



MINARET

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE 2005/2006

President:	Mohamed Mohideen
Vice President:	Deen Mohamed
Secretary:	Farah Dole
Asst Secretary:	Nizra Haniffa
Treasurer:	Mohamed Najeeb
Asst Treasurer:	Nizar Haniffa
Committee:	Bawa Razack Nawfal Sharifdeen Mohamed Salahudeen Miqsan Mohinudeen
Imm Past President:	Intiaz Mohamed
Hony Auditor:	Haja Mohideen
Web Masters:	Mohamed Shaffie Dhilhaam Fazil
Trustees:	Eddie Dole Fahmi Haniffa Hamid Farouque

Assalamu Allaikum and Greetings

Half the year has gone by and the holy month of Hajj is up on us. It is a time to ponder over all our activities and actions and look deep into our hearts the consequences of our actions. No one is here to judge one another but we always have to remember that Allah (Sub) is all knowing and sees into each one.

The current situation that our Muslim ummah is facing should be considered as one of the trials and tribulations and how each one of us deals with it will ensure the success and well being of our community. The problems and crisis of modern times are not entirely unique or peculiar to our generation. It might be different, more complex and more agonizing than before, but the source could be attributed to inflexibility, exclusiveness and intolerant attitudes towards that which is unfamiliar, different or foreign.

Nothing would be simpler than to call for a middle way, where tolerance, mutual respect, understanding and love exist. If we consider the social life of a Muslim, it is based on the highest principles and is designed to secure happiness with prosperity for the individual as well as the society. Thus we should always hold onto the lofty principles on which the Islamic social life is based i.e. sincere love for one's fellow human beings, mercy for the young, respect for the elders, comfort and consolation for the distressed and respect for the rights of other people.

I would like to end with the verse: *"Let there be no compulsion in religion. Truth stands out clear from error. Whoever rejects evil and believes in God has grasped the strongest bond that never breaks. And God Almighty knows and hears all things (Holy Quran 2:256).*

Wishing you all Eid Mubarak and Hajj mabrook to those performing Hajj this year and may Almighty Allah keep you safe and guide you always.

Wassalam
Mohamed Jirdausy Mohideen

CALENDER OF EVENTS

Jan - Jul 2006

- ❖ **Eid Prayers** - 10th January (please confirm), Monash University
- ❖ **Eid-ul-Azha Celebrations** - Sat 21st January - 7.30 pm
- ❖ **Ladies Nite** - Sat 18th February
- ❖ **Six a side Cricket** - Sun 26th February, Lewis Park, Wantirna
- ❖ **Trivia Nite & Fellowship** - Sat 18th March
- ❖ **Meelad & Qiraath Contest** - Sat 15th April
- ❖ **Seminar on Islam** - Sat 20th May
- ❖ **Multi Cultural Cookery Demo & Seniors Nite** - Sat 4th June
- ❖ **AGM** - Sat 15th July

The venue for all events unless otherwise specified will be the Mulgrave Community Centre, 355, Wellington road, Mulgrave

USMAA CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE

In keeping with one of the recommendations put forward at the AGM and in order to update the constitution the management committee at its meeting held on Sunday the 4th of December set up the above sub committee. The committee will comprise of:

- Ritzvi Mohideen – President
- Deen Mohamed – Vice President
- Intiaz Mohamed – Imm. Past President
- Fahmi Haniffa – Past President/Trustee
- Hamid Farouque - Trustee
- Adel Mohamed – Youth Representative

Members who wish to contribute towards this process are requested to send in their suggestion and proposals in writing to the **USMAA PO Box 120, Forest Hill 3131** or by email to members@umsaa.org.au by end of February 2006.

KEY CONTACTS

President - (Home) 03 [REDACTED]
- (Mobile) [REDACTED]
Vice-President - (Home) [REDACTED]
- (Mobile) [REDACTED] 1
Secretary - (Home) 03 [REDACTED]
- (Mobile) [REDACTED]
Treasurer - (Home) [REDACTED]
- (Mobile) [REDACTED]

Janaza Committee
Eddie - (Home) 03 [REDACTED]
- (Mobile) [REDACTED]
Fahmi - (Home) 03 [REDACTED]
- (Mobile) [REDACTED]
Najeeb - (Home) 03 [REDACTED]
- (Mobile) [REDACTED]

SUB COMMITTEES

Janaza Committee:
Eddie Dole
Fahmi Haniffa
Mohamed Najeeb

Tsunami Steering Committee:
Imtiaz Mohamed
Mohamed Mohideen
Mohamed Nazeer
Ahamed Vajuhdeen
Abdul Wazeer

Senior Citizens' Support Network:
Nazli Farouque
Shyama Fuad
Sithy Marikar
Mohamed Mohideen

Ladies Activities & Support Network:
Farah Dole
Nizra Haniffa
Nazli Farouque
Shyama Fuad

Religious Affairs:
Eddie Dole
Imtiaz Mohamed
Mohamed Najeeb

Educational, Professional Development & Youth Affairs:
Mohamed Salahudeen
Bawa Razack

Youth Committee
Miqsan Mohinudeen – Chairperson
Azeem Haseeb - Secretary

SUBSCRIPTIONS

A reminder to all members to pay your subscriptions. It is very important that members pay their subs as it helps with carrying out various activities of the organisation..

The membership fees are as follows:
\$40.00 - Associate and Family members only. Children below 18 will fall into the family category.
\$25.00 - Singles
\$15.00 - Pensioners (singles)
\$25.00 - Pensioners (family)
\$15.00 - Fulltime Students

Kindly forward your subscriptions to the treasurer or deposit the subscriptions into the USMAA current account with the Commonwealth Bank, Clayton.

A/c Name: USMAA
A/c No: 063 121 1018 5803

Please forward the counterfoil or copy to the Treasurer who will then send you an official receipt.

APPEAL - MOSQUE FUNDS

The Islamic Education & Welfare Association of Dandenong (IEWAD) has announced their intention to start construction of the Masjid in early 2006.. The proposed complex will be located at 131-137 Belgrave Hallam road, Narre Warren North. The development is on over 2 acres of land. The success of this project depends on your generosity. All donations to IEWAD are tax deductible.

IEWAD is a Sunni Muslim organization formed approx 17 years ago by the Muslims of the South Eastern suburbs. IEWAD provides services in the area of Islamic Education (Sunday school), dawah, welfare, Muslim JP & marriage celebrant, Janaza, etc.

Membership to IEWAD is open to all Sunni Muslims living in the South Eastern Suburbs of Melbourne. Any one who is interested in becoming a member of IEWAD, please contact Nuhaim Amirdeen on 0[REDACTED] 8 / 8 [REDACTED]

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

HAJJ

We wish the following members and their families Hajj makbrook. May Allah accept their hajj and make their journey easy and safe
Bro Eshraac & Sis Manna
Bro Fahmi & Sis Sherina Haniffa and family
Sis Farah Dole
Bro Hussain & Sis Azeeka Nizar and family
Sis Naleera Salim
Bro Wazeer & Sis Saleeda and their family

NIKAH MUBARAK

Mohamed Shaffie on his nikkah in September in Sri Lanka. We wish the couple the very best and may Almighty Allah shower his blessings on them with long life, good health and happiness.

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR GRADUATION

USMAA takes great pleasure in congratulating the below mention youth on their graduation:

Ameera Badurdeen: MBBS, Monash
Rizwan Mohinudeen: Bachelor of Commerce, Latrobe
Shakira Salahudeen: Bachelor of Arts (Psychology), Monash

May Almighty Allah's blessing and guidance be with you in all your future endeavours.

OBITUARIES

Beloved aunty of Najeeb passed away in November in India We extend our deepest sympathies to all members of his family. *Inna lillahi wa inna illahi rajioon.*

Beloved Grandmother of Mohamed Shaffie passed away in December in Sri Lanka We extend our deepest sympathies to all members of his family. *Inna lillahi wa inna illahi rajioon.*

EID UL AZHA

Eid Prayers

Eid Prayers will be held at the Monash University Grounds. Date has been tentatively fixed for the 10th of January. Thakbir will commence at 8,00 am to pray at 8.20 am. Inshallah in keeping with the sunnah, prayers will be conducted outside in the oval at Monash University. Please contact Deen Mohamed close to the date for further details and time. Members are requested to bring a plate and their prayer mats. Light breakfast will be served. All children will be given an Eid gift bag.

Qurban is priced at AUD 80.00

Eid Celebrations dinner

Will be held on Saturday 21st January at 8,00 pm at Mulgrave Community Centre. The dinner will be hosted with the contributions obtained from members. Committee members will be contacting you for your donations. Non members and Guests will be charged at \$10.00 per head. Could you please inform Deen Mohamed by the 15th of January, if you plan to bring any guests as it would help with the catering.

LADIES NITE

"ISLAND PARADISE PARTY"

The Ladies Nite will be held on Saturday 18th February 2006 AT 8.00 pm at the Mulgrave Community Centre. Tickets are priced at \$25.00 which includes dinner, entertainment and lots of surprises. Tickets are available with Sithy, Fathayha, Nizra, Farah, Shimla and Shyama. Proceeds of this function will be given to the Tsunami relief efforts in Sri Lanka.

JANAZA FUND - SIX A SIDE CRICKET TOURNAMENT

In order to raise income for the Janaza fund, the above tournament will be held on Sunday the 26th of February at Lewis Park, Wantirna. This event is open to members of the public and is priced at \$15.00 per head as entry fee. The entry fee includes participation in the tournament and lunch. Separate ladies tournament will also be held. For Further details please contact any member of the Janaza Committee.

Email: members@usmaa.org.au

COMMITTEE BRIEFS

Management Committee

The management committee has great pleasure in welcoming Miqsan Mohindueen on to the management committee. We thank Nazeem Hussain for his contribution and wish him all success in all his other activities.

New Members

The management committee has great pleasure in welcoming the following new members

Mr. Mohamed Ameer, Mr. Fahd Dameer, Mr. Adnan Fajil, Mr. Shabeer Haniffa, Mr. Dilroshan Mohamed, Mr. Jabardeen Mohamed Ali, Mrs Shazma Mohinudeen, Mr & Mrs Shamil Mansoor, Mr. Panduka (Muhammad), Mr. Ahamed Rizwan, Mr. Yusuf Zarani, Naveed Zaveer, Mr & Mrs Riyas Zawahir.

Monash Council Grant

USMAA has been awarded Inkind grant of 1119.38 plus GST for year 2006 by the Monash Council. This would cover 50% of the Hall hire charges for the year.

JANAZA FUND

Donations

Those wishing to donate to the Janaza fund could either send the cheques drawn in favour of "USMAA Janaza Fund" or deposit it in the account given below.

USMAA Janaza Fund

A/c No: 10021731

BSB No: 063 246

Commonwealth Bank, Watsonia

USMAA TSUNAMI STEERING COMMITTEE

The two major fund raising activities for Tsunami relief work will be

- Ladies nite in February
- Family sports day in March

Members and individuals wishing to donate to the tsunami relief work could either send cheques drawn in favour of "USMAA Tsunami Relief Fund" or deposit in the given below account. *The USMAA Licence No. for fund raising is 5274.*

USMAA Tsunami Relief Fund

A/C No: 10335727

BSB No: 063 408

Commonwealth Bank, Monash University

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

This is a call to all youth in USMAA to join the youth group. The youth group has been very active over the last two months. They successfully organised and afternoon social event where about 32 USMAA youth members attended a fun filled bowling event held at the Chadstone shopping complex. Miqsan Mohinudeen and Azeem Haseeb have taken on the role of Youth leader and secretary of the group respectively.

Some other events planned in the future are:

- Workshop on motivation & career development
- CPR - 4 step method for the senior youth members
- Youth Activities nite on 18th of March

Please make all attempt to participate. The management committee needs your input in planning programs that best suit you. For further details contact Miqsan Mohinudeen (9467 7326).

USMAA WEBSITE

If you have any relevant information, kindly forward them to Shaffie. Also we request you to support this initiative by advertising on our website. The charges are a monthly fee of \$5.00 per advertisement.



Your Say.....

Feedback.....

Suggestions.....

The Editorial Committee would welcome your input for future newsletters. Articles for the next issue must be received no later than 28th February 2006

This issue is sponsored by the Victorian Multi Cultural Commission Grant

JANAZA RITES

A successful workshop on rites with regard to a Janaza were conducted for both the brothers and sisters. We would like to thank the facilitators Bro Ahmed and Sis Aida for all their help. The information on the rites will be presented in a two part series beginning with the rites for women.

Janaza rites and rituals for women

Before commencing any last rites for the deceased person, you need to take ablution first. There are three parts to the last rites and rituals:

1. Cutting the shroud

Materials

6 meters of cotton material, Cotton wool, Some pins

Its best to use cotton material, however silk is also permitted for females (provided you can afford it).

Before cutting the shroud, measure the body from head to toe allowing an extra six inches on either side of the body (i.e. the head and feet), as you need this extra length when you have to tie the ends.

Cut three long pieces that will be used to cover the body. You can even cut 7 pieces or just one piece (if a person cannot afford it). You may want to cut a piece of cloth for the underwear, especially if there has been any bleeding.

Then measure the body from waist to toe and around the stomach. This piece will form a skirt for the body.

Cut a few pieces of cloth for tying the body. Also cut two square pieces that will be used for sponging the body and one piece that will form a scarf.

2. Bathing the body

Materials

3 or 4 towels, 2 - 3 square pieces of cloth (or face washers), Cotton wool, Eucalyptus oil or camphor

N.B. Whatever you see while bathing the body, you cannot speak about it to anyone. It is a belief that the soul watches how the body is treated. If the

body is stiff, you can rub oil on the joints so that you can bend the arms and the other parts of the body more easily.

It is a regulation in Australia that you need to wear rubber gloves if you partake in washing the body.

First, you need to remove all the clothes from the body. You can cut the clothes if it is difficult to remove them (always ensure you cover the body at the same time).

To bathe the body, three or four clean towels are needed. It is important to cover the aurath of the body. You can use two towels for this purpose, or a large piece of cloth.

Test the temperature of the water, as the water needs to be lukewarm as it is a belief that the body can still feel the warmth. Make intention (niyat) stating that it is in Allah's name we wash the body 7 times while pouring the water from head to toe.

Just before you wash the body, you need to make ablution for the deceased. You also take niyat, asking for forgiveness on behalf of the deceased.

Place a few drops of eucalyptus oil or camphor on the face washers, to wash the hair. You can comb the hair, but whatever hair that drops, has to be placed beside the body. You cannot throw it away separately.

As you commence to wash the body, one person has to press the stomach to remove any fluids that are emitted from the body. Use a few pieces of cotton wool to clean the private parts of the body.

Proceed to wash the other parts of the body with non-perfumed soap. Take note to wash between the toes and be gentle and tender with the body. Turn the body and wash one side of the body, and do the same to the other side of the body.

Once you have finished washing the body, you can gently wipe the body keeping in mind the body still needs to be covered. If the body is heavy, you can ask close

male relatives (males who are not in the line of marriage) to help the women lift the body off the table and place it on the pieces of cloth that will make up the shroud.

3. Shrouding the body

Note: The following should be completed before placing the body (i.e. placing 3 - 4 strips of cloth (that will be used to tie the body), underneath the larger sheets of material that form the shroud).

Place the body on top of one or two pieces of cloth. Then place the other piece of cloth on top of the body, whilst removing the towels that were used to cover the body.

Wrap the body in the three sheets (or more depending on how many you need to use). Place some cotton wool under the neck and under the hands. You can also place some cotton wool on the forehead before wrapping the scarf around the face. You can use a pin to wrap the scarf, or the other parts of the shroud.

If the body has been bleeding, you can place a piece of cloth that forms as underwear.

Once you have wrapped and tied the shroud, leave the face open for the family to pay their last respects.

It is permitted to sprinkle some athar on the shroud (it has to be halal - i.e. no alcohol in the perfume). You can also place some athar on the forehead.

Once the family has paid their respects, the face is closed and placed in the casket.

Returning home

All persons involved in bathing the body have to shower and take ablution when they return home.

We thank Sis Shyama for compiling this information. There might be certain changes depending on the sects, traditions, etc. final decisions would be with the person carrying out the task.