



Africa Federation Press Release

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Ref: AK/PR/2010/.....

Date: 21st March 2011

AFED CHAIRMAN VISITS BILAL MUSLIM MISSION OF TANZANIA, DAR CENTRE – A PLEASANT EXPERIENCE

On Friday, 11th March 2011, the Chairman, Alhaj Anwarali Dharamsi accompanied by the Hon. Secretary, Aunali Khalfan, the Hon. Treasurer, Mohamed Hemani, the Assistant Hon. Secretary, Kumail Manji and the Chairman of the Board of Bilal Muslim Mission of Tanzania (BMMT), Shabbir Somji visited the new BMMT office in Dar-es-Salaam and Temeke Centre. This was the first official visit to BMMT by the AFED office bearers.

Brief History of Bilal Muslim Mission of Tanzania (BMMT).

BMMT was established in 1964. The mosque at Temeke was the first one built in Dar-es-Salaam, named Ghadeer Mosque and was opened by late Syed Saeed Akhtar Rizvi on 15th October 1969.

BMMT was established as a subsidiary of the KSI Supreme Council. A Constitution was prepared by the Secretariat, and a Committee formed, with Al Haj Ahmad Hussein Sheriff Dewji (Moshi) as its Chairman, and Al Haj Mohammedrafik G. Somji as the Hon. Secretary. Following were the founder members:

1. Maulana Sayed Saeed Akhtar Rizvi
2. Haji Ahmad Hussein Sheriff Dewji
3. Haji Ali Mohammadjaffer Sheriff
4. Haji Fidahusseini Abdulla Hameer
5. Haji Hussein Nasser Walji

The Mission was registered on 16th April 1968. Registered Trustees of the Mission were incorporated on 18th October 1968.

There are presently 52 centres in Tanzania, which are run by the African Shia Muballighees and teachers trained at BMMT Hawza at Temeke and Tanga.

The Mission's objective has been to spread the Madh'hab of Ahlul Bayt (A.S.) in Tanzania and beyond. By His grace, there are similar Missions involved in similar activities in East Africa, Madagascar, Mozambique, Burundi, Congo and some other countries in Africa.

Report of the visit by AFED delegation:

The Chairman, Alhaj Anwarali signed the condolence book at BMMT new office on Libya Street and paid special tribute to late Fidahusseinihai Hameer, who passed away in Dar-es-Salaam recently.

The Board Chairman, Shabbir Somji briefed the AFED Chairman and Office Bearers on the various activities, successes and the challenges they face currently. Adequate finance to fund all the pressing needs of tabligh in Tanzania tops the list of challenges faced by BMMT Board.

The BMMT CEO, Mustafa Sheriff and the Project Coordinator, Ahmad Muraweej provided the synopsis of the centres in Temeke and the two earmarked projects at Ukiwiri in Dar-es-Salaam and Mwera in Zanzibar. After the meeting, a full day visit was made to Temeke Centre.



Seen here – Anwar bhai Dharamsi and Mohamed bhai Hemani signing the Condolence Book at BMMT office in Dar in memory of late Alhaj Fidahusseini Hameer who passed away on 6th March 2011



AFED delegation in a meeting with the Chairman and Secretariat staff of BMMT

Temeke Centre:

The delegation then visited the Bilal Temeke Centre which encompasses several sections and activities of Bilal, including Mosque and Hussayniya.

- 1. Nursery School:** It is an English medium school with 127 children divided in 6 classrooms. Each class has a Home-room teacher. There are 2 Religious teachers and 2 supporting staff.



- 2. Lower Primary:** Consists of 175 students, 10 teaching staff and 1 support staff. There are 6 classrooms in total, from standard 1 – 3, each having 2 streams with an average of 29 students in each class. The school runs from 07.20 am to 1.40 pm, Monday to Friday. Daily 40 minutes of Religious teaching is undertaken. The students gather at the Hussaynia every Thursday to have a model lesson of salah and recitation of dua'as.



3. **Upper Primary:** There are classes 4 – 7 and here students are prepared for Tanzania National Examinations of classes 4 and 7. There are 246 students in this section of the school, with 13 teachers, 2 assistant teachers and 3 supporting staff. Each class has 2 streams making up a total of 8 streams with an average of 31 students per classroom. Religious education is imparted in all classes everyday and practical salah is conducted every Friday. All students put on uniform conforming to Islamic dress code.
4. **Madrasatul Bilal:** The Madrasa has a total of 50 students, divided into two classes, with 2 teaching staff. Starting from 2.30 pm to 4.00 pm from Monday to Thursday. The Madrasa begins with daily prayers, and lessons starts thereafter.



5. **Ahlul Bayt Teachers Training College:** The College follows the Education Curriculum set by the Ministry of Education and Vocational Training; following are the criteria to qualify for admission.
 - A student must have completed the Secondary education with the performance of between Divisions 1 - 4 with a maximum of 28 points, acquired in one sitting.

- A Student is allowed to join the college within the period of 5 years after completing Secondary Education.

There are 8 teachers; 3 females and 5 males and one Support Staff. And the numbers of students are as follows;

- First Year – 27 males and 30 females / Second year – 12 males and 30 females



- 6. Hawzatul Bilal:** Established in 2009, it operates under the administration of Mrs. Siddika Karim. The Hawza is run by Sheikh Amiri Kasono as the Mudeer. Students have come to this Hawza from several regions and districts in Tanzania. In 2010 there were only 23 students, this year it has increased to 44. The main objective of the Hawza is to provide the students with Pre-Hawza Foundation course to prepare the students for entry in Hawzat ul Qaim in Tanga. There are 6 teachers and also a visiting lecturer, Sheikh Jalala Hemed who comes thrice a week.



Shabbir bhai explaining the visitors on the setup of BMMT Temeke Centre



Hand shake after the Jumah prayers, seen here is the Arabic Teacher, Maalim Ali, Anwar bhai shaking hands with Sheikh Jalala Hemed and Shabbir bhai Somji.

Alhaj Anwarali donates double cab pickup for Bilal Tanga

A double cab pickup donated by the Chairman of Africa Federation, Alhaj Anwarali Dharamsi was handed over to Bilal Muslim Mission of Tanzania. During the visit by AFED delegation to Bilal Centre in Tanga, the Head of the Hawza requested for a vehicle to enable the Centre to carry out their work more efficiently, and especially for visiting far stretched centres. The vehicle was received by Alhaj Habib Virani, Trustee of Bilal Muslim Mission of Tanzania, present at the handing over was the Hon. Secretary, Alhaj Aunali Khalfan, Alhaj Ahmed Alloo, Chief Accountant of the Supreme Council and Alhaj Mustafa Sheriff, CEO of BMMT.



Secretariat