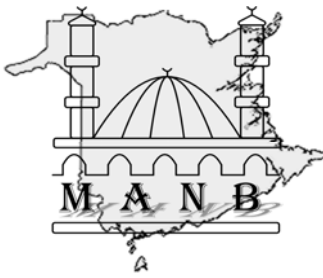


M A N B

is a nonprofit organization
found to present, serve
and educate the Muslim
community in Saint John



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Muslim Association of New Brunswick N E W S L E T T E R

INSIGHTS

Prayer: The Key to Good Life

By Muzammil H. Siddiqi

President of Fiqh Council — North America

www.islamonline.net

Performing the prayer is a command of Allah. It is the most important pillar of Islam. It distinguishes between the believers and non-believers. Prayer is not an option; it is obligatory. It is not once or few times a week. But, it must be performed five times a day. All prophets of Almighty Allah merely told their people to pray; Islam, however, made it a very essential part of religion. [Attend constantly to prayers and to the middle prayer, and stand up truly obedient to Allah.] (Al-Baqarah 2:238). [Keep up prayer from the declining of the sun till the darkness of the night and the morning recitation; surely, the morning recitation is witnessed. And during a part of the night, pray Tahajjud beyond what is incumbent on you; maybe your Lord will raise you to a position of great glory.] (Al-Israa' 17:78-80). [Perform the regular prayer at both ends of the day, and during parts of the night, for good things drive bad away; this is a reminder for those who are aware.] (Hud 11:114). The sincere and devoted prayer helps a person to enter the Paradise, and it is the key to everything good. In fact, the benefits of prayer are numerous, both in this world and the Hereafter; its benefits are spiritual, moral, physical, individual, and social. Prayer is our link, our bond, and our communication with Allah. If you love Allah and want Him to love you, know that the prayer is the means to that. Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) said, "The source of my delight is the prayer" (authenticated by Al-Albani). He used to ask Bilal (may Allah be pleased with him) to give the Adhan for the prayer thus: "Give us comfort by it, O Bilal." He used to spend a long time in his nightly prayers. Sometimes, he used to offer prayer for one-third of the night and sometimes for half of the night, or even more than that. He used to find great comfort and joy in this heart-refining act of worship. Performing prayer is rewarded both in this world and beyond. The whole structure of prayer is so beautiful and so remarkable that there is nothing comparable to it in any religion. Prayer is not just recitation or physical movements. Yet, mind, soul and body, all three are involved together in a most harmonious way during this obligatory act of worship. Prayer is done both individually and collectively; it is done both in public and in privacy. If we observe our prayer as it should be observed, everything in our lives will change for the better. Our relationship with Allah will be good because we shall be living fully conscious of Him all the time. ...continue

President's Message

Assalamu Alaikum. We are trying to publish the newsletter on a regular basis to keep the community informed of the relevant developments that are taking place. We also want to use the classifieds to help the community members to exchange information regarding donating, buying and selling goods and services. Most of the committees have already had their first meeting and working to reach their goals. Fund raising is going on in full swing and we are receiving donations from the members of the community. While we do not foresee any problems raising sufficient funds to pay our bills and do most of the necessary repair work to the building we need to come up with more money to quickly rectify serious problems in the Islamic Center such as the sewerage issue. We are planning to have a spring clean up of the Masjid and its surrounding property. We are testing the soil condition across the brook and planning to improve that side of the brook so that it can eventually be converted into a recreation area. All unclaimed stuffs, small or big, that are lying in the basement and the store rooms will be sorted out and whatever items we feel that are unnecessary will be thrown away. We also need your input about the desirability of having a garage sale. While we are busy with the routine work of the Islamic Center we are also thinking about organizing some fun events for the community. We are thinking to organize a day-long picnic in Fundy National Park for the communities of the tri-city area. This will be a good way to know the members of the communities in Moncton and Fredericton. If you have any suggestions please share them with me or any other member of our team. I look forward to serving and working with you. May Allah help and reward us all! Ameen!

Tareq Syed (Shah)

Your Turn

MY PARENTS

*Of all the people that I know
Respects and honor one must show
To Mother and Father too,
For the wonderful things they do
My Mother works so hard for me
She is as patient as can be
My every need she tries to meet
For isn't Jannat beneath her feet?
Father who is strong and wise
Does his utmost while he tries,*

*To be maintainer and protector too,
Like Allah the Almighty told him to.
Our parents we can never repay,
For their welfare we must pray,
And try to make them happy too
They are precious that is true.
And Allah's words I always hear
In their old age keep them near,
Mercy and kindness you must show
Its what everyone should know.*

Nehad Hijazi

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ❑ Islamic School classes will continue up until June 15, 2008. However it will be closed on May 18, 2008 due to long weekend.
- ❑ Brother Hakim Ali, father of Dr. Almas Hussain passed away on May 3, 2008 and the funeral was held at Tattle brother funeral home in Moncton, funeral was arranged by MANB Saint John and the body was buried in Islamic cemetery in Sussex.
- ❑ Soon the MANB Library will be ready with a new inventory system. It will grant a free access to hundreds of books, cassettes, VHS, CDs, and DVDs on different Islamic education topics including the early Hadith and Tafseer books.

CLASSIFIED ADS

- ❑ Two single twin mattresses with one baseboard, Newsstand tables, Printer Lexmark 2605, White bathroom closet, Small bookshelf, Small antique storage box, Printer Epson 4600, Mini fridge, Office chair; all for FREE.
- ❑ Two 3 bedrooms units with basement at 28 Foley Court for SALE. Please contact Ali Atif at (506) 65-0091
- ❑ Set of black round glass top table with four black matching chairs from Leon excellent condition \$175 call (506) 696-3665
- ❑ Four black seating chairs \$50 call (506) 696-3665



.... continue

Our relations with our families, our co-workers, our neighbors, and everyone and everything will be very good. By means of prayer along with the ablution, we shall be clean from sins as much as a person who takes a bath five times a day will be clean from every kind of dirt. Almighty Allah tells us in the Qur'an that the prayer precludes all kinds of evils, vulgarities, and indecencies, [Recite that which has been revealed to you of the Book and keep up prayer; surely prayer keeps (one) away from indecency and evil, and certainly the remembrance of Allah is the greatest, and Allah knows what you do.] (Al- Ankabut 29:45). Moreover, we are told in the Qur'an that those who establish prayer regularly do not experience fears or anxieties when afflicted with hardships. Allah, the Most-High, says: [Surely man is created of a hasty temperament, being greatly grieved when evil afflicts him, And niggardly when good befalls him, except those who pray, those who are constant at their prayer.] (Al-Ma' arij 70:19-23). More importantly, prayer brings about the true success in this life and in the life to come, as Almighty Allah tells us in the Qur'an, [Successful indeed are the believers. Those who pray humbly ... and who keep up their prayers, they shall be the heirs who shall inherit the Paradise and they shall be there forever.] (Al-Mu'minin 23:1-11). Prayer requires taharah (Arabic for: cleanliness of one's body and clothes, and of the place of prayer). So, those who perform the prayer enjoy clean bodies, clean clothes, and a clean environment. In Addition, prayer is to be performed on appointed times. Consequently, the regular performers of prayer learn punctuality in all their affairs and get a sense of how valuable time is. In prayer, Muslims stand together without any distinction of race, color, financial status, or political position. Those who perform prayer in congregation regularly do learn the concepts of equality, solidarity, and brotherhood. Prayer in congregation is performed behind an imam whom everyone has to follow. This teaches them discipline, order, and organization. Moreover, if the imam makes any mistake, any person can correct him.

Prayer Times May 16, 2008



DATE	FAJR	SUNRISE	DHUHR	ASR	MAGHRIB	ISHA
MAY 16	4:07	5:53	1:26	5:24	8:52	10:02
MAY 17	4:06	5:52	1:26	5:25	8:53	10:04
MAY 18	4:05	5:51	1:26	5:25	8:54	10:05
MAY 19	4:04	5:50	1:26	5:25	8:55	10:06
MAY 20	4:02	5:49	1:26	5:26	8:57	10:08
MAY 21	4:01	5:48	1:26	5:26	8:58	10:09
MAY 22	4:00	5:47	1:26	5:27	8:59	10:10

www.moonsighting.com

KIDS' CORNER

Dear Children, assalamu alaikum. This is your corner to take part of our contest. Please answer the question, write your name, cut the sheet and place it inside the designated box before next Friday prayer. On Sunday after Dhuhr prayer we will announce the winner who will receive a decent prize!

WHAT IS THE HOLY SPIRIT FROM AN ISLAMIC PERSPECTIVE?

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.....

NAME:

AGE: