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## Message from the President

### Salaamun Alaikum

As I pen this message, the sad news of the sudden demise of Sultanbhai Davdani echoes throughout the community. We were privileged to have him as part of the team at the World Federation. In his 14 months of service as the Vice President, he left an indelible mark on our community throughout the world with his hallmark of a compassionate leader with the unique qualities of positive and quiet optimism. The Khoja Shia Ithna Asheri Muslim Community has lost a very sincere, dedicated and good natured individual, who always assumed the very best in community workers. My heartfelt condolences to his wife Nusratbai, his parents Rukiyabai and Roshanbhai, and to Tehseen, Farhaan and Nishaat.

Once again we are privileged to present some of the key projects undertaken over the last 6 months. I would like to thank the members of the World Federation and the volunteers for their continuous support. We earnestly pray for the triumph of those who have generously contributed to the endeavours undertaken by the Boards and Desks of our global organization, with the invaluable support of regional and local bodies. Emphatic commitment from the grassroots is a prerequisite for our global institution to flourish and to meet our needs. The work of these Mu'mineen is very much appreciated as being the foundation of our global community.

In this issue of Insight, we are presenting short biographies on some of the illuminating figures of our Mara'ja. As a community, we have a history of close interaction with the Mara'ja. There is no doubt that the links between the Mara'ja and the community need to be further strengthened through regular visits, communication and closer interactions.

Over the past year the Secretariat has been working to deliver on the strategic planning document. This is the template used by the Office Bearers and other team members to achieve the long-term objectives defined at Conference 2003. We are committed to a disciplined effort to create consensus so that decisions and actions that shape and guide our efforts will be in keeping with the Strategic Plan.

Unity within our community is undoubtedly a Rahmah from Allah (SWT), such that in ensuring the maintenance of unity, the Holy Prophet (SAW) advised us to think of each other at the start of each day, lest we become insular and isolated. In being grateful to the bounties of the Almighty, let us give Him thanks for granting us the opportunity to develop the concept of centralizing the common ijaza across our community, so that we may serve the community in its entirety with a unitary purpose, with one voice and one mandate.

We feel a sense of satisfaction at being able to be of service. Serving for His pleasure, striving for excellence and for the alignment of all community endeavours, has always been very much at the heart of the World Federation Secretariat. My colleagues and I consider that our measure of success lies in how far we have been effective in engaging the grassroots, empowering frontline workers and supporting Jamaat and regional efforts and projects.

May Allah (SWT) in His Mercy be our guide and help us forward. Ameen.

Please recite Sura-e-Fateha for Marhum Sultanbhai and all the Marhumeen.

With Salaams and Duas.

Ahmed Hassam

**Content Highlights - Articles on our Grand Mara'ja - Ramadhan Relief Fund 1425 - Publications Page**

**WE EXIST TO SERVE**

## In Memoriam Marhum Sultanbhai Davdani



The sudden demise of the Vice President of the World Federation, Marhum Sultanbhai Davdani in Toronto, Canada on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> December 2004, has left a great void for his family, friends and through the circles he influenced with his outstanding community service and remarkable character.

Throughout his life, he was a leader by example, displaying compassion and his uniquely positive, gentle optimism. He is fondly remembered for the humility and grace he brought to the numerous services that he was engaged in. Marhum Sultanbhai generously sacrificed his time and resources, and frequently provided vital medicine from his pharmacy to those in need.

Marhum Sultanbhai's commitment to our community was illustrated by the positions he held, steering the community forward under his guidance, which is where his loss will also be deeply felt.

As the caretaker President of NASIMCO, Marhum Sultanbhai was instrumental in successfully reviving the organization. He led its new team in introducing a new constitution, providing the North American leaders with a clear purpose and common goal.

Under a recommendation from the Tableegh Task Force, Marhum Sultanbhai drove the programme to establish a sustainable Tableegh initiative for NASIMCO through the creation of a concrete agenda.

As Vice President of the World Federation, Marhum Sultanbhai's understated yet highly effective style of leadership made a lasting impact on his team members and the organization. He brought his innate wisdom and characteristic model personality to his role as Vice President.

The numerous condolence messages left on the World Federation website in the days after Marhum Sultanbhai's passing are a testament to his optimistic, positive outlook and the global impact of his selfless acts. "I was fortunate in working closely with Sultanbhai when we first took office during the current term," wrote Brother Navshir Jaffer of South London. "When we meet such a rare person during our lives they revitalise our spirit and encourage us to serve our community in the best way we can."

In a message to the community at large, the World Federation President Dr. Ahmed Hassam expressed the overwhelming loss felt by those touched by Marhum Sultanbhai across the globe. "Sultanbhai believed that the greatest sin was to remain passive in the face of challenges. He never stopped living by that conviction," Dr. Hassam wrote. "He had the innate ability to forge links where none could be perceived, and to foresee the need of his people so that they could be met before the need arises."

In this time of mourning, Marhum Sultanbhai's loved ones and friends may find some comfort in the worldwide outpouring of grief to his sudden death. As Dr. Hassam said, "The team at the World Federation knew him as being humble and loving, always ready to be a pillar of support and a source of strength, never having a harsh word to say. He was all ours and today all has gone on to eternity, leaving us with a model to emulate when gelling the community as one."

Our condolences go to the family, friends, colleagues and the community at large on this loss of a sincere, dedicated and good natured individual. We pray to Allah (SWT) to elevate his soul to the proximity of the Ahlul Bayt (AS).



## Mullah Muhsin Jaffer becomes Third Kawkabe Khidmat Honouree

In a rapidly changing world, the sharpest leaders embody a wide spectrum of qualities – knowledge, wit, humility, sociability and awareness that a greater focus governs our actions. Mullah Muhsin Jaffer is well known in the community for all those characteristics, and his body of work and contributions remain an ongoing testament to his life and ambitions.

On 19<sup>th</sup> December 2004, the World Federation, recognizing the lasting impact of his achievements, honoured him with the Kawkabe Khidmat award, which literally translates into “Star of Service.”

Born in Mombasa 1935 and educated locally through his youth, Mullah Muhsin was an avid reader and absorbed the literature and people who travelled

His impressive career is confirmed by peer recognition and an excellent reputation among leading Ulema from both Sunni and Shia schools. He played an active role in the Bilal Muslim Mission of Tanzania, but was independently furthering tableegh efforts long before. Mullah Muhsin's long list of positions includes Honourable Secretary of the Mombasa Jamaat, a member of the Managing Committee of Mombasa Muslim Association through which he organised a highly successful Quran Exhibition in the 1960s, and Administrative Secretary of the Africa Federation.

In the wake of Mullah Asgher's passing, Mullah Muhsin stepped in as a guide and counsellor to the World Federation. Though he is officially retired from the organisation, he continues to serve it and the wider Muslim Ummah in many capacities.

His own humility and approachable style has inspired both fellow volunteers and the general public to whom he serves, regardless of culture, profession or age. Mullah Muhsin's directness and unwavering focus has contributed to his impressive array of work and the speed at which his teams have established the foundations for continuing success.

“He truly exemplifies a Kawkabe Khidmat honouree as an advisor to leaders and a teacher to many a student,” said Br. Yasin Rahim, Secretary General of the World Federation. “There are many who serve the community, but service for the pleasure of Allah (SWT), for the sole propagation of faith, is a path rarely chosen. Muhsinbhai has always believed that every right implies a responsibility and every opportunity to serve the Almighty is an obligation.”

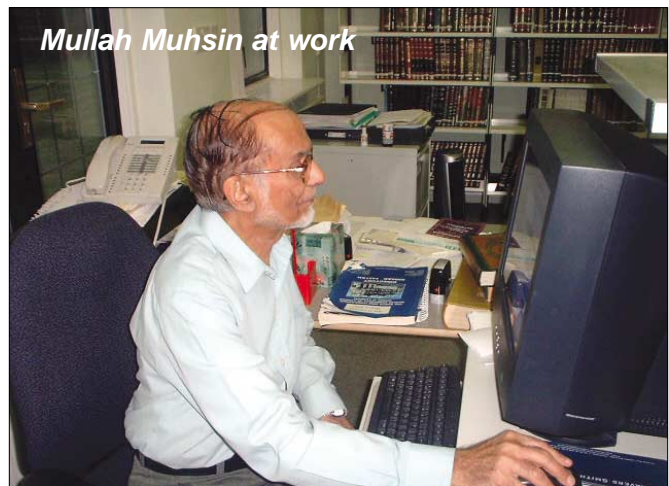


*Dr Hassam presenting the award*

through the ports of his native Kenya. His ability to consume knowledge in English, Gujarati, Urdu, Farsi and Arabic, and exposure to the Ulema who travelled to East Africa, fostered his interest in Islamic studies and tableegh work.

His lifelong interest in social services and political movements – inspired by his native country's turbulent history – is heavily laced with religious contribution. Mullah Muhsin has long propagated interfaith relations, now a growing community wide effort. He has actively encouraged and distributed numerous Islamic pamphlets and books, including Shia writings and biographies of Islamic personalities.

Mullah Muhsin's mark upon the World Federation is far-reaching and global. He was a key player in the Islamic Education Board's (IEB) ongoing efforts to propagate its message from Africa to Southeast Asia and Russia – to name a few places. As a resident of the United Kingdom, he persevered in establishing strong tableegh efforts throughout Europe and North America.



*Mullah Muhsin at work*

As the third Kawkabe Khidmat award recipient, Mullah Muhsin is a member of a select group that includes Haji Gulamali Bhanji (Bapu) of India, recognised for his relief work in Gujarat and efforts in unifying the African and Indian Khoja communities; and Haji Sajjad Rashid, honoured for leading the memorable 2000 rescue mission of stranded mumineen in Somalia.





## Engaging with the Marja'iyya to help us respond to the dichotomy of religious and secular existence.

By Hasnain Walji

*"But why should not a party from every section of them (the believers) go forth to become learned in the religion, and to warn their people when they return to them, that they may beware?"  
(Surah at-Tawbah, Verse 124)*

The most important characteristic of our present society may well be the incredible speed with which it changes. Whether things evolve in a positive or in a negative way, change itself constitutes a problem. The ever-increasing pace of change has created a crisis of adjustment to address the realities of the era. The futurologist Alvin Toffler (1970) has made a detailed study of the acceleration of change and its psychological effects. He suggested that it would lead to a set of severe physical and mental disturbances, which he called the "future shock" syndrome.

One such manifestation of the shock syndrome is how the growing feeling of uncertainty and insecurity has eroded existing systems of belief and invalidated many of the assumptions underlying these traditional systems of faith. As a result, people have lost their sense of direction and confidence in the "natural order" of things.

As our own community faces the challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, to whom do we turn to help us through these challenges? The answer lies in the following quote of Hazrat al-Hujjat (AS) – the Imam of our time – in a reply to Ishaq ibn Ya'qub: "As far as newly occurring circumstances are concerned, you should turn (for guidance) to the narrators of our ahadith, for they are my proof over you just as I am Allah's proof." (Shaykh at-Tabarsi, al-Ihtijaj)

Another tradition from Imam Ja'far as-Sadiq (AS), narrated by Imam Hasan Askari (AS), states, "... But if there is anyone among the fuqaha' who is in control over his own self, protects his religion, suppresses his evil desires and is obedient to the commands of his Master, then the people should follow him." (Shaykh at-Tabarsi, al-Ihtijaj)

The above verse of Surah at-Tawbah and the traditions of the A'imma (AS) undoubtedly point to those who "go forth to become learned in the religion". In the era of the Occultation (ghaibah) of our Imam (AS), it is the learned ones – the Marja'ja – to whom we should turn (for guidance).

Thus it is all the more important that the concept of Taqlid and the traditional role of Marja al-Taqlid in the ever changing modern age must be viewed as relevant to the realities of the era we live in. The institution of Taqlid needs to be explained and elaborated so that it continues to maintain its relevancy for the community's day-to-day life.

Today, there is a body of opinion that is bent on creating a perception that the Marja'ja is doing little to solve the pressing problems of the community, that their only connection to the believers appears to be the collection of khums, that most of the Marja'ja live in an environment that is too confined and narrow to help people grapple with the problems of modernity.

Hitherto, the Marja'iyya has operated upon the bedrock of Taqwa, 'Adalah and personal integrity of the Marja' al-Taqlid. It is disturbing to note that attempts are now being made to sacrifice these fundamental attributes at the altar of 'transparency and accountability' by certain quarters in our community.

While the majority of the KSI Community is compliant and derives its guidance from the Marja' al-Taqlid, it is important to recognize that such minority thinking may well take deeper roots in the community, and particularly among our youth, and needs to be addressed now. The present series in WF Insight on introducing these sages and savants of our era is one dimension of the process of enlightening and informing the community of the erudition and calibre of our scholars. It is hoped that readers will take the initiative to study these personalities to better understand the concept of Taqlid and Marja' al-Taqlid.

At the same time, Community leaders will do well to familiarize themselves with the deliberations of scholars like Ayatullah Taleghani and Ayatullah Murtaza Mutahhari for the optimization of Marja'iyya (published in Marja'iyyat va Ruhaniyyat over thirty years ago). It was their unique foresight which led them to address the challenges faced today by the institution of Marja'iyya.



Of particular relevance is Shahid Mutahhari's concept of the desirability of a collective leadership to address complex and moral issues arising out of the secular modern living. He advocated the importance of the input from specialists in the process of offering guidance in matters related to the contemporary social, economic and political issues.

The diversity of problems faced by the Shi'ite communities around the globe mean we must be engaged with the Marja' al-Taqlid to help us respond to the dichotomy of our religious and secular existence, especially in the West. The institution of Taqlid and Marja' al-Taqlid have kept us in good stead during the occultation (Ghayba) of Hazrat-e-Hujjat (AS).

Our future, lies in adhering to this institution, and will depend on our efforts as a community in engaging with the Marjaiyya to help us make Islam relevant and applicable for next generations.

### Introduction to the Grand Mara'ja

For more than one thousand years, the Theological Seminary in Najaf has been producing guiding lights for the Shia community – one after the other. These are people who are respected and followed without question by the lovers of the Ahlul Bayt throughout the world irrespective of the followers' colour, language or nationality. From the west coast of Canada to the mountainous region of China – wherever there are Shia, you will find Muqallidin of the great Mara'ja al-Taqlid! Through their dedication and self-sacrifice, the Mara'ja al-Taqlid have been inspirations for all Shia – young and old alike – in matters of guidance within the spiritual realm and also the social and political spectrum.

Due to the economic conditions prevalent in Najaf and the political climate of Iraq, in particular the "Saddam Era," the scholars at the Theological Seminar have at times vocally opposed the oppressive regimes and taken political stands. At other times, they have employed other means to preserve Islam and the spring of teachings so that it may be tapped into once the despots are removed – the Jihad with the pen.

One such period in our recent history is that of the late Grand Ayatullah al-Uzma al-Hajj as-Sayyid Abu al-Qasim al-Musawi al-Khu'i. Although under tight control by the Ba'thist regime, Ayatullah al-Khu'i, and the Seminary of Najaf that he guided, have been an

inexhaustible spring that has enriched and enlivened Islamic thought and knowledge throughout the world. From his school graduated hundreds of jurists, scholars, and dignitaries who took it upon themselves to continue his ideological path, which was full of achievements and sacrifices in the service of faith, knowledge and the society. Without exaggeration it can be stated that almost every Mujtahid today has either studied directly or indirectly under Ayatullah al-Khu'i.

Whereas the lives of many of the personalities who have come through the doors of the Hawza of Najaf may be the same from the point of view of their teachers, books they studied and other such rudimentary aspects of their lives, each scholar has his own stories and accounts which are specific to himself and which aided and moulded him into the leader that he is today. Some of these accounts are mentioned here while many other narrations, due to the humble and modest character of these individuals are kept unwritten only to be uncovered after their passing away.

In this expose, the wide diversity of scholars whom we shall cover will bear evidence to the fact that 'nationality' has no place when it comes to reaching the level of Marja' Taqlid. From the likes of scholars born in the city of Mashad, Iran, such as Ayatullahs Seestani and Khamene'i, to the only Marja' Taqlid of the recent past who hails from Pakistan, Ayatullah Bashir Najafi to Ayatullah Ishaq Fayyadh of Kabul, Afghanistan and Ayatullah Taba'taba'i al-Hakeem who was born in Najaf, we see that anyone who has the desire, perseverance and of course Tawfeeq (Divine Success) can reach this lofty rank.

### Common terminology used

<b>Fiqh</b>	Jurisprudence
<b>Usul al Fiqh</b>	Principles of jurisprudence
<b>Mantiq</b>	Logic
<b>Aqaid</b>	Beliefs
<b>Ijtihad</b>	Deduction of legal judgment in matters of religion
<b>'Ilm al-Rijal</b>	Research into the biographies of the narrators of ahadith
<b>Ba'thul-Kharij</b>	The highest level of studies in the Hawza
<b>Hawza 'Ilmiyyah</b>	The seminary used for learning



## Ayatullah al-'Uzma al-Hajj as-Sayyid 'Ali al-Husayni as-Seestani

Considered to be the most distinguished among the towering figures of Islamic scholarship in today's day and age, is Grand Ayatullah al-Uzma al-Hajj as-Sayyid Ali al-Husayni as-Seestani. Ranking among the brightest, most qualified and knowledgeable of Ayatullah al-Khui's students, the Ayatullah was born in 1928 in Mashad, Iran.

Just as every student who aspires to reach to the ranks of being a Mujtahid, Ayatullah Seestani began his quest of enlightenment with the introductory Arabic studies. He also studied Fiqh, Usul al-Fiqh, Mantiq, Aqaid and other subjects, thus giving him a firm foundation of his faith and the tools to continue his research, under the great Ulama and teachers of Khurasan province. It was there that he took part in Ba'thul-Kharij, the highest level of studies in the Hawza in preparation of becoming a Mujtahid.

In order to advance his studies to a higher level and complete the introductory lessons, he travelled to Qum so as to benefit from the Ulama of the grand Hawza. He quickly became recognised as the brightest student in the fields of Fiqh, Usul and al-Rijal, much of which he studied under Ayatullah Burujerdi. As the biographers note, Ayatullah Seestani surpassed his peers, especially with the forcefulness of his interjections, quick wit, research in jurisprudence, biographies of the transmitters of ahadith, and ability to stay abreast of many theories in the theological sciences.

In 1951, after completing three years of studies in Qum, Ayatullah Seestani once again moved, this time to Najaf. For more than 10 years he took part in the lessons of Ayatullah al-Uzma as-Sayyid Abu al-Qasim al-Khu'i and also attended the lessons taught by the supreme religious authority of the time, Ayatullah al-'Uzma as-Sayyid Mohsin al-Hakim.

In recognition of his achievements, in 1960 he was awarded the distinction certifying that he had attained the level of Ijtihad by Ayatullah al-Khu'i and again by Shaykh al-Hilli. That same year, he was awarded certification by the distinguished traditionalist and



scholar Shaykh Agha Buzurg al-Tehrani testifying to his skill in the science of 'Ilm al-Rijal, which is one of the sciences needed to be able to bring forth legal rulings on any Islamic subject. All of this was achieved by the time he reached 31 years of age.

In 1961, after years of studies and participating in the lessons of Usul, Fiqh and Mantiq in the Hawzas of Mashad, Qum and Najaf, Ayatullah Seestani was recognized as a Mujtahid and thus completed the cycle he had begun in his youth by starting to teach his own lessons in Kharij.

After the downfall of the Ba'thist regime in Iraq and the capture of their 'leader' Saddam Hussein in 2003,

the Iraqi people, the Mara'ja Taqlid and the Hawza 'Ilmiyyah have the unrestricted ability to spread the light of Islam around the world. The supreme authority which Ayatullah Seestani wields has been seen in articles by Time Magazine, Reuters, Washington Post and other notable news outlets which have deemed him "The Real Authority in Iraq".

For nearly 40 years, Ayatullah Seestani has continued the important task of teaching Ba'thul Kharij in Fiqh, Usul and Rijal. The fruits of his struggle for knowledge and his accomplishments have been preserved in his writing of more than 40 books, many of which have been translated into various languages including English, Urdu, Gujarati, Turkish, Spanish and French and a host of other languages.

He has written several books and some of his works translated into English include: Islamic Laws - Translation of Tawdhiul Masa'il; Manasek Hajj; Rules relating to the Deceased: Philosophy and Ahkam; Contemporary Legal Rulings in Shi'i Law; Jurisprudence Made Easy; Simplified Islamic Laws for Youth and Young Adult.





## Ayatullah al-Uzma Shaykh Nasir Makarim Shirazi

Although being born into a scholarly family has its benefits and may act as an encouragement for the children to also take the path of traditional Islamic scholarship, there are exceptions to this rule – one being the eminent scholar Ayatullah al-Uzma Shaykh Nasir Makarim Shirazi. He was born in the city of Shiraz, Iran in the year 1924 into a religious family well known for their great level of spirituality and noble ethical traits – however there were no “scholars” in his lineage.

Not letting this fact distract him, Ayatullah Makarim Shirazi finished elementary school, and due to his eagerness to learn, powerful memorizing capabilities and other worthy talents, he was quickly regarded as a child prodigy which led him to be able to complete two years of studies in one year!

Through the blessings of Allah (SWT) and his own push and drive, this young man developed an attraction to delving deeper into the teachings of Islam. Thus, he began his introductory Islamic studies at the young age of 14 years. Just as with primary school, he was also able to complete his introductory Islamic studies of Arabic and the other traditional subjects within an extremely short period of time. He then turned his attention towards the fields of Fiqh, Usul al Fiqh, and again, due to his exceptional capabilities, was able to complete the introductory levels and both intermediate levels in approximately four years (something that normally takes 12 to 15 years).

At the age of 18 he left his family and hometown and entered the Theological Seminary where, for the next five years, he was present in the religious classes of some of the greatest teachers such as Ayatullah al-Uzma as-Sayyid Muhammad Husain Burujerdi.

In order for Ayatullah Shirazi to become better acquainted with the great scholars who were studying and teaching in one of the greatest Shia theological seminaries, at the age of 26 (in 1950) he made his way to the Hawzatul Ilmiyyah of Najaf, Iraq. There, he studied under great scholars including Ayatullah al-Uzma as-Sayyid Muhsin al-Hakim, Ayatullah al-Uzma as-Sayyid Abul Qasim al Khui and Ayatullah al-Uzma Sayyid Abdul Hadi Shirazi.

Within a short span of two or three years, Ayatullah Shirazi was granted complete Ijtihad from two of the great scholars of Najaf.

However, he returned home to Iran in 1951 and made his way back to the holy city of Qum, which was known as the centre of gathering for religious



scholars. There he joined the circle of scholars who later had a profound impact on his life.

After returning to Iran, Ayatullah Shirazi began teaching the intermediate and higher level of Kharij studies in Usul al-Fiqh and Fiqh and other disciplines including Tafseer of the Quran, Theology and other classes which have a direct impact on the lives of the Muslims. Over the past thirty years, his classes at the Theological Seminary

have been warmly accepted and appreciated by many students thus bringing forth a new generation of scholars to tackle the problems of today with a completely new approach and twist to them.

In addition to writing and teaching, he also had a pivotal role in the Islamic Revolution of Iran including the leading of demonstrations against the Pahlavi dynasty, which led to his imprisonment. It was under the leadership of the late Ayatullah Khomeini and the victory of the revolution in 1979 that he played a role in penning the constitution of the Islamic Republic and helping steer the country to form the new Islamic government.

Ayatullah Shirazi has authored approximately 130 books, some of which have been reprinted more than 30 times! Some of his works have been translated into more than 10 languages and published in various parts of the world. His practical guide for Muslims (Tawdhihul Masail) is in multiple reprints with translations in Arabic, Urdu, Turkish, Azeri and English.

His other works which are outside the fold of the traditional books of Fiqh and Jurisprudence include: Khums: The Islamic Tax; Lessons in Islamic Beliefs – Tawheed, Adalah, Nubuwwah, Imamah, and Ma'ad; Life Under the Grace of Ethics; One Hundred and Fifty Lessons for Life; Our Beliefs; Summary of the Islamic Rulings; The Hadith of Ghadir – The Expressive Evidence for Imamate; The Noble Qur'an – Translation and Commentary – Volume 1 to 3; The Message of the Quran Volume 1 (of 10); and Ethical Discourses – Volume 1.



## Ayatullah Al-Uzma Al-Hajj Ash-Shaykh Fadil Lankarani

The sacred city of Qum has its share of scholars, one of them being Mara'ja Taqlid, Ayatullah Al-Uzma Al-Hajj Ash-Shaykh Fadil Lankarani, who was born in 1931 from a family of great scholars.

At the very young age of 13, after the completion of primary school, he began his Islamic studies in the seminary of Qum, where his great ability and aptitude allowed him to finish the preliminary stages of Islamic studies within six years – a course which normally takes 10 to 14 years.

At the age of 19, he started attending lessons in jurisprudence, principles of jurisprudence at the Kharij level. These classes were being taught by Ayatullah al-Uzma as-Sayyid Muhammad Hussein Burujerdi, a teacher who has taught the highest level of studies to thousands of students.

Ayatullah Lankarani's fellow students and teachers quickly took notice of him due to his extremely young age and his amazing ability to pick up information very quickly. One of his close friends and study partners during this quest for knowledge was the Shaheed Mustafa Khumayni.

Ayatullah Lankarani benefited from Ayatullah Burujerdi's lectures in the subjects of Fiqh and Usul al-Fiqh for almost 11 years. He also participated in the classes of the late Ayatullah al-Uzma as-Sayyid Ruhullah al-Musawi al-Khumayni for nine years. During this period, he also took part in lectures on Philosophy and Tafsir of the Holy Quran under the great scholar 'Allamah as-Sayyid Muhammad Hussayn al-Tabataba'i, through which he gained much knowledge and enlightenment from this spring of wisdom.

Through his perseverance and accomplishments, Ayatullah Lankarani was able to reach to the great stage of Ijtihad at the early age of 25. It should be noted



that most people who possess extraordinary talents and have been able to reach to Ijtihad at a young age do so while in their mid 30's – thus, Ayatullah Lankarani has shown that one can reach to this rank even sooner through hard work and perseverance.

For the past 40 years, he has been involved in teaching the lessons of Ba'thul Kharij in the areas of Fiqh and Usul. His lessons are so popular that, in any one lesson, more than 700 scholars and personalities of the Hawza 'Ilmiyyah of Qum can be seen taking part. Furthermore, for the past few years, Iranian Radio (Ma'arif Radio Station which is broadcast throughout Iran and also on the Internet at [live.trib.ir/live/maref.ram](http://live.trib.ir/live/maref.ram)) has broadcast his lessons on Fiqh every night for the past 6 years. Thus, those living within the Islamic Republic and in foreign countries have benefited from Ayatullah Lankarani's vast amount of knowledge.

With the exception of his Islamic Laws, none of his other works are currently in English. His other works include several books on Fiqh and Usul al-Fiqh which aid other up and coming scholars to be able to reach to lofty levels in the fields of Jurisprudence. He has also written a commentary on selected chapters of the Quran.

## Ayatullah al-Uzma al-Hajj ash-Shaykh Mirza Jawad at-Tabrizi

Ayatullah al-Uzma al-Hajj ash-Shaykh Mirza Jawad at-Tabrizi was born in 1926 in the city of Tabriz, Iran. As other scholars of his calibre, after finishing his primary and secondary school studies, at the age of 18, he entered a theological school in his hometown. Within four years, he managed to complete the preliminary and intermediate levels of his Islamic studies, something which normally takes 12 to 15 years. Thus, another highly intelligent and intellectually powerful scholar was thrust into the lime light of the Shia community.



In 1948, he left his city of Tabriz and moved to Qum to continue his studies in the Hawza. Having finished his other intermediate lessons, he then took on the challenge of studying in the sessions known as Ba'thul Kharij, attending the lectures of the late Ayatullah al-Hujjat and Ayatullah Burujerdi.

Ayatullah at-Tabrizi then migrated to Najaf, where he studied under Ayatullah Abu al-Hadi ash-Shirazi and the late Ayatullah al-Khu'i enabling him to reach to the level of Ijtihad.

Ayatullah at-Tabrizi was a student of the Ayatullah Al-Khu'i and was invited to join the Assembly of Consultants, an organised group of scholars who responded to the questions of the people.





It is widely known that Ayatullah al-Khu'i himself put his seal of approval on Ayatullah at-Tabrizi and confirmed that he was a Mujtahid.

Ayatullah at-Tabrizi stayed in Najaf for about 23 years. After being arrested by the Bathist regime in Iraq, he was sent back to Iran, where he began teaching Fiqh

and Usul al-Fiqh in the Islamic Seminary of Qum, where he remains today.

Ayatullah at-Tabrizi has written numerous books in the field of jurisprudence which have been printed in Farsi and Arabic.

## Report on IEB's Allentown Retreat

The fifth biennial Retreat organised by the IEB-NASIMCO in collaboration with the World Federation, Africa Federation and the Council of European Jamaats was held from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> September 2004, at the new custom-built multi-purpose facility, Al-Ahad Centre in Allentown (Pennsylvania, USA). Over 300 Madrasah teachers from USA, Canada, Africa and Europe participated in the proceedings.

The theme of this Retreat was "From Conceptual Framework to Lesson Plans" – a befitting and concluding first phase of the thematic approaches covered in previous Retreats, in which the common thread was to promote excellence in the preparation and delivery of the Madaris curriculum.

The Retreat, as it has done in the past, utilised a combination of ways and activities to achieve its objectives. In keeping with its now established procedures of encouraging local participation, the host community of Allentown youngsters and children rose to this challenge and played a significant role in the proceedings. These ranged from Quran recitations, serving as session chairs, and giving presentations and a play.

Interspersed between sessions were presentations on a working Islamic Jeopardy (an adaptation of the popular USA TV quiz game), "Community Show and Tell" sessions where institutions from across the world shared their best practices and highlighted their novel and successful methods in their Madaris.

On the Lesson Plan, a comprehensive model of a Hajj Unit was presented, covering three levels of classes: Primary, Junior and Senior. These included various aspects of the learning processes and methods to be used to achieve the unit objectives. This unit was used in subsequent workshops to reinforce the concept of Cooperative Learning, which was covered in an earlier presentation. Another workshop was on mind mapping, and this followed on from a presentation on the techniques of the method.

The workshops again divided into the three levels, adapting the mind mapping methodology to suit the target audience. A keynote speech on the challenges of education practices in Islamic schools ignited a lot of discussions.

Towards the end of the proceedings, an afternoon was set aside for a relaxing trip to a nearby Amish country. The primary aim for this was to allow time for networking and discussions on the earlier Retreat sessions. This objective was handsomely met. In addition, the trip initiated an intriguing and pertinent discussion – if the Amish can retain their traditional values in such an industrialised environment, why can't we? Here, the role of Madaris teachers came into focus.



With the Grace of Allah (SWT), the Retreat was a resounding success by any standards, as patently evident from the comments and enthusiastic responses from the participants. The second phase is now for the organising team to take it to its next natural level - in empowering the Madaris teachers to resource lessons and effective delivery in classes. With the help of Mumineen around the world, and our regional and world institutions, this should be ready for the next retreat in two years' time.



For further information, email:  
[ieb@world-federation.org](mailto:ieb@world-federation.org)



## IEB Qum Office Update

### Introduction

Since its establishment in Rajab 1425 (September 2004), the Islamic Education Board Qum Office (IEB-QO) has executed a planning exercise and has concentrated on establishing strong foundations for future activity. The Office has provided the IEB with a much-needed direct channel of communication with leading organisations based in Qum, and also in coordinating activities with the body of Khoja students there.

### Establishing Strong Foundations for Future Activity

Apart from its instrumental role in the agreement between the IEB and the International Center for Islamic Studies, IEB-QO has also been establishing strong relations for future cooperation with other prominent organizations, as illustrated in the table below:

Name of Organization	Description	Area of Cooperation
Jamia al-Zahra (AS)	Main Hawza in Qum for female students	Short and long term courses
Imam Khomeini Education and Research Institute	Education and research institute under the directorship of Ayatullah Misbah Yazdi	Training courses for students
Porch of Wisdom Cultural Institute	Research and cultural institute, the Chairman of which is Ayatullah Hadavi	Question and answer translation project
Imam Sadiq (AS) Institute	Education and research institute headed by Ayatullah Jafar Subhani	High level short courses for muballighs, teachers and researchers

### Khoja Students of Qum

At present, there are approximately 60 Khoja students in Qum. The IEB-QO has assessed the requirements of the unmarried students at Jamia al-Zahra (AS) and based on this has started spoken Arabic classes for them. A similar assessment for the married students is in progress.

The Office is also coordinating activities with the three committees formed by the Khoja students, namely:

1. The Answering Questions Project Committee
2. The Library and Training Courses Committee
3. The Housing and Shahriya (Monthly Stipend) Committee

Recent activities organized by the IEB-QO include a function held on the night of the 15<sup>th</sup> Shaban 1425. The Khoja families residing in Qum were invited to attend a special programme. Approximately 100 members of the community attended the function held at Dar al-Zahra (AS), the education and cultural centre in which the Office is based.

For further information, email:  
[ieb-qum@world-federation.org](mailto:ieb-qum@world-federation.org)

### IEB Signs Agreement with ICIS

The Islamic Education Board (IEB) of the World Federation has signed agreement with the International Centre for Islamic Studies (ICIS). Based in the Holy city of Qum, the ICIS is the sole authority responsible for non-Iranian students of the Hawza.

The contract was concluded under the framework of the Memorandum of Cooperation between the ICIS and the IEB, and utilises bilateral capabilities in furthering mutual goals and relations, and for the worldwide propagation of Islamic teachings and the knowledge of the Ahlul Bayt (AS).

The IEB Qum Office carried out the groundwork to the agreement, with discussions progressing further during the WF delegation's recent visit to Qum.

The agreement stipulates that every year, the ICIS will:

1. Accept 35 students who have been recommended by the IEB and who have the entry requirements for the Introductory and BA Degree course.
2. Hold a six-month course for a maximum of 25 students who have been recommended by the IEB.
3. Assist the IEB in holding a one-month course in the summer for a maximum of 60 students who have been recommended by the IEB.

The ICIS has also agreed that students recommended by the IEB will receive fast-track admission to the Hawza and flexibility in their studies. The undertakings of the IEB pertain to facilitating tours of education and cultural centres outside Iran and holding English language courses in England for ICIS officials.

If you are interested in studying in the Hawza of Qum, whether for short courses or the long-term programme, email:

[ieb-qum@world-federation.org](mailto:ieb-qum@world-federation.org)



## Report on the activities of the IRE co-ordinator, Br. Nisar Sheraly

**The Islamic Religious Education (IRE) co-ordinator of the World Federation, Br. Nisar Sheraly, has completed his tour of various madaris in UK, Europe, Dubai, Qum, North America and Africa.**

The main aim was to conduct surveys and interviews with the principals to exchange ideas about the delivery of Islamic education in our institutions. He also collected information on each madrasah and their current curriculum and teaching strategies used, so that a curriculum framework can be considered.



Group One

Group Two

Group Three



Group Four



Group Five

Group One: Improvement in the administration of Madaris

Group Two: Method of enhancing Islamic studies

Group Three: Incentives to students, teachers and administration

Group Four: Promotion of Life Long Learning

Group Five: Best practices of the local jama'at (ie. Arusha)

Brother Nisar, a renowned motivational workshop presenter, also conducted: a teachers' training workshop on "How to Be an Effective Teacher"; an

information session on the initiatives undertaken by the WF-IEB; and a workshop entitled "Teaching is Fun", on the use of various teaching strategies to appeal to madaris children. Madrasah should be a continuation of the child's everyday learning experience and the teaching techniques should mimic daily life, ensuring that it is a fun and pleasant experience.

The workshops were very well received from the madaris. In his one-to-one meeting with the principals, Brother Nisar was able to express some of his 30 years experience as a teacher, principal and curriculum leader both in madrasah and secular school settings while simultaneously identifying the best practices in each madrasah.

Best practice methods will then be collated, developed, published and shared with the worldwide madaris. The teacher's data will then be incorporated in the directories for North America, UK-Europe, and Africa. The hope is for these publications to bring our madaris closer together and provide a forum for communication between various teachers worldwide - one of World Federation's aims.

The success and comprehensiveness of this project depends upon full participation and support from the madaris. The IEB encourages madaris to complete their forms as soon as possible.

If you require any help or further information contact the IEB Office on: [ieb@world-federation.org](mailto:ieb@world-federation.org)

## Investment in a Sustainable Programme of tableegh activities Jamia al-Zahra (AS)

On Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2004, the Islamic Education Board of signed an agreement with Jamia al-Zahra (AS), the leading Hawza for female



students in Qum. The contract was signed by the Chairman of the IEB, Sheikh Safder Jaffer and the Deputy of International Affairs of Jamia al-Zahra (AS), Dr Mohammad Ali Shomali at Dar Al Tableegh in London.

Dr. Shomali highlighted the programme structure and commended the IEB on promoting the religious and spiritual development of female students.



Dr. Shomali then presented the President of the World Federation, Dr. Ahmed Hassam, with a book on Catholic-Shia Dialogue on

theology and spirituality. Dr Hassam said, "Dr Shomali has done considerable work on encouraging and promoting interfaith dialogue at a strategic level, and as we build partnership with Jamia al-Zahra (AS), I hope we can learn from him on how to strengthen this dialogue in the West."

For further information about studying in the Hawza of Qum, email: [ieb-qum@world-federation.org](mailto:ieb-qum@world-federation.org)





## University Students urged to join the Student Support Network

**World Federation's Career Education and Training Advisory Board (CETAB) is urging all students going to university to join the Student Support Network (SSN), which is aimed at helping them to keep in touch with other students from around the world.**

The service also has mailing group, where students can request and send helpful information. Through this group, SSN try to introduce students who study in same universities or live in the same town. The group regularly informs students about religious programs held at various centres.

In addition SSN has an online student's directory, which records the numbers of students in our community undertaking further education and also allows students to search for people coming from similar backgrounds, courses and cities.

SSN is dedicated to providing a wide range of services for students within our communities. One of its main goals is to provide interaction between university students, on a worldwide level, across all Jamaats.

With a broad choice of highly rated educational establishments offering a variety of courses to suit every possible need, it is essential that a medium of communication be in place for students who are already at university and for those who are in the process of applying to such institutions. SSN was therefore formed to assist such students with a variety of facilities. Since its inception, SSN has grown to 200 students with a database currently consisting of students from Australia, Malaysia, USA, Canada, Dubai, Africa, India, Pakistan and UK.

For further information, email:

**cetab@world-federation.org**

## Australian Student initiates Bam Appeal at her school

**The World Federation was delighted to learn how a student from our community took the initiative to co-ordinate an Appeal for the Bam Earthquake, launched by the World Federation, at her school. Sister Zahra Khaki, from Sydney, Australia, used her position as the Social Issues Captain in her school to raise money for the Bam earthquake.**

The President of the World Federation, Dr. Ahmed Hassam said, "I am delighted to note the commitment of our youth to such projects. May Allah (SWT) reward them and their parents for such deeds. Ameen."

**Sister Zahra Khaki narrates:**

"Several weeks ago, I received the regular World Federation newsletter, and this time it came with a booklet on the Bam Earthquake. I vaguely remembered hearing about the earthquake when it happened. After I saw the pictures, and the destruction caused by the earthquake, I felt motivated to help the poor lives in Iran who had lost nearly every part of their life.

I went to school the next day and had a discussion with one of my teachers. I thought I should take full advantage of my role as the Social Issues Captain in my school community. We decided that we should sell food to raise money. So it was set — we would hold a Sausages Sizzle on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2004 at lunch to raise money for the Bam victims.

I enlarged some of the pictures from the booklet and placed them around my school to ensure that

everyone was aware of where the money was going. I made an announcement in a school assembly explaining the money would help restore the lives of people in Iran who suffered from the earthquake, and build children's schools, community centres and clinics.

The day was a great success. We had fun and Alhamdulillah raised a fair amount of money. The Halal sausages and samosas sold like hotcakes. The only leftovers were chocolates and boxes of crisps, which we managed to sell later on during the week."

### IEB's [www.quran.org.uk](http://www.quran.org.uk) website breaks all records

The Quranic resources website maintained by the IEB of the World Federation has broken its records in terms of visits within the first week of the Holy month of Ramadhan 1425. The site registered the highest daily hit count (2,247), the highest weekly hit count (10,432) and the highest monthly hit count (26,013). The IEB encourages individuals to utilize this excellent resource, containing different Quranic translations, commentaries and a vast host of related articles. The site has a mailing list with 1,200 subscribers.



## The International Work Education & Cultural Experience (IWECE) program

Final year medical student **Sister Sukaina Jaffer** shares her experience volunteering at an eye camp in Tanzania through the **WF-CETAB (IWECE)** program. The IWECE aims to educate senior university and college students living in the West about their roots while providing them with practical work experience in their field of study. If you are a student interested in an IWECE placement, or are an organisation interested in recruiting a student volunteer, please contact CETAB at [cetab@world-federation.org](mailto:cetab@world-federation.org)

*By Sister Sukaina Jaffer*

"While on my elective placement in Tanzania I joined a team of 12 volunteers in a three-day eye camp organized by the Bilal Muslim Mission offering free cataract surgery in Mkinbwani, approximately 30km outside Tanga on Tanzania's eastern coast.



*Mkinbwani Village*

Approximately 50 people received pre-op assessment at Mkinbwani's health centre on the first day. Seventeen patients with cataracts causing severe vision loss were referred for surgery after receiving blood pressure and sugar tests (incidentally, many older patients had very high blood pressure). Bilal Muslim Mission provided transport to Bombo Hospital in Tanga that same day. Forty patients were assessed at a second clinic in Tanga, where 18 were referred for next-day procedures.



*Dr. Dilawar (front) and Dr. Dhalla (back) performing cataract surgery*

The team worked tirelessly on the 35 patients in production-line fashion from 10am until 5pm, with only one afternoon break. Patients were released the next morning after the ophthalmologists checked for signs of infection.

All the patients were extremely happy and amazed at having their sight restored! Some patients I had seen before the operation had been unable to walk without a guide, but can now walk unaided. Surprisingly, there are no ophthalmologists in all of Tanga! Dr. Dilawar travels from Dar es Salaam once every month to conduct an eye clinic.

Participating in this eye camp and witnessing the team's life-changing work truly was a humbling, rewarding experience. I witnessed a phenomenal amount of organization and planning from eye camp volunteers who sacrificed their time and, in some cases, their resources. Everyone's hard work came with a smile and a great deal of humour! I would love the opportunity to join such a team again, and to help those who do not have the means to restore their sight."

Bilal Muslim Mission relies on the generosity of donors to fund such camps. For the remainder of the year, they have planned another 200 cataract operations, each costing USD50. Alhamdulillah financial support has been forthcoming, but contributions are always welcome, as the team requires new equipment to be more effective and extend services to the needy population. If you would like to contribute, please contact Dr. Walji of the Medical Advisory Board at:

**[mab@world-federation.org](mailto:mab@world-federation.org)**

### The World Federation's Online Remittance System

The World Federation has launched its new and improved Online Remittance System. This system provides new features for enhanced user experience.

You can now create your own personal User Profile, from which you can make donations, set up donation reminders and view the latest articles since your last logged on.

To create your personal User Profile, visit  
**[www.world-federation.org/WFPaySys/](http://www.world-federation.org/WFPaySys/)**

For more information or assistance,  
please contact

**[secretariat@world-federation.org](mailto:secretariat@world-federation.org)**



## WF SAB - NASIMCO raises C\$38,000 for the North American Appeal of the Hadith-e-Kisa Blanket Drive

During the holy month of Ramadhan 1425, a joint collaboration of the Seniors Advisory Board of the World Federation and NASIMCO raised over CAN \$38,000 for the Hadith-e-Kisa Blanket Drive, aimed to purchase warm blankets for over 3,000 senior citizens in Northern Pakistan, Lucknow, and other remote regions of Uttar Pradesh in Northern India. The blankets have already been purchased and gifted to the needy seniors.

There are thousands of senior citizens who are suffering, and in some cases dying, from the sub-zero temperatures in their regions simply because they cannot afford to buy blankets.

WF-SAB and NASIMCO would like to express their sincere gratitude to all the donors, and a special thanks to all the Jamaats across North America, and all the individuals and patrons who administered the Appeal successfully.

For further information, please email  
**sab@world-federation.org**

## Report on the SAB Retreat

From 30<sup>th</sup> July to 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2004, the Seniors Advisory Board organized its first ever Senior Citizens Summer Retreat in Collingwood, Ontario. The event was attended by more than 90 seniors worldwide, including distinguished guests such as the late vice president of the World Federation, Marhum Sultan Davdani, and the vice president of NASIMCO, Br. Mohsin Kamalia. The speakers at the retreat were Syed Mohamed Naqvi, Dr. Shabbir Alibhai and Sister Siddika Mithani. In addition to the lectures, there were barbeque dinners, Mushaira programs and sightseeing tours.



As an initiative of the SAB's strategic plan, this event achieved the objectives it originally set out to undertake. The retreat offered a rare chance for networking among seniors, talking with individuals on a one-on-one basis and attaining an understanding of the needs of the seniors' community, family, and socioeconomic welfare needs. The results are enabling the development of effective strategies.

For more information on the retreat, visit:  
**www.world-federation.org/SAB/Articles**  
or email **sab@world-federation.org**

## CETAB announces the recipients of the Hiridjee Loan

Sister Almas Ali from Texas and Sister Sakina Damji from Tanzania have each been awarded the *Hiridjee Loan* to help them through university. The Hiridjee Loan has been donated by the Raza Aly Hiridjee family of Madagascar, who made a commitment to sponsor two female students for three years at £10,000 per year.

Sister Almas achieved a very high GPA in her studies and has chosen to read Pre-Med in Biology at the University of Austin. Sister Sakina is from Tanzania and will study at the Financial Training Company in England to complete her ACCA studies. Both have excellent academic backgrounds and are actively involved within the community.

The selection criteria were based on academic ability, the student's level of local community involvement, goals upon achieving qualification, and overall family circumstances. The selection process was extremely difficult and all 13 applicants were well deserving.

CETAB takes this opportunity to thank the family of Br. Raza Aly Hiridjee for their generous donation. May the Almighty give them abundant blessings and Divine success to continue their community support. CETAB would also like to thank all the regional federations and local Jamaats for helping to advertise the Hiridjee Family Loan, and also the parents, teachers, friends and well-wishers who encouraged students to apply. We sincerely hope each applicant is able to pursue the course they desire and achieve every success possible. For further information, email

**cetab@world-federation.org**

## Expanding the cure for poverty: The ZCSS solution in North America

The Zainabiya Child Sponsorship Scheme (ZCSS) of the World Federation has announced a new initiative to broaden its sponsorship base in North America. The Organization of the North American Shia Ithna Asheri Muslim Communities (NASIMCO) finalized plans for the first phase of this initiative in which the scheme was introduced with renewed vigour to the North American communities in the holy month of Ramadhan.

In the first year, NASIMCO conservatively aims to recruit North American sponsors for at least 500 children, a goal that the ZCSS-NASIMCO feels can be easily achieved.

NASIMCO and the World Federation encourage and welcome the participation of all, including those who can help to promote this great cause.

For further information, email  
**zcass@world-federation.org**  
or **zcass@nasimco.org**





## World Federation facilitates internships in the USA

The External Liaison Desk of the World Federation sponsored its first ever internship program in America's capital, Washington, DC. Several students from across the USA participated and worked at various influential policy making places like the Council on American Islamic Relations (CAIR), the Centre for Strategic and International Studies, and with members of the congress.



*Br. Mohamed Sabur and fellow CAIR interns at Al-Jazeera (Picture courtesy of the Council on American-Islamic Relations).*

Through its Washington, DC, representative, Br. Zahir Janmohamed, the World Federation offered its assistance in finding internship positions, securing private funding for their internships, and in arranging housing. Shia interns met periodically through the summer for Dua Kumayl and to discuss the current state of Muslims in the United States.

Brother Zahir believes the program is an attempt to increase the profile, the voice, and the awareness of our community and the Muslim community at large. He said, "Given the increased number of hate incidents committed against Muslims, it is imperative that we prepare the youth in our community to engage in civil society at every level — professionally, socially, and yes, politically. This internship program is the first step in asserting our collective voices and in presenting our concerns to policy makers. It serves to empower our youth to aspire for careers that will impact society at large."

Br. Mohamed Sabur was one of the students who participated in this program and narrates his experience:

"During my internship I was able to work on various projects in the fields of legal affairs, governmental relations, civil rights, research, information technology, and membership. From day one of my time at CAIR, it was made clear that the organization

is committed to an open workplace, free of discrimination against anyone, whether he or she adhere to certain Islamic beliefs or even adheres to another religion. Furthermore, my background with the Khoja Shia Ithna-Asheri community allowed me to uniquely contribute to projects such as the organization's North American Muslim Resource Guide and a statement CAIR issued on the August fighting near the Imam Ali (AS) Shrine in Najaf.

As part of the internship program, I was also able to visit DC-area news agencies such as CNN, Al-Jazeera, and National Public Radio, attend a Senate 9/11 Commission Report hearing, and meet with influential figures such as Dr. Imad Moustapha, Syria's ambassador to the United States. Also, being in Washington, DC, during the summer internship season gave me the opportunity to meet Muslims from across the nation who share similar values and visions of empowering the American Muslim community for years to come."

CAIR's internship program runs year-round and I encourage my fellow students and youth to apply at [www.cair-net.org](http://www.cair-net.org)

## The Zainabiya Child Sponsorship Scheme Continues in Pursuit of Excellence thanks to Generous Sponsor Parents



The number of success stories and thank-you letters received from those students that have benefited from generous donations received by ZCSS shows the tremendous progress of the scheme.

A shining example of this success is student Br. Abbasali Mohsinali from Gujarat, who is now a software programmer as a result of the ZCSS. He was fortunate enough to get sponsorship through higher education and successfully graduated first in his class.

The Chairman of ZCSS, Br. Murtaza Datoosaid, "This is an essential objective of ZCSS, to take those amongst our community in the poorest areas around the world and give them the opportunity to face the world with full courage and determination. Like Br. Abbasali Mohsinali, they can enter society as the best professionals in their respected fields. But this objective can only be accomplished with your help and financial assistance. For as little as £10 a month ZCSS can carry on this good work and help even more children pursue excellence".

Visit [www.world-federation.org/zcss](http://www.world-federation.org/zcss) or email [zcss@world-federation.org](mailto:zcss@world-federation.org) to see how you can get involved.



## An enlightening experience into the works of ZCSS

The Zainabiya School and others worldwide are distinguishing themselves with high standards and academic success, exemplifying the capabilities and vision that can be achieved by ZCSS. But this good work can only be carried out with the help of consistent funding and dedicated sponsors - even the smallest donation has an effect. For more information, email [zcass@world-federation.org](mailto:zcass@world-federation.org)

Sister Leila Panju is a young schoolgirl who was so impressed upon a recent visit to the Zainabiya School in Alipur, India, that she submitted an essay to the World Federation on her experience. The following is an excerpt, and the full essay is available at [www.world-federation.org/ZCSS](http://www.world-federation.org/ZCSS)

"When Mum and Dad told us we were going to spend our holiday visiting a school, we were furious! We went on holiday to escape from a school, not visit one! However, when we were finally persuaded to go, it was absolutely nothing like we had expected.

"The headmaster escorted us around the buildings, and there they were... my first glance at the students was accompanied by a gasp! These children were the perfect opposite to the street kids! They were all smartly dressed in their neat blue uniforms, walking in a perfectly straight line towards their next lesson in absolute silence! It was a teacher's heaven! These kids were so well behaved, I felt slightly ashamed! Lead by a teacher, they walked past us all with happy expressions on their faces, curiously inspecting us. The boys' hair was neatly combed and the girls' scarves were perfect! For a second, I forgot that we were still in India! My view of India had always been a mixture of poverty, dirt and untidiness. But this certainly did not confirm my thoughts.

"Not a sound was to be heard at the assembly except from the voice of the headmaster. They then beautifully all recited a Dua in a well-rehearsed, tuneful manner and listened soundly to the headmasters' instructions. Following the assembly, we were taken on a tour around the school where I discovered that although it was incredibly more advanced than the rest of the schools in India, many improvements are needed. For example, only the higher classes with students of about 15 years of age have access to computers. If more of us sponsored the school, then maybe we could privilege them with the facilities we consider normal in our own schools. PE facilities and the playground also were not so great. Our day concluded with a delicious meal provided by the school cooks and I left the school with an exceedingly different mood than the one arrived with.

"I hope my account has inspired you to visit the school and witness what it's like to be in a school in India. I should thank Allah (SWT) everyday for how privileged I am to be attending a school in England where facilities are so much more advanced. The Zainabiya School in India is already exceedingly better than others in the country, but donating that one extra pound could affect a student's education, career and could change their future. So when you are reluctant to go to school on a Monday morning, think of a poor child in India, who dreams of attending a school but knows that his or her parents cannot afford it. Maybe you could make that dream come true. If the visit kept an impatient 12-year-old like myself entertained, then how can it possibly not entertain you?"

## Marriage Advisory Council meet in London, UK

The Marriage Advisory Council (MAC), part of the Women's Desk of the World Federation, met in London on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2004 to assess and evaluate the council's progress since the last meeting in Milton Keynes, and to plan for the future.

MAC is based on three pillars, which include:

- 1 Facilitating introductions for youth in the community who are looking for potential life partners via the [www.Khojamatch.com](http://www.Khojamatch.com) website;
- 2 Establishing the roles of pre-marriage facilitators and presenting it to the local communities;
- 3 Launching a confidential online marriage counsellors forum in the year 2005/2006 with the assistance of professionals in the field.

Since its launch on 19<sup>th</sup> September 2004, Khojamatch.com has grown to 150 registered members and 30 matchmakers. An administration team verifies both parties. Members' confidentiality is strictly maintained since profiles cannot be read by anyone. Matches between boys and girls are done with the help of specialised software that scientifically matches members' criteria with their ideal choice of a life partner. Each matchmaker is allocated member profiles for which they are responsible. Matchmakers are provided with training to help facilitate their service and establish a rapport with their members.

The MAC aims to work with the local Jamaats and the youth, ensuring confidentiality is maintained. To carry out this service, a survey will be undertaken in order to gather statistics about the age group to be targeted and to pinpoint the relevant issues faced by our youth. The meeting concluded with the recommendation that a PowerPoint presentation be given to local Jamaats, introducing the services to be provided by the MAC within the different Khoja communities. For further information, email [womensdesk@world-federation.org](mailto:womensdesk@world-federation.org)





## Fatimiyah School report on youth exchange and study program

Fatimiyah School, under the management of Khoja Shia Ishna Asheri Jamat in Karachi, organised a youth exchange and study program with an American school. The Youth Exchange and Study Program (YES) is a project of the International Educational Resource Network (iEARN).

The YES program aims at developing an understanding of different cultures through interaction with diverse groups of students. Participating students act as cultural ambassadors of their respective countries to their American host communities. During this period participants are enrolled in a full academic year of high school study in the USA. They are also able to participate in special enrichment activities including community service, youth leadership training, civics education program and other activities thus encouraging the development of a well-rounded personality.

The following reflection is from one of the two students who returned in June 2004 after a year study in America.

*By Kazim Raza Murtaza*

*Being selected for the YES Program brought mixed feelings — I was upset at the thought of leaving home and at the same time I was happy that I was one of the lucky people who got the chance to go.*

*I can never forget my host family and my friends who helped me to settle there, and my school and parents who played the key role in supporting me.*

*I lived in a small town in Virginia with a host family. I travelled in five states — Delaware, Philadelphia, Maryland, Washington, DC, North Carolina and South Carolina.*

*I believe we can achieve a lot through this program. Although there were a lot of challenges, overcoming them was a great achievement that made me confident. I even found the ability to become the leader in my own capacity that will help me serve my country. It is understood that society depends upon individuals who run it. Life provides us with a lot of opportunities, but it depends on us how we make use of them.*

## ZCSS Successfully Rejuvenates Indian State School



The picture above shows the Government School in Alipur, southern India. The building is very old and run down and lacks sufficient classrooms to accommodate the 900 poor Sadaat children enrolled in the school. Students lack basic facilities including a clean water supply and sanitised toilets. The shortage of teachers and other resources has contributed to the deteriorating quality of education. Aided by the support and assistance from trustees of the school, the local agency, and the Imamia Education & Welfare Trust, the ZCSS took immediate action to transform this poverty stricken school into a respectable institution capable of breeding academic excellence.

By the grace of Allah (SWT) and generous contributions from a donor, the Zainabiya Building in Alipur was donated for the Thawab (Divine Reward) of Marhoom Sher Ali Walji of Tanga. The Zainabiya Building was completed and officially opened in August 2004. The building is a magnificent and innovative architectural accomplishment incorporating a unique circular

structure to enhance sound projection and accessibility. The school now has the capacity to accommodate children in large furnished classrooms and provides clean water and toilet facilities.



ZCSS continues to monitor the educational standards of the school and has welcomed the appointment of more teachers, which undoubtedly will improve overall standards and unlock the potential of its many deserving students. The newly developed school will provide the children with a fresh opportunity to pursue excellence and be enlightened with the gift of knowledge.

ZCSS continues to combat illiteracy by enhancing the calibre of Zainabiya Schools around the world. However, such transformations can only be accomplished with financial assistance and support. To find out more about how to help provide the best education to these and many more Sadaat children, please visit [www.world-federation.org/zcss](http://www.world-federation.org/zcss). Be inspired and unlock a child's potential.





## World Federation donates water equipment for wells in Zanzibar

On 12<sup>th</sup> October 2004, the Executive councillor of the World Federation, Br. Anwarali Dharamsi, accompanied by the President of Zanzibar Jamaat, Alhaj Mohdraza Hassan and Malim Issa, donated equipment, pipes and accessories worth over TShs 24,000,000 (US \$24,000) to the Zanzibar Government on behalf of the World Federation. This gift was presented to the Chief Minister of Zanzibar, in the presence of the Minister of Water.



*The presentation of equipment for the wells*

This equipment will be used for the construction of six water wells, which will provide relief to the residents of the villages subject to the acute shortage of water in the region.

Brother Anwarali read the message from the President of the World Federation, Dr. Ahmed Hassam. He also thanked the Zanzibar Government for giving our community an opportunity to serve, and confirmed the World Federation's commitment to providing assistance for schools in Zanzibar.

In his speech, the Chief Minister of Zanzibar sincerely thanked the President of the World Federation for his hard work in fulfilling the commitment made during his last visit to the island.

For further information, email  
**[secretariat@world-federation.org](mailto:secretariat@world-federation.org)**

## Brampton Accord - World Federation/ Africa Federation

Following the Brampton Accord, aimed at providing more efficient coordination between Africa Federation and the World Federation and ensuring a functioning partnership, the Africa Federation has appointed the following to the various boards and desks of the World Federation:

- 1 Br. Shabbir Manekia and Dr. Asghar Moledina have been appointed to the Islamic Education Board
- 2 Br. Aunali Khalfan has been appointed to the Medical Advisory Board
- 3 Br. Iqbal Sunderji has been appointed to the Careers Education and Training Advisory Board
- 4 Br. Awnali Datoos has been appointed to the Seniors Advisory Board
- 5 Br. Nishat Karim has been appointed to the Youth Network Desk
- 6 Br. Manzoor Kanani to the External Relations Desk

The President of the World Federation Dr. Hassam said, "This is an excellent example of how we are now moving into working with our regional federations to prevent duplication of activities. I applaud this bold step and hope that we can now build capacity within our organisation to speed up joint efforts, ultimately benefiting our grassroots for whom we exist to serve."



## We value your feedback

The World Federation would like to hear your thoughts on **Insight**. We are seeking our readers' feedback in all areas, ranging from the article content to layout and design, future topics for the magazine to explore, and any further relevant comments. Your suggestions are essential for us to continue growth and improvement to this publication, and to ensure it targets the topics of greatest importance to our community today.

Please consider joining the World Federation focus group to share your feedback. The focus group provides important research information that can be utilised to enhance the World Federation's communication services. It will convene at various times through the year, and all participants will be appropriately notified in advance. This is an ideal opportunity to take a small amount of time to express your opinions and vision for the organization.

If you would like to share your comments, suggestions or interest in joining the focus group, please contact the communications staff at **[secretariat@world-federation.org](mailto:secretariat@world-federation.org)**

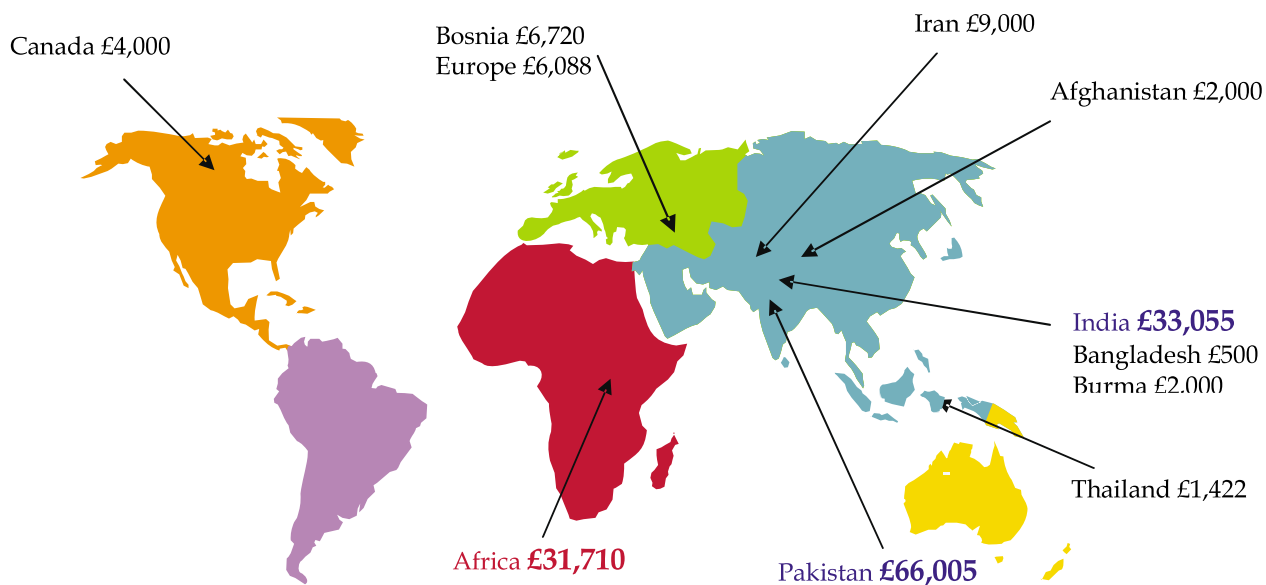


## Ramadhan Relief Fund 1425

The World Federation's annual Ramadhan Relief appeal is leading an effort to provide relief during the blessed month against the hunger, famine and deprivation affecting parts of the Shia population worldwide. The World Federation disbursed over £163,000 to 30 different regions round the world, ensuring that the deserving poor receive iftar, essential warm bedding, food provisions and drought relief.

The World Federation sincerely thanks the generous donors and volunteers who made this project a success this year. For more information, email [secretariat@world-federation.org](mailto:secretariat@world-federation.org)

The diagram below shows graphical representation of the dispersion



## World Federation assists in Uganda projects

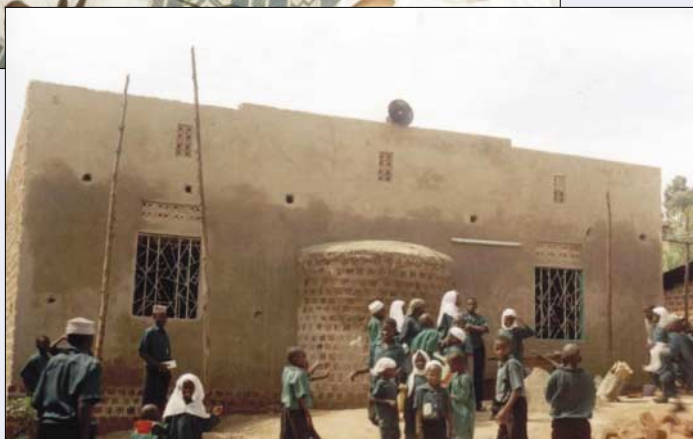
The World Federation recently responded to an appeal from Uganda on specific projects by providing the following assistance:

- 1 An allocation of £1,000 from the Ramadhan Relief Funds for food distribution at three orphanage centres in Uganda, where daily Majalis and Duas take place.
- 2 A donation of £500 to complete the minarat at the mosque near Nansana in Uganda
- 3 ZCSS has sponsored the Secondary education of 23 orphan students.



*A gathering where Duas are recited.*

*The Nansana mosque without the minarat for which WF provided funds.*





## An inspirational example of what young volunteers can do in their communities

In August 2001, a youth aged just 16 years from our community wanted to create a unique and much-needed facility for young Muslims. Br. Mohammed Mamdani saw the need for an outlet of support and advice, where young Muslims facing difficulty could turn to for help in complete anonymity. Very few people shared his vision, and so Br. Mohammed launched the Muslim Youth Helpline (MYH) from his bedroom. He went on training courses to become a councillor, and due to huge need for the service the MYH was able to grow. Today people from many Muslim organisations acknowledge the MYH as an excellent, professional means of support for all Muslim youth.



*Mohammed Mamdani holding the Whitbread Award*

On 28<sup>th</sup> September 2004 Brother Mohammed received recognition for creating the MYH. He became the recipient of the Whitbread Young Community Achiever Award, which recognises and rewards exceptional contributions by young volunteers between the ages of 16 and 25.

Br. Mohammed was selected from amongst three short-listed nominees to win the award at the ceremony held in Central London. He was praised by the judges for "being an inspirational example of what young volunteers can do in their communities, through determination and commitment."

In a recent visit to MYH headquarters, the Head of the Youth Network Desk, Br. Kasim Sumar met with Br. Mohammed, who explained the role the helpline plays in dealing with issues from drugs to depression. Br. Kasim said, "The work the MYH does is invaluable. The level of professionalism, and the way in which the helpline has grown, demonstrates the need for the service, and I pray that Allah (SWT) rewards Mohammed and his team for the service they offer the Khoja community as well as the entire Muslim community."

## Update on Aeinulla Eye Clinic in Lucknow



The Aeinulla Eye Clinic in Lucknow, India, a project undertaken by the MAB of the World Federation, started its work on 17<sup>th</sup> March 2004 (25<sup>th</sup> Muharram 1425), and since then has drawn several needy patients for treatment of various eye ailments. The clinic also organises eye camps that are advertised widely across North India.

On 19<sup>th</sup> June 2004 an Eye Camp was held at Jargavan, India, where patients came from more than 20 localities, the majority of whom were Sadaat and Shias. Of the 165 patients screened, 13 were found to have cataracts and one patient was found to have ptergium (surgically operable abnormality). All 14 patients will receive follow up surgery in Lucknow.

For further information on this and more clinics, contact [mab@world-federation.org](mailto:mab@world-federation.org)

*Screening*



*Consultation*



*Eye Testing*





## Report on CoEJ Education's 6<sup>th</sup> Residential camp for boys - Sweden 2004 under the patronage of the World Federation

With its motto 'Towards Excellence,' the objective of CoEJ Sweden Summer Camps is clear: to train and develop campers in the academic, physical and spiritual spheres of life. To this end, Camp Sweden 2004 included a range of activities designed to develop the youth of today for the challenges they face tomorrow.

The ethos of the camp was geared toward a low number of campers, approximately 41, where each camper could receive personal attention from administrators, mentors and fellow campers. The campers were divided into groups of eight or nine with each of the groups being allocated two mentors.

Each camper went through an intensive daily timetable, which began with classes taught largely by the three main Camp teachers, Sheikh Hasnain Kassamali, Dr. Mahmood Datoo and Br. Ali Akber Hussein. Each day a different mentor taught one class, providing the students with different subject matters.

Courses were followed by a break for Salah and about three hours of sports. Campers could choose from a wide range of exciting activities — football, table tennis, basketball, cricket, beach volleyball, canoeing, tube-skiing, swimming, crazy golf, crate stacking and the low ropes course.

One of the major roles of mentors was their coaching on the sports field, a key element of the campers' development. While engaging in athletics, campers were coached in the skill of playing and the mental discipline of sportsmanship, sound teamwork, tolerance and patience. The result was a much deeper understanding of both personal and collective responsibility on the sports field.



*Participants having fun*

The appreciation of advantages of teamwork was not limited to sport but was extended to include other activities. Personal Development Time, or PDT as it came to be known, would begin sharply at 8pm every night with quizzes and activities designed to enhance teamwork and lateral thinking, and also to improve communication and public speaking skills.



*Summer Camp mentors - 2004*

The role of the mentors was key to the success of the Camp. Mentors were truly the effectors. Their role had been spelled out to them in some detail and the tasks they were expected to complete had even been timetabled! But mentors rose above the standard directions and worked with initiative, innovation and a keen sense of purpose. Their impact was obvious, clearly affecting their protégés with witnessed behavioural changes.

On the 19<sup>th</sup> July 2004, 41 campers arrived at Karso Garden, Sweden, eagerly anticipating the prospect of 12 days of excitement, enjoyment and adventure. For all, there are experiences to share, memories to cherish and friendships to nurture. But there was much more to Camp Sweden 2004 than mere enjoyment—there was real purpose. Development in academic, physical, social and spiritual spheres of life took place in all campers, without exception. Perhaps a camper can now perform Wudhu correctly where before he couldn't, or another can now put forward his point in a debate more clearly than before. Everyone achieved something in Sweden through a combination of education, encouragement and determination.

For further information, please contact **education@coej.org** or visit **www.camp.coej.org** The full detailed report for Sweden 2004 can be found at

**www.world-federation.org/Secretariat/Articles/**



The Council Of European Jamaats  
6th Residential Summer Camp for Boys  
Kärso Gården - Sweden 2004



## The Spiritual and Cultural Course of IRAN 2004

Organised by the Education Committee of The Council of European Jamaats (CoEJ) in conjunction with the Islamic Education Board of the World Federation Madressa Imam Ali (A.S.), Qum

*"The truth is like a beautiful clean house. But our lower desires and lust are like dusts that make the house untidy. Don't you see that whenever there is dust you cannot see even if you aren't blind? When your heart is open to these lower desires, you will not be able to hear the true secrets of the world."* **Sheikh Sa'adi (Persian Poem)**

The spiritual and cultural camp of Iran 2004 opened the eyes of many and touched the hearts of all.

It was a trip that added to the obvious and truly beautiful ziyarats, one in which all participants gained an insight into the meaning of living Islamically sincerely and practically. The camp's beauty can only be compared to the rays of the sun, which nurtures all that comes into contact with it. Every moment in Iran was as though we were in the rays of the sun, constantly and steadily growing in soul, spirit and mind.

The main feature of the trip was the Islamic studies short-course, which was divided into four modules: Aqa'id and Akhlaq delivered to us by Sheikh Muhammad Khalfan, Aqa'id taught by Dr. Murtadha Alidina, and Characteristics of Shi'ism presented by Sheikh Muhammad Shomali. Seyed Radhavi also gave us a crash course in Quran recitation.

These lessons really gave us an underlying feel to what Islam is and why there can be nothing else. The intensity of the lessons was of such a great extent that our hearts were placed firm in belief and our minds yearned for more.

The atmosphere in the Harams of Qum and Mashad moved us in a way that cannot be described. We felt at home, amongst friends. We could be Shi'a without repercussion; we witnessed small bands of people commemorating the martyrs of Kerbala, others giving constant salaams to the Ahlul Bayt (AS). These seemingly small acts really made a difference.

On our first visit to the sanctified Mosque of Jamkaran, we were taken aback by the sheer number of people who came to pay tribute and commemorate the death of Bibi Fatemah (AS), the pure daughter of the Messenger. We estimated around 500,000 people at least, which is easily one of the biggest congregational prayers we had been involved in. The feeling of knowing that perhaps our beloved Imam of the time, Al Hujjat ibn Hassan Muhammad Al Mahdi (AS), could be in attendance was beyond any description.

The cultural aspect of the trip afforded the campers a wide perspective of the lifestyle in Iran. We witnessed the deep beauty of this amazing country, seeing the natural wonders possessed within its borders. From



Participants of the Iran Camp 2004

the scenic venue of Isfahan, known as Nur Jahaan, to the spectacular caves of Hamadan - which included spectres of all shapes, sizes, colours and textures - we were spoilt with splendour.

This beauty was not only appreciated at face value. In every amazing sight, every beautiful simplicity, there was a sign of the Perfected Creator, one which we could ponder and keep us in awe of His magnificence. In the breathtaking scenery of Northern Iran, by the Caspian Sea, our supervisors demonstrated an analysis of our



lives that touched the core of our souls. Instructors compared our lives

**A time to pray  
and  
a time to play**

and the waves of the sea, striving toward the shores of perfection against the bounds



of time, before crashing against the rocks of death and returning to the source of their creation. SubhanaAllah, His signs are here for those who contemplate.

This was a character building trip, as well as spiritually enlightening. As a group we went expecting much, but returned with our expectations far exceeded. Truly living the life of Islam requires a detachment from material things, and equally important is the implementation of practical, achievable goals to reach the objective at hand. This is something that one truly cannot comprehend, only experience.

For further information, please contact [education@coej.org](mailto:education@coej.org) or visit [www.camp.coej.org](http://www.camp.coej.org) The full detailed report for Iran 2004 can be found at [www.world-federation.org/Secretariat/Articles/](http://www.world-federation.org/Secretariat/Articles/)





## An Opportunity to Make a Difference



The **Zainabiya Child Sponsorship Scheme** requests Mumineen to donate generously in the following two key activities which are in its focus:

- The ZCSS has made a commitment to support 300 orphans and/or deprived children in Sadr City, Baghdad for one year at a cost of £240 per child. Please help an orphan for one year. The funds will be used for clothing, education, shelter and to make their lives that little bit better. Brighten the life of an orphan. Through your support we can improve the lives of these young Shia children who have experienced poverty, war and famine. You may pay for one or more child, and may do so by instalment.
- ZCSS has been running since 1981. Each child is a Shia boy or girl in need of financial help to study. Students are being sponsored for a period of 1 to 14 years for studies from Kindergarten to Post Graduate. The monthly donation by the Sponsor Parent is a fixed sum of GBP10 / US \$15 / CDN \$20 / Euro 12.50 / UAE Dhs 50 / Aus\$ 20 or Kenya Shs 600.

The **Islamic Education Board** requests donations for the following key activities:

- Scholarships: The IEB continuously sponsors able students to study on the newly developed short gap and long term courses in Iran and other centres worldwide. It requires financial assistance to provide for the students, whose needs are ever increasing.
- Publications: The IEB aims to increase the number of books that is published, and requires financial assistance for the printing, marketing and distribution of the newly translated books.
- Selected Projects: On the projects of madressah training, open madressah project and directory of Madaris.

The **Medical Advisory Board** requests donations for the following key activities:

- The MAB is continuously involved in treatment of patients from all over the world. It provides financial assistance amounting to £70,000 per annum for our community members who cannot afford treatment.
- India: The MAB is involved in providing *Primary Health Care* for the slum dwellers, poor, and needy of India. It has started Aeinullah Eye Clinics/Hospitals and Zainabiya Health Centres in Bangalore, Patna and Lucknow, providing urgently needed basic primary health care often requiring £30,000 per annum.
- Pakistan: It has embarked on health screening programmes with the Pirhai, Mehfil-e-Murtaza and Hyderabad Jamaats. It has helped patients who require treatment for Thalassaemia.
- Iraq: The MAB provides assistance to poor, needy, destitute refugees of Iraq. This activity caters to the needs of our Shia brothers who have been greatly affected by the war. The MAB requires £50,000 per annum.
- The MAB helps our sister organisations, dispensaries and hospitals in Africa, India and Pakistan by providing essential medical equipment. This activity needs £30,000 per annum.

The **Senior Advisory Board** has this key project:

- Hadith-e-Kisa Blanket Drive "Spread the Warmth" Campaign: This is an initiative to raise funds to purchase warm blankets for seniors around the world who are suffering (and in some case dying) from the cold weather only because they cannot afford to buy materials to keep them warm in the freezing winter nights. The cost of each blanket is approximately CDN \$10 CDN. Please donate generously for this basic human need of our seniors.

We would greatly appreciate any donations/contributions.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

**Currency type:** £ ☐ \$ ☐ \_\_\_\_\_ ☐

**Currency form:** ☐ Cash ☐ Cheque  
☐ Postal Order

**Amount:**

☐ 10 ☐ 25 ☐ 50 ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I am a UK tax payer and want World Federation to claim Gift Aid on this donation

Donate online on **www.world-federation.org** or please make cheques payable to  
**'The World Federation of KSIMC'** Islamic Centre, Wood Lane, Stanmore, Middlesex, HA7 4LQ, UK



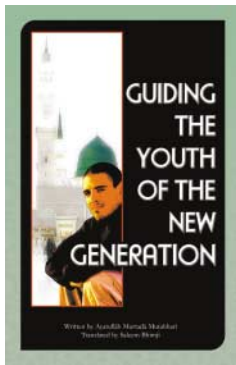


# Publications Page

Over the past 25 years, in its endeavours to enhance knowledge and awareness of Islam and the scholars of Islam within our community and the greater population, the Islamic Education Board has been blessed to publish many titles in various fields of Islamic studies.

The IEB now has a new website which, amongst many things, hosts an E-books section which allows you to read all of their books online (many books are presented in HTML or PDF format with more to come). You can access this site by going to the main WF site at [www.world-federation.org](http://www.world-federation.org) and clicking on the link, "IEB Website."

The year 2004 has seen numerous publications with many more to come in 2005. Some of our latest publications include the following important works:

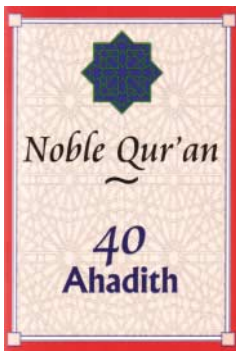


## Guiding the Youth of the New Generation:

This book has been translated by Saleem Bhimji and is based on the lecture of the late Ayatullah Murtaza Mutahhari.

It seeks to examine the ways and means to guide the "New Generation" of youth. However, this book is by no means a step-by-step guide or "how-to" book

on how the youth can retain their Islamic identity in such a pluralistic and global society. Rather, it lays down and explains the principles and key foundation blocks which everyone needs to know. Only after the principles are known can each person seek to find new ways and means to help the younger generation through their greatest struggle.



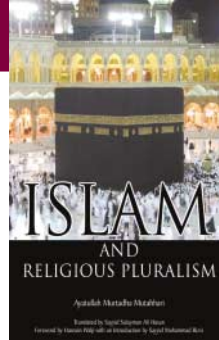
## The Noble Qur'an - 40 Ahadith:

The author of this book is Sayyid Majid Adili, and it has been translated by Sis. Arifa Hudda and Saleem Bhimji.

The fourth in a continuous series of works under the theme of "40 Ahadith," this work features traditions from the Prophet and his immaculate family (peace be

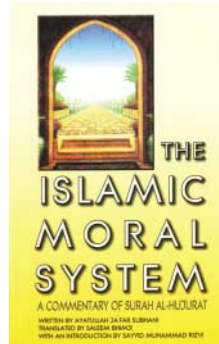
upon all of them) in regards to the greatness and importance of recitation of the Noble Qur'an.

The other books in the series of series of "40 Hadith" include Azadari, Tabligh and the Month of Ramadhan, all of which are available through the IEB Office.



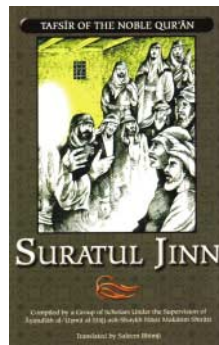
## Islam and Religious Pluralism:

Written by:  
Ayatullah Murtaza Mutahhari  
Translated by Sayyid Sulayman Ali Hasan  
Pages: 180  
Price: £5



## The Islamic Moral System: A Commentary of Surah al Hujarat

Written by:  
Ayatullah Shaykh Mirza Ja'far  
Translated by Saleem Bhimji  
Introduction by Sayyid Muhammad Rizvi  
Pages: 323  
Price: £8



## Tafsir of the Noble Quran: Commentary of Suratul Jinn

Written by a Group of Muslim Scholars under the direct supervision of Ayatullah Nasir Makarim Shirazi  
Translated by Saleem Bhimji  
Pages: 160  
Price: £5

- Anecdotes for Reflection Part I, by Sayyid Ali Sadaqaat and translated by Shahnawaz Mahdavi £3
- A Restatement of the History of Islam and Muslims, by Sayed Ali Asgher Razwy £10
- The Role of Ahlul Bait in the Preservation of Islam by Allamah Sayyid Murtaza Askari and translated by Mulla Asghar M.M. Jaffer, £2
- Al Amaali – the Dictations of Sheikh al-Mufid translated by Mulla Asghar M.M. Jaffer £10

## Forthcoming publications

- Practical Responsibilities of the Shia during the Ghaybah
- Weapon of the Believer
- Ethical Discourses
- Anecdotes for Reflection Part II

We suggest that you consider purchasing these titles to not only aide in the spiritual and mental growth of you and your family, but also to provide the resources through your purchases to ensure the IEB is able to continue the important task of propagating the word of Islam worldwide!

For more information or to purchase a copy, email [ieb@world-federation.org](mailto:ieb@world-federation.org) or visit the [www.world-federation.org/Publications](http://www.world-federation.org/Publications) for these and other publications available in the IEB office.

