

Jaffari Snap Shot

Your Monthly Activity Guide by the
Islamic Shia Ithna Asheri Jamaat of Toronto

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The Snap Shot Quiz The Holy Prophet

1. When & where was the Holy Prophet (s.a.w) born?
2. What is the meaning of 'Muhammad'?
3. What two titles were given to the Holy Prophet (s.a.w) by the people of Makkah?
4. What is the meaning of those two titles?
5. What is the name of the Holy Prophet (s.a.w)'s mother?

Email your answers to
secretariat@jaffari.ca

Message From the Secretariat



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

"Worship Allah and associate nothing with Him and do good to your parents, relatives, the orphans and the needy, the nearby and further away neighbor, the companion at your side, the traveler, and those whom your right hands possess. Indeed, Allah does not like those who are proud and boastful".

The Holy Quran [4:36]

The best conduct in Islam is to treat human beings with dignity, equality, fraternity and justice. Thus tolerance is the need of the hour today as it was yesterday. We must emphasize the need for this virtue among us and in the community worldwide. We must foster tolerance through deliberate policies and efforts.

The Holy Prophet's (s.a.w.) Prophethood is all encompassing. In his good manners, gentleness and forbearance he has left a perpetual and living example of a perfect behavior for the entire human race. "There is no superiority for an Arab over a non – Arab, and for a non – Arab over an Arab, except in piety. Verily the noblest among you is he who is the most pious." The Holy Prophet (s.a.w)

Let us make serving humanity and volunteering a part of our social life and embed it in our social networks. Our mission should be to serve and be a source of comfort to others, not a cause of hardship or discomfort. As each day leaves us, we will never get it back; so encourage, aid, and fulfill the needs of someone today. May Allah (swt) guide us and grant us the ability to serve others with the purest of intentions. Ameen.

In The News

Let's Get to Know Our Volunteers!



Fatma Lila

Fatma Bai Lila is originally from Zanzibar and hails from the Kassamali Jaffer Alloo family.

She was married to Marhum Mohamed Lila for 55 years, also an active volunteer in the community. She has raised two children, Farhana Haji and Ahmed Lila and has six grandchildren.

She is a member of the Kaneez e Fatema team and one of the pioneer role model for our volunteers since 1976. She works selflessly and is a strong member of the kitchen team and the Mayyit/Siyaka team.

In her spare time, she likes to read and volunteers at MacKenzie Health in Richmond Hill. She also volunteers with the group BWC meals volunteers and visits the sick. The volunteers always look forward to and appreciate the servings of her spicy chutney and the kitumbwa during the month of Ramadhan! We are proud to have volunteers of her caliber amongst us.



Sayyid Muhammad Mahdi Rizvi

A committed volunteer who started at a very early age from the Jaffari Islamic Centre on Bayview Avenue.

He works with a dedicated AV Team to ensure smooth running of our programs year-round, while always aiming for continuous improvement.

He also assists Maulana Rizvi with various tasks whenever possible, including scheduling, content creation, presentations, book publishing, video creation & distribution, as well as charity work.

Moving Forward - Finding the Right One

The event organized by JSS and JIY and held at JCC on December 4th went well Alhamdulillah.

In a very exciting and interactive talk show format, a number of important points were shared and discussed;

such as:

- What qualities to look for in a spouse
- How to find a spouse
- How do you know you've found the right one
- Time frames for initial communication and engagement

And more...

Our panelists included Sheikh Jaffer Jaffer, brother Ali Asghar and sister Atiya Merchant and sister Zainab Merali and our co-hosts were brother Mohammed and sister Mubina Panju.

The panelists described the importance of having an open mind and a degree of flexibility when communicating and assessing compatibility. The key notion that emerged from the event was to trust and have faith in Allah. Also, one must realize that everyone's journey is different and that there is no benefit in comparing one's life to those around you.

The attendees had the opportunity to ask questions, share their thoughts and discuss on a variety of topics.

We were greatly encouraged by the turnout; a few of the female attendees commented on the surprising number of men attending, as they outnumbered the women significantly! A lot of positive written and verbal feedback was received from the event, with requests for more events in the future.

Alhamdulillah we learned, shared and moved forward as a community.

Razavi Islamic Centre

On Sunday, December 18th 2016, (18th Rabbi Al Awwal) our community members from Hamilton experienced an important and wonderful milestone in their 42 year history. It was the celebration of the birth anniversary of the Holy Prophet as well as the birth anniversary of Imam Jaffer Sadiq (as) at the just constructed Razavi Islamic Centre's new building at 95 Mead Avenue, Hamilton, ON.



The RIC's leadership team organized an informal opening program of their new Centre to coincide with the celebrations. Resident Alim Sayyid Muhammad Rizvi and members of the Toronto Jamaat's EC attended the event. Maulana Rizvi led Zohrain jamaat prayers and then delivered a short lecture on the virtues of our Holy Prophet (PBUH) and the sixth Imam. Chairperson Mohamed Moledina and chair of the fund raising committee, Dr Akbar Panju welcomed everyone to the new Centre.

Since the Centre was not fully complete, it was agreed that a formal "grand opening" ceremony would be planned for the early part of 2017, Inshallah.



Chippewas of Georgina Island



The Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation is located on the southern shores of Lake Simcoe near the town of Sutton, Ontario. The island community has a population of 380 people and is considered a remote community as it has limited access.

As you may recall from our last edition, a fund raising campaign was launched and members were requested to donate towards this cause. With your support and support from the Dua-e-Nudba Group, we raised a total of \$5,000, and early this Fall, one of our volunteers sister Rumana Virjee was invited to visit the First Nation Georgina Island. Sister Rumana along with our EC member sister Aziza Meghjee and a few female volunteers travelled to Georgina Island.

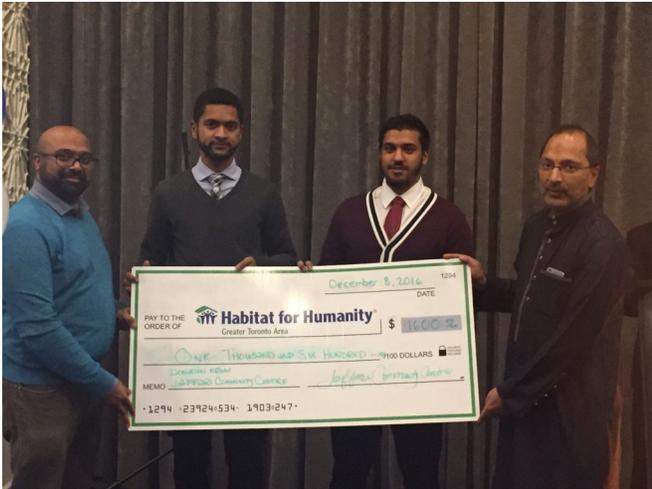
Sister Rumana contacted a member of our community who wishes to remain anonymous, a respected, and a regular donor and philanthropist, to match this donation. And he has agreed to do so.

The ISIJ presented a cheque of \$10,000 to Georgina Island First Nation community, to help the children of this Canadian community.

don't feel ashamed when giving little for charity. that is because **there is always goodness in giving** no matter how little.
Imam Ali (a.s)

Jiy - Habitat for Humanity

Human Rights Day



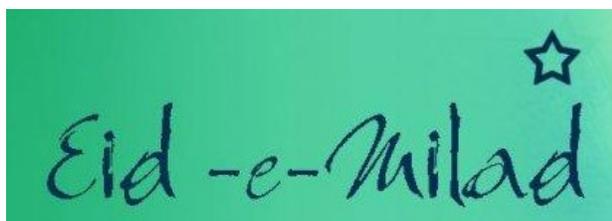
On August 27th 2016, Jiy organized for 16 youth to help build at a Habitat for Humanity at their Torbram site in Brampton. This was the first time Jiy has organized a Build Day with Habitat for Humanity, who provides homes for people who are in need of homes, and it was a great success.

The youth were able to volunteer their Saturday afternoon to build while also raising \$50 each for the homes on the site. The participants were able to raise \$800, and with a matching donation by ISIJ of Toronto, we were able to donate a total of \$1600 to Habitat for Humanity.

We invited Jeff Abraham to accept a cheque on behalf of Jiy and ISIJ on the auspicious occasion of Eid e Zehra in December for the donation.

Snap Shot Last Quiz Answers

1. 8th Zillhaji
2. Muslim Bin Aqil
3. Ali al Asghar
4. Leader of the martyrs
5. Zainab binte Ali



Did you remember to write a letter on Human Rights Day?

Shenaz Kermalli, a former journalist with BBC News and Al Jazeera English, delivered an impassioned speech at MARC Library on December 10. Every year, thousands of activists world-wide gather to mark Amnesty International's Write for Rights event and to pen letters calling for the protection and promotion of human rights. Please visit <http://www.jaffari.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/Shahnaz-Kermalli.pdf> to download the speech.



NASIMCO Scholarship Awards

Recently, NASIMCO launched its annual Scholarship for the Community Service and Academic Achievement (CSAA). The aim of the scholarships is not only to show appreciation for the tremendous accomplishments of our youth, but also to encourage and promote excellence in our future leaders.

We would like to recognize the 1 winner from our Jamaat, Sr. Sarah Fatima Akhtar Husein Manek, who has been selected to receive the ISIJ of Toronto Scholarship of \$1,000.00.



Maulana Rizvi recognized for 20 years of service to the ISIJ of Toronto



On the the eve of 17th Rabbi ul Awwaal, as JCC celebrated the birth anniversaries of the Holy Prophet (PBUH) and the sixth Imam Jaffer e Sadiq (AS), a special personality in our community was recognized.

Referring to him by his full title of "Hujjatul Islam wal Muslimeen, Sayyid Muhammad Rizvi", Vice President Shabbir Jaffer related how Maulana Rizvi moved with his family from Vancouver to Toronto in 1991 and was appointed to the position of Resident Alim, ISIJ of Toronto in 1996. President Shabbir Jeraj presented Maulana Rizvi with a plaque to commemorate his 20th year of service to our community. Also on hand to congratulate him were Hon Secretary Habib Meghjee, Treasurer Shokat Kermalli, Mukhi Mehboob Siwjee and Executive Member Rizwan Khalfan.

Maulana Rizvi graciously accepted his service award and briefly addressed the congregation. He reflected on some of his experiences over the past two decades and thanked everyone for the award.

The Vice President also acknowledged the invaluable role that Ammee, Maulana Rizvi's wife, had played in supporting and enabling him to perform his responsibilities effectively. As a token of the community's appreciation she was presented with a gift by our Chairlady, Shabnees Siwjee, in the ladies section.

If you would like to send Maulana a note of appreciation, you can email him directly on maulana.rizvi@jaffari.org.

Upcoming Events



JAFFARI FITNESS CENTRE & SPA

New Year Fitness Promotion!

SINGLE (ISIJ Toronto Member)
\$225/year or \$22.00/Month *

SINGLE (Non-ISIJ Toronto Member)
\$275.00/year or \$27.00/Month *

Savings of \$25 off
Annual Membership!

STUDENT
\$175.00/year or \$18.00/Month *

SENIOR
\$175.00/year or \$18.00/Month *

Offer Valid until January 31st, 2017 only!

**Based on 1 year membership*

**Taxes Extra*

Offer Valid for New Members/Renewals Only

Please Contact : admin@jaffari.org
905-695-9786

Fit for Life



Skating

Nathan Phillips Square
2:00 PM - 6:00 PM

\$15 for Skates Rental, Transportation and Food

\$10 for Transportation and Food

Boys: *Saturday, January 7th/2017*

Girls: *Sunday, January 8th/2017*



sign up at www.jaffari.org/jiy

Upcoming programs @ JCC

"Worship is not the quantity of prayer and fast, its how much you think of your lord"
Imam Hassan al Askari (a.s)

Thursday, January 5 @ 7:30 pm
Jumeraat / Thursday Night Program

Fridays - Dhuhr time
Salaat al-Jumu'ah

Jamaat Salaat

Fajr: Weekdays @ 6:00 a.m. / Weekends @ 6:30 a.m.
Dhuhr (Monday - Friday) @ 12:30 p.m.
Daily Maghribyn Salaat at Awwal time

Visit www.jaffari.org for further program updates.

PROPHET MUHAMMAD (ﷺ) SAID:

WHOEVER
BROUGHT
HIS (MUSLIM)
BROTHER
OUT OF
DISCOMFORT

ALLAH
WILL BRING
HIM OUT
OF THE
DISCOMFORTS
OF THE DAY OF
RESURRECTION!

Please do not forget to renew your memberships and update your information. Register online for access to the members portal.

Contact Secretariat Office for any Assistance - (905) 695 9786
Monday to Friday 9.00am to 5.00pm - Weekends 9.00am to 1.00pm