

MECCA CENTER NEWSLETTER

August 2017 | Dhul-Qa'dah - Dhul-Hijjah 1438 | issue 24

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THE MECCA CENTER PRAYER SCHEDULE

AUGUST 2017 PRAYER TIMES | DHUL-QA'DAH - DHUL-HIJJAH 1438

Day اليوم	August أغسطس	Dhul-Qa'dah ذو القعدة	Fajr الفجر	Sunrise الشروق	Dhuhr الظهر	Asr العصبر	Maghrib المغرب	Isha العشاء
Tue	1	9	4:17 AM	5:46 AM	12:59 PM	4:54 PM	8:10 PM	9:40 PM
Wed	2	10	4:18 AM	5:47 AM	12:59 PM	4:54 PM	8:09 PM	9:39 PM
Thu	3	11	4:20 AM	5:48 AM	12:58 PM	4:54 PM	8:07 PM	9:37 PM
Fri	4	12	4:21 AM	5:49 AM	12:58 PM	4:53 PM	8:06 PM	9:35 PM
Sat	5	13	4:23 AM	5:50 AM	12:58 PM	4:53 PM	8:05 PM	9:34 PM
Sun	6	14	4:24 AM	5:51 AM	12:58 PM	4:52 PM	8:04 PM	9:32 PM
Mon	7	15	4:25 AM	5:52 AM	12:58 PM	4:52 PM	8:02 PM	9:30 PM
Tue	8	16	4:27 AM	5:53 AM	12:58 PM	4:51 PM	8:01 PM	9:29 PM
Wed	9	17	4:28 AM	5:54 AM	12:58 PM	4:51 PM	8:00 PM	9:27 PM
Thu	10	18	4:28 AM	5:54 AM	12:58 PM	4:51 PM	8:00 PM	9:27 PM
Fri	11	19	4:30 AM	5:55 AM	12:58 PM	4:50 PM	7:58 PM	9:25 PM
Sat	12	20	4:33 AM	5:57 AM	12:57 PM	4:49 PM	7:56 PM	9:22 PM
Sun	13	21	4:34 AM	5:58 AM	12:57 PM	4:48 PM	7:54 PM	9:20 PM
Mon	14	22	4:35 AM	5:59 AM	12:57 PM	4:47 PM	7:53 PM	9:18 PM
Tue	15	23	4:37 AM	6:00 AM	12:57 PM	4:47 PM	7:51 PM	9:17 PM
Wed	16	24	4:38 AM	6:01 AM	12:56 PM	4:46 PM	7:50 PM	9:15 PM
Thu	17	25	4:40 AM	6:02 AM	12:56 PM	4:45 PM	7:48 PM	9:13 PM
Fri	18	26	4:41 AM	6:03 AM	12:56 PM	4:45 PM	7:47 PM	9:11 PM
Sat	19	27	4:42 AM	6:04 AM	12:56 PM	4:44 PM	7:46 PM	9:09 PM
Sun	20	28	4:44 AM	6:05 AM	12:56 PM	4:43 PM	7:44 PM	9:07 PM
Mon	21	29	4:45 AM	6:06 AM	12:55 PM	4:42 PM	7:42 PM	9:06 PM
Tue	22	30	4:46 AM	6:07 AM	12:55 PM	4:42 PM	7:41 PM	9:04 PM
Wed	23	Dhul-Hijjah	4:48 AM	6:08 AM	12:55 PM	4:41 PM	7:39 PM	9:02 PM
Thu	24	1	4:49 AM	6:09 AM	12:54 PM	4:40 PM	7:38 PM	9:00 PM
Fri	25	2	4:49 AM	6:09 AM	12:54 PM	4:40 PM	7:38 PM	9:00 PM
Sat	26	3	4:50 AM	6:10 AM	12:54 PM	4:39 PM	7:36 PM	8:58 PM
Sun	27	4	4:53 AM	6:13 AM	12:54 PM	4:37 PM	7:33 PM	8:54 PM
Mon	28	5	4:54 AM	6:14 AM	12:53 PM	4:36 PM	7:31 PM	8:52 PM
Tue	29	6	4:56 AM	6:15 AM	12:53 PM	4:35 PM	7:30 PM	8:50 PM
Wed	30	7	4:57 AM	6:16 AM	12:53 PM	4:34 PM	7:28 PM	8:49 PM
Thu	31	8	4:58 AM	6:17 AM	12:52 PM	4:33 PM	7:26 PM	8:47 PM

Iqama time at the Masjid					
Fajr: 30 minutes after adhan	Dhuhr: 1:15 pm	Asr: 6:15 pm	Maghrib: 5 minutes after sunset	Isha: 1-7: 9:45 pm 8-16: 9:30 pm 17-23: 9:15 pm 23-31: 9:00 pm	Jummah: 1:00 pm

THE MECCA CENTER **President's Message**

The Importance of Protecting Masjid Al Aqsa

Asalamu Alaikum, Dear Mecca Center Community,

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

The third holiest site in Islam, Masjid Al Aqsa in Jerusalem, is currently under siege



by the Israeli military and excessive violence is being perpetrated against its worshippers. While Al Aqsa is in Palestine, the struggle to free Al Aqsa is not strictly a Palestinian issue, but a Muslim issue. We know that the masjid is deeply important to all Muslims as prescribed by the sunnah of the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him):

Abu Hurayrah (may Allah be pleased with him) relates that the Prophet (peace be upon him) said, "You should not undertake a special journey to visit any place other than the three Masajid with the expectations of getting greater reward: the Sacred Masjid of Makkah, this Masjid of mine, and Masjid al-Aqsa (of Jerusalem)." In another narration the wording states, "For three Masajid a special journey may be undertaken: The Sacred Masjid (Ka'bah), my Masjid, and the Masjid of al-Quds (Jerusalem)." [Sahih al-Bukhari, Sahih Muslim, and Sunan Abu Dawud]

Muslims are encouraged to visit Masjid Al Aqsa to fulfill the sunnah of the Prophet (peace be upon him) and his pious predecessors, to comply with the teachings of Islam with the hope of earning reward in the hereafter, to nurture love for Masjid Al Aqsa as land Allah (swt) has blessed and to which the Prophet traveled on the Night Journey, and to do everything possible to protect it. As Muslims, it is our duty as Muslims to be ambassadors for the cause of Masjid Al Aqsa.

For these reasons, it is critical to increase awareness about the cause of Al Aqsa, and of course, the occupation of Palestine which has served as the precursor for the siege on the Masjid. It is especially important to educate the younger generations of Muslims about Al Aqsa, its significance in Islam, and the importance of affirming their connection to the Holy Land and Masjid Al Aqsa.

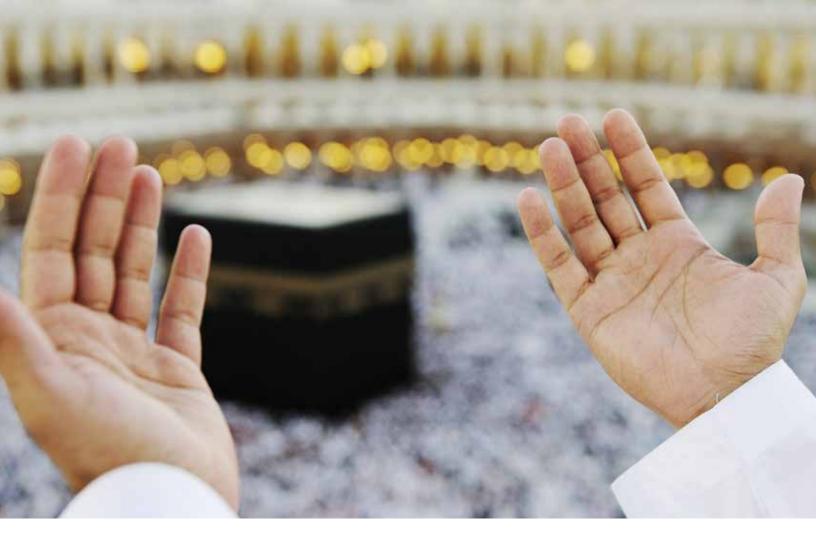
Of course, in order to facilitate real change we must build the strength of our organizations here in the U.S. to truly influence national and international public awareness and opinion on the issue. We urge you to take part in peaceful actions and civic efforts to safeguard and protect our beloved Masjid Al Aqsa.

Thank you, Jazakum Allahu Khairan,

Wassalamu Alaikum,

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

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THE FIRST 10 DAYS OF DHUL-HÎJJAH: *Days of Virtue, Righteous Deeds, and Joy*

By Sheikh Hassan Aly, Imam & Religious Director, The Mecca Center

All thanks and praise is due to Allah, I bear witness there is no God but Allah, alone without any partners, and I bear witness that Muhammad is His servant and His Messenger.

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) said: "There is no deed that is better in the sight of Allah (swt) or more greatly rewarded than a good deed done in the (first) ten days of Al-Adha" Sahih Al-Bukhari. In surat Al-Fajr, Allah (swt) swears an oath by the first ten days of Dhul-Hîjjah: "By the dawn; (1) By the ten nights (i.e. the first ten days of the month of Dhul-Hîjjah)(2)"

The first ten days of Dhul-Hîjjah carry special status among the days of the year. Just like the last ten nights of Ramadan are the best ten nights out of the year, these first ten days of Dhul-Hijjah are the best days of the year and the most beloved to Allah (SWT) as they combine acts of worship in a way unlike any other time in the year. In these days, millions of Muslims from all over the world are performing the fifth pillar of Islam (Hajj). Hajj and its rites were first ordained by Allah in the time of the Prophet lbraaheem [Abraham] (AS) and he was the one who was entrusted by Allah to build the Ka'ba - the House of Allah - along with his son Ismaa'eel [Ishmael] at Makkah.

"And remember when We showed Ibraaheem the site of the [Sacred] House [saying]: Associate not anything [in worship with Me and purify My House for those who circumambulate it [i.e. perform tawaaf] and those who stand up for prayer and those who bow down and make prostration [in prayer etc.]." [Surah Al-Hajj 22:26]. Then Allah Almighty ordered them to invite people to Hajj: "And proclaim to mankind the Hajj (pilgrimage). They will come to you on foot and on every lean camel; they will come from every deep and distant (wide) mountain highway (to perform Hajj)." [Surah Al-Hajj 22:27]

My dear respected brothers and sisters; this is a great season of blessings and Barakat, a great season of seeking Allah's forgiveness and mercy. In surat Al-Imran, Allah (SWT) said: "March forth in the way (which leads to) forgiveness from your Lord, and for Paradise as wide as are the heavens and the earth, prepared for Al-Muttaqûn (the pious). (133) Those who spend [in Allah's Cause] in prosperity and in adversity, who repress anger, and who pardon men; verily, Allah loves Al-Muhsinûn (the good - doers). (134) And those who, when they have committed Fahishah (illegal sexual intercourse) or wronged themselves with evil, remember Allah and ask forgiveness for their sins; - and none can forgive sins but Allah - And do not persist in what (wrong) they have done, while they know. (135) For such, the reward is Forgiveness from their Lord, and Gardens with rivers flowing underneath (Paradise), wherein they shall abide forever. How excellent is this reward for the doers (who do righteous deeds according to Allah's Orders). (136)"

Now, what deeds can we perform to attain the pleasure of Allah (swt) in the first 10 days of Dhul-Hijja?

Renew your Tawbah with sincere heart: in surat Al-Qasas, Allah (swt) says: "But as for him who repented, believed and did righteous deeds, then he will be among those who are successful."

Fast the first nine days and especially the ninth 'The Day of Arafah': Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) said in sahih Al-Bukhari and Muslim: "Anyone who fasts for one day for Allah's pleasure, Allah will keep his face away from the (Hell) fire for (a distance covered by a journey of) seventy years." Also he (pbuh) said in sahih Muslim: "Fasting the Day of 'Arafah (ninth of Dhul-Hijja) is an expiation for (all the sins of) the previous year and expiation for (all the sins of) the coming year."

Offering Du'aa on the day of 'Arafah: It was narrated from 'Abd-Allaah ibn 'Amr ibn al-'Aas that the Prophet (pbuh) said: "The best of du'aa is du'aa on the day of 'Arafah, and the best that I and the Prophets before me said is 'Laa ilaaha ill-Allaah wahdahu la shareeka lah, lahu'l-mulk wa lahu'l-hamd wa huwa 'ala kulli shay'in qadeer (There is no god but Allah alone, with no partner or associate; His is the dominion, to Him be praise, and He has power over all things)." Narrated by al-Tirmidhi.

Qiyaam at night: Narrated by Al-Tirmidhi, prophet Muhammad (pbuh) said: "You should pray qiyaam al-layl, for it is the custom of the righteous who came before you and it brings you closer to your Lord, and expiates sins and prevents misdeeds."

Perform Takbeer and remember Allah: Al-Bukhari narrated that Ibn 'Umar and Abu Hurayrah used to go out in the marketplace during the first ten days of Dhul-Hijja, reciting Takbeer, and the people would recite Takbeer when they heard them.

Sacrifice an animal and distribute the meat: It was narrated in Saheeh al-Bukhaari and Muslim that Anas ibn Maalik said: "The Prophet (pbuh) sacrificed two white rams speckled with black. He slaughtered them with his own hand, said 'Allahu akbar' and put his foot on their necks." Also, Ahmed narrated that Ibn Umar said: "The Prophet lived in Madina for ten years and every year he slaughtered an animal."

My dear brothers and sisters, Let us hasten to make the most of these great days. I ask Allah (SWT) to accept our prayers, our fasts, our du'aa, and our acts of good and to keep this momentum of ibadah going throughout our lives. May Allah bring joy, peace, and happiness to all of us. Oh Allah, to you only we ask for help and guidance as you have power over all things.



NEW YOUTH DIRECTOR AND ASSISTANT IMAM Shaykh Tariq Musleh

The Mecca Center is pleased to welcome our new Youth Director and Assistant Imam Shaykh Tariq Musleh. Born and raised in Chicago, Shaykh Tariq Musleh has a strong connection with the Chicago Muslim community.

Shaykh Tariq completed his memorization of Quran at the age of 13 with Hafidh Habeeb al Rahman at Islamic Foundation Villa Park. He followed his memorization of the Quran by acquiring a second ijaza from Palestine. He has been teaching Quran privately with numerous students since his completion. After Quranic Studies, Shaykh Tariq became heavily involved in Young Muslims youth group, serving as a coordinator and a murabbi.

Shaykh Tariq traveled to Cairo, Egypt to study Classical Arabic at the Fajr Center for the Arabic Language, where he completed the text "Al-Arabiyatu Bayna Yadayk." While there, he had the opportunity to study with various scholars. Upon returning from Egypt, he became an Arabic and Quran instructor for Islamic Learning Foundation Chicago.

Shaykh Tariq was accepted to the prestigious Islamic University of Madina-tul-Munawaara, where he received Associate Degree in Arabic and Bachelor Degree from the College of Sharia.

Shaykh Tariq Musleh also served as the Youth Director at the Islamic Center of Naperville. He continues to work with youth and communities in the Chicagoland area. Shaykh Tariq is a founding member of the annual ICNA Eid Fest.

Shaykh Tariq is a speaker and regular Khateeb at Chicago area Masajid and speaks at youth groups and conferences in different parts of the nation. He speaks fluent Arabic and conversational Urdu. Shaykh Tariq enjoys spending his free time with his family and friends and reading books while indulging in iced coffee.

YOUTH PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES























Alhamdulilah, the Mecca Center held spiritually invigorating children and youth programs during Ramadan. The children's program focused on Ramadan-themed topics while incorporating Ayahs from the Quran pertaining to Ramadan and fasting. Children took part in fun-filled activities within their Arabic and Islamic Studies classes. Our older youth also completed their Khatm of the Holy Quran in the daily Quran reading program, mashAllah. A special thanks to all the teachers and volunteers who made these programs successful!

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Sheikh Hassan Aly

EVERY WEDNESDAY 7:30PM - 8:30PM FOR MEN AND WOMEN



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COMBINED ASSEMBLY Thursday **AUGUST 3RD. 2017** 7:00 PM - 8:30PM



DUPAGE UNITED

Location: BENEDICTINE UNIVERSITY Goodwin Hall Auditorium 5700 College Rd. Lisle, IL 60532

Action On:

We will be hosting public elected officials including Roger Heaton, Illinois Public Safety Officer, who will be key to addressing our three-pronged criminal justice reform strategy of expanded CIT training, Crisis Diversion Centers, and affordable housing across DuPage and Kane Counties

"Leaders are in contact with Governor Bruce Rauner's office and are working to arrange the Governor's attendance

Who we are:

DuPage United & the Fox River Valley Initiative are inclusive, non-profit, non-partisan organizations whose members are civil society institutions: churches, mosques, synagogues, non-profit agencies, and associations. This mix of institutions have come together to form public relationships and to act together to improve the quality of life for individuals, families and communities.

> Please Pre-Register for this Action at: dupageunited.org/events/

a little SACRIFICE goes a

"Neither their meat nor their blood will reach God, but what reaches Him is your piety.' (Qur'an 22:37)

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UDHIYA / QURBANI 2017



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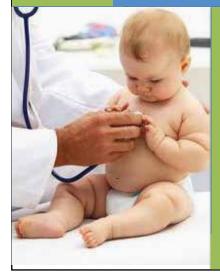
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Friday FIQH Lecture

Sheikh Hassan Aly

Every Friday 12:20pm - 12:50pm



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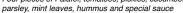
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APPETIZERS		
Made and fresh daily.		
Hummus		\$6
Chickpeas, yogurt, tahini and lei	mon juice	
Baba Ghanoush		\$6
Grilled eggplant, Tahini, garlic, y	rogurt and lemon juice	
Falafel (6 pieces)		\$5
Chickpeas, parsley, garlic, onior and served with special sauce	n, spices, deep fried	
French Fries		\$4
Basket of fries		
Lentil Soup		\$5
Kebbeh (6 pieces)		\$7
A mixture of cracked wheat and spiced ground beef, onion and v		
	vainuto	
SALADS		
Prepared upon order.		
Fatoush		\$7
Lettuce, tomatoes, cucumbers, lemon juice, spices and olive oil.		
pita pieces		

Tabbouleh.....\$7 Parsley, tomatoes, onions, cracked wheat, lemon juice, olive oil and spices.

SANDWICHES Made from fine meat.

Kofta Kebabs\$8 A skewer of fine marinated ground beef , tomatoes, pickles, hot sauce, lettuce, a mixture of parsley, onion and pomegranate sauce	
Lamb/beef Mix Shawarma Sandwich\$9 Prime cut beef rib eye and lamb shoulder, pickles, tomatoes, onion, and pomegranate / tahini sauce	
Chicken Shawarma Sandwich\$8 Sliced leg/thigh chicken, pickles, tomatoes and garlic sauce	
Chicken Tawook Sandwich\$9 A skewer of chicken breast cubes, tomatoes, pickles, garlic sauce, and fried potatoes	
Falafel Sandwich	







SHAWARMA PLATES

Beef/lamb Shawarma Plate\$12 Fine cut of rib eye and lamb shoulder served with rice or fries, garlic sauce, pickles and tomatoes
Chicken Shawarma Plate\$11 Thin sliced leg and thigh of chicken, served with rice or fries, garlic sauce, pickles and tomatoes
GRILLED MEALS All Grilled Meals served with choices of (Rice or Fries), (Hummus or Baba-Ghanouj) and Lentil Soup.
Maura's Mixed Grill\$18 Three skewers: Kufta Kabob (ground beef mixed with onion, parsley and spices), Chicken Tawook (chicken breast cubes marinated with Maura's special seasoning), and Shish Kabob (seasoned lamb cubes)
Lamb Shish Kababs\$14 Fine cut of leg of lamb grilled to your preference. 2 skewer (8-10oz)
Chicken Taouk\$13 Two skewers of chicken breast cubes marinated with Maura's special seasoning and grilled
Kofta Kababs\$13 Two skewers of ground beef mixed with parsley, onion, and special spices, and grilled
Mix and Match\$14 Your choice of two skewers of Shish Kabob, Kufta Kabob, or Chicken Tawook
Grilled Platter
KIDS MEALS 100% real meat
Chicken Tenders\$6 3 pieces of chicken tenders served with fries
Chicken Nuggets

BEVERAGES

Coffee or Tea American or Turkish	\$2.50
Soda	\$1.50
Coke product	
Lemonade	\$3
Теа	\$2.50
cold or hot - ask staff for flavor selection	•
Bottled Water	\$1

11a-8pm daily, closed Monday, see website for updated hours as they may change.

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مَثْلُ الَّذِينَ يُنْفَقُونَ أَمْوَالَهُمْ فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ كَمَثْلِ حَبَّةَ أَنْبَتَتْ سَبْعَ سَنَابِلُ فِي كُلُ سُنْبَلَة مِئَةً حَبَّة وَاللَّهُ يُضَاعِفَ لَمَنْ يَشَاءُ وَاللَّهُ وَاسِعٌ عَلِيمٌ . الَّذِينَ يُنْفَقُونَ آمْوَالَهُمْ فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّه ثُمَّ لَا يُتْبِعُونَ مَا أَنْفَقُوا مَنًا وَلَا أَذًى لَهُمْ أَجْرَهُمْ عِنْدَ رَبُهِمْ وَلَا خَوْفٌ عَلَيْهِمْ وَلَا هُمْ يَحْزَبُونَ "

البقرة/٢٦١، ٢٦٢.

"The likeness of those who spend their wealth in the way of Allah, is as the likeness of a grain (of corn); it grows seven ears, and each ear has a hundred grains. Allah gives manifold increase to whom He wills. And Allah is All-Sufficient for His creatures' needs, All-Knower. Those who spend their wealth in the Cause of Allah, and do not follow up their gifts with reminders of their generosity or with injury, their reward is with their Lord. On them shall be no fear, nor shall they grieve" [Al-Bagarah 2:261-262]

عن أبي هريرة رضي الله عنه أن النبي صلى الله عليه وسلم قال : " ما من يوم يصبح العباد فيه إلا ملكان ينزلان فيقول أحدهما : اللهم أعط منفقا خلفاً ، ويقول الآخر : اللهم أعط ممسكاً تلفاً " .

رواه البخاري ومسلم

It was narrated from Abu Hurayrah that the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said: "There is no day on which the people get up but two angels come down and one of them says, 'O Allah, give in compensation to the one who spends (in charity),' and the other says, 'O Allaah, destroy the one who withholds." Narrated by al-Bukhaari and Muslim

How to Donate

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