



WAHDAT



"A publication of the Islamic Education Center"

September 2006 (Sha'ban/Ramadhan 1427)

The Holy Month of Ramadhan is expected to commence on September 24th (Sunday) – depending on moon sighting.



The Holy Month of Ramadan is just around the corner (September 24th) and it enjoys a special importance in the Islamic calendar. As the Holy Prophet (S.A.W.) said: **"It is Allah's Own month."** It is the chief of all months and the most glorious one. As we already know, 'Fasting' is one of the important pillars of Islam and it is the very month of Ramadan during which fasting has been made obligatory for all adults and sane Muslims. By fasting during Ramadan, a Muslim besides discharging an obligation imposed upon him by Allah, becomes entitled to great reward in the Hereafter. On the other hand, any lapse in the matter amounts to a great sin. Fasting is an article of worship, the knowledge about the performance or otherwise whereof rests only with Allah and the person concerned. Hence, it is Allah alone who will reward that person for it, on the Day of Judgment.

IEC SUNDAY SCHOOL



PLEASE REGISTER
YOUR CHILDREN
FOR DINIYAT AND
QUR'AN CLASSES

Class Time: Start at 10:00 am
Location: IEC, 2313 S Voss Rd
Contact: 713-787-5000 ext. 6
Email: Sunday.school@iec-houston.org

Alhumdulillah, I.E.C Sunday School started on Sunday August 20th, 2006 and is currently registering new and returning students for 2006 - 2007 school year. All the students of Kindergarten age and up are welcome to register.

MUSLIM INSTITUTE OF HOUSTON

Muslim Institute Of Houston is registering for Fall semester 2006. MIH is offering classes in different levels of **Arabic and Tajwid** (Qur'anic Recital) and inshaAllah will be starting new classes in:

Islamic History and Ikhlāq
(Islamic Studies).

All new and returning students are requested to register for classes as soon as possible.

For Registration & More Information

Please Call Sr. Aminah Shahnarad at 713-787-5000 Ext. 18. Or Email: info@mihweb.com



Farsi School at the IEC



The Farsi School is currently registering for Fall semester 2006. All students from age 3 years and up are welcome to register. The school has started on Aug 25th and the last day will be Dec 15th.

Class Time: 7:30 pm – 10:00 pm

Location: IEC, 2313 S Voss Rd.

For more information please contact:
713-787-5000 Ext 6.

Community News

Al-Hadi School opened its doors for the eleventh year on Wednesday, August 16th, 2006. This great milestone is an achievement of the IEC community.

With the generosity of the people of the Islamic Education Center, Al-Hadi School continues to serve the needs of the children of this community.

INTRODUCTION TO THE HOLY MONTH OF RAMADHAN

Fasting in the month of Ramadan, like Namaaz (prayers) is a divine command. Allah says in the Holy Qur'an, "O you who believe! Fasting is prescribed for you, as it was prescribed for those before you, so that you may guard (against evil)." (2:183) It was reserved for Islam to formulate and perfect a form of spiritual purification for every one of its followers, notwithstanding the state of society they belonged to, and which could be performed without interfering with their normal avocations and callings in every day life.

Whatever calling or vocation he is engaged in, does not hinder a Muslim from carrying out this annual requirement of the Faith, the fast of this month of Ramadan, which incidentally, is also one of the five cardinal points of Islamic tenet.

The Muslim fast means a complete abstention from eating or drinking between daybreak and sunset. The sighting of the thin sickle of the new moon of Ramadan heralds for the Muslim the beginning of a month of glory and of spiritual elevation, when, at Allah's command, he voluntarily and of his own free will, denies himself between day-break and sunset, the blessing of food and drink, and surrenders himself up wholly to Allah, observing the same abstention throughout the whole month in his thoughts, his speech, his behavior, his every act.

For this month, for the Muslim, means the triumph of the spiritual and the pure in his nature over all the grossness and carnation, which is an inevitable component of our human make-up. The Holy Prophet in the following words beautifully explains the actual significance of the fast: - "One who, while fasting, does not guard his tongue from telling lies, does not refrain from doing bad deeds, is not respecting his fast and Allah does not approve of mere abstention from food". When you are keeping fast, you should not speak ill of anybody, nor should you be boisterous and noisy. If anybody speaks ill of you or tries to pick a quarrel with you return him not, but say unto him that you are fasting.

Ramadan however, has another deeper significance for the Muslim, for it was in this holy month that the first revelation of the Holy Qur'an was made to the Holy Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W.), and passed away like any other mortal being.

But the Holy Qur'an, the divine revelation from Allah to mankind through the medium of our Holy Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W.), has remained. In every Ramadan the Muslims celebrate the spiritual significance of that divine fact the eternal abiding permanence of the Holy Qur'an.

During this Holy month therefore, the Muslim takes himself more assiduously to the reading of the Holy Book of Allah, the standing miracle of the Holy Prophet (S.A.W.), the miracle which he stated would remain to testify to the authenticity of Allah's message even after he, Muhammad (S.A.W.) passed away.

Throughout this holy month, therefore, from every Muslim home is heard, during the day and night, the pleasant and beautiful cadences of Qura'nic recitation.

Then there is the Holy Prophet's saying as an incentive to renewed reading of the Holy Qur'an especially in this month: "A man gets the same reward by reading one verse of the Qur'an as others do by reading the whole of the Holy Qur'an in other months." In this holy month of Ramadan it should be the duty of every Muslim to read the Holy Qur'an and thereby gain an insight into the Divine secrets. It breathes peaceful spirit to the human body. It imparts purity to the human soul and removes many a curtain hanging between man and God.



As the month of Ramadan is a specified period of purification, so the Holy Qur'an must carefully be studied by every devotee of Islam for self-guidance. Allah is the light of the heavens and the earth and the Holy Qur'an a light for the seekers of truth. It wards off the evil effect of unhealthy atmosphere, it sanctifies the cause of the fast and keeps the true believer in direct communion with Allah, and it does but speaks His own words.


Only constant experience can tell the tremendous amount of pleasure one finds in reading the Holy Qur'an. "Says verily, my prayer, my sacrifices, my living and my dying are but offerings to Allah, the Lord of Creation" - like a beacon of hope for the faithful, these heartening words occur in the Holy Qur'an to strengthen the hearts of the believing Muslim in the realness of their whole-hearted surrender to Allah.

What has the believing Muslim to fear after reading this clear promise by Allah of His nearness to His servants, not only throughout this life but also in the hereafter?

In the holy month of Ramadan, especially, this promise of Allah's has a particular significance for the believing Muslim who dedicates his prayers and his sacrifices (in the form of his fasts) up to Allah, the Lord of Creation.

September 2006 SPECIAL EVENTS AT I.E.C.

Please note that the Tabarruk and Dinners are made available contingent upon sponsors. Please get in contact with Br Moosa Raza (281-813-9487) to sponsor programs listed below. May Allah bless you.

<p>Fri, September 8th</p> 	<p><i>Wiladat of Hazrat Imam Mahdi (ATF)</i> 15th Sha'ban</p> <p>Maghrib..... 7:55 pm</p> <p>Dinner.....8:15 pm</p> <p>Ishaa.....9:00 pm</p> <p>Qaseedas.....9:15 pm</p> <p>M. Shabirri's Speech9:45 pm</p> <p>Short A'mal.....10:45 pm</p> <p>Break.....11:45 pm</p> <p>All night a'maal.....12:00 am</p> <p>Sahoor.....4:30 am</p> <p>Fajr.....5:38 am</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Estimated cost of dinner.....\$ 1800.00)</p>						
<p><u>Facts & Myths of</u> <u>9-11</u></p>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 20%;">Topic</td> <td>Facts & Myths of 9-11: An interactive presentation of facts presented to the public by scholars, activists and fact-finding committees.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Location</td> <td>Islamic Education Center 2313 S. Voss IEC Men's Dining Hall</td> </tr> <tr> <td>When</td> <td>Sunday, September 10th, 5:30pm to 8:00pm.</td> </tr> </table>	Topic	Facts & Myths of 9-11: An interactive presentation of facts presented to the public by scholars, activists and fact-finding committees.	Location	Islamic Education Center 2313 S. Voss IEC Men's Dining Hall	When	Sunday, September 10th, 5:30pm to 8:00pm.
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