

## The victim or the victimizer?

In the midst of my busy life, a close friend or relative may ask for a simple favor. I am taught to love and treat others well and better than myself, so I end up giving verbal reassurance to help them out. However, I know deep down inside that I mean well by making this covenant but unable to fulfill it due to my hectic schedule. Who was I kidding? I'm told by a scholar that I am being the victimizer. Well, I ask, how so? I added that people always do the same thing to me, so I must then be the victim! I have come to realize that sometimes I'm the victim and other times, I'm the victimizer.

SubhanaAllah Islam is not just a religion. Rather, it is a complete way of life. Allah has instructed us on basics things about how we should conduct our daily lives. Allah states in Surah As-Saff verses 2 and 3: "O you who believe! Why do you say that which you do not do? Most hateful it is with Allah that you say that which you do not do."

The great commentator of the Quran, Ibn Katheer, states in explanation of these verses, The authentic tradition of prophet Mohammad (PBUH) in which he cited practices such as lying, cheating, betraying, and being hypocritical to others among things that a person says and does not then follow through. As the victimizer, I am doing these very things. Islam teaches us to be translucent with others and to learn to say "No" to avoid misleading others into believing that a verbal covenant will be carried out when we cannot actually make it happen. Let's adopt the habit of being genuine with our actions – and proposed actions – and ensure that we are no longer the victimizer or the victim.

## Evening and Weekends Programs Arabic. Quran, and Islamic Education

MSOG has programs for our youth and children... seven days a week!

- Quran Classes, by Imam Ibrahim Gangat**  
Monday to Thursday, from 6 pm to 8 pm (5-7 pm during winter)
- Islamic Studies, by Hafiz Mohammad Mubeen Butt**  
Friday evenings, from 6 pm to 8 pm (5-7 pm during winter)
- IQRA, Journey to Quran, and Quran 101, by Shamsa Malik**  
Sat/Sun morning, from 10 am to 2:30 pm (except holidays)
- Arabic Language Learning Class, managed by Tamer Gamel**  
Sunday afternoon, from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm (except holidays)

For more information about each program please visit us online: [www.msogf.org](http://www.msogf.org) and click on "Education"

**ADVERTISE WITH US AND GROW FOR MORE DETAILS PLEASE EMAIL: Newsletter@msogf.org**

### Monthly Operational Expenses of Muslim Society of Guelph and Meezan School

- Banking Charges / Fees
- Utilities (Hydro, Union Gas, Phone, Internet)
- Insurance
- Cleaning Services
- Cleaning Supplies
- Wages/Compensations
- Meezan School Financial Support

Total Monthly Expenses of MSOG **\$11,180.81+**

**Give your share to show you care!**

### Important Dates

- Ramadan Begin Date  
Monday, June 6, 2016
- Eid-ul-Fitr  
Wednesday July 6, 2016
- Hajj Date  
Saturday September 10, 2016
- Eid-ul-Adha  
Sunday, September 1, 2016
- Milad un Nabi,  
Sunday, December 11, 2016

### Appreciation dinner

The Meezan School Appreciation /Fundraising dinner proposed on 2nd week of March WAS POSTPONED  
A new date and information to be announced later

### Marriage Certificate

"There are three Licensed Marriage Counselors in our Community. Ask the Executive Committee if you would like to conduct Nikah/Marriage Ceremony."



# The Guide

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### Queries & Question?

Please write to

**Hafiz M. Mubeen Butt**  
519.497.3530  
[newsletter@msogf.org](mailto:newsletter@msogf.org)

### Current Executive Committee:

- Farooq Ahmed**  
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[farooq.ahmed07@gmail.com](mailto:farooq.ahmed07@gmail.com)
- Golam Moula**  
519.780.0865  
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- Tamer Gamel**  
226.500.2396  
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- Wasim Iqbal**  
519.803.3507  
[wasimiq@hotmail.com](mailto:wasimiq@hotmail.com)

### Duaa/ Zikr of the month

Whining and complaining are common practice in our society. The reason is quite apparent. We wake up every morning and start our day without recognizing Allah and the countless blessings He has bestowed upon us. By focusing on our trials and tribulations, we end up disheartened and miserable. During trying times, Islam instructs us to look to people who are experiencing greater difficulty and to thank Allah for His kindness and pray for everyone whose hardships are challenging than our own.

Mohammad (PBUH) has taught us that remembering the countless blessings of Allah early in the day will lead us to a productive day in servitude to Him!  
A comprehensive Duaa recommended by Mohammad (PBUH):

اللَّهُمَّ مَا أَصْبَحَ بِي مِنْ نِعْمَةٍ أَوْ بِأَحَدٍ مِنْ خَلْقِكَ فَمِنْكَ وَحَدِّكَ لَا شَرِيكَ لَكَ فَالْحَمْدُ وَالشُّكْرُ

## Entertainment versus Familytainment

Spring has finally sprung. The sun's influence is growing stronger. Warmer temperatures are around the corner. The sound of birds chirping and singing brings back the fondest of memories – but I'm afraid these memories are only shared by some of us, and not all. Our young people are living in an age of technological domination. In one way or another technology occupies nearly all their time. They are indoctrinated to entertain themselves by playing a video game, watching a television show, movie or some uneducated fanatic's vlogs, or streaming random YouTube videos – all activities that are nothing but a waste of time for the most part. I remember when people did things for purpose and benefit. We need to remind ourselves that time is precious. An Arab poet expressed this idea beautifully: "Time is like a sword. If you don't cut with it, it will cut you." This means that time will pass regard-

less of how we use it. If we occupy our time productively, it will benefit us; if we waste our time, it will yield nothing but counter-productiveness. Essential life skills are learnt by interaction with other people through playing sports like soccer, football, basketball, cricket, hockey and baseball as well as by taking part in activities such as fishing, hunting, mountain climbing, and hiking together. Many valuable skills have been forgotten due to the younger generation's focus on technology as a pastime and the older generation's inability to ignite their passions for these simpler but essential activities. Let us all try our best this season to embrace change and make it a memorable one by actively being engaged with beneficial things and be adventurous about it, and let us not yield a miserable season by wasting valuable time just streaming technology.

### Important Contacts

- Guelph Police Department  
519.824.1212
- Guelph General Hospital  
519.822.5350
- Guelph Fire Department  
519.824.6590 (911)
- Union Gas  
519.885.7400
- Guelph Hydro  
519.822.3010
- City Hall Administration  
519.837.5602

## A pleasant quality if possessed yields great outcomes for all.

By Taha Mao

**Generosity** and charity as a whole are not necessarily limited to giving to those in need monetarily. Of course giving money to those in need is the conventional understanding. However, one may also be generous and charitable in other ways. With time, with words, with listening, with smiles – smiling is charity, right? When we examine the beautiful life of our righteous predecessors, we see just that: complete generosity.

**Be generous with your wealth!** Umar Ibn Khattab RA relates an incident that occurred before the Expedition of Tabuuk. The Messenger of Allah (SAW) urged us to give in charity in order to fund the Expedition. Fortunately, this coincided with a perfect time; I had just accumulated a good amount of money. I said to myself: "If I'm ever going to beat Abu Bakr, it will be today" so I went home, and brought back half my entire wealth and put it at the feet of the Messenger (SAW). The Messenger of Allah (SAW) then asked me, "What did you leave for your family?" I told Him, "the other half." Then Abu Bakr came and brought every single thing he owned and put it at the feet of the Prophet (SAW). The Messenger of Allah (SAW) then asked Abu Bakr, "What did you leave for your family?" Abu Bakr replied, "Allah and His Messenger." After hearing this Umar declared, "By Allah, I will not surpass this man in anything." Many of us wish we had wealth to give. I tell you: do not despair. You may be the poorest person in the world in terms of wealth, but you may still be the most generous person in the Eyes of Allah.

**Be generous with your time.** People may not want a penny from you, but they would love some of your time. My brothers and sisters, be generous and fair with your time. Don't offer your time to one person or one thing while neglecting others. We can draw a lesson from a beautiful Sahaba incident. Salman Al-Farisi once paid a visit to Abu Ad-Darda. He then found Um Ad-Darda dressed in shabby clothes and asked her why she was in that state. She replied, "Your brother Abu Ad-Darda is not interested in the luxuries of this world." On hearing this, Salman wanted to teach Abu Ad-Darda a valuable lesson. Abu Ad-Darda came and prepared a meal for Salman. Salman requested Abu Ad-Darda to eat with him, but Abu Ad-Darda said, "I am fasting." Salman responded, "I am not going to eat unless you eat". So, Abu Ad-Darda ate with Salman. After some hours had passed in the night, Abu Ad-Darda got up to offer the night prayer but Salman told him to go back to sleep and Abu Ad-Darda slept. Later Abu Ad-Darda again got up but Salman again told him to sleep. In the last third of the night, Salman once more told Abu Ad-Darda to get up, and both of them offered the prayer. Salman explained to Abu Ad-Darda, "Indeed, Your Lord has a right upon you, your soul has a right upon you, and your family has a right upon you; so you should give all of those who have a right upon you, the right that is due." Abu Ad-Darda then came to the Prophet (SAW) and told the entire story. The Prophet (SAW) said, "Salman has spoken the truth." [Bukhari]

## Muslim Society of Guelph

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Our website: [www.mssofg.org](http://www.mssofg.org)

**Be generous with your words.** Did you know that you can make somebody's day with a few kind words? When was the last time you told your child, "I'm really proud of you." When was the last time you told a friend, "I love you for the sake of Allah. Thank you for always being there for me. I also thank Allah for putting you in my life." My brothers and sisters, did Allah give us our tongues to criticize and correct? Or did He (TSW) give us our tongues to say beautiful things? Our Prophet (SAW) said only beautiful things to people. Take His example: There was a man from the people of the desert whose name was Zahir bin Hizam. He was loved by the Prophet (SAW). Zahir was also not the most pleasant in appearance. One day the Prophet (SAW) approached Zahir while Zahir was selling his goods in the market and placed his hands over his eyes to stop him from looking behind. The Prophet (SAW) then asked jokingly, "Who would like to buy a slave from me"? Zahir replied, "O Messenger of Allah, by Allah you will find me to be a poor sell" (meaning 'I'll be of no value'). The Prophet (SAW) then assured Zahir, 'But with Allah you are valuable'. [Ahmad]

**Be generous with your smiles and your gestures** Smiling is charity. Try your best to smile, even when you are suffering. Allah knows the difficulties you go through in life, but it is impressive if you are able to share a smile with others rather than harm them with a bad mood or frown. Be generous with your smiles and your gestures. Whenever the Prophet (SAW) spoke to someone, He would turn His whole body and posture towards them and give them His undivided attention. Such was our Prophet (SAW).

# HIGHLIGHTS FROM MUSLIM SOCIETY OF GUELPH'S 2016 MARCH BREAK YOUTH RETREAT

## Why have I chosen Islam as a religion and way of life?

By: Ahmed G. & Ahmad H.

During the recent March Break, I attended the Muslim Society of Guelph's 2016 March Break Retreat. The theme of the program was why we choose Islam as our religion and way of life. At the beginning of the first lesson, our instructor, Sheikh Mubeen, asked us this exact question. The majority of the class answered "Islam is practical"; "It makes sense"; or offered personal reasons such, "We are born with it" or "Our parents hope to pass on Allah's religion". However, our instructor told us that although these reasons are viable, they can also be given by people of other faiths in order to explain why they choose their own religions. The purpose of the program was to give us reasons that are unique to help us better understand why we choose Islam as our religion and as our way of life.

Humans are born helpless and as they mature, they begin to amass all of their knowledge through their five senses. However, some matters in life are beyond our comprehension. There is a massive gap within us due to our limits. In order to bridge that gap and better understand religion and life, Allah has sent down divine revelation in the form of the Holy Qur'an.

The Qur'an has many miracles within it that offer us a vast number of rulings and teachings in order to guide us on the correct path in life to achieve happiness in the Afterlife. One of the Qur'an's many miracles is how it has never been altered by a human due to it being under the protection of Allah throughout time until the Day of Judgement. However, someone may ask how we can believe that it has not been changed even though all other divine books – including the Bible have been. The answer is that the Qur'an is the last holy book sent by Allah. God did not want His last revelation to be altered or His creation to be misled. He vowed to keep His message pure so that humanity may stay on the correct path.

Another miracle of the Qur'an is how easy it is to memorize. This can be related to the fact that none of the Qur'an has been changed throughout its 1,400 year history. Many generations have walked the Earth throughout this time, and although technology and modern culture have changed, the Qur'an has not.

The Qur'an also retells complex matters that occurred in the past and offers accurate predictions about the Future, which makes the Qur'an more relatable to humans, and as such, millions of people refer to it, understand it, and memorize it.

The Qur'an is also miraculous in its inability to be replicated in any form. The Holy Qur'an cannot be replicated due to its purity and beauty. Moreover, because it is the word of Allah, no human can possibly replicate it. Allah has challenged humanity to match the unique linguistic nature of the Qur'an but He knows that humans cannot select and arrange words like the ones found within it. Allah knows that we are incapable of reproducing parts of speech to match the Qur'an's superior eloquence. In addition, Allah recognizes that humanity cannot copy neither the content nor the format of His Qur'an. Finally, Allah knows that the human mind is unable to equal the Qur'an's conciseness and flexibility. All of these things are impossible for us to accomplish; Allah is the only one who could have spoken it in this way. That is why Allah challenges us to even try and attempt replicating it, knowing that we will not be successful, and to allow us to realize that the path He lays out for us is right and that we should obey His commands.

The Qur'an's linguistics are another miracle. The Qur'an is written in the proper Arabic spoken at the time of Mohammad (PBUH). Allah has promised that this Arabic will be an eternal language until Judgement Day due to its natural beauty, complex nature, and ease of comprehension in the hearts of the people touched by the Qur'an and its language. Each word is so beautiful that if even one detail were to be changed, a totally different meaning could be construed. The language of the Qur'an is also that spoken in Jannah by its people.

Still another miracle of the Qur'an is how its predictions are clearly visible and true. Just to list one example of this is how the Qur'an mentions that Allah will modernize transportation from traditional means such as horses to other unimaginable models which were beyond human comprehension at that time. We now have cars and airplanes that improve on luxury and speed. This was predicted by the Qur'an over 1,400 years ago and is a true sign of the Qur'an's ability to predict the future with accuracy.

Another miracle is how scientific theories correlate with the Qur'an. Science is just a theory that changes over the course of time along with the advancement of technology. When a scientific theory correlates with the Qur'an, we acknowledge it because it means that the Qur'an stated something that has been supported by more than one source. However, when it contradicts the Qur'an and Allah's teachings, we do not follow it. Reason being the Quran is the highest form of authenticity and a manmade scientific theory cannot possibly over throw it. The Qur'an should be your first source to prove something. Scientific sources should be used to support the Qur'an and not to disprove it because the Qur'an will remain the same forever whereas science will change.

The final miracle of the Qur'an that we will discuss here is how its recitation brings peace to the reader's heart. Remembrance of Allah through the words of the Qur'an is like a key that can open several locks, and because of the true remembrance of Allah, several different things happen at the same time. First, we stay away from all artificial sources of happiness, also known as sinful behavior. Second, we allow ourselves to enter into a state of Tawakkul, which is the positive reassurance that whatever happens to us – be it physical or spiritual – is always to our benefit. It gives us reassurance that by following Allah and ignoring worldly things, we satisfy our mind and heart. In conclusion, all these miracles and dozens of others prove that the Qur'an is authentic and that it should be our first resource for our answers to questions about the world and our daily life.

The Qur'an is proven to be authentic by its miracles and the fact that it itself is a miracle. Islam is the right religion because it is backed up by the Qur'an, humanity's guide to righteousness and paradise. For these reasons, Islam is my religion and my way of life. It is for these reasons, too, that you should be a Muslim – and not because "Islam is practical"; "It makes sense"; or "We were born with it". Rather it is the pinnacle of truth!



### List of Community Events and Services

Weekly Halaqas on every Saturday and Sunday after Isha salah

Exciting new Hifz (memorization of Quran program) coming to Meezan School. Check out our next issue for details.

Meezan School Open house and Registration  
April 14, 2016 5-7pm

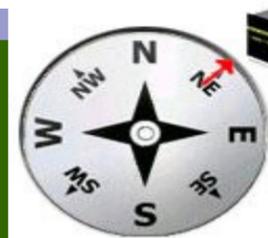
Meezan School Appreciation Dinner (date to be announced for April)

Doors Open Guelph 2016 Welcoming Non-Muslims  
April 23, 2016, 10am-4:00pm

MSOG Annual Appreciation Dinner,  
Dec. 17/18, 2016 (TBA)

## Iqama Timing at Jame Masjid, Guelph, for April 2016

"Our Lord! Give us in this world that which is good and in the Hereafter that which is good, and save us from the torment of the Fire!" (2/201)



54.032839 (from North, clockwise)

Kabah is approx. 11,000 km away

Note: Jumma Khutba is fixed at 1:25 pm,

APRIL

Date	Dawn	Fajr	Sunrise	Dhuhr	Asr	Maghrib	Isha
10	5:11	6:00	6:46	1:45	6:30	8:06	9:45
20	4:52	5:45	6:30	1:45	6:30	8:18	9:45
30	4:35	5:30	6:14	1:45	6:45	8:30	10:00

## Local Masajid

Masjid-e-Aisha, 44 Marlborough Road, Guelph, 226.486.1143

Masjid-e-Abu Bakr, 126 Norwich Street, Guelph, 519.826.6739

Cambridge Islamic Centre, 1550 Dunbar Rd, 519.740.6855

Cambridge Muslim Society, 282 Elgin St N., 519.623.0568

Kitchener Masjid, 1017 Victoria St, Kitchener, 519.743.9111

Waterloo Masjid, 213 Erb St W., Waterloo, 519.886.8470

## Halal Food Restaurants & Meat

Butcher Shop & Groceries 219 Silvercreek Pkwy 226.314.1334

Spicy Food Hut Unit 9, 219 Silvercreek Pkwy N, 519.763.5200

Olive Halal Meat & Grocery 666 Woolwich St., 519.265.8200

Manouche Express 88 Gordon St., 519.265.8666

Popeyes Louisiana Kitchen 35 Harvard Rd. 519.265.8313

Zinger Chick Unit 18, 500 Willow Road, 519.265.8955