



Call to the Light

Please send us your feedback at [newsletter@dulum.vic.edu.au](mailto:newsletter@dulum.vic.edu.au)

# MUAZZIN

27<sup>TH</sup> SHAWWAL 1428

Newsletter No.56

8<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2007

## Important dates

**12<sup>th</sup> Nov (Monday)** – Years 7 – 10 Curriculum Day (No School for student Year 7 - 10). **Please note that the grades pre - 6 children are required to attend school on this day.**

## Hadith of the week

Hazrat Abu Huraira R.A. reports that Rasulullah (Sallallahu Alaihi Wassallam) said: "Whoever performs Hajj for the sake of pleasing Allah and therein utters no word of evil, nor commits any evil deed, shall remain from it as free from sin as the day on which his mother gave Birth to him."

When a child is ushered into this world, he enters this life without any blemish and is free from any sins. Now, when the Hajj has been performed with utmost sincerity for Allah's sake, the pilgrim returns to that sinless state.

It will be remembered from our booklet "Virtues of Salaat" that when we hear of forgiveness of sins as in the Hadith mentioned above, we actually refer to minor sins. However, the contents of this Hadith have been noted in such numerous Ahadith that some learned ulama are of the opinion that minor as well as major sins are included in this pardon from Allah.

In this Hadith under discussion, three things are mentioned. In the first place we read that Hajj should be for Allah's motive prompting this holy deed, neither should it be for the show of things, nor for personal fame. Many people proceed to Mecca for the sake of personal honor and show. Such people have indeed wasted whatever they have spent by way of wealth, health and energy. For them there shall be no reward. We admit that when a person has performed his Hajj even for the sake of showing others, his obligation has been carried out. But how foolish indeed is it not that a person should deny himself such great virtue and reward (in the form of Allah's great pardon) merely because of his desire to be noted among some people.

Rasulullah (Sallallahu Alaihi Wassallam) once said: "Near the time of Qiyamah the rich ones from amongst my Ummah will perform Hajj for the sake of travel and holidays; (Like having a holiday in Hejaz instead of one in London or Paris). The middle class will perform Hajj for commercial purposes, thereby

transporting goods from here to there while bringing commercial goods from there to here; the ulama will perform Hajj for the sake of show and fame; (To outdo and surpass Maulana so and so, or any rival Sheikh who had performed five Hajj). The poor will perform Hajj for the purposes of begging." (Kanzul Aamaal)

The ulama have stated that should a person perform a 'Hajje Badal' on behalf of someone else for a specific price, so that he drives worldly benefit from such a Hajj, he too is included among those who perform Hajj for commercial purposes. In another Hadith we read that the Kings and Rulers will perform Hajj for the sake of having pleasurable holidays; the wealthy ones for the sake of business; the poor ones for the sake of begging; while the learned ones will come for Hajj for the sake of show." (Ithaaf)

In the first of these two traditions we read that the wealthy ones will perform Hajj for the sake of having a tour and a holiday. In the second Hadith we read again that they will do so for the sake of business. In actual fact there is no contradiction here even though it apparently seems so. In the former case, those mentioned as wealthy ones are actually those very rich ones who in the second Hadith are called Sultans or Rulers. In actual fact they are slightly lower than the rulers. For this reason they are also called the middle class.

## Dear Parents

Jazakallah khair, for embracing the school's newsletter Muazzin, as an important means of communication between the school and home. The Muazzin, intends to inform you of important dates, events and programs taking place in the school. If you are not receiving the newsletter on a weekly basis, please inform the school office.

We appreciate any suggestions that you may have in relation to any aspect of the newsletter.

## On Intentions and Actions

From Islamic perspective our actions can fall in one of three categories and our intentions have different implications for each of them.

The hadith about intentions is so important, some scholars have expressed the opinion that it encompasses fully one third of Islamic teachings. Also, it is one of the most remembered and quoted ahadith and one that is frequently quoted in its original Arabic even by non-Arabic speaking Muslims. There is hardly a Muslim who has never heard it. While all this attention to its words is superb, unfortunately we have not done as much to understand its implications and let that understanding inform our actions.

From Islamic perspective our actions can fall in one of three categories and our intentions have different implications for each of them. In the first category are the religiously mandatory acts or the voluntary acts of worship (like voluntary salat). In the second category are the permissible acts that include most of the mundane activities in life, like eating, drinking, sleeping, earning a living, and raising a family. The third category consists of prohibited acts.

The most direct application of this hadith is to the first category. It tells us that such deeds must be performed for the sole purpose of pleasing Allah for even the slightest corruption of our motives could destroy them. The five pillars are the prime example of such deeds. For example if a person offers salat (ritual prayers) to be recognized as a pious person, he has not only destroyed his salat, he has committed the unforgivable sin of associating partners with Allah. For he was praying for the sake of others. The same is true of Hajj, and Hijra, and charity, etc., etc..

The Qur'an explains it further through a beautiful simile. It compares the case of two persons engaged in what would appear to be identical acts of charity. Both spend money to help the needy. One does it purely for the sake of Allah; the other has the goal of getting a good name from it. "You who believe, do not cancel your acts of charity by [making] any reproach or scolding like someone who spends his money simply for people to see it while he does not believe in God and the Last Day. He may be compared to a boulder covered with some soil, which a rainstorm strikes and leaves bare. They cannot do anything with whatever they have earned. God does not guide such disbelieving folk. Those who spend their wealth seeking God's approval and to strengthen their souls may be compared to a garden on a hilltop; should a rainstorm strike it, its produce is doubled, while if a rainstorm does not strike it, then drizzle does. God is Observant of anything you do." [Al-Baqarah 2:264-265 (Translation by Irving)].

Charity is an important example because here the chances of corruption of our motives are especially high due to the very nature of the act. We deal with other people who may thank and recognize us and we may begin to love and seek that appreciation. What is more, we may brush aside any qualms by assuring ourselves that the publicity is only meant to inspire others.



## Issues of Overweight



Consuming foods high in energy or calories combined with an inactive lifestyle can lead to children (and adults)

becoming overweight and/or obese. As a result of these conditions, children can face both emotional issues as well as medical problems.

Emotional based problems include decreased social activity and/or social isolation due to being teased by peers. This in turn can contribute to low self-esteem levels, negative self image which can further spiral into feeling worthless or unwanted.

Medical problems which are directly attributed to increased weight include high blood pressure, type 2 diabetes, high cholesterol and an increased risk of developing cardiovascular disease.

Despite these frightening realities, these health issues can be prevented by making positive lifestyle changes that encourage healthy eating and regular physical activity for the whole family.



Enjoying a wide variety of fresh fruits and vegetables, combined with 30 minutes of moderate physical activity every day is the key!

**For more information visit [www.nutritionaustralia.org](http://www.nutritionaustralia.org)**