

WAH DAT



OCTOBER 09 / SHAWWAL 1430 AH

UNITED EID PRAYERS

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HADITH OF THE MONTH

There are people who worship Allah to gain His Favors, this is the worship of traders; while there are some who worship Him to keep themselves free from His Wrath, this is the worship of slaves; a few who obey Him out of their sense of gratitude and obligations, this is the worship of free and noble men.

Imam Ali (as)- Nahjul Balagha

1st Shawwal, 1430 AH (September 20,2009); Over 2,500 (3,000 by some accounts) brothers and sisters gathered to recite Eid-AI-Fitr prayer in a show of unity and strength that sent a strong message to the ill wishers of the world who have been attempting to destroy Muslim unity. For the first time ever in Houston, majority of the Shia Muslims lined up at a centralized location to hold Eid-al-Fitr prayers. The prayers were lead by H.I. Moulana Hur Shibri, resident Alim of the Islamic Education Center-Houston.

May Allah (swt) guide all of us to follow his command on unity:

“ Hold fast, all of you, to the cord of Allah, and be not divided. Remember the blessing of Allah upon you: When you were enemies to each other, and He brought your hearts together, so that, you became brothers through His blessing. You were at the brink of a pit of Fire, then He saved you from it.



This is how Allah makes His signs clear to you, so that you may take the right path. There has to be a group of people from among you who call towards the good, and bid the Fair and forbid the Unfair. And it is these who are successful. Do not be like those who became divided and fell into disputes after the clear signs had come to them. Those are the ones for whom there is a grave punishment”. [3:103-105]

DEMOLITION OF JANNATUL BAQI

DAY OF SORROW

Islamic Insights- In his book *Wahhabism*, Ayatollah Ja'far Subhani states the following (translated): "Amongst the matters about which the Wahhabis are most sensitive is the matter of renovation of graves and construction over the graves of Prophets, Imams and the pious ones. This matter was at first initiated by Ibn Taymiyya and his famous student Ibn al-Qayyim, and they gave their verdicts (*Fatawa*) in prohibiting the construction of a structure and the necessity of its destruction."

The destruction of holy graves is a matter which the followers of Ahlul Bayt (peace be upon him) should be well-aware of. On the 8th of Shawwal, Muslims will commemorate the Day of Sorrow, marking the 85th anniversary of destruction of the Jannat al-Baqi cemetery.

When the Saudis gained control of Mecca and Medina in 1925 CE (1345 AH), they sought to destroy the symbols of the greatest leaders in Islam. As described in the book *Wahhabism* by Ayatollah Subhani, "The entire traces of Ahlul Bayt and the companions of the Holy Prophet disappeared, and the valuable properties of the shrine of the Holy Imams at Baqi were plundered. The graveyard of Baqi was turned into a heap of dung which would fill one with horror while looking at it."

Among the burial sites that were desecrated included those of Imam Hasan al-Mujtaba, Imam Zainul Abideen, Imam Muhammad al-Baqir, and Imam Ja'far as-Sadiq (peace be upon him), the one attributed to Lady Fatima Zahra (peace be upon her), as well as those of several wives, uncles, relatives, and companions of the Holy Prophet (peace be upon him and his progeny).

If the Wahhabis had their way, they would have destroyed the dome over the Holy Prophet Muhammad's grave as well. So what stopped them?

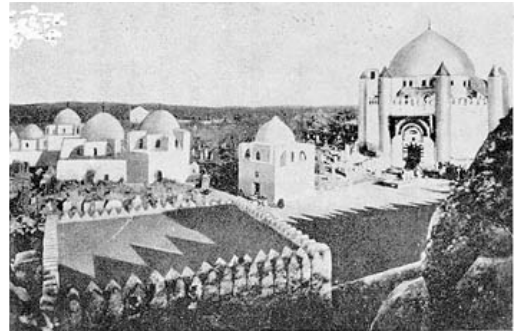
Maybe the politics of the situation were more important to the raiding groups than the religious façade they took on. Maybe they figured that if the mausoleums of Ahlul Bayt were destroyed, it would only aggravate the Shias, but if the Prophet's mausoleum was targeted, the Wahhabis and the Saudis would have the entire Muslim world in outrage.

Whatever the case may be, it is clear the symbols of Ahlul Bayt have been targeted in the past and – with the recent bombings of the 10th and 11th Imams' (peace be upon them) shrine in Samarra, Iraq – continue to be targeted. But what can we do about it? Or even more importantly, can we do anything about it?

Yes, indeed. At the very least, if we do not already have a decent understanding of the arguments for and against grave destruction, we should strive to become educated on the matter. Any critic may come forth and say, "Hold on. Don't these 'Wahhabis' have a point though? Wouldn't it be a form of worshipping idols to maintain shrines on the graves of saints and other holy figures?"

Do we have a tendency to agree with this questioning critic? If yes, then we should probably seek knowledge on this issue until our faith is solidified.

Are we equipped with the reasoning to respond appropriately? If our answer is no, then maybe we should take the time to read up on the suitable proofs which our scholars have



put forth. (Try Ayatollah Subhani's [Wahhabism](#) for starters.)

If we are well-grounded with respect to the first two points, then the next step would be to actively educate others. Many may not be aware of the serious threats which the close-minded mentality poses to the body of Islam. If we as Muslims do not confront the ignorant views of the delusional Wahhabis, then those who are weak in intellect and/or faith may be swayed away from the truth any way that the wind blows. It is our duty to speak out against heinous acts and it is also our duty to teach those who are ignorant of the truth.

So, "Call unto the way of thy Lord with wisdom and fair exhortation, and reason with them in the better way. Lo! Thy Lord is Best Aware of him who strays from His way, and He is Best Aware of those who go aright." (16:125)

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QURAN COMPETITION AND OTHER NEWS



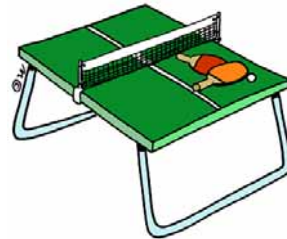
MashaA about 35 children participated in this years Quran contest. Ages ranged from 3 years old to 16 years old. They all did a *wonderful* job in both the recitation and knowledge parts. All children were given participation gifts, and the winners got special prizes. Great job kids and parents! It is because of the efforts of both children and parents that the youth continue to grow.

ADULTS QURAN COMPETITION

In addition to the competition for the children, there was a knowledge competition for adults . The adults were to read a few surahs in advance and come prepared to answer questions about these surahs. Winners: Sr. Madiha Mirza Zaidi, Sr. Nasreen Chawla, Sr. Fawzia Chawgla

TABLE TENNIS TOURNAMENT

A tournament was organized for the brothers this year. Alhumdulliah many people participated in both doubles and singles. Congrats to the winners. InshaA more programs like this will be organized for brothers and sisters in the future.



WINNERS OF THE QURAN COMPETITION :

Group I

1. Abbas Abideen
2. Huda Hasan
3. Abbas Mithani

Group 2

1. Zoha Hasan
2. Hiba Hasan
3. Laila Mirza

Group 3

- Level 1: Mohammad Jafri
 Level 2: Zehra Bukhari and Mohammad Syed (tied)
 Level 3:
 1. Zainab Sabour
 2. Jaffar Syed and Hussain Syed (tied)
 3. Ali Ebrahim

IMPORTANCE OF EDUCATING THE YOUTH

Many goals and activities at IEC are centered around the youth. Here are some hadith that explain the importance of focusing on the young generation

Imām Jafar ibne Muhammad as-Sādiq (a.s.) said to a companion named Al-Ahwal: “Have you been to Basrah?’ The man replied, ‘Yes.’ The Imām (a.s.) then asked him, ‘How did you find the enthusiasm of the people in regards to this issue [of the Wilāyah and Imāmate of the Ahlul Baīt] and their acceptance of it?’ The man replied, ‘I swear by Allāh surely those people [who follow and accept this] are few in number. They work upon this [propagating this belief to others, even though they are small in number.]’ The Imām replied to him, ‘I advise you to work on the youth [in educating them on these issues] since surely they are quicker to accept all good things.’”

The Messenger of Allāh (s.w.a.) has said: “The person who seeks knowledge while in his youth is similar to the act of inscribing something upon a rock; while the person who seeks knowledge while he is old is similar to the act of writing something upon the water.”

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Shahadat of Imam Sadiq A.S

Tuesday, October 13th

Night of 25th Shawwal

Maghribein Prayers	7:13 pm
Quran Recitation	7:45 pm
Noha/Mersiya	7:50 pm
Multimedia Presentation	8:00 pm
English Speech H.I Hur Shabbiri	8:10 pm
Noha / Matam	8:50 pm
Tabarruk	9:00 pm
(Estimated cost of program / Dinner is \$1,000.00)	

Wiladat of Hazrat Masuma A.S

Tuesday, October 20th

* Actual Date: 1st Zulqa'dah

Magribein Prayers	7:05 pm
Quran Recitation	7:30 pm
Qaseedas	7:40 pm
Speech by H.I Hur Shabbiri	8:00 pm
Dua-e-Kumayl	8:30 pm
Tabarruk	9:15 pm
(Estimated cost of program / Dinner is \$500.00)	

Wiladat of Imam Reza A.S

Friday, October 30th

* Actual Date: 11th Zulqa'dah

Magribein Prayers	6:54 pm
Program Starts	7:30 pm
(Estimated cost of program / Dinner is \$2000.00)	
* All dates are subject to moonsighting.	