



Newsletter

www.meccacenter.org



JANUARY 2017 – RABI AL-AKHIR 1438 - ISSUE 19

Narrated Hakim bin Hizam:

I asked the Prophet (ﷺ) (for some money) and he gave me, and then again I asked him and he gave me, and then again I asked him and he gave me and he then said, "This wealth is (like) green and sweet (fruit), and whoever takes it without greed, Allah will bless it for him, but whoever takes it with greed, Allah will not bless it for him, and he will be like the one who eats but is never satisfied. And the upper (giving) hand is better than the lower (taking) hand." (Al-Bukhari)

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear Mecca Center Community,

Asalamu Alaikum,

I hope this message find you and your family in the best of health and Iman.

Alhamdulillah, after many years, we are preparing to open the doors of our new Mecca Center to the community. It is an exciting time as we mark a tremendous accomplishment in our history and begin a new chapter for the Mecca Center.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your generosity and support over the years. The opening of our beautiful new center wouldn't have been possible without the blessings of Allah (swt) and your continued generosity.

Our amazing new center is a reflection of your deep faith in Allah (swt) and the dedicated support of our community since 2004. We ask that you please help us pay construction bills and costs before we move in by donating to the Mecca Center today.

May Allah (swt) reward you all in this life and the hereafter for your generous donations and good deeds. May he continue to bless your families and our growing community.

Wassalamu Alaikum,

M.A. Hamadeh, MD

Day	Jan	Hijri Rabi-II	Fajr	Sunrise	Zuhr	Asr-Shaf	Asr-Hanafi	Maghrib	Isha
اليوم	كانون الثاني	هجري	الفجر	الشروق	الظهر	العصر / شافعي	العصر / حنفي	المغرب	العشاء
SUN	1	3	5:56	7:19	11:56	2:14	2:51	4:32	5:56
MON	2	4	5:56	7:19	11:56	2:15	2:52	4:33	5:56
TUE	3	5	5:56	7:19	11:57	2:16	2:53	4:34	5:57
WED	4	6	5:56	7:19	11:57	2:17	2:54	4:35	5:58
THU	5	7	5:56	7:19	11:58	2:18	2:55	4:36	5:59
FRI	6	8	5:57	7:19	11:58	2:19	2:56	4:37	6:00
SAT	7	9	5:56	7:19	11:59	2:20	2:57	4:38	6:01
SUN	8	10	5:56	7:18	11:59	2:20	2:58	4:39	6:02
MON	9	11	5:56	7:18	11:59	2:21	2:59	4:40	6:02
TUE	10	12	5:56	7:18	12:00	2:22	3:00	4:41	6:03
WED	11	13	5:56	7:18	12:00	2:23	3:01	4:42	6:04
THU	12	14	5:56	7:18	12:00	2:23	3:01	4:42	6:04
FRI	13	15	5:56	7:17	12:01	2:25	3:03	4:44	6:06
SAT	14	16	5:55	7:17	12:01	2:26	3:04	4:45	6:07
SUN	15	17	5:55	7:16	12:02	2:27	3:05	4:46	6:08
MON	16	18	5:55	7:16	12:02	2:28	3:06	4:48	6:09
TUE	17	19	5:54	7:15	12:02	2:29	3:08	4:49	6:10
WED	18	20	5:54	7:15	12:03	2:30	3:09	4:50	6:11
THU	19	21	5:54	7:14	12:03	2:32	3:10	4:51	6:13
FRI	20	22	5:53	7:14	12:03	2:33	3:11	4:52	6:14
SAT	21	23	5:53	7:13	12:04	2:34	3:12	4:54	6:15
SUN	22	24	5:52	7:12	12:04	2:35	3:14	4:55	6:16
MON	23	25	5:51	7:12	12:04	2:36	3:15	4:56	6:17
TUE	24	26	5:51	7:11	12:04	2:37	3:16	4:57	6:18
WED	25	27	5:50	7:10	12:05	2:38	3:17	4:59	6:19
THU	26	28	5:50	7:09	12:05	2:39	3:19	5:00	6:20
FRI	27	29	5:49	7:08	12:05	2:40	3:20	5:01	6:21
SAT	28	JUMADA-I	5:48	7:08	12:05	2:41	3:21	5:02	6:22
SUN	29	1	5:47	7:07	12:05	2:42	3:22	5:04	6:23
MON	30	2	5:47	7:06	12:06	2:43	3:24	5:05	6:25
TUE	31	3	5:46	7:05	12:06	2:44	3:25	5:06	6:26



MESSAGE FROM THE IMAM

For the majority of Muslims, the month of *Rabi' al-Awwal* (the First Spring) of the Islamic Calendar is well known as the month of the birth of Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace of Allah be upon him). However, when we look at the books of *Seerah* (Prophet's biography), we will find that the writers of the *Seerah* differed concerning the date of the Prophet's birth, and there are several opinions, as follows:

1. Monday 2nd, Rabee' al-Awwal
2. 8th Rabee' al-Awwal
3. 10th Rabee' al-Awwal
4. 12th Rabee' al-Awwal
5. Az-Zubayr ibn Bakkaar said: He was born in *Ramadan*.

With regard to his death (blessings and peace of Allah be upon him), there was no difference of opinion concerning the fact that it occurred on 12th Rabee' al-Awwal 11 AH.

Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace of Allah be upon him) came as a Messenger of Allah to the entire mankind and his behavior provides the best model for us to emulate. He had a keen sense of his position and status, realizing that his practice was observed and reported so that Muslims would follow his example in all situations. In surat Al-Ahzaab Allah says:

Indeed in the Messenger of Allâh (Muhammad) you have a good example to follow for him who hopes for (the Meeting with) Allâh and the Last Day and remembers Allâh much. (21)

Al-Qaadi 'Iyaad (may Allah have mercy on him) said, in his great book *Ash-Shifa bi Ta'reef Huqooq al-Mustafa* (The Book of Healing by the Recognition of the Rights of or News of the Chosen One) in a chapter on the signs of love of the Prophet (blessings and peace of Allah be upon him): "It should be understood that the one who loves a thing gives it precedence and gives precedence to what is in accordance with it, otherwise he is not sincere in his love, and he is a mere pretender. The one who sincerely loves the Prophet (blessings and peace of Allah be upon him) is the one in whom signs of that appear, the first of which is following his example, adhering to his Sunnah, emulating him in word and deed, complying with his commands, avoiding that which he prohibited, and striving to follow his teachings in times of hardship and of ease, when one feels energetic and when one feels reluctant. This is what Allah, may He be exalted, refers to in the verse in which He says :

Say (O Muhammad (blessings and peace of Allah be upon him) to mankind): 'If you (really) love Allah then follow me (i.e. accept Islamic Monotheism, follow the Quran and the Sunnah), Allah will love you [Aal 'Imraan 3:31]

So we should give precedence to what he prescribed and encouraged over our own whims and desires. Allah, says:

And those who, before them, had homes (in Al-Madina) and had adopted the Faith, love those who emigrate to them, and have no jealousy in their hearts for that which they have been given, and give them (emigrants) preference over themselves, even though they were in need of that. [Al-Hashr 59:9]

And another sign of love is that one should be prepared to anger people for the sake of pleasing Allah. The one who has this characteristic has attained perfect love for Allah and His Messenger; the one who goes against that in some of these ways has fallen short in his love, although he has not failed completely.”

The true commemoration of the birth and life of the Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be on him) is not reflected in the lavish processions and festivities in just one day every year. On the contrary for a Muslim to truly celebrate the birth of the beloved of Allah is to follow his teachings and emulate his lifestyle.

Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be on him) is the one who defended the rights of all humanity 1,400 years ago. He defended men's, women's and children's rights. He commanded and fostered the love between relatives and neighbors. He established a coexistence relationship between Muslims and Non-Muslims.

Let's celebrate the life of Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be on him) by reading his Seerah (biographies) and reflecting upon his character. Let's learn from him how to achieve nearness to Allah. Let's celebrate the greatest gift to mankind by showing compassion and kindness toward our fellow human beings and the creatures of Allah.

Allah sends His Salat (Graces, Honours, Blessings, Mercy, etc.) on the Prophet (Muhammad SAW) and also His angels too (ask Allah to bless and forgive him). O you who believe! Send your Salat on (ask Allah to bless) him (Muhammad SAW), and (you should) greet (salute) him with the Islamic way of greeting (salutation i.e. As-Salamu Alaikum) [Al-Ahzaab 33:56].

Wa Allah Alam (And Allah knows best),

Sheikh Hassan Aly

SAVE THE DATE



ANNUAL
FUNDRAISER

MARCH 5, 2017

A.I.M.S.
All Inclusive Medical Services



**Immediate Job Opportunities
FOR DOCTORS IN
Illinois & Indiana**

IMMEDIATE PHYSICIAN OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE!

ER position for IM or FP with ER experience
Hospitalist position for FP or IM
Full-time or Part-time
H1 or J1 Visa welcomed

What sets us apart?

- Join a dynamic physician-led medical group.
- Set your own hours and set your own income!
- Earn more than 90% of family practice doctors working only 10 days a month.
- Flexible Shift schedule! 12 or 24 hour shifts
- Low Acuity 4-10K ER patient volumes, small hospitals

**We offer a
SIGN ON
BONUS**

**Call Bashar Alzein, M.D.
(708) 955-7156**

Email: aims.ed.hospitalist@gmail.com

Or

**Almuhannad Alfrhan, M.D.
(219) 575-8296**

Email: almuhannad2000@yahoo.com

Fax: (888) 519-1951

RESIDENTS AND FELLOWS

FREE RESUME BUILDING

CONFIDENTIALITY IS OUR PRIORITY

REFERRAL BONUSES OFFERED!



MECCA CENTER SHOWS SOLIDARITY WITH ALEPPO THROUGH PRAYER AND ACTION

Photos by AMP-Chicago

In early through mid December, the crisis in Aleppo became worse when Syrian government forces massacred civilians, including women and children, in the eastern part of the city. On December 13, Mecca Center community members participated in a press conference by the Council of Islamic Organizations of Greater Chicago (CIOGC) to address the situation in Aleppo and demand the evacuation of innocent civilians.

Later that day, Mecca Center community members came together to pray for Aleppo following an informative and inspiring khutba by Sheikh Hassan Aly on the crisis in Aleppo and Syria and our responsibility as Muslims to express our solidarity spiritually as well as through humanitarian action. Sh. Hassan emphasized the importance of seeking guidance through Allah (swt) as the first step in working to improve the situation of Syrians who have have been affected by a brutal civil war.

On December 15, the Mecca Center community also joined an Aleppo solidarity rally at Universal School organized by American Muslims for Palestine (AMP) Chicago and endorsed by numerous Muslim organizations including the CIOGC, Syrian American Council (SAC) – Chicago, Syrian American Medical Society (SAMS), and Syrian Community Network.



Chicago Stands with #Aleppo

شيكاغو تقف مع #حلب

YOUTH CORNER



THE TEACHINGS OF PROPHET ISA (JESUS) (PBUH) IN ISLAM

The following are teachings of the Prophet Isa (Jesus) (peace be upon him) from traditional Arabic sources and excerpted from Walk on Water, a book by Sheikh Hamza Yusuf:

According to Ahmad, Jesus peace be upon him was known to have said, “Virtuous action does not consist in doing good to someone who has done good to you -that is merely returning a favor. Virtuous action consists in doing good to those who have wronged you.” (Ahmad)

According to Malik b. Anas, Jesus, the son of Mary, said, “Do not speak much without remembering God, for by doing so, you harden your hearts. Surely a hard heart is distant from God though you are unaware. Do not, like lords, look at the faults of others. Rather, like servants, look at your own faults. In truth, humanity is comprised of only two types, the afflicted and the sound. So show mercy to the afflicted, and praise God for well-being.” (Muwatta of Malik)

It is related that Jesus, the son of Mary, said, “It is of no use to know something if one does not act upon it. In truth, an abundance of knowledge only increases one in pride if one does not act accordingly.” (Ahmad)

Jesus, the son of Mary, was known to have said, “Love of this world is the source of every wrong action, and there is much harm in wealth.” They asked, “What is its harm?” Jesus replied, “Its possessor is never safe from pride and arrogance.” They said, “What if he is free of those two? Is there still harm?” Jesus responded, “Yes, for by nurturing his wealth, he is diverted from the remembrance of God.” (Ahmad)

Once Jesus and his disciples were outside the temple of Solomon, and the disciples said, “O Messiah of God, look at the House of God! What could be finer?” Jesus replied, “Amen. Amen. But I say to you that God will not leave one stone of this House standing. Indeed, God will destroy it because of the misdeeds of its people. God does not build anything of worth with gold or silver, nor even with these stones. Righteous hearts are more beloved to God than these stones. For God cultivates the earth with righteous hearts; and, in their absence, the earth is destroyed.” (Ahmad)

Jesus, the son of Mary, was accustomed to say, “O my God, surely I have entered into the morning unable to neither forestall what I fear nor hasten what I hope for. The whole affair is in another ‘s hand. I have arisen bound to my deeds. There is no one poorer than me. Do not make me the cause of my enemies being cursed, nor make me the reason any harm should come to a friend. Do not place tribulation in my spiritual path, nor empower anyone over me who shows me no mercy.” (Ibn Abi Al-Dunaya)

Sufyan al-Thawwri relates that Jesus, the son of Mary, said, “Love of this world and love of the next world can never reside in the heart of a believer simultaneously, just as fire and water cannot be contained in a single vessel at the same time.” (Ibn Kathir)

Jesus said, “You will never obtain what you desire except through patience with what you despise.” (Al Ghazzali)

Jesus, the son of Mary, said, “God has given me the power to give life to the dead, sight to the blind, sound to the deaf; but He did not give me the power to heal the fool of his foolishness.” (Al- Razi)



THE GRAND OPENING OF OUR NEW Mecca CENTER

In 2004, The Mecca Center first opened its doors in Burr Ridge, Illinois. To accommodate our rapidly growing community, we relocated to Willowbrook, Illinois in 2006. Alhamdulillah, today we have grown even more and are set to open our impressive new facility at 16W560 91st Street, Willowbrook, IL 60527 in early 2017.

The new Mecca Center has been built on a 4.7 acre site with the following facilities:

- Prayer halls, a library, classrooms, meeting rooms, and a visiting Imam office
- A main foyer that will connect major elements of the building and provide the master entrance to the mosque
- An Olympic-size gym to be used by the youth and others
- A multipurpose hall, administrative offices, and a conference room
- Plenty of green space and parking around the facilities

Without the support of the Mecca Center community we wouldn't have come this far. In order to continue our growth and build an even stronger community we need your support. Help us kick off a strong 2017 and donate today!

By Mail: Send a check to

Mecca Center, 16W560 91st Street, Willowbrook, IL 60527

Online: www.meccacenter.org



طبيب اطفال

Mohamed N. Jabri, M.D FAAP
Board Certified Pediatrician



Accepting new patients!

All Insurances welcome!

120 E. Ogden
Suite 120
Hinsdale, IL 60523

630.980.6227



JOB OPENINGS

The Mecca Center is Hiring a Youth Coordinator

The responsibility of the Youth Coordinator is to provide development, coordination and oversight of youth services, and to build a positive youth program. He or she must integrate recreational and artistic activities with educational and spiritual components and provide leadership to youth, including but not limited to tutoring and mentorship programs, community service, education and cultural programs.

For more details about the responsibilities and job requirements please visit our website: <http://meccacenter.org/jobs/>
Please Submit resumes to Haniatassi68@gmail.com



STAR MOTOR SALES

"where luxury is affordable."



Where Luxury is affordable

1723 W OGDEN AVE, DOWNERS GROVE, IL 60515

SALES 630-241-2424 SERVICE 630-241-2424

www.starmotorsales.com



PRSRT STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
BRIDGEVIEW, IL
PERMIT NO. 107

720 Plainfield Rd
Willowbrook, IL 60527

The Mecca Center will hold its Annual Fundraiser on Sunday, March 5, 2017 at Drury Lane in Oakbrook Terrace. Please save the date and join us for this important community event!

SAVE THE DATE



ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

SUNDAY, MARCH 5, 2017

Drury Lane • Oakbrook Terrace, Illinois

www.meccacenter.org