



# MINARET

USMAA Inc

UNITED SRI LANKAN MUSLIM ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA INC  
JULY 2002 VOLUME 13 ISSUE 1 Jamadul Awwal 1423

## New Committee 2001/2002

### **Executive:**

#### **President:**

Mohamed Mohideen

#### **Vice President:**

Ahamed Vajuhdeen

#### **Secretary:**

Rifka Naufal

#### **Treasurer:**

Dhilham Fazil

### **Members:**

Pam Ashraff  
Eddie Dole  
Shyama Fuad  
Mohamed Shaffie

### **Editor:**

Fahmi Haniffa

### **Auditor:**

Noor Mahroof

### **Trustees:**

Eddie Dole  
Fahmi Haniffa  
Faroque Mohamed

## **Important Events**

- USMAA Web site
- Fellowship Dinner
- Membership Fees
- Youth & Leadership Seminars

### **Web Site Address**

[www.usmaa.org.au](http://www.usmaa.org.au)

### **Correspondences:**

Postal : USMAA Inc  
P O Box 120  
Forest Hill 3131

## **Editorial**

What's the buzz? The buzz is this. The USMAA AGM held on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2002 was a resounding success. Were you there to savour the feeling?

The AGM was well attended (over 110 adults and 20 children). Subscriptions totalling \$ 2200 was collected at the venue; business was conducted efficiently; past activities were evaluated and new targets and goals were set for the coming year; new office bearers were elected quickly; members enjoyed the simple dinner menu and had an opportunity to catch up with friends.

The outgoing President pointed out that the committee had set in motion a process that will tighten the operations of USMAA and make it an Association that has some value to all its financially current members. The focus last year was strengthening our existing membership. We think that we have succeeded in that effort and re established USMAA as a vibrant body. It is now intended to continue that process and introduce administrative procedures that will increase our efficiency and attract our members to play a positive role in USMAA activities and events.

Be advised today that the house decided at the AGM that we will only cater to members who are financially current and you will play an active role in organising or contributing to at least one of our functions, events or activities through your group leader (who will be a member of the main committee). Those who were unable to attend the AGM are urged to quickly contact their group leader or new treasurer and pay their membership fees. You will realise the importance of being a financially current member shortly.

The new committee has a nice blend of youth and experience. They have had their first meeting and planned out the activities for the year. Most of the information is included in this newsletter and updated information will be available to you shortly through the USMAA website. The success of the new committee depends squarely on your support. We urge you to play a positive role for the benefit of yourself, your family and the Muslim community in general.

May Allah guide us in the right path.

## **President's Message**

Assalamu Allaikum!

These very words that we greet one another every time we talk, meet or depart has many connotations and meanings. How many of us play lip service to it and how many of us have made an attempt to understand its significance?

## SUB COMMITTEES

### EDUCATION & YOUTH AFFAIRS

- Mohamed F Mohideen - [REDACTED]
- Rifka Naufal - [REDACTED]
- Shyama Fuad - [REDACTED]

### RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS

- Eddie Dole - [REDACTED]

### EDITORIAL BOARD

- Fahmi Haniffa - [REDACTED]
- Ahamed Vajuhudeen - [REDACTED]
- Mohamed F Mohideen - [REDACTED]

### FINANCES

- Dhillhaam Fazil - 95 [REDACTED]

### LADIES & CHILDRENS AFFAIRS

- Pam Ashraff - [REDACTED]
- Shyama Fuad - 95 [REDACTED]

### JANAZA

- Haniff Mohinudeen - [REDACTED]
- Almaz Alavi - [REDACTED]
- Eddie Dole - [REDACTED]

## Community Events

### HOPPER NITE – FELLOWSHIP & FUND RAISING

The first function has been organised to promote fellowship as well as raise funds for USMAA.

**Date:** Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> August 2002

**Time:** 6.30 – 7.00 p.m. onwards.

**Venue:** Mitcham Hall

Tickets are priced at \$10 per single/student members and \$25 per family (includes all children below 18 only). Drinks will be sold at a minimum cost. Please confirm your participation to any of the committee members before the 10<sup>th</sup> of August for catering purposes

### USMAA SADAQAHAH TILLS

To ensure that we could send reasonable sums for charity Tills are being circulated to members on a voluntary basis. All tills will be collected by 25<sup>th</sup> November and the funds sent to needy muslims to help them celebrate Eid. For further information contact the treasurer Dhillhaam or the secretary Rifka.

### USMAA WEBSITE

The USMAA website is almost ready and members would be able to access it very soon. Mohamed Shaffie will be the Web Master. He has put in a lot of time and effort and the committee is thankful to him.

The website address is:

[www.usmaa.org.au](http://www.usmaa.org.au)

Please visit the website and your feedback would be much appreciated.

## CALENDER OF EVENTS

2002 - 2003

- ❖ Hopper Nite – Sat 24<sup>th</sup> August from 6.30 p.m. onwards at the Mitcham Hall.
- ❖ Annual Dinner – September (details to be announced)
- ❖ IFTHAAR – Sat 16<sup>th</sup> November
- ❖ IFTHAAR – Sat 23<sup>rd</sup> November
- ❖ IFTHAAR – Sat 30<sup>th</sup> November
- ❖ 27<sup>th</sup> Night of Fasting – Mitcham Hall – date to be announced
- ❖ Eid Prayers – To be announced
- ❖ Eid-ul-Fitr Celebrations – 7<sup>th</sup> December
- ❖ Eid Prayers – To be announced
- ❖ Eid-ul-Azha Celebrations – 15<sup>th</sup> February 2003
- ❖ Sports Day - April 2003 (venue to be notified)
- ❖ Meelad – To be announced
- ❖ Qiraath Contest – 24<sup>th</sup> May 2003
- ❖ AGM – 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2003

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

### ANNUAL DINNER

The annual dinner is being scheduled for the end of September or early October. At present we are having difficulties in getting a hall for Saturday (most of the halls are booked on Saturdays until the end of November). If we are unable to get a Saturday the alternative is to have the annual dinner on a Sunday – tentative date is Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> October. We will get back to you on this ASAP.

### COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS

At the 1<sup>st</sup> committee meeting held on Saturday the 6<sup>th</sup> of July the following decisions were taken:

- Members to be urged to pay up their subscriptions by 31<sup>st</sup> August 2002.
- Membership list to be updated and all children 18 and above to fill in new membership forms
- Qiraath contest to be held separately from Meelad

### COMMITTEE MEETINGS

In order to facilitate better interaction with the members, the committee meetings will be open to members (as

invitees). The dates are given below for 2002. Please contact the Secretary Rifka to obtain details and venue.

The meetings will be held on Saturdays at 1.00 p.m.

10<sup>th</sup> August

7<sup>th</sup> September

12<sup>th</sup> October

16<sup>th</sup> November – time to be notified

14<sup>th</sup> December

If you got any items to discuss please forward it to Rifka 10 days before the meeting so that it could be circulated to the committee

### YOUTH ACTIVITIES

In keeping with the theme of Youth development, the committee is eager to set up a dialogue with the youth members of USMAA. Rifka is currently trying to identify the youth and set up a meeting. Parents are kindly requested to encourage their children to participate.

The committee has plans to run various workshops, which would be of benefit to the youth. A minimum of 5 participants would be required in order to run these sessions.

- ◆ Effective Public Speaking
- ◆ Facing Interviews
- ◆ Writing CVs
- ◆ Work Etiquette

Please contact Mohamed Mohideen, Rifka Naufal or Shyama Fuad on or before 31<sup>st</sup> August if you are interested in attending any of the workshops.

### Your Say.....

#### Newsletter

#### Feedback

#### Suggestions.....

The newsletter is our means of communicating with the membership. Your feedback and input would be appreciated. The editorial committee cannot assure that all contributions will be published.

Those interested in contributing should ensure that the article is no more than 1 column in length and should be submitted as a word document.

The next issue will be released mid October. All articles should be received no later than the 30<sup>th</sup> September.

## MEMBERSHIP UPDATE, FEES & INSURANCE COVER

Membership forms will be sent to all members in order to update the information that we have. All children that are 18 and above will have to fill in separate membership forms and pay subscriptions.

Currently on paper we have nearly 100 families and over 80 single members. This information is not accurate and we tend to get letters back.

Members are urged to pay up the subscriptions for the year 2002 - 2003. Attached is a list of members who have paid as on **15<sup>th</sup> July 2002**. It was noted that at the end of the last financial year only 40% of the membership had paid their subscriptions.

As announced at the last AGM and at the subsequent committee meeting all members who have not paid up by **31<sup>st</sup> August 2002** will not receive any more communications from USMAA and will be charged separately for each of the functions. At the AGM membership fees were raised due to various costs and liability insurance cover.

The membership fees are as follows:

**\$35.00** – Associate and Family members (only children below 18 will fall into the family category)

**\$20.00** - Singles and student members

**\$15.00** – Pensioners.

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. Please contact Dhillhaam Fazil with regard to your outstanding dues.

## MEMBERSHIP NOTIFICATION

All members have been allocated to a committee member. They will be contacting you or would have already contacted you with regard to the activities, subscriptions and other events.

Also as customary each group organises an event. Please join you committee member in ensuring that the event is a success. This would not only promote awareness but also a sense of fellowship.

**GRANT – Received from the Victorian Multi Cultural Commission**

We are pleased to announce that our organisation has received a grant of \$1200.00 from the Victorian Multicultural Commission for the year. The funds from this grant will be spent on publication of newsletters and other multicultural activities.

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The AGM was held on Saturday the 22nd of June 2002 at the Mulgrave Community Hall. There were approximately 140 members present at the meeting.

Outgoing President Fahmi Haniffa thanked all those members for rallying round and making the year a resounding success, which was clearly seen by the attendance at the AGM.

The key items approved at the AGM were:

1. Increase in membership fees
2. Approval for obtaining liability insurance
3. Approval of reports
4. Treasurer's financial statement
5. Auditor's report

The new team was elected unanimously. Incoming President Mohamed Mohideen thanked all present for electing the new team and looked forward to a year where the association would be able to consolidate on the last year's performance and achieve greater heights in the future with the fullest cooperation of the members.

The meeting terminated with dinner and fellowship.

## CENTRELINK INFORMATION

Centerlink staff will be available at the Migrant Information Centre, on the first and third Tuesday of each month from 10.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon commencing Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2002. The service will assist people from diverse, cultural and linguistic backgrounds who are current and potential Centrelink customers. Staff will be available to answer queries on payments and services provided by Centrelink. To make an appointment phone 9873 1666 or visit the centre at 333 Mitcham Road, Mitcham 3132. An interpreter can be arranged free of charge. The service is free and confidential.

## RACIAL & RELIGIOUS TOLERATION ACT 2001

Victoria's new Racial and Religious Toleration Act came into force on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2002. The main purpose of the Act is to make conduct that, on the grounds of race or religion, stirs up hatred of another person or groups of persons an offence under the law of Victoria. ICV encourages Islamic societies in Victoria to support the information and education campaign that has now been launched to inform all citizens of their new rights and responsibilities under the legislation.



## DUTIFULNESS TO PARENTS

Allah says:

And your Rabb has decreed that you worship none but Him, and that you be dutiful to your parents. If one of them or both of them attain old age in your life, say not to them a word of disrespect, nor shout at them but address them in terms of honour. And lower unto them the wing of submission and humility through mercy and say: "My Rabb! Bestow on them your mercy as they did bring me up when I was small". Your Rabb knows best what is in your inner-selves. If you are righteous, then verily, He is Ever Oft-Forgiving to those who turn unto Him again and again in obedience and in repentance. **(Holy Quran 17: 23 –25)**

Allah says:

They ask you (O Muhammad) what they should spend. Say: "Whatever you spend of good must be for parents and kindred and orphans and Al Miskeen (the poor) and the wayfarers and what ever you do of good deeds, truly, Allah knows it well. **(Holy Quran 2:215)**

Allah says:

And your Rabb has decreed that you worship none but Him. And that you be dutiful to your parents.. **(Holy Quran 17: 23)**

Abu Hurairah (RAL) narrated that the Holy Prophet (SAL) said:

"May his nose be covered with dust, may his nose be covered with dust, may his nose be covered with dust. It was said" Who is he, O Allah's Messenger?" The Holy Prophet (SAL) replied "It is he whose parents both or one of them attain old age while he is alive and was not admitted to Paradise (because of his undutifulness to them and dies in such a state)." **(Saheeh Muslim Vol. 8: No 5,6)**

**If Undelivered please return to :  
USMAA Inc  
P O Box 120  
Forest Hill 3131**





# MINARET

UNITED SRI LANKAN MUSLIM ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA INC  
MARCH 2003 VOLUME 13 ISSUE 4 MUHARRAM 1424

## Committee 2002/2003

### **Executive:**

#### **President**

Mohamed Mohideen

#### **Vice President:**

Ahamed Vajuhdeen

#### **Secretary**

Rifka Naufal

#### **Treasurer**

Dhilham Fazil

### **Members**

Pam Ashraff

Eddie Dole

Shyama Fuad

Mohamed Shaffie

### **Editor:**

Fahmi Haniffa

### **Auditor**

Noor Mahroof

### **Trustees**

Eddie Dole

Fahmi Haniffa

Faroque Mohamed

## **Important Events**

- Qiraath Contest
- Sports Day
- Senior Citizens Group
- Youth Activities
- AGM

### **Web Site Address**

[www.usmaa.org.au](http://www.usmaa.org.au)

### **Correspondences**

Email: [members@usmaa.org.au](mailto:members@usmaa.org.au)

Postal: USMAA Inc

P O Box 120

Forest Hill 3131

## **President's Message**

Assalamu Allaikum and Greetings for the New Islamic Year.

Muharram is upon us and it's a time to take stock of our activities and also redirect and evaluate our future goals. Eight months have passed since the current committee took over and Alhamdulillah we have been able to successfully carry out a varied set of activities.

The main focus has been the membership, and the committee and I am extremely grateful to the members for their support and cooperation. Your presence and constant interaction has been great. This is what USMAA is always about – **Membership Participation**. I always believe that no individual owns or runs any organisation, it is the teamwork and group effort that results in success.

The year has also been one that is tumultuous, both for the community and the Muslim population in general. As such it is always important to have trust in Allah and believe that "right will always succeed".

In this context the hadees of the Holy Prophet (SAL) is most appropriate: *"If you truly trust in Allah as you should trust him, He will provide you with sustenance, just as He does to birds: they go out in the morning with empty stomachs and come back in the evening with full stomachs"*.

I would like to end with a prayer: "Our Lord! You (alone) we put our trust, and to You (alone) we turn in repentance, and to You (Alone) is our final return"

Verse 60:4

May Allah keep you safe and guide you always.

Salaams

Mohamed Firdausy Mohideen

## **Editorial**

The three wise men or the dogs of war: Bush, Blair and Howard? The self-appointed dream team against the so-called 'axis of evil'. When millions of people all over the world have expressed their vehement opposition to any military operation against the people of Iraq the leaders of the USA, UK and Australia are hell bent on unleashing the deadliest weapons and bombs on Iraq. Why? Is it for the love of the people of Iraq or for some self centred selfish Anglo American policy? The reasons are pretty obvious.

The three wise men say that an attack is necessary so as to eradicate the weapons of mass destruction. With what do they want to eradicate those weapons? Eradicate with the mother of all bombs - (MOAB). Isn't the MOAB a weapon of mass destruction? Time to inspect the weapons of the USA.

The United Nations is the legitimate forum to resolve international issues. The UN has appointed inspectors to check out the Iraqi arsenal. The inspectors have confirmed that the level of co-operation from Iraq will enable it to complete its work within a few months. But the wise men are impatient and are in a destructive mood. Why?

The reasons are selfish: economic, strategic, access to oil and regional domination. The field Commander of the US forces has complained that the delay in declaring war is having a psychological impact on the ground troops. Why? Because their soldiers are now emotionally ready to kill and it is not prudent to allow young soldiers to have time to ponder why they should kill. So, is it a coalition of the willing or a coalition of the killing? The wise men seem to have a special anger towards the people of the middle east that they are prepared to kill. Does it make them any different the evil forces that they say they want to eradicate?

CONTD NEXT PAGE.....

## SUB COMMITTEES

### EDUCATION & YOUTH AFFAIRS

- Mohamed F Mohideen - [REDACTED]
- Rifka Naufal - [REDACTED]
- Shyama Fuad - [REDACTED]

### RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS

- Eddie Dole - [REDACTED]

### EDITORIAL BOARD

- Fahmi Haniffa - [REDACTED]
- Ahamed Vajuhudeen - [REDACTED]
- Mohamed F Mohideen - [REDACTED]

### FINANCES

- Dhilhaam Fazil - [REDACTED]

### LADIES & CHILDRENS AFFAIRS

- Pam Ashraff - [REDACTED]
- Shyama Fuad - 957 [REDACTED]

### JANAZA

- Haneef Mohinudeen - [REDACTED]
- Almaz Alavi - [REDACTED]
- Eddie Dole - [REDACTED]

## SENIOR CITIZENS' GROUP

The USMAA Senior Citizens Group (60+) met for the first time on January the 27<sup>th</sup> at 18 Currie Terrace, Glen Waverley. It was well attended.

The group was also taken for a day's excursion to the Werribee Zoo, Mansion and Rose Garden on the 15<sup>th</sup> of February. Thanks to all those who helped in organising transport for the group.

The next meeting will be at Bawa Razack's residence. All those interested please contact **Mrs. Farisha Mohideen (9562 0002)**.

## YOUTH ACHIEVEMENTS

USMAA would like to congratulate all those who have been successful in the VCE and have entered University this academic year.

## CALENDER OF EVENTS March – June

- ❖ Workshop on bathing and kaffaning Janazas for men and women - Sat 5<sup>th</sup> April at 2.30 pm at 16 Beddoe Avenue, Clayton
- ❖ Sports Day – In aid of the Janaza Fund - TBA
- ❖ Youth Camp - TBA
- ❖ Qiraath Contest – Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May at 2.30 pm at MCC
- ❖ Meelad & Oratory Contest – Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> May at MCC
- ❖ AGM – Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> June at 7.00 pm at MCC

MCC: Mulgrave Community Centre, 355, Wellington road, Mulgrave

## ANNOUNCEMENT

**Please note that parents are responsible for the care, supervision and safety of their children at all USMAA functions**

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## COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The dates are given below up to June 2003. Please contact the Secretary Rifka or any other committee member to obtain details and venue.

The meetings will be held on Saturdays at 1.00 p.m.

29<sup>th</sup> March  
12<sup>th</sup> April  
10<sup>th</sup> May  
14<sup>th</sup> June

If you got any items to discuss please forward it to Rifka 10 days before the meeting so that it could be circulated to the committee

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## Community Events

### HAJJ FESTIVAL PRAYERS – 11<sup>th</sup> February

The festival prayers were hosted by ASLAMA. The venue is the Southern Community Centre, Rupert Drive, Mulgrave. It was well attended by members from both associations. Alhamdulliah we hope this event will continue to be joint function in the future too. The committee would like to thank Sis Nizra Haniffa for organising the breakfast on behalf of our members and all the members for their contributions

### HAJJ FESTIVAL DINNER- 22<sup>nd</sup> February

USMAA Hajj festival celebrations dinner was held on Saturday the 22<sup>nd</sup> February at the Mulgrave Community Centre, Mulgrave. It was well attended with over 250 members, their families and guests. Bro Nur delivered a very interesting talk on Islam. We also had guests from the Somali and Lebanese community attending the function.

## USMAA SADAQAHAH TILLS

To ensure that we could send reasonable sums for charity we have decided to collect all tills at the SGM on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2003. The treasurer Dhilhaam will be contacting you to organise the pick up of the tills.

## Editorial Contd....

And the three wise men are angry with France and Germany since they have declared that they will veto any proposed UN resolution for war. When did the use of the Veto become a crime? The records show that the USA has used its veto about 27 times on UN resolutions targeted at Israel. What if France declares war on Israel to resolve the Palestinian issue? These are realities to ponder. The option remains with the three wise men to be remembered either as global peace makers or the dogs of war.

War is never the answer. Violence is not the answer. Equal justice is the answer. If the three wise men want to take the mantle of international leadership they should come under the umbrella of the UN and resolve the disputes in the Middle East fairly. In the event of war, may Allah protect the innocent people and children of Iraq.

May Allah guide us in the right path

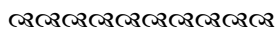
## OBITUARY

**Mrs Ruiza Ismail**, beloved mother of Rizni Buhary, Rizmia Zuhair and Rumies Ismail passed away recently in Sri Lanka. We extend our deepest sympathies to all members of her family. *Inna lillahi wa inna illahi rajioon.*

**Mohamed Ghaffar**, brother in law of Noor Mahroof passed away recently in Sri Lanka. We extend our deepest sympathies to all members of his family. *Inna lillahi wa inna illahi rajioon.*

## MEMBERSHIP

To date only **67 families + 27 individuals + 6 pensioners** have paid up their subscriptions for the current financial year. The Committee decided at the last meeting in keeping with the resolution passed at the AGM, not to send information or Newsletters to those who are not financial members of USMAA. This is in line with the intention to make USMAA a vibrant and active body catering to the requirements of members who are financially current. Members who, for what ever reason, have failed to pay their subs are urged to send their annual fees to the Treasurer who will then ensure that they are entered into the mailing and phone list.



## USMAA CONSTITUTION

It is hoped to review the constitution and amend it, if necessary. All members will be sent out a copy of the constitution with this issue of the newsletter.

All proposed amendments should be submitted in writing to the Secretary Rifka Naufal on or before **26th May 2003** (as per the constitution Article 27, Section 27.3).

The timelines for submitting amendments are

- Closing Date for amendments: 26<sup>th</sup> May 2003
- Amendments to be circulated with AGM Notice 5<sup>th</sup> June
- AGM – Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2003

Copy of the Constitution can also be downloaded from the USMAA website.



## USMAA WEBSITE

Have you checked our website? The address is: [www.usmaa.org.au](http://www.usmaa.org.au). If you have any relevant information, photos etc kindly forward them to Mohamed Shaffie (Web Master).

Also we request you to support this initiative by advertising in our website. The charges are monthly fee of \$5.00 per advertisement.

## QIRAATH CONTEST

The Annual Qiraath Contest will be held on Saturday the 18<sup>th</sup> of May at 2.30 pm at the Mulgrave Community Centre.

Application forms will be sent out to all members in Mid April. Closing date for entries will be the 9<sup>th</sup> of May. Entry forms will also be available on the USMAA website.

The judging would be separate for males and females. The contest will also be in age groups as mentioned below:

1. 5 to 8 years
2. 8+ to 12 years
3. 12+ to 15 years

Children can choose any surah from the Holy Quran Time duration for the various groups: maximum of 2 minutes for Groups 1 and 2 and 3 minutes for Group 3.

For further details contact Dhilhaam, Shyama or Pam.

## MEELAD

To celebrate Meelad, an oratorical contest will be held on Saturday the 24<sup>th</sup> May at 6.00 pm at the Mulgrave Community Centre.

The topics for the various categories are:

**Under 8:** Life of the Prophet Muhammad (SAL)

**8–11yrs:** Life of the Prophet Muhammad (SAL) with emphasis on prophethood

**11–14yrs:** Life of the Prophet Muhammad (SAL) with emphasis on Hijra

**14–18yrs:** Islam and Education

All participants will receive a gift.

The evenings proceeding will also include the recital of Yaseen and a talk on the life of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (SAL) followed by dinner.

All members and their families are welcome. Anyone wishing to make a contribution or require further information please contact Azeeka Hussein (9366 1214), Sithy Marikar (9511 1411) or Fazly Badrudeen (9512 7584).

## USMAA JANAZA PROCESS

### *Procedures to be followed in the case of death (updated 2002)*

Please note and retain information preferably with a copy in your car and near your telephone.

Strict adherence to the different procedures is requested to alleviate any unnecessary delay and trauma to all concerned.

If death has occurred at home, please follow all procedures mentioned below:

- Inform your family doctor or doctor who has been treating the deceased person prior to death.
- Call 000 Emergency and request for ambulance.
- Once the doctor has examined the deceased, either at home or hospital, **request a full certification of death.**

Full certification is of utmost importance – if any autopsy is to be avoided and also before an Islamic undertaker can be notified.

**NOTE:** the doctor, ambulance officer or police, depending on the cause of death, may only authorise removal of the deceased to the coroner's complex for the following reasons:

- a) The deceased has undergone a surgical procedure i.e. operation preceding death.
- b) Death caused by an accident.
- c) Suspected foul-play.

- In most instances the authorities referred to above will assist in informing the coroners office for removal of the deceased from either home or hospital (Coroners South Melbourne Complex Tele: 9684 4444).

- Further it is important that at all times, the USMAA Janaza Committee be kept informed. Although no guarantee can be given, the committee will endeavour to avert a post-mortem-autopsy from being performed on the deceased by liaising with the authorities concerned.

## USMAA JANAZA FUND MANAGEMENT

The committee comprising of Bros Haneef Mohinudeen, Almaz Alavi and Eddie Dole manage the running and allocation of the fund.

Details of the fund management and guidelines will be given in the next issue of the newsletter.



## HELP NEEDED

### Proposed Vocational Training Centre for Girls

The Ceylon Moor Ladies Union is building the above centre for orphaned, abandoned, destitute and refugee children at Balapokuna road, Kirillapone. The total cost of the project is around SL Rs 750,000.00.

Cheques Should be drawn in favour of "The Ceylon Moor Ladies Union". All donations could be sent directly the Treasurer, Ceylon Moor Ladies Union, 51/1A Ward Place, Colombo 7 or channelled through USMAA.

### Islamic Centre for the Physically Handicapped in Doolmala,

Members wishing to send their own contributions directly could do so by sending cheques drawn in favour of "Islamic Centre for the Physically Handicapped".

Bank details:

A/C no: 1312545

National Development Bank

Dharmapala Mawatha, Colombo 7

Sri Lanka

For further details email:

[icph@slt.net.lk](mailto:icph@slt.net.lk)

### Central Tennekumbura Young Men's Muslim Association

All Cheques, drafts to be drawn in favour of "Central Tennekumbura Y.M.M.A."

Bank details:

A/C No. 165001701-0

People's Bank

D.S. Senanayake Veediya

Kandy, Sri Lanka

## HADEES OF THE HOLY PROPHET (SAL)

### *Narrated Abu Huraira:*

While the Prophet was saying something in a gathering, a Bedouin came and asked him, "When would the Hour (Doomsday) take place?" Allah's Apostle continued his talk, so some people said that Allah's Apostle had heard the question, but did not like what that Bedouin had asked. Some of them said that Allah's Apostle had not heard it. When the Prophet finished his speech, he said, "Where is the questioner, who enquired about the Hour (Doomsday)?" The Bedouin said, "I am here, O Allah's Apostle." Then the Prophet said, "When honesty is lost, then wait for the Hour (Doomsday)." The Bedouin said, "How will that be lost?" The Prophet said, "When the power or authority comes in the hands of unfit persons, then wait for the Hour (Doomsday)."

(Volume 1, Book 3, Number 56)



### *Narrated 'Abdullah bin 'Amr:*

Once the Prophet remained behind us in a journey. He joined us while we were performing ablution for the prayer, which was over-due. We were just passing wet hands over our feet (and not washing them properly) so the Prophet addressed us in a loud voice and said twice or thrice: "Save your heels from the fire."

(Volume 1, Book 3, Number 57)



### *Narrated Ibn 'Umar:*

Allah's Apostle said, "Amongst the trees, there is a tree, the leaves of which do not fall and is like a Muslim. Tell me the name of that tree." Everybody started thinking about the trees of the desert areas. And I thought of the date-palm tree but felt shy to answer the others then asked, "What is that tree, O Allah's Apostle?" He replied, "It is the date-palm tree."

(Volume 1, Book 3, Number 58)



## SRI LANKA

**Population: 18.5 million**

Buddhists 76.7%

Hindus 7.9%

Christians 6.9%

Muslims 8.4%

Others 0.1%

Literacy Rate 91.8%

Population Growth 1.2%

(2001)

### National Flag

The current national flag, which is an improvisation of the civil standard of the last king of Sri Lanka, Sri Wickrama Rajasinghe, was designed in 1950 during the time of the first Prime Minister, D.S. Senanayake. Each symbol depicts various aspects of the cultures and races of the country.

**The lion:** represents the Sinhala race, the majority community

**The sword and the lion:** the sovereignty of the country. The handle of the sword highlights the elements water, fire, air and earth.

Various aspects of the lion have different connotations and significance: **Tail:** signifies the noble eight-fold path of Buddhism

**Curly hair on the lion's head:** indicates religious observance, wisdom and meditation

**Beard:** denotes purity of words

**Nose:** indicates intelligence

**Two front paws:** purity in handling wealth

**Orange Stripe:** Tamil race

**Green Stripe:** Muslim race

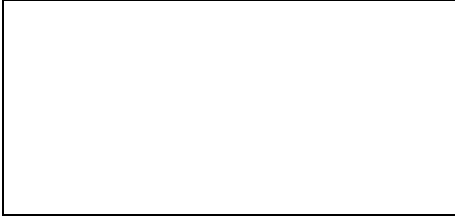
**Yellow border round the flag:** represents the other minor races, including the burgher community

**Bo-leaves at the four corners:** represents Buddhism and its influence on the nation. They also stand for the four virtues of kindness, friendliness, happiness and equanimity

**Maroon colour** – manifests the other minor religions

(Information from the souvenir published to mark the Sri Lankan National Day in Victoria – 4<sup>th</sup> February 2003)







# MINARET

UNITED SRI LANKAN MUSLIM ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA INC  
JULY 2002 VOLUME 13 ISSUE 1 Jamadul Awwal 1423

## New Committee 2001/2002

### **Executive:**

#### **President:**

Mohamed Mohideen

#### **Vice President:**

Ahamed Vajuhudeen

#### **Secretary:**

Rifka Naufal

#### **Treasurer:**

Dhilham Fazil

### **Members:**

Pam Ashraff

Eddie Dole

Shyama Fuad

Mohamed Shaffie

### **Editor:**

Fahmi Haniffa

### **Auditor:**

Noor Mahroof

### **Trustees:**

Eddie Dole

Fahmi Haniffa

Faroque Mohamed

## **Important Events**

- USMAA Web site
- Fellowship Dinner
- Membership Fees
- Youth & Leadership Seminars

### **Web Site Address**

[www.usmaa.org.au](http://www.usmaa.org.au)

### **Correspondences:**

#### **Postal : USMAA Inc**

P O Box 120

Forest Hill 3131

## **President's Message**

Assalamu Allaikum!

These very words that we greet one another every time we talk, meet or depart has many connotations and meanings. How many of us play lip service to it and how many of us have made an attempt to understand its significance?

You might wonder why my message begins with a question on religion. Islam is a way of life and being part of USMAA or any other organisation that is working for the muslim Ummah means that we are trying to do dawah in our own small way.

As such, in today's context when the world is looking at the muslims with jaundiced eyes, it is up to each and every one, men, women and children to show the world through our actions and deeds that Islam is a great religion and that we are proud to call ourselves muslims.

The mantle of leadership has changed and with it the focus too changes. This year we got a team, which has a mixture of young and old. I am happy to note that the youth have come forward to serve on the committee. I hope this will set the tone for the future and more and more of the younger members will come forward to guide USMAA. I always believe that youth are the leaders of today and that tomorrow's outcome lies with the initiatives that they take.

The focus for the committee this year will be "YOUTH & PARTICIPATION". Many might say that youth is a state of mind and not the age. If that is what we believe, we hope that each and every member will rally round and participate in all activities. The success or failure of any event depends on the members actively participating. Mere attendance is of no avail.

The committee has already met and outlined a course of activities. We are open to suggestions and ideas and welcome active participation. The USMAA web page will be an ideal vehicle for your input and we look forward to hearing from you. **Do not wait until someone contacts you. Take the initiative - USMAA is also yours.**

Our first event is a fellowship and fundraising event, the "Hopper Nite" scheduled for Saturday 24th August at the Mitcham Hall. Join us and get to know the committee and its members.

With Allah's blessings and guidance we hope you will join us and make USMAA an organisation that we could all be proud of.

Salaams

Mohamed Firdausy Mohideen

## **Editorial**

What's the buzz? The buzz is this. The USMAA AGM held on 22nd June 2002 was a resounding success. Were you there to savour the feeling?

The AGM was well attended (over 110 adults and 20 children). Subscriptions totalling \$ 2200 was collected at the venue; business was conducted efficiently; past activities were evaluated and new targets and goals were set for the coming year; new office bearers were elected quickly; members enjoyed the simple dinner menu and had an opportunity to catch up with friends.

The outgoing President pointed out that the committee had set in motion a process that will tighten the operations of USMAA and make it an Association that has some value to all its financially current members. The focus last year was strengthening our existing membership. We think that we have succeeded in that effort and re established USMAA as a vibrant body. It is now intended to continue that process and introduce administrative procedures that will increase our efficiency and attract our members to play a positive role in USMAA activities and events.

Be advised today that the house decided at the AGM that we will only cater to members who are financially current and you will play an active role in organising or contributing to at least one of our functions, events or activities through your group leader (who will be a member of the main committee). Those who were unable to attend the AGM are urged to quickly contact their group leader or new treasurer and pay their membership fees. You will realise the importance of being a financially current member shortly.

The new committee has a nice blend of youth and experience. They have had their first meeting and planned out the activities for the year. Most of the information is included in this newsletter and updated information will be available to you shortly through the USMAA website. The success of the new committee depends squarely on your support. We urge you to play a positive role for the benefit of yourself, your family and the Muslim community in general.

May Allah guide us in the right path.

## SUB COMMITTEES

### EDUCATION & YOUTH AFFAIRS

- Mohamed F Mohideen - [REDACTED] 2
- Rifka Naufal - [REDACTED]
- Shyama Fuad - [REDACTED]

### RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS

- Eddie Dole - [REDACTED]

### EDITORIAL BOARD

- Fahmi Haniffa - [REDACTED]
- Ahamed Vajuhudeen - [REDACTED]
- Mohamed F Mohideen - [REDACTED]

### FINANCES

- Dhillhaam Fazil - [REDACTED]

### LADIES & CHILDRENS AFFAIRS

- Pam Ashraff - [REDACTED]
- Shyama Fuad - [REDACTED]

### JANAZA

- Haniff Mohinudeen - [REDACTED]
- Almaz Alavi - [REDACTED]
- Eddie Dole - [REDACTED]

## Community Events

### HOPPER NITE – FELLOWSHIP & FUND RAISING

The first function has been organised to promote fellowship as well as raise funds for USMAA.

**Date:** Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> August 2002

**Time:** 6.30 – 7.00 p.m. onwards.

**Venue:** Mitcham Hall

Tickets are priced at \$10 per single/student members and \$25 per family (includes all children below 18 only). Drinks will be sold at a minimum cost. Please confirm your participation to any of the committee members before the 10<sup>th</sup> of August for catering purposes

### USMAA SADAQAAH TILLS

To ensure that we could send reasonable sums for charity we have decided to extend the till collection time till February 2002 (closer to Hajj Festival). Tills are still available with the president or treasurer on a voluntary basis. For further information contact the treasurer Dhillhaam or the secretary Rifka.

### USMAA WEBSITE

The USMAA website is almost ready and members would be able to access it very soon. Mohamed Shaffie will be the Web Master. He has put in a lot of time and effort and the committee is thankful to him.

The website address is:

[www.usmaa.org.au](http://www.usmaa.org.au)

Please visit the website and your feedback would be much appreciated.

## CALENDER OF EVENTS

Nov - Dec

- ❖ IFTHAAR – Sat 16<sup>th</sup> November
- ❖ IFTHAAR – Sat 23<sup>rd</sup> November
- ❖ IFTHAAR – Sat 30<sup>th</sup> November
- ❖ 27<sup>th</sup> Night of Fasting – Mitcham Hall – date to be announced
- ❖ Eid Prayers – To be announced
- ❖ Eid-ul-Fitr Celebrations – 7<sup>th</sup> December
- ❖ Eid Prayers – To be announced

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

### ANNUAL DINNER

The annual dinner is being scheduled for the end of September or early October. At present we are having difficulties in getting a hall for Saturday (most of the halls are booked on Saturdays until the end of November). If we are unable to get a Saturday the alternative is to have the annual dinner on a Sunday – tentative date is Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> October. We will get back to you on this ASAP.

### COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### COMMITTEE MEETINGS

In order to facilitate better interaction with the members, the committee meetings will be open to members (as invitees). The dates are given below for 2002. Please contact the Secretary Rifka to obtain details and venue.

The meetings will be held on Saturdays at 1.00 p.m.

10<sup>th</sup> August

7<sup>th</sup> September

12<sup>th</sup> October

16<sup>th</sup> November – time to be notified

14<sup>th</sup> December

If you got any items to discuss please forward it to Rifka 10 days before the meeting so that it could be circulated to the committee

### YOUTH ACTIVITIES

In keeping with the theme of Youth development, the committee is eager to set up a dialogue with the youth members of

USMAA. Rifka is currently trying to identify the youth and set up a meeting. Parents are kindly requested to encourage their children to participate.

The committee has plans to run various workshops, which would be of benefit to the youth. A minimum of 5 participants would be required in order to run these sessions.

- ◆ Effective Public Speaking
- ◆ Facing Interviews
- ◆ Writing CVs
- ◆ Work Etiquette

Please contact Mohamed Mohideen, Rifka Naufal or Shyama Fuad on or before 31<sup>st</sup> August if you are interested in attending any of the workshops.

### Your Say.....

#### Newsletter

#### Feedback

#### Suggestions.....

The newsletter is our means of communicating with the membership. Your feedback and input would be appreciated. The editorial committee cannot assure that all contributions will be published.

Those interested in contributing should ensure that the article is no more than 1 column in length and should be submitted as a word document.

The next issue will be released mid October. All articles should be received no later than the **30<sup>th</sup> September**.

## WOMEN'S ACTIVITIES

Membership forms will be sent to all members in order to update the information that we have. All children that are 18 and above will have to fill in separate membership forms and pay subscriptions.

Currently on paper we have nearly 100 families and over 80 single members. This information is not accurate and we tend to get letters back.

Members are urged to pay up the subscriptions for the year 2002 - 2003. Attached is a list of members who have paid as on **15<sup>th</sup> July 2002**. It was noted that at the end of the last financial year only 40% of the membership had paid their subscriptions.

As announced at the last AGM and at the subsequent committee meeting all members who have not paid up by **31<sup>st</sup> August 2002** will not receive any more communications from USMAA and will be charged separately for each of the functions. At the AGM membership fees were raised due to various costs and liability insurance cover.

The membership fees are as follows:

**\$35.00** – Associate and Family members (only children below 18 will fall into the family category)

**\$20.00** - Singles and student members

**\$15.00** – Pensioners.

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. Please contact Dhillhaam Fazil with regard to your outstanding dues.

## MEMBERSHIP NOTIFICATION

All members have been allocated to a committee member. They will be contacting you or would have already contacted you with regard to the activities, subscriptions and other events.

Also as customary each group organises an event. Please join you committee member in ensuring that the event is a success. This would not only promote awareness but also a sense of fellowship.

## GRANT – Received from the Victorian Multi Cultural Commission

We are pleased to announce that our organisation has received a grant of \$1200.00 from the Victorian Multicultural Commission for the year. The funds from this grant will be spent on publication of newsletters and other multicultural activities.

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The AGM was held on Saturday the 22nd of June 2002 at the Mulgrave Community Hall. There were approximately 140 members present at the meeting.

Outgoing President Fahmi Haniffa thanked all those members for rallying round and making the year a resounding success, which was clearly seen by the attendance at the AGM.

The key items approved at the AGM were:

1. Increase in membership fees
2. Approval for obtaining liability insurance
3. Approval of reports
4. Treasurer's financial statement
5. Auditor's report

The new team was elected unanimously. Incoming President Mohamed Mohideen thanked all present for electing the new team and looked forward to a year where the association would be able to consolidate on the last year's performance and achieve greater heights in the future with the fullest cooperation of the members.

The meeting terminated with dinner and fellowship.

## CENTRELINK INFORMATION

Centerlink staff will be available at the Migrant Information Centre, on the first and third Tuesday of each month from 10.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon commencing Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2002. The service will assist people from diverse, cultural and linguistic backgrounds who are current and potential Centrelink customers. Staff will be available to answer queries on payments and services provided by Centrelink. To make an appointment phone 9873 1666 or visit the centre at 333 Mitcham Road, Mitcham 3132. An interpreter can be arranged free of charge. The service is free and confidential.

## RACIAL & RELIGIOUS TOLERATION ACT 2001

Victoria's new Racial and Religious Toleration Act came into force on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2002. The main purpose of the Act is to make conduct that, on the grounds of race or religion, stirs up hatred of another person or groups of persons an offence under the law of Victoria. ICV encourages Islamic societies in Victoria to support the information and education campaign that has now been launched to inform all citizens of their new rights and responsibilities under the legislation.



## DUTIFULNESS TO PARENTS

Allah says:

And your Rabb has decreed that you worship none but Him, and that you be dutiful to your parents. If one of them or both of them attain old age in your life, say not to them a word of disrespect, nor shout at them but address them in terms of honour. And lower unto them the wing of submission and humility through mercy and say: "My Rabb! Bestow on them your mercy as they did bring me up when I was small". Your Rabb knows best what is in your inner-selves. If you are righteous, then verily, He is Ever Oft-Forgiving to those who turn unto Him again and again in obedience and in repentance. **(Holy Quran 17: 23 –25)**

Allah says:

They ask you (O Muhammad) what they should spend. Say: "Whatever you spend of good must be for parents and kindred and orphans and Al Miskeen (the poor) and the wayfarers and what ever you do of good deeds, truly, Allah knows it well. **(Holy Quran 2:215)**

Allah says:

And your Rabb has decreed that you worship none but Him. And that you be dutiful to your parents.. **(Holy Quran 17: 23)**

Abu Hurairah (RAL) narrated that the Holy Prophet (SAL) said:

"May his nose be covered with dust, may his nose be covered with dust, may his nose be covered with dust. It was said" Who is he, O Allah's Messenger?" The Holy Prophet (SAL) replied "It is he whose parents both or one of them attain old age while he is alive and was not admitted to Paradise (because of his undutifulness to them and dies in such a state)." **(Saheeh Muslim Vol. 8: No 5,6)**



**If Undelivered please return to :  
USMAA Inc  
P O Box 120  
Forest Hill 3131**





# MINARET

UNITED SRI LANKAN MUSLIM ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA INC  
OCTOBER 2002 VOLUME 13 ISSUE 2

Shahaban 1423

## New Committee 2002/2003

### **Executive:**

#### **President**

Mohamed Mohideen

#### **Vice President:**

Ahamed Vajuhdeen

#### **Secretary**

Rifka Naufal

#### **Treasurer**

Dhilham Fazil

### **Members**

Pam Ashraff

Eddie Dole

Shyama Fuad

Mohamed Shaffie

### **Editor:**

Fahmi Haniffa

### **Auditor**

Noor Mahroof

### **Trustees**

Eddie Dole

Fahmi Haniffa

Faroque Mohamed

## **Important Events**

- Ramadhan
- Eid Festival
- Senior Citizens Group
- Youth Activities

### **Web Site Address**

[www.usmaa.org.au](http://www.usmaa.org.au)

### **Correspondences**

Email: [members@usmaa.org.au](mailto:members@usmaa.org.au)

Postal: USMAA Inc

P O Box 120

Forest Hill 3131

## **President's Message**

Assalamu Allaikum!

It is with great pleasure that I pen these words on the eve of our holy month that is fast approaching. Three months have passed since the new team took over and Alhamdulillah we have been able to successfully carry out a few activities.

The main focus has been the membership, and the committee and I am extremely grateful to the members for their support and cooperation. Your presence and constant interaction has been great. This is what USMAA is always about – **Membership Participation**. I always believe that no individual owns or runs any organisation, it is the teamwork and group effort that results in success.

The time has also come for us to take stock of ourselves, recognise what we are and who we are. The recent tragedy in Bali, which USMAA totally condemns, and other such events has placed the Muslim society in a vulnerable position. We need to exercise calm and demonstrate with our actions and speech that Islam is not and has never been a religion of violence and intolerance but a *beautiful religion that promotes peace, love, tolerance and equality amongst all human irrespective of race, religion or nationality*.

May Allah give us all strength, health and hidayah to be able to deal with all issues and perform our obligations and ammalas in the holy month of Ramadhan. The association has organised ifthhaars on three Saturdays and we look forward to everyone joining. The date for the 27<sup>th</sup> night will be finalised once the 1<sup>st</sup> day of fasting is announced.

May Allah keep you safe and guide you always.

Salaams

Mohamed Firdausy Mohideen

## **Editorial**

### **Response to Bali**

USMAA condemns the perpetrators of the recent bomb attack on innocent civilians (both locals and holiday makers) in Bali. We extend our deepest sympathies to all the families who lost their loved ones and pray for the speedy recovery of all those injured by the horrific blast. Those found guilty of the crime must be punished.

We hope that something good will ultimately come out of this tragedy. Maybe, as some would suggest, we should look to the Australian government for answers.

May Allah protect and guide us in the right path.

~~~~~

### **Letter to USMAA**

I have recently heard of the arson and graffiti attack on the UMMA mosque in East Doncaster.

I am sorry that these things are happening. Please know that the majority of people in Australia support the right of all people to practice all religions and will make every effort to protect those rights.

We are living in difficult times, and I hope that those ignorant people who act according to prejudice and hatred will not succeed in dividing people of all faiths who are able to live in peace.

Yours in friendship

Martin Cobb  
South Yarra

## SUB COMMITTEES

### EDUCATION & YOUTH AFFAIRS

- Mohamed F Mohideen - [REDACTED]
- Rifka Naufal - [REDACTED]
- Shyama Fuad - [REDACTED]

### RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS

- Eddie Dole - [REDACTED]

### EDITORIAL BOARD

- Fahmi Haniffa - [REDACTED]
- Ahamed Vajuhudeen - [REDACTED]
- Mohamed F Mohideen - [REDACTED]

### FINANCES

- Dhillhaam Fazil - [REDACTED]

### LADIES & CHILDRENS AFFAIRS

- Pam Ashraff - [REDACTED]
- Shyama Fuad - [REDACTED]

### JANAZA

- Haneef Mohinudeen - [REDACTED]
- Almaz Alavi - [REDACTED]
- Eddie Dole - [REDACTED]

## Community Events

### HOPPER NITE – 24<sup>th</sup> August

This function was well attended with nearly 150 participants. Although there were a few shortcomings in general, all those who attended enjoyed the evening. The association made a profit of \$270.00 after payment of all costs.

### Peace March – 13<sup>th</sup> October

A Peace Rally against the war with Iraq was held on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2002. The March was held in the City and attended by 45,000 people. The Islamic Council of Victoria was one of the main organisers of the peace march and a large contingent of USMAA members joined the peace rally.

### USMAA SADAQAHAH TILLS

To ensure that we could send reasonable sums for charity we have decided to extend the till collection time till February 2002 (closer to Hajj Festival). Tills are still available with the president or treasurer on a voluntary basis. For further information contact the treasurer Dhillhaam.

### USMAA WEBSITE

Have you checked our website? The address is: [www.usmaa.org.au](http://www.usmaa.org.au). In the archives section we intend to cover the history of USMAA from 1990 to date. We have started with the year 2001 – 2002. If you have any relevant information, photos etc kindly forward them to Fahmi Haniffa or Mohamed Shaffie (Web Master).

## ANNUAL FELLOWSHIP DINNER – 27<sup>th</sup> September

The 12<sup>th</sup> USMAA Annual Fellowship Dinner was held on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2002 at the Sacred Heart Hall, Johnson Street, Oakleigh. The Chief Guest for the function was Mr. Hong Lim, MLA and Member for Clayton.

Mr Lim who is also the chairman of Parliamentary Committee for Family and Community Development discussed multiculturalism and the advances that Australia and especially Victoria has made in this area. He spoke on how associations such as USMAA could do to build up the nation and help the community at large.

The keynote speaker Dr. Abdul Khaliq Kazi in his talk 'The Way Forward' touched on aspects of how the community especially Muslims in general should act in the times of trouble and uncertainty when every finger of blame seems to be directed at the Muslim Ummah. His advice to be steadfast and address issues in a rational and Islamic way left those present in the audience a lot to ponder and think.

Messages of felicitations were received from Prime Minister John Howard, Premier Steve Bracks, Opposition Leader Simon Crean and High Commissioner for Sri Lanka Janaka Perera. These messages appear in the Souvenir.

The USMAA Youth Awards for academic excellence in 2002 were awarded to: Aadil Mohamed, Hana Yusuf, Nilufer Liyaul Fouz, Shakira Salahudeen, Shazrina Mohamed and Shezna Mahroof.

The function was well attended consisting of 200 persons, members, friends and well wishers. All members and their families should be congratulated for the success of the event, which went on schedule with regard to timing and coordination.

The success of the function is also attributable to the work of committee members, volunteers, sponsors and advertisers.

Special mention to Master Amreen Areeb for the recital of the Qirath which was of very high standard. Also a special word of thanks to H. M Ashraff and Iqbal Fuad for all their help.

## CALENDER OF EVENTS November – December

### ACTIVITIES DURING THE MONTH OF RAMADHAN

- ❖ IFTHAAR – Sat 16<sup>th</sup> November
- ❖ IFTHAAR – Sat 23<sup>rd</sup> November
- ❖ IFTHAAR – Sat 30<sup>th</sup> November
- ❖ 27<sup>th</sup> Night of Fasting – Mitcham Hall – date to be announced
- ❖ Eid Prayers – Date to be announced  
We are happy to announce that USMAA & ASLAMA will have joint Eid prayers this year.
- ❖ Eid-ul-Fitr Celebrations – 7<sup>th</sup> December

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



### COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The dates are given below up to December 2002. Please contact the Secretary Rifka or any other committee member to obtain details and venue.

The meetings will be held on Saturdays  
16<sup>th</sup> November – time to be notified  
14<sup>th</sup> December

If you got any items to discuss please forward it to Rifka 10 days before the meeting so that it could be circulated to the committee



### OBITUARY

**Beloved mother** of Jehan Najeeb passed away recently in India. We extend our deepest sympathies to all members of her family. *Inna lillahi wa inna illahi rajioon.*

**Mr Haneef Munirudeen**, his wife Binthan and daughter in law passed away in Sri Lanka during the last few months. He was the brother of Haneef, Salim, Chota and Mohamed. We extend our deepest sympathies to all members of their families. *Inna lillahi wa inna illahi rajioon.*



## MEMBERSHIP

To date only **63 families + 12 individuals + 6 students** have paid up their subscriptions for the current financial year. The Committee decided at the last meeting in keeping with the resolution passed at the AGM, not to send information or Newsletters to those who are not financial members of USMAA. This is inline with the intention to make USMAA a vibrant and active body catering to the requirements of members who are financially current. Members who, for what ever reason, have failed to pay their subs are urged to send their annual fees to the Treasurer who will then ensure that they are entered into the mailing and phone list.



## SENIOR CITIZENS' GROUP

The USMAA Senior Citizens Group (60+) is at its formative stage. A luncheon meeting is being organised before fasting. All those interested please contact **Mrs. Farisha Mohideen (9562 0002)**. Some members have also volunteered to help in this program.



## WOMEN'S ACTIVITIES

### Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) Classes

In collaboration with the YMCA and State Government, USMAA conducted a CPR class on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> October from 2.00 – 4.00 pm at the Mitcham Hall. Although initially there was lots of interest shown only 10 participants attended the class. All participants will be given a Certificate of Participation.

### Islamic Classes for Women

Islamic Classes for women are held fortnightly at various members' residence facilitated by Sis Nihara. Those interested in attending should contact the Secretary **Rifka (9884 4542)**

## YOUTH ACTIVITIES

The committee has been trying to formulate a program for youth and have appointed Mohamed Haseeb to act as facilitator.

The key aim is identify what the youth would like USMAA to organise for them in terms of fellowship, personal development, etc. Currently the committee is collecting information from all parents with regard to youth demography in USMAA.

The proposed plan is to conduct a day camp with both team skills and personal development the key focus. At this camp it is also proposed to run brainstorming sessions with the youth to formulate a course of action in the future.

All youth interested please contact Mohamed Haseeb (9706 1532) or Rizvi (9562 002) or Shyama (9579 4365). Your participation and feedback would be greatly appreciated.

### Workshops

The committee also has plans to run various workshops, which would be of benefit to the youth. A minimum of 5 participants would be required in order to run these sessions. **Since the last newsletter there has been no response to these workshops**

- ◆ Effective Public Speaking
- ◆ Facing Interviews
- ◆ Writing CVs
- ◆ Work Etiquette

Please contact Rizvi, Dhillam or Shyama on or before 31<sup>st</sup> November if you are interested in attending any of the workshops.

## PRAYER OF THE HOLY PROPHET (SAL)

A sincere prayer from our holy Prophet (Peace Be Upon Him) on which Allah sent Jibreel (al) along with the Angel of the Mountains to give him victory over what is harming him.

O Allah! To You alone I make complaint of my helplessness, the paucity of my resources and my insignificance before mankind. You are the most Merciful. You are the Lord of the helpless and the weak, O Lord of mine! Into whose hands would You abandon me: into the hands of an unsympathetic distant relative who would sullenly frown at me, or to the enemy who has been given control over my affairs? But if Your wrath does not fall on me, there is nothing for me to worry about. I seek protection in the light of Your Countenance, which illuminates the heavens and dispels darkness, and which controls all affairs in this world as well as in the Hereafter. May it never be that I should incur Your wrath, or that You should be wrathful to me. And there is no power nor resource, but Yours alone.



### Fasting in the month of Ramadân

The month of Ramadân in which was revealed the Qur'ân, a guidance for mankind and clear proofs for the guidance and the criterion (between right and wrong). So whoever of you sights (the crescent on the first night of) the month (of Ramadân i.e. is present at his home), he must observe Saum (fasts) that month, and whoever is ill or on a journey, the same number [of days which one did not observe Saum (fasts) must be made up] from other days. Allâh intends for you ease, and He does not want to make things difficult for you. (He wants that you) must complete the same number (of days), and that you must magnify Allâh [i.e. to say Takbîr (Allâhu-Akbar; Allâh is the Most Great) on seeing the crescent of the months of Ramadân and Shawwâl] for having guided you so that you may be grateful to Him.

**Holy Quran 2:185.**

## **SADAQAAH & FITRA COLLECTION**

Fitra collections will be made at the Ifthaars organised by USMAA. All collections obtained will be sent to the various Muslim organisations in Sri Lanka which have sought our assistance.



### **Islamic Centre for the Physically Handicapped in Doolmala, Thihariya**

This centre was established in May 1984 and has 250 students on its role at present. The centre was registered as a voluntary social service institution in October 1986 under the Voluntary Social Service Organisation Act in Sri Lanka (Government Approved Charity Gazette No. 513 of 01.07.1988)

Objectives of the organisation are to help physically disabled children to learn to adopt and cope with their disabilities; provide facilities and training to help them become useful citizens; and to secure their due right and place in society.

Members wishing to send their own contributions directly could do so by sending cheques drawn in favour of “**Islamic Centre for the Physically Handicapped**”.

Bank details:

A/C no: 1312545

National Development Bank

Dharmapala Mawatha, Colombo 7

Sri Lanka

For further details email:

[icph@sltnet.lk](mailto:icph@sltnet.lk)



### **Central Tennekumbura Young Men's Muslim Association**

The association was founded in 1974 and is based in Kandy, Sri Lanka. The objectives of the organisation are focused on education and humanitarian services. The main aim is to impart a sound education to Muslim youth of either sex and render humanitarian services to the deserving young and old. In 2001 75 scholarships were awarded to GCE (A/L) and University

students.

All Cheques, drafts to be drawn in favour of “**Central Tennekumbura Y.M.M.A.**”

Bank details:

A/C No. 165001701-0

People's Bank

D.S. Senanayake Veediya

Kandy, Sri Lanka



## **SRI LANKAN NEWS**

**Daily News – 23<sup>rd</sup> October**

### **Government to study Supreme Court ruling before action - PM**

Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe declared that the Government intends making a full study of the Supreme Court determinations on the 18th and 19th Amendments to the Constitution before coming to a decision on its next course of action.

According to the Speaker's ruling, the Court has shown an alternative way to implement the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment. The Supreme Court has indicated that if the period for dissolution of Parliament is extended to three years, it could pass with a two-thirds majority in Parliament. Similarly, if the right of conscience vote applies to all clauses, the Amendment could be passed with a two-thirds majority.

Accordingly, the Supreme Court has not rejected in toto the proposed 18th and 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment Bills and has shown a way to present and pass them before Parliament without contravening the Constitutional provisions

### **83,000 Displaced People Resettled**

Around 183,000 Internally Displaced People (IDP) have returned to their native places after the Ceasefire Agreement was signed in February this year, the United Nations Inter-Agency IDP Working Group said.

The majority of these IDPs have relocated in Jaffna, one of the most war-affected areas in the country. According to the latest estimates, 94,312 IDPs have returned to Jaffna while Kilinochchi, Mullaitivu, Vavuniya and Trincomalee districts

have also received a large number IDPs from January to August. Among the returners are 45,812 families. With the growing number of settlers it has become an uphill task for the Government and the United Nations to provide them with a safe and conducive environment

### **Lanka-Pakistan Free Trade Agreement**

Lanka-Pakistan Free Trade Agreement (FTA) to enhance FDI potential The signing of the Free Trade FTA) with Pakistan is expected to considerably enhance the potential of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) into the country, a Board of Investment (BOI) official said.

This landmark event will take place this week when the Pakistani Minister of Trade Abdul Razak Dawood will arrive in Colombo at the head of a high-powered government delegation. The Board of Investment of Sri Lanka (BOI) is confident that the signing of this historical document will contribute to greater FDI into Sri Lanka both from Pakistan and from countries keen to export to that country.

The FTA will result in an expansion of the trade in goods and services, the creation of fair conditions for competition and the removal of barriers which will in turn lead to an expansion of bilateral economic exchanges.



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**Your Say.....**

### **Newsletter**

### **Feedback**

### **Suggestions.....**

Those interested in contributing should ensure that the article is no more than 1 column in length and should be submitted as a word document.

The next issue will be released mid January. All articles should be received no later than the **15<sup>th</sup> December**

**If Undelivered please return to :  
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P O Box 120  
Forest Hill 3131**

