hasan would buy a flower arrangement for the main table.

Committee members were asked to be there at 3.30 pm.

MWA NEWS

A very informal evening was organised by the Women of the Year for the Blind to meet, to talk, to question and to hear something of the lives of the members. The President; Editor, Membership Secretary and Treasurer attended the meeting.

Our Annual Eid Dinner was held on 16th March 1997 at The Islamic Cultural Centre. 146 Park Road. London NW8. 400 hundred people attended the function. It was a very pleasant evening. ALHAMDULILLAH.

Congratulations to Shazia Haqq one of our life members and her son Tariq who has won a place at Oxford University. Well done.

Our heartfelt condolences to Mrs. Amina Darr, our member on the passing of her husband. May Allah Almighty have mercy on him. We are very sad to hear the death of the brother of Begum Dr. Tanveer Moin Jan, acting chairmen of APWA. May Allah Almighty Bless his soul.

ALL our best wishes to Mrs. Qamar Bashir Khan and Mrs. Fehmida Haq for speedy recovery as they have not been well for sometime.

REMINDER: To our members who have sponsored children in Lebanon and Africa, their sponsorship fee is due. Mrs. Bashir has already paid £400 Pounds for 4 Children.

Our next meeting is going to be held on 11th May 1997 at the Islamic Culture Centre, 146 Park Road London NW8, at 4 pm. May meeting promises to be an interesting one, as some of our members have returned from Hajj.

MINUTES OF THE MAY MEETING

The monthly meeting of the Muslim Women's Association was held at the Islamic Cultural Centre. Sorraya Youssef, the religious adviser, opened the meeting with a recitation of Sura al-Fatiha.

MWA BUSINESS

The President pointed out that the date for the Bazaar had to be changed as the hall had already been booked on the agreed date.

THE NEW DATE FOR THE BAZAAR: SUNDAY, 6TH JULY.

The main Speaker: Attar Shah.

After Asr Salaat, Attar Shah, the husband of our member Kunza Shah, spoke on his experience on Hajj. Attar Shah placed Hajj in its context as one of the five pillars of Islam.

He was also able to give a first hand account of the fire in Saudi Arabia. Three million people took part in the Hajj. Tragedies can never be eliminated altogether when three million people are gathered in one place at one time. It was suggested that perhaps the number could be limited by means of rota system.

Next meeting: Sunday, 8th June. Talk on Social Welfare of Muslim Children by brother Yusuf Islam.

The meeting was closed by Qur'anic recitation.

Refreshments were served.