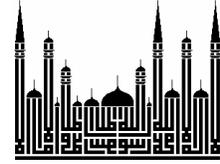




بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ



Vol. II, No. 3

Shaaban 1426 H

September 2005

MUSLIM ASSOCIATION OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR (MANAL)

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF MANAL

Dear Brothers and Sisters:



**In the Name of Allah,
the Most Merciful,
the Most Beneficent**

Alhamdulillah, Allah (SWT) has blessed us with yet another Ramadan, where there is a continuum of blessings and where the reward of good deeds is multiplied. On behalf of the executive committee, we would like to take this opportunity to wish you a blessed **Ramadan, and to pray that Allah accepts our fasting.**

We have some reminders to share with you:

Zakat Ul-Fitr:

Zakat UL-FITR is an obligatory act of worship and it has to be paid before Eid Prayer. However, it is preferable to pay it early enough so that it can reach those who deserve it before Eid day. The amount of Zakat UL-FITR this year is \$10 per person. MANAL has an arrangement to distribute your Zakat. It can be paid in cash or by cheque to any member of the executive committee

Annual Contribution:

The budget required to keep the Mosque in operation and to execute the necessary maintenance is

estimated to be around \$35,000 per year. Alhamdulillah, the brothers and sisters have been generous with their contributions to cover the cost and to enable the Association to continue serving the members of the Muslim community.

We would like to remind our brothers and sisters to make their annual contribution to the Islamic center. Although this is an absolutely voluntary act of charity, but without it we cannot keep the Mosque in operation. It is expected that each able, willing, and earning member will contribute about \$800. This donation will include the membership fee of \$20.0 per family. The annual donation for 2005 calendar year/tax year should be paid by December 31, 2005.

For all matters, please, make your cheque payable to the Muslim Association of Newfoundland & Labrador.

Membership of the Association (MANAL):

The Muslim Association of Newfoundland & Labrador is inviting all of you to become registered members of the Association. The Association is a non-profit organization, run by volunteers and provides the platform to represent and serve the Muslim community in Newfoundland & Labrador.

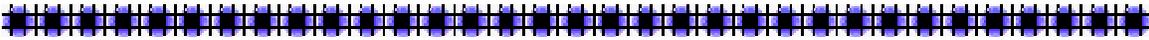
- A membership form can be obtained from MANAL web site. www.manal.ca
- Insha' Allah Ramadan will start at sunset on October 4th, 05. The first day of Ramadan will be Wednesday Oct. 5, 05.
- Insha' Allah Eid is expected to be on Thursday, November 3rd, 05.
- Insha' Allah, Community will celebrate the Eid Dinner on Evening of the Eid day.



Executive Committee

(Visit us at www.manal.ca)





MANAL News

In the name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful

Assalamu Alikum Wa Rahmatullahi Wa Barakatuhu.



**In the Name of Allah,
the Most Merciful,
the Most Beneficent**

MANAL activities in the last eight months:

1. Representing MANAL, Brother Haddara was invited to address high school religious studies teachers about Islam. He also participated in a national press conference in Toronto to denounce terrorism. In addition, many schools and religious groups came to visit the mosque.
2. March 7- 13, 05: MSA conducted Islam Awareness Week: and a number of activities & lectures were arranged, among which
 - A Jewish- Christian- Muslim Dialogue “Abraham in Judaism, Christianity & Islam”
 - A lecture on Common Misconceptions about Islam.
3. April 02, 05: MANAL hosted a group of the political leaders of Newfoundland & Labrador
4. April 06, 2005: MANAL had hosted His Honor the Lieutenant General of the province and his wife together with the interfaith group.
5. June 10, 05: MANAL & MSA-MUN presented a lecture: Achieving Harmony between Husband & Wife in Islam.
6. June 11, 05: MANAL organized a full day work shop on “Positive Parenting Skills according to Qura’an and Sunnah”.
7. August 21st, 05: Community annual picnic.
8. September 10 & 11,05: MANAL participated in Doors Open event. Over 350 people of different faiths visited the mosque this year.

MANAL on behalf of community like to congratulate Brother Faisal Khan for his blissful marriage.

The executive committee would like to welcome the new arrivals & additions to the community:

1. Saleh Hamed, a family of 6.
2. Faisal Rasheed, a family of 4.
3. Mazen Doha, a family of 3.
1. Baby Daanyal N. Farrukh
2. Baby Faris Ali Khan
3. Baby Fatih Farooq Alam
4. Baby Hana Ahmed
5. Baby Shaharyar Zaib siddiqui
6. Baby Sulaiman Khan
7. Baby Zayaad Hasan

May Allah bless us all and protect us from all calamities. Ameen.

Dr. Muhammad Farooq Alam

Vice president





Ramadan: The Holy Month

“O you who believe fasting has been prescribed upon you as it has been prescribed upon those before you so that you may become God conscious” [2:183]

“The month of Ramadan is the month in which the Quran was revealed, a book of guidance with proofs to guide in distinguishing between right and wrong.” [2:185]



By the grace of God, soon we will be celebrating another Ramadan. Fasting the month of Ramadan is an obligatory act of worship that all

Muslims have to undertake. It is an expression of our submission to the will of God. But it is also and expression of the delicate balance that Islam brings to the life of man. When we abandon all materialistic pleasures during the day our spirituality is enhanced, however we do not abandon all connection to the world around us like hermits. We still have to engage in all physical and intellectual activities that we practice in other times of the year. Ramadan fasting is a manifestation of the verse that describes the Muslim nation as a “middle” or “fairly balanced” nation. It also exemplifies the dual nature of humanity: the physical and the spiritual; the material and the metaphysical, the body and the soul. Salvation in the hereafter and happiness in this world will not be attained unless the two components of this duality are kept in balance. Islam encourages people to enjoy the good things in life in moderation. One way to express our gratitude for the bounties of God is to enjoy them.

The Quran says that God has prescribed fasting for Muslims so they can attain Taqwa. Several translations were used to describe the term “Taqwa”. Each one of these translations serves only to express a component of Taqwa, of these we find “*God consciousness*”, “*self discipline*”, and “*fear of God*”. The term Taqwa is a much comprehensive term. It conveys the sense of the struggle of man to achieve a high status in the sight of God, not by avoidance but maintaining a balance between enjoying what is allowed while fighting that which is forbidden in the same way Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) has done.

Another act of balancing that we are urged to practice during Ramadan is the balance between greed and generosity. Although the prophet (pbuh) was usually a generous person, he was most generous during the month of Ramadan. When one is hungry, our culinary desires become compelling. Islam urges us to balance this by giving the poor from our provisions.

Ramadan is another way to express the unity of all Muslims. In spite of the differences that exist among us in the ways we determine the beginning and the end of the month, but we share the practice, the general timing, and the purpose of the fast.

Fasting is a private communication between the believer and His/Her God. This is why Allah said that “fasting is done to seek My pleasure, and I will give whatever reward pleases Me to those who fast.”

We pray that Allah accepts our fasting and reward us the best reward for our efforts.



◇ Message from MSA ◇



MSA welcomes new Muslim students at MUN MSA plans to arrange Iftar-Taraweeh in Ramadan on-campus

Muslim Students Association (MSA) is the sole organization of Muslim students at Memorial University of Newfoundland (MUN). All Muslim students (Brothers and Sisters) hold the membership of the association upon enrolment. With sincere support from community and MUN authorities, MSA is organizing different religious as well as extra- and co-curricular activities year round. In recognition of the contributions made

last year, MSA obtained “Society of the Year 2004” award from MUN. Another achievement that MSA made this year is the acquirement of the on-campus prayer room where the daily prayers are now being held on a regular basis. Alhamdulillah.

MSA provides Bus-ride from the Campus (Chemistry-Physics building) to the Mosque for Friday *Jumma* prayers, *Eid* programs and other special events. Seminars, workshops and lectures pertaining to various religious issues as well as inter-faith dialogues with other religious groups are arranged at different times throughout the year. The Islam Awareness Week, organized annually, offers exposure on Islamic views regarding various socio-cultural matters to general audiences. Activities like indoor and outdoor sports, *Quran halaka*, information sessions for nonmuslims, fund-raising drives, etc., are also arranged regularly or as and when required. Additionally, MSA regularly participates in different programs conducted by MANAL that address issues of religious interests.

InshaAllah, the holy month of Ramadan will begin on 4/5th of October this year (depending on moon-sighting). MSA, with assistance from the community and MSA members, will arrange on-campus *Iftar* on a daily basis, as it did in earlier years (in the old Hair-tech shop at University Center, Room UC3013). All Muslim Brothers and Sisters are cordially invited. Dinner will be served following the *Magrib* prayer. The *Isha* and *Taraweeh* prayers will also be arranged in the same room later on.

MSA is taking this opportunity to welcome all new and returning Muslim students at MUN in Fall 2005. MSA is requesting all members to actively participate in every event and also to come up with new ideas. Programs, schedules, announcements and other important information are often being sent to the members through e-mails. To include your name in the MSA e-mail list, if you are not receiving any, please send your address to msamun@mun.ca. Additional information about MSA, including the contact details of the Executives, can be found at : www.mun.ca/msa.

Jazhakum Allah Khairan.

Executives,
MSA-MUN

CHILDREN'S CORNER (Contributed by Islamic School)
The Month of Ramadan 1426 AH

Every year, Muslim children around the world can't wait for the month of Ramadan to start, so they may fast some days with their parents for practice.

When do Muslims start the month of Ramadan and fasting?

In Shaa' Allah, Muslims around the world start the month of Ramadan and fasting after sighting the new moon by trustworthy Muslims, or the completion of thirty days in the month of Sha'ban. Fasting begins at Fajr (Dawn) and ends at Maghrib (Sunset).



In the Hijri Calendar (the Islamic lunar calendar), Ramadan is?

- A. First month
- B. Ninth month
- C. Third month



Generosity in the Month of Ramadan:

In the month of Ramadan, Muslims show their utmost generosity seeking rewards from Almighty Allah (Subhanahu Wa Taala - SWT) and following the Sunnah of Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him - pbuh). Abdullah ibn Umar (may Allah (SWT) be pleased with him), for example, would prefer to eat his Iftaar meal (breakfast) with the poor. Whenever he breaks his fast at home, he never ate his fill, so that if a needy person visited, Abdullah could share his Iftaar meal. Thus he would end up virtually fasting that whole night too! He used to give away sweets in charity saying, 'I am aware of Allah (SWT)'s saying; "You shall not attain piety until you spend out of that which is beloved to you" [Al-Imraan: 92] and Allah (SWT) knows that I love sweets.'

O' Allah (SWT) help me to be generous and perform a lot of good deeds this Ramadan

Ramadan is the Month of Qur'aan:

Guess, in Qur'aan, the verse in which Allah (SWT) mentions Ramadan and says Qur'aan was revealed in Ramadan is?

- A. Verse 185 of Surah Al-Baqarah
- B. Verse 4 of Surah Al-Qadr
- C. Verse 5 of Surah Al-Alaq



Let's color drawings of "A Family Iftaar" and "A Going to Masjid Al-Noor"



We would like to share some tips for Ramadan that we learn at the Islamic School:

Tip # 1: Designate one hour or more daily for reciting Qur'aan, learning its meanings and memorizing new Surahs.

Tip # 2: Double or triple Sadaqah (charity) to needy people, worship, Dhikr and good deeds.

Tip # 3: Come to Isha, Taraweeh and Fajr prayers at Masjid Al-Noor.

Tip # 4: Observe Lailat-ul-Qadr (the night of power) in the last ten nights.

Tip # 5: Invite and share foods with your brothers and sisters.

Tip # 6: Take care of new brothers and sisters in St. John's.

Tip # 7: Let people in the neighbourhood and school know about Ramadan.

Tip # 8: Make Du'aa for yourself, relatives and all Muslims especially at breaking your fast.

Tip # 9: Perform Umrah, if you can afford it.

Tip # 10: Don't wait for next Ramadan to do all the above!

Who is allowed not to fast Ramadan?

- A. Sick people
- B. Very old people who cannot fast
- C. Very young who cannot fast
- D. All of the above



What do Muslims celebrate at the end of Ramadan?

Muslims celebrate the joyous Eid-ul-Fitr to mark the success of their fasting, doing good deeds, and controlling their desires during Ramadan.



**Ramadan Mubarak and Eid Mubarak
To All Muslims**



Some Islamic School Highlights:

- General Islamic Studies, Qur'aan Memorization and Recitation and Arabic Studies classes are regularly organized on Sunday from 10:30 am to 12:55 pm.
- Alhamdu-lillahi, a successful school year has ended on July 4th.
- Alhamdu-lillahi, "Summer Program" was organized on August 6, 7, 13 and 14th for 7 years and up.
- Alhamdu-lillahi, "Second Muslim Children and Youth Summer Camp" was organized from August 26th to 28th for 10 years and up.
- Alhamdu-lillahi, new school year has started on Sunday September 18th.

