



MECCA CENTER NEWSLETTER

September 2018 | Dhul Hijjah 1439 - Muharram 1440 | Issue 36

www.meccacenter.org



Hijra: A Journey of Hope, Passion, & Beauty

Allah (swt) gave the order to Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) to migrate from Makkah to Madina once the persecution of the Muslims by the Quraysh became unbearable. The Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) and his companion Abu Bakr left during the darkness of the night. As we read in the Seerah, however, the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) did not just leave at random, without any sort of planning or preparation. Rather, he planned the journey before its beginning. He took great care to organize and plan everything so that it may be ready for execution. We can see this in the following examples:



Sh. Hassan Aly, Th.M
Imam & Religious Director

- He gave permission to the Muslims to leave while Abu Bakr and Ali remained behind.
- He took an alternate route to Madina in order to confuse and mislead the people of Makkah pursuing him.
- He hired a knowledgeable guide who knew alternate routes. Furthermore, the guide was not a Muslim, however he was trustworthy. And the Prophet made sure of this before hiring him.
- He sought refuge in a cave while the people of Makkah attempted to find him.
- Abdul Allah (swt) bin Abi Bakr made frequent visits to the cave to inform the Prophet about the activities of the people of Makkah.
- 'Amer Ibn Fohairah had his flock cover the tracks of the Prophet (pbuh) to prevent the enemies from finding him.
- Ali bin Abi Talib slept in the bed of the Prophet to allow the Qurayshi to falsely believe the Prophet was still in Makkah.

As we see, Prophet Muhammad (pbuh), although he was a prophet of Allah (swt) and knew Allah (swt) would protect him, knew he had to do his part. Once he did so, the rest was in Allah's (swt) hands. That is true trust in Allah (swt). One must do his part no matter what, and have faith in Allah (swt) about the outcome. However, today, the Ummah pretends to practice Tawakul, while we are in a state of chaos and anarchy. The result of which is weakness. We, as a Muslim Community, need to rediscover our religion and truly know Islam. We must rectify ourselves and fix our behavior and attitudes.

Youth Role: The youth played an important role in aiding Rasul'Allah (swt) on his journey. Youth such as Abdullah bin Abi Bakr, Amer Ibn Fohairah, all worked in secret and with unshakable dedication. Of course, Ali bin Abi Talib, known as the greatest and most courage soldier, as a young man did not waver in his aid and dedication to his beloved Prophet and cousin (pbuh). The youth are the future of the Muslim Ummah. The success of the Ummah lies on their shoulders. That is why the Prophet took great care to nurture and mentor them. He even listened to their opinions on many matters.

Continued on page 6



THE MECCA CENTER

PRAYER SCHEDULE

September 2018 Prayer Times | Dhul Hijjah 1439 - Muharram 1440

September	Dhul Hijjah	Day	Fajr	Sunrise	Dhuhr	Asr	Maghrib	Isha
01	21	Sat	04:59 AM	06:17 AM	12:52 PM	05:30 PM	07:25 PM	08:45 PM
02	22	Sun	05:00 AM	06:18 AM	12:52 PM	05:29 PM	07:24 PM	08:44 PM
03	23	Mon	05:01 AM	06:19 AM	12:52 PM	05:28 PM	07:22 PM	08:42 PM
04	24	Tue	05:03 AM	06:20 AM	12:51 PM	05:26 PM	07:20 PM	08:40 PM
05	25	Wed	05:04 AM	06:21 AM	12:51 PM	05:25 PM	07:19 PM	08:38 PM
06	26	Thu	05:05 AM	06:22 AM	12:51 PM	05:24 PM	07:17 PM	08:36 PM
07	27	Fri	05:06 AM	06:23 AM	12:50 PM	05:22 PM	07:15 PM	08:34 PM
08	28	Sat	05:08 AM	06:24 AM	12:50 PM	05:21 PM	07:14 PM	08:32 PM
09	29	Sun	05:09 AM	06:25 AM	12:49 PM	05:19 PM	07:12 PM	08:30 PM
10	30	Mon	05:10 AM	06:26 AM	12:49 PM	05:18 PM	07:10 PM	08:28 PM
September	Muharram	Day						
11	1	Tue	05:11 AM	06:27 AM	12:49 PM	05:17 PM	07:08 PM	08:26 PM
12	2	Wed	05:12 AM	06:28 AM	12:48 PM	05:15 PM	07:07 PM	08:25 PM
13	3	Thu	05:14 AM	06:29 AM	12:48 PM	05:14 PM	07:05 PM	08:23 PM
14	4	Fri	05:15 AM	06:30 AM	12:48 PM	05:12 PM	07:03 PM	08:21 PM
15	5	Sat	05:16 AM	06:32 AM	12:47 PM	05:11 PM	07:02 PM	08:19 PM
16	6	Sun	05:17 AM	06:33 AM	12:47 PM	05:10 PM	07:00 PM	08:17 PM
17	7	Mon	05:18 AM	06:34 AM	12:47 PM	05:08 PM	06:58 PM	08:15 PM
18	8	Tue	05:19 AM	06:35 AM	12:46 PM	05:07 PM	06:56 PM	08:13 PM
19	9	Wed	05:21 AM	06:36 AM	12:46 PM	05:05 PM	06:55 PM	08:11 PM
20	10	Thu	05:22 AM	06:37 AM	12:46 PM	05:04 PM	06:53 PM	08:10 PM
21	11	Fri	05:23 AM	06:38 AM	12:45 PM	05:02 PM	06:51 PM	08:08 PM
22	12	Sat	05:24 AM	06:39 AM	12:45 PM	05:01 PM	06:49 PM	08:06 PM
23	13	Sun	05:25 AM	06:40 AM	12:45 PM	04:59 PM	06:48 PM	08:04 PM
24	14	Mon	05:26 AM	06:41 AM	12:44 PM	04:58 PM	06:46 PM	08:02 PM
25	15	Tue	05:27 AM	06:42 AM	12:44 PM	04:56 PM	06:44 PM	08:00 PM
26	16	Wed	05:28 AM	06:43 AM	12:43 PM	04:55 PM	06:42 PM	07:59 PM
27	17	Thu	05:29 AM	06:44 AM	12:43 PM	04:53 PM	06:41 PM	07:57 PM
28	18	Fri	05:31 AM	06:45 AM	12:43 PM	04:52 PM	06:39 PM	07:55 PM
29	19	Sat	05:32 AM	06:46 AM	12:42 PM	04:50 PM	06:37 PM	07:53 PM
30	20	Sun	05:33 AM	06:47 AM	12:42 PM	04:49 PM	06:36 PM	07:52 PM

Iqama Times

Fajr

30 minutes after Adhan

Dhuhr

1:15 PM

Asr

Sep. 1-23: 5:30 PM
Sep. 24-30 5:00 PM

Maghrib

5 minutes after sunset

Isha

Sep. 1-25: 5 minutes after Adhan
Sep. 26-30: 8:00 PM

Jumrah

Friday prayer always at 1:00 PM

www.meccacenter.org

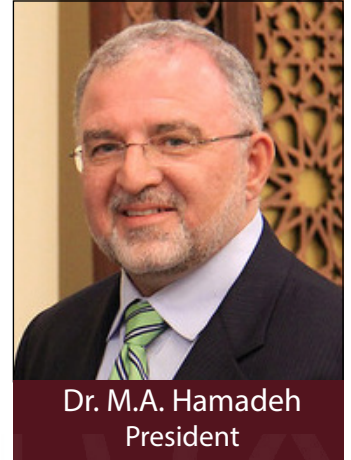
The Mecca Center President's Message

Asalamu Alaikum, Dear Mecca Center Community,

Insha'Allah this message finds you and your family in the best of health and iman.

The Mecca Center board and staff extend our warmest wishes to you and your families, as well as all the Muslims across the U.S. and around the world, who are celebrating Eid al-Adha.

As we recognize and honor the sacrifice, resolve, and commitment to Allah (swt) demonstrated by The Prophet Abraham (sa), we mark the end of the Hajj pilgrimage which is performed by millions of Muslims who embark on their journeys to Mecca to honor our faith and traditions. Eid al-Adha symbolizes unity among Muslims, as we stand side by side, regardless of our backgrounds, in our devout love for Allah (swt), our Lord and Creator.



As we commemorate Eid al-Adha, we also remember the refugees across the world, who are seeking safety and security, and spending the Eid holiday separated from their families and loved ones in their homelands. We pray that Allah (swt) grant them ease and mercy during these trying times. Ameen.

We encourage you to join us as we enter the fall with a great number of programs to enrich the mind and spirit at the Mecca Center. In the month of September, our Sunday School, Quran Institute, and pre-school Quran Blossoms program begin their 2018/2019 year and our youth programs led by the Mecca MVMT are growing and offer young Muslims an opportunity to learn, share, and give back to society. Please learn about these programs and all the Mecca Center has to offer you in this newsletter and on our website at www.meccacenter.org.

Through your continued acts of worship and generosity, The Mecca Center will continue to grow as a cornerstone in the lives of all of our community members, insha'Allah.

Thank you, Jazakum Allahu Khairan,

Wassalamu Alaikum,

M.A. Hamadeh, MD
President, The Mecca Center



See photos and video from Eid Prayers and our Annual Eid Picnic at www.meccacenter.org



The Mecca Center recently received **Silver Certification** from MUHSEN (Muslims Understanding and Helping Special Education Needs) for our commitment to serving the needs our diverse membership.

The Mecca Center Sunday School: Principal's Message

Assalamu Alaikum, Dear Mecca Center Community,

The Mecca Center Sunday School is off to a great start for the 2018-2019 school year!

Alhamdulillah, students are getting accustomed to the weekly routines and are feeling more at home every week. From weekly art projects to teach the Arabic letters to student Quran recitations on class WhatsApp groups, the Mecca Center Sunday School is offering our children an authentic Islamic learning experience in order to develop their values, beliefs, and practices in accordance with the teachings of the Holy Quran and traditions of Prophet Muhammad (Peace Be Upon Him), while appreciating and understanding Islam's rich heritage, principles, values, and teachings.



With over 270 enrolled students, the Mecca Center Sunday School is committed to broadening our children's understanding of Islam by inspiring a love for the learning of the Arabic language, the language of the Quran. Our Quran Recitation curriculum is aligned with the Mecca Center's Quran Institute (M.Q.I.) AlBidayah curriculum, and our teachers have attended numerous training workshops conducted by Sheikh Ahmad Alsheikhi, the developer of the curriculum and director of the M.Q.I., in preparation for the school year, including a recent teacher workshop during the last weekend of August.

Additionally, our qualified staff have received training in various capacities including attending a 30-hour Nourania Quran teaching training workshop, several online courses sponsored by Aldeen Foundation to promote Arabic teaching, tajweed and tarteel classes offered at the Mecca Center, and attending several sessions sponsored previously by CIOGC and the ISNA Educational Forum for weekend school staff. The Mecca Center Sunday School is devoted to using progressive teaching methodologies and promoting a culture of compassion and respect in order to accomplish these educational and spiritual goals for its students.

The greatest asset a society can cultivate is an educated, enlightened, and spiritually motivated group of individuals and Insha'Allah your children will be among those. With Allah's (SWT) guidance and your dedication, we will work together to see our children Insha'Allah become civically engaged citizens, community leaders, and future role models of our society.

Linda Hamadeh, M.Ed., Ed.D.
Mecca Center Sunday School Principal



amazonsmile
You shop. Amazon gives.

Shop on **Amazon Smile** while giving back to **The Mecca Center!**

Advertise in the Mecca Center Monthly Newsletter
Please contact communications@meccacenter.org for availability and rates

Mecca Quran Institute: Principal's Message

Asalamu Alaikum wa Rahmatu Allah wa Barakatuh,

Our Dear Mecca Center Community,

It is our pleasure to welcome you and your children to the 2018-2019 MQI year. Allah (SWT) says in his Book:

“[This is] a Book which We have revealed to you, [O Muhammad], that you might bring mankind out of darkneses into the light by permission of their Lord - to the path of the Exalted in Might, the Praiseworthy” (Ibrahim, Ayah 1)

Allah (SWT) sent the Quran as guidance for all people, to lead them to happiness in this life and the next.

The Mecca Quran Institute's goal is to create a positive environment for learning the Quran that serves all ages, teach proper recitation of the Quran in an efficient, effective, and comprehensive way, inspire a generation of youth to lead the next generations of Muslims in America, and to implement an innovative Quran curriculum that benefits students of all ages.

We strive to fulfill all of the community's needs in terms of education in reading, recitation, Tajweed, etiquette, and manners related to the Quran. At the same time, we make sure that students enjoy learning with fun activities, stories, and projects. We look forward to working with you and your children and pray to Allah (SWT) that this year will be a success, insha'Allah.

We ask Allah (SWT) to give us the chance to live under the shade of this hadith: “The best amongst you is the one who learns the Qur'an and teaches it.” [Bukhari]

Please visit our website www.meccacenter.org to download the registration application, pay the tuition online, and to view the Mecca Quran Institute brochure, calendar, and activities.

Sh. Ahmad Alsheikhy
Mecca Quran Institute Principal



Sh. Ahmad Alsheikhi
MQI Principal



The Mecca Quran Institute Classes begin Sep. 4
مهد مكة للقرآن الكريم **Register today!**
Learn more and register today at www.meccacenter.org

Continued from page 1

Role of Women: One woman who stands out during the Hijrah is Asma Bin Abi Bakr. She was the one who delivered food to the prophet and her father while they stayed in the cave. Asma said: "When Abu Baker went with Al-Rassul (pbuh) for migration, he took all his money with him and left nothing to his family. Her grandfather, who was blind, asked her if Abu Baker left any money for his family in the house. She brought a bag of small rocks and put them at the same place where Abu Baker used to put his money and she asked her grandfather to feel the money in order to give him peace of mind and tranquility. This displays her wisdom and intelligence. She displayed courage in the face of danger and never wavered. Masha'Allah (swt).

My dear Brothers and Sisters, it is important to understand this concept of Tawakul, trust in Allah (swt); while, at the same time, we must do our parts. We can see this important and valuable lesson all throughout the life of our beloved Prophet (pbuh), but, very much so during his Hijrah. We must learn from this. Through this we can solve all our problems, and, insha'Allah (swt), become a successful community. Wa Allah 'Alam.

Sheikh Hassan Aly, Th.M
Imam & Religious Director



QURAN BLOSSOMS

Parents Orientation & Open House
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

For all students and their parents

- Open House for Morning & Full-time Students: 10am-11am in classroom
- Open House for Afternoon Students: 12:15pm - 1:15pm in classroom
- Parents Orientation: 11:15am - 11:45am in Banquet Hall

First Day of School & Regular School Hours
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

- Morning Session: 8:15am-11:30am
- Afternoon Session: 12:15pm - 3:30pm
- Full-Time Program: 8:15am - 3:30pm

Please bring a backpack that fits a folder, set of clothes, and indoor shoes. Parents have to drop their children and go (no parents allowed to stay in class). Jazakum Allahu Khairan for your cooperation. May Allah bless our Quran Blossoms families and shower us with His Mercy.



Where Luxury is affordable

1723 W OGDEN AVE, DOWNERS GROVE, IL 60515

SALES 630-241-2424 • SERVICE 630-241-2424 • www.starmotorsales.com

Sandwiches



Wrap

Steak	\$ 5.00
Kifta Kabab	\$ 5.00
Beef Shawarma	\$ 5.00
Chicken Shawarma	\$ 5.00
Chicken Tender	\$ 4.00
Falafel	\$ 4.00

Taiyba Meza's



Price

Fried Kebbeh	كبة مقوية	\$ 1.50
Labanyeh Kebbeh	كبة لبنية	\$ 2.00
Grilled Kebbeh	كبة مشوية	\$ 3.00
Syrian Ouzi wraps	أوزي باللحمة	\$ 2.50
Beef Sambusek	سيمونك لحمة	\$ 1.25
Cheese Pie	قطاير جبنة	\$ 1.00
Spinach Pie	قطاير سبانخ	\$ 1.25
Safiha	صفحة شامية أو مضفورة	\$ 1.75
Musakhan	مسخن دجاج	\$ 1.55
Za'tar Pie	قطيرة زعتر	\$ 1.00
Chicken Roll	رول دجاج	\$ 1.50
Hot Dogs Roll	رول نقاق	\$ 2.00
Muhamara Pie	قطيرة محمرة	\$ 1.00
Falafel	فلافل	\$ 4.00/Dozen



Appetizers

Half Tray

Full Tray

Hummus ——— حمص
\$18.00 \$35.00
A blend of chickpeas mixed with tahini, topped with olive oil and spices, served as a cold dip with pita bread.

Baba Ghanoush/Mutabal ——— متبل ا باب غنوج
\$20.00 \$35.00
Char-broiled eggplant, mashed and blended with tahini, yogurt and parsley, topped with olive oil and spices, served as a cold dip with pita bread.

Salad ——— سلطة
\$15.00 \$30.00
Freshly diced tomatoes, cucumbers and parsley, and the dressing is tahini sauce.

Tabbouleh Salad ——— تبولة
\$20.00 \$40.00
Freshly diced tomatoes, onions, parsley, green peppers and cracked wheat tossed in olive oil and lemon juice.

Fattoush Salad ——— فتوش
\$15.00 \$30.00
Lettuce, tomatoes, cucumbers, onions, parsley, and green peppers are tossed in our house vinaigrette and topped with our homemade pita croutons.

Muhamara Dip ——— محمرة
\$20.00 \$40.00
Walnut, red pepper, hot sauce, onions, Tahini sauce, parmigiano concentrate and breadstick crumbs.



Entrée

Half Tray

Full Tray

Kebab Hindi ——— كباب هندي
\$40.00 \$80.00
Oven baked ground beef kebab with diced tomatoes, potatoes, eggplant, and green pepper.

Stuffed Vegetables ——— محاشي مشكلة
\$40.00 \$80.00
Zucchini, eggplant and green pepper stuffed with rice and lamb.

Grape Vine and Zucchini ——— بيري
\$45.00 \$90.00
Stuffed grape leaves and zucchini with rice and lamb.

Stuffed Cabbage ——— ملفوف بطن
\$40.00 \$80.00
Cabbage leaves stuffed with rice and beef, and cooked in authentic cumin and pomegranate sauce.

Fava Beans and Rice ——— رز بالفلول الأخضر بالتحم
\$40.00 \$80.00
Fava beans with rice topped with lamb shanks.

Freekeh ——— فريكة باللحمة أو بالدجاج
\$45.00 \$90.00
Freekeh cooked with lamb or chicken.

Mnazaleh ——— منزلة بالدجاج
\$40.00 \$80.00
Oven baked stuffed eggplant with minced meat, onions and tomato sauce.

Stuffed fried zucchini ——— شيخ المحشي
\$40.00 \$80.00
Fried zucchini stuffed with minced meat and onions then oven baked in yogurt.

Makloubeh ——— مقنونة فلسطينية
\$40.00 \$80.00
Potatoes, cauliflower and carrots with rice topped with roasted chicken legs.

Entrée

Half Tray

Full Tray

Damascus's Makloubeh ——— مقنونة شامية
\$40.00 \$80.00
Fried eggplant and lamb over specially spiced rice.

Damascus's Mulokhia w/ Chicken ——— ملوخية بالدجاج
\$40.00 \$80.00
Molokhia whole leaves, garlic, and fresh cilantro topped with chicken.

Lamb Shank ——— لحم موزات بالعظم
\$50.00 \$100.00
Lamb shank (leg) with cooked vegetables and tomato sauce.

Layerd Kebbeh ——— كبة بالصينية
\$20.00 \$40.00
Kebbeh(burghul, beef) layerd with beef and nuts.

Palestinian Ouzi w/Chicken ——— أوزي فلسطينية بالدجاج
\$40.00 \$80.00
Mixed Vegetables cooked with rice topped with chicken legs.

Meatloaf ——— لحمة بالصلحن
\$35.00 \$70.00
Oven cooked beef with garlic topped with green peppers and tomatoes.

Lasagna ——— لازانيا بالخضار أو اللحمة
\$35.00 \$70.00
Layered lasagna with ground beef, onions, green peppers, tomato sauce, olive oil and Italian seasoning, topped with mozzarella cheese.

Chicken Alfredo ——— معفونة الريفو بالدجاج
\$30.00 \$60.00
Chicken and Fettuccine pasta cooked in Alfredo sauce.

Entrée

Half Tray

Full Tray

Okra ——— بامية
\$30.00 \$60.00
Okra cooked with beef in tomato sauce, topped with green cilantro.

Mandi Yemeni ——— مندي يمني بالدجاج
\$35.00 \$70.00
Whole roasted chicken cooked with rice and dried raisins and special spices.

Biryani ——— بيرياني بالدجاج
\$35.00 \$70.00
Rice cooked in special sauce topped with chicken.

Shishburak ——— شيشبرك
\$40.00 \$80.00
Lebanese version of Italian tortellini stuffed with beef cooked with yogurt.

Kabsah w/Chicken ——— كبسة بالدجاج
\$35.00 \$70.00
Rice, onions, tomatoes, green peppers and our special spices, topped with lamb or chicken.

Mansaf ——— منسف أرمني باللحم
\$40.00 \$80.00
Lamb Shank boiled in dry yogurt with special spices served with rice.

Yalanji ——— يالانجي
\$40.00 \$80.00
Steamed grape leaves stuffed with vegetables, and seasoned rice, served cold.

Spaghetti and Meatballs ——— معفونة سباغيتي بكرات اللحم
\$30.00 \$60.00
Spaghetti noodles, Italian seasoning, and tomato sauce with meatballs.



مطبخ طيبة الشامي

عنوان الحلال الطيب

NOW SERVING AT

MECCA Center Banquet

16W560 91st St, Willowbrook, IL 60527

www.taiyba.com taiybakitchen

(630) 755-5899



OF YOUR ORDER GOES TO SYRIAN ORPHANS

10%



CONVERT SUPPORT GROUP

Support Session every Saturday at 9am with Sheikh Hassan Aly • meccacenter.org/convert-support

ALL ARE
WELCOME

The Mecca Center Convert Support Group conducts activities, events, and other general initiatives revolving around the unique challenges faced by brothers and sisters who have converted to Islam.






MVMT

THE MECCA MVMT
RECHARGE PRESENTS

GEMS OF *Juz Amma*

EXPLORE LESSONS AND STORIES FROM THE
FINAL JUZU' OF THE HOLY QURAN

FOR COLLEGE AND YOUNG PROFESSIONALS
EVERY SATURDAY AT 6PM • THE MECCA CENTER 16W560 91ST ST. WILLOWBROOK, IL

   mvmt@meccacenter.org