



**MEADOWVALE
ISLAMIC CENTRE**

NEWSLETTER

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Eight Lessons Learned in 33 Years

Hatem Asem (Rahmatullah Alayh) was a student of Shaqiq Balakhi (Rahmatullah Alayh) for a considerable period of time. Shaqiq Balakhi (Rahmatullah Alayh) once asked Hatem: "How long are you in my company?"

Hatem said: "For the last 33 years."

Shaqiq enquired: "What have you learnt from me during this period?"

Hatem said: "I have learnt only 8 things."

Shaqiq said: "You have not learnt anything except eight things!"

Hatem replied: "Yes, O dear teacher, I have learnt nothing except eight things. I don't wish to speak falsehood."

Shaqiq said: "Describe those eight things to me. Let me hear them."

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Hatem began to describe them.

First, I looked around and beheld that every man has got an object of love and he lives with that thing, until his death. When he goes to the grave, it becomes separate from him. I pondered over the following words of God: "We are from God and to Him we shall return." So I have made good deeds as my object of love. When I will go to the grave, my good deeds will accompany me to the grave. The sage Shaqiq said: "O Hatem, you have done well."

Secondly, I have pondered over the following words of God: "As for one who fears the majesty of his Lord and refrains his soul from lust, Paradise is his resting place." – {79:40 Qur'an}. I have come to know that the words of God are true. I have tried my utmost to suppress my lust and remained satisfied with obeying the injunctions of God.

Third, I looked around the people and found that everyone values what he possesses. Then I turned to the following words of God: "What is with you will end and what is with God will last" – {16:98 Qur'an}. Then I began to give unto God whatever valuable things fell into my hands.

Fourth, I looked around and saw that everyone puts his trust in his wealth and properties, his name and fame and his honour and glory and found that there is nothing in them. Then I looked towards the following words of God: "The most honourable of you to God is one who is the most God-fearing among you" – {49:13 Qur'an}. Then I intended to accept God-fear in my life till I am honoured by God.

Fifth, I looked around the people and found them slandering and cursing one another because of envy and hatred and then I looked towards the word of God: "It is I who distributed their subsistence among them in this world's life" – {43:31 Qur'an}. So I gave up envy and hatred and I realised that subsistence comes from God and then I disliked the people no more.

Sixth, I looked to people and found them ungrateful for to one another and even some of them kill others and then I looked towards the following word of God: "The devil (shaytaan) is your foe and so take him as a foe" – {35:6 Qur'an}. So I took the devil (shaytaan) as a foe and ceased to entitle with the people.

Seventh, I turned to the people and found everyone seeking his livelihood and for that debasing himself and committing unlawful things and then I looked towards the following words of God: "There is no living Creation on Earth of which the provision is not upon God" – {11:6 Qur'an}. Finding that I am one of the Creation whose provision is upon God, I turned towards the duties prescribed by God and entrusted my fate unto Him.

Eighth, I turned to the people and found that everyone placed his trust in something created, some in his wealth, some in his profession, some in his industry and some in the health of his body and the looked towards the following words of God: "If a man relies on God, He is sufficient for him" – {65:3}. Then I relied on God and He is sufficient for me.

On hearing Hatem's replies, Shaqiq (Rahmatullah Alayh) exclaimed: Hatem, may Allah, Our Creator prosper you. I examined the Torah, the Injeel (original Bible) the Zabur (Psalms) and the Glorious Qur'an and found that all these centre around these eight things and he who puts them into practice follows these four books (in their ORIGINAL form.)

Current Programs

1. 5 times Prayers
2. Jumma Prayers
3. Taraweeh / Eid Prayers
4. Daily Haadith
5. Full time Hifz / Academics
6. Evening Quran class daily
7. Adult Quran every Monday
8. Tafseer every Friday
9. Basketball every Friday
10. Youth & Family counseling
11. Providing answers regarding Islamic matters
12. Monthly newsletter
13. Monthly youth programs
14. Monthly family programs
15. Youth Basketball Program
16. Fitness Program (for sisters)
17. **Girls Basketball & Halaqaah**
18. **Dora-e-Quran**
19. **Sunday Islamic School**

Special Programs

- March Break
- Summer Camp
- Winter Break

Past Programs

- Ramadhan Workshop
- Hazrat Abu-Bakr R. A.
- Hazrat Umar Farooq R. A.

Student of the Month

Rayyan Syed

So Who Are You? (Youth Program)

Saturday December 27th 2014
 Speaker: Sheikh Aslam & Imam Salman
 Location: 6610 Turner Valley Rd., MISS

Islamic Trivia for Kids

Sunday January 4th 2015
 Conducted by: Imam Salman
 Location: 6610 Turner Valley Rd., MISS



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Sense of Hearing and Sight?

The first sense to develop in a developing human embryo is Hearing. The fetus can hear sounds after the 24th week. Subsequently, the sense of Sight is developed by the 28th week, the retina becomes sensitive to light.

Consider the following Qur'anic verses related to the development of these senses in the embryo:

"And He gave you (the faculties of) hearing And sight and feeling (And understanding)." (Qur'an 33:9)

"Verily We created man from a drop of mingled sperm; in order to try him: so We gave him (the gifts), of hearing and sight." (Qur'an 76:2)

"It is He who has created for you (the faculties) of hearing, sight, feeling and understanding; little thanks; It is ye give." (Qur'an 23:78)

In all these verses, the sense of Hearing is mentioned before that of sight. Thus 1400 years ago the Glorious Qur'an has alluded to the order of the senses in the developing fetus. First Hearing develops; thereafter Sight. Modern embryology has only discovered this fact centuries later.

SubhaanAllah! GLORY BE TO THE CREATOR

Announcement:

- **Donation Tax Benefits**
2014 year end is approaching fast. Please donate before December 31st to get the tax benefit for this year
- All donation tax receipts will be mailed by February 2015
- MIC Board Elections update:

Outgoing Members:

- Br. Jamil Rasheed (Trustee)
- Br. Abdul Moid Mohammed (Secretary)

Incoming Members:

- Br. Abdul Moid Mohammed (Trustee)
- Br. Amir Syed (President)
- Br. Syed Shahid Rashid (Vice President)
- Br. Shamsul Arfeen (Secretary)

Masjid Funds

Start Date: May 1 2013

Updated: December 1 2014

Building Masjid - Phase I

\$1.5 Million needed by start of MIC construction

Funds Needed: \$1,500,000.00

Funds Collected: \$410,000.00

Balance Needed: \$1,090,000.00

Phase II: \$2.5 Million needed to complete construction (Not started)

Total Construction Cost

(Phase I + Phase II): \$4 Million

Milestones Completed

Phase 1 (Aug 2010): **PAID OFF**
 Paid off property 6508 **\$525,000.00**
 Winston Churchill Blvd

Phase 2 (Apr 2013): **PAID OFF**
 Paid off property 6496 **\$1,000,000.00**
 Winston Churchill Blvd

Site Plan Application **PAID OFF**
 Submitted on Aug **\$158,799.50**
 2013: