



**MEADOWVALE
ISLAMIC CENTRE**

NEWSLETTER

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Six Principles of a Spiritual Fast

According to Imam Ghazali (May Allah have mercy on him)

1. To restrain the eyes from
 - (a) What is forbidden and
 - (b) That which diverts attention from the remembrance of Allah
2. To restrain from the tongue
 - (a) From useless talk, lies, backbiting, slander, abusive speech, obscenity, hypocrisy and enmity
 - (b) Adopt silence
 - (c) To keep the tongue busy with the remembrance of Allah
3. To restrain the ears from listening to forbidden speech
4. To save the hands, feet and other organs from sins, and to save the stomach from doubtful food at the time of breaking fast
5. To not fill the stomach completely, even with lawful food
6. To keep one's heart between fear and hope regarding whether the fast has been accepted

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Ramadan

Salman, the Persian (R.A) has reported the following: The Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) addressed us on the last day of Sha'ban wherein he said:

"O men, a great, blessed month has cast its shadow upon you. It is a month which contains a night far better than one thousand months, a month Allah has made it obligatory to fast therein and made it commendable to stand up praying in its nights. If someone seeks Allah's nearness by offering an optional act of worship in this month, it will be as rewarding as to offer an obligatory worship in other days, and if someone performs an obligatory act of worship in this month, it will carry as much reward of performing seventy obligatory acts of worship in other days. It is the month of patience and the reward of patience is Jannah (the Paradise). It is a month of sympathy, a month in which the provision for a believer is increased. If someone provides another person with food to make Iftar (terminate one's fast by eating or drinking something) it will cause forgiveness to his sins and freeing his neck from hell and he will be awarded the same thawab as the fasting person will be rewarded for his fast, without decreasing his own thawab."

The companions of the Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) said, "O Messenger of Allah, every one of us does not have enough food to offer for Iftar to another fasting person." The Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) said, "This thawab will also be given to a person who offers to a fasting person one date or a drink of water or a little milk for his Iftar. And this is a month the first part of which is mercy from Allah, the middle of which is the forgiveness from Allah and the last part of which is liberation from hell. If someone relaxes the burden of work from his slave in this month, Allah will forgive his sins and will free him from Fire. In this month you should do four acts frequently. Two acts are such that you will please your Lord through them and two are such that you can never claim to be need-free of them. As for the two acts you please Allah through them, they are: to bear witness that there is no god but Allah, and to seek forgiveness from Allah. And the two acts you can never be need-free of them are: to pray Allah to give you the Jannah (the Paradise) and to seek refuge of Allah from the Fire. And if someone serves a drink to a fasting person, Allah will make him have such a drink from my canal (the Kauthar) that he will never get thirsty after it until he enters the Jannah." (Ibn-e-Khazima)

Laylatulqadr

One of the most meritorious aspects of the month of Ramadan is that it contains Laylatulqadr, the most blessed night of the year. It is the night which Allah Almighty chose to reveal the Holy Quran. The Holy Quran has mentioned that this night is better than one thousand months. It means that the worship performed in this night brings more reward than the worship performed in one thousand months. The authentic Traditions of the Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) mention that, in this night, Allah Almighty directs His special mercy towards the people of the earth, accepts the supplications made by His slaves and forgives a large number of people who repent and pray.

Laylatulqadr falls in one of the last five odd nights of Ramadan i.e. 21st, 23rd, 25th, 27th and 29th. According to authentic sources, Laylatulqadr falls in any one of these nights. The purpose of this alteration is that one should spend all the five nights in worship and prayers, so that he may find Laylatulqadr with certainty.

No special form of worship is prescribed for Laylatulqadr. The night should be spent by offering as much nafil prayers as one can offer, in recitation of the Holy Quran in dhikr and tasbeeh, in supplications and in making sadaqaah (charity)

It is not advisable in this night to hold ceremonies or meetings or delivering long lectures or illuminating the mosques. This is a night for developing a special connection with one's Creator, for offering acts of worship in solitude and seclusion, for having constant and exclusive contact with his Lord who is the Lord of the universe, for minimizing the diversity of thoughts and actions and for devoting oneself to Allah Almighty with his heart and soul

This purpose can seldom be achieved in congregations and assemblies. That is why Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) never tended to celebrate this night by lectures, meetings, illumination or even by offering prayers in jama'at. Instead, he used to perform acts of worship individually, and in solitude Sayyidah Aishah (R.A) once asked the Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) as to what dua (supplication) she should recite in the Laylatulqadr. The Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) taught her the following dua

"Allah you are surely most forgiving and You like forgiving. So, forgive me"

The best way to benefit from the blessings of this night is to keep awake for the whole night and spend it in worship and prayers. But people who cannot do so for any reason should spare at least a considerable part of the night for acts of worship. At least 8 rak'at should be prayed after midnight as tahajjud, some part from the Holy Qur'an should be recited and

Upcoming

- Evening Quran Class

Current Programs

1. 5 times Prayers
2. Jumma Prayers
3. Taraweeh / Eid Prayers
4. Daily Hadith
5. Full time Hizf / Academics
6. Evening Quran class daily
7. Adult Quran class daily
8. Tafseer weekly
9. Basketball League
10. Youth & Family counseling
11. Providing answers regarding Islamic matters
12. Monthly newsletter
13. Monthly youth programs
14. Monthly family programs

Special Programs

1. Summer School
2. March Break
3. Winter Break

Past Month Programs

1. Basketball Tournament
2. Ramadan Workshop
3. Islamic Will

First Hafiz

1. Ashad Khan



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the supplications of the Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) should be offered. Any dhikr or tasbeeh should be constantly recited, specially the following dhikr has numerous merits:

Even when one is not in the state of wudu, the dhikr and tasbeeh may be recited. Similarly the dhikr may also be performed during other states, when walking or in bed.

I'tikaf

Another unique form of worship in this month is "I'tikaf" in which a person gives up all his activities, abandons his attachments, associations and routines and enters the mosque for a specific period.

Islam does not approve monasticism which is based on the concept that Allah's pleasure cannot be attained without abandoning all worldly activities for ever. The Holy Qur'an has expressly condemned this concept. Islam has, instead, emphasized on earning one's livelihood through permissible means, on one's mingling with his family members and on discharging all the obligations toward his wife, children, relatives, neighbours and other acquaintants. But at the same time, as explained earlier in more detail, sometimes one's deep involvement in these activities slows down his spiritual progress. In order to repair this loss, a Muslim is required to spare a time in which he separates himself from the normal routine of worldly activities and to sit in seclusion, devoting his heart and soul for pure spiritual acts. I'tikaf is a beautiful way to carry out this objective. In I'tikaf one leaves his home and family and undertakes to remain in the mosque for a limited period. This unique mode of worship can be done any time in the year. However, it has been declared as a 'Sunnah mu'akkadah' in the last ten days of Ramadan, because Ramadan is the most suitable time to carry out this worship. Moreover, the last ten days of Ramadan are the days in which 'Lailat-ul-Qadr' normally occurs and as explained earlier, its definite time is unknown. It may occur in any of the odd nights of these days. When one is in the state of I'tikaf for the last ten days of Ramadan, he can surely benefit from its infinite merits, because even if he is sleeping in the 'Lailat-ul-Qadr', while he is in the state of I'tikaf, it will be credited to his account as 'worship' in the 'Lailat-ul-Qadr', because each and every second in the state of I'tikaf is 'ibadah, even if one is eating, drinking or sleeping. This extraordinary privilege cannot be attained in one's home. That is why the Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) used to perform I'tikaf every year in Ramadan.

Announcements

- Alhamdulillah, MIC fund raising activity at Fort McMurray was a huge success. Our total cash collection was \$31,500
- Ramadan Kareem! The Crescent Committee of Canada has declared the 1st of Ramadan 1434 to be on Wednesday 10th of July, 2013. There were no reports of crescent sighting anywhere in the world on the 29th of Sha'ban 1434 (eve of Monday 8th of July, 2013). 1st Taraweeh will be on Tuesday 9th 1st day of fasting will be on Wednesday 10th. May Allah bless everyone with a meaningful Ramadan.
- MIC is organizing Tarawih this year at Meadowvale West Church / St. Francis of Assisi Anglican Church. Tarawih prayers will be led by Imam Salman, Hafiz Elhob, and Hafiz Ashad

Message from Chairperson, Project Committee

Alhamdulillah, we have completed the new conceptual drawings and rendering to show the beautiful proposed elevation of our Masjid and Islamic Centre. A draft of traffic study has been completed, and is being reviewed by project committee. We expect to finalize the traffic report shortly. The traffic report took longer than expected but Alhamdulillah, the result is positive for MIC project. Surveyor work is 95% complete and waiting for Underground Scanning Services. Team is also working on Arborist report, and both the reports are expected to be completed soon. After completion of Arborist and Underground Scanning reports, the Surveyor will update the survey of both properties. It is our efforts to complete all studies before Ramadan, and forward to MIC Planner so he can prepare the application and submit to city in July. Insha'Allah. It is important that the reports are prepared by competent and reputable professionals, and they provide positive recommendation to support the site application. Alhamdulillah, we are progressing inch by inch towards our goal, and need all of your prayers and support for this project. Please write to tahir@mici.org for any questions.

Student of the Month

Hifz Class: Danyal Khan

Masjid Funds

Start Date: May 1 2013

Updated: July 6 2013

Building Masjid - Phase I

To start the MIC construction

\$1.5 million needed

Funds needed \$1,500,000.00

Funds collected \$150,000.00

Balance needed \$1,350,000.00

Site Plan Application submission target **July 2013**

Property 6508 Winston **2010**

Churchill Purchased **PAID OFF**

Property 6496 Winston **2013**

Churchill Purchased **PAID OFF**

Qarz-e-Hasna **\$473,450.00**

PAID OFF

Phase II: Finish Meadowvale Islamic Centre Construction

\$2.5 million needed Not Started



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