

SILK-E-HAYAAT

UMOOR TALIMIYAH

Issue 2 | Jumaad al-Ukhra - 1442 | English

At Aljamea-tus-Saifiyah's Nairobi campus, replicas of *Baab al-Tawfiq*, or the Gate of Divine Inspiration, can be found at two separate entrances which are the primary access points for both students and visitors alike. The placement of *Bab al-Tawfiq* at the very threshold of the campus symbolises that it is through *Tawfiq* that the doors to enlightenment are opened for those who seek it.

The Second Edition of the Silk-e-Hayaat Newsletter - aims to traverse the educational landscape of the world, bringing unique accounts from different cities straight to your doorstep. Thus, the *Bab al-Tawfiq* stands as a fitting port of embarkment for our journey of Umoor Talimiyah.

A Replica of the *Baab al-Tawfiq*, Aljamea-tus-Saifiyah - Nairobi.

Photo taken by: M Yusuf Shk Shaikhadam Haidermota

بِسْمِ رَبِّكَ اَعْلَمُ

"(Iqra) Bisme Rabbik" (Recite, in the name of Allah) was defined for the impartment of knowledge, an exalted method.

THE QUEST FOR KNOWLEDGE

Article by: Juzer Shoeb Bs Hashemi

The quest for knowledge is as old as time itself. Whether it is in the form of unravelling the mysteries of the world, gaining a mastery in craft, or debating the purpose of the universe - the one constant prevails: we are all born as seekers of knowledge.

From the dawn of time, humanity has always persevered in the pursuit of knowledge. This noble commission also serves as a cornerstone for the teachings of Islam. Rasulullah ^{SAW} has famously said, "Seek knowledge all of you! Even if it be in *Seen* (China)".

For hundreds of years, there was nothing east of China in the known world but the vast and unconquered Pacific. There is little doubt that for the Arabs of the 7th Century, China would appear as an exotic and foreign land, located at the very end of the earth. While China was entering a Golden Age of Education and Culture at this time, a trip towards it would still be no easy task. The route to China from Medina would most certainly entail journeying through the dry deserts of Arabia, following the famous Silk Road across vast, barren plateaus of Afghanistan, passing around the Roof of the World in Tibet, and treading through the dense forests of SouthEast Asia to finally reach the intended destination. While indulging in this time-consuming endeavor, a traveler would not only have to face the sun, wind, and rain, but also conquer life threatening fears such as wild animals, bandits, and starvation.

If those details seem to take a toll on you, read on. Even after beating these odds, if a group of travellers did make it all the way to China, they would still have to overcome the barriers of acquiring fluency in a completely different language, gain entry into one of their schools, and acquire access to rare and limited scriptures. In conclusion, Rasulullah's ^{SAW} instruction to "seek knowledge, even if it be in *Seen*" would probably require the dedication of a lifetime! Understanding the sheer scope of this endeavour, an important question comes to mind - How important must the seeking of knowledge be - that Rasulullah ^{SAW} instructs a quest for it to the ends of the earth?

Focusing on the broader implications of the *Hadeeth Shareef*, it becomes apparent that Rasulullah ^{SAW} teaches us to endure every difficulty that we might face in the pursuit of knowledge. Be it physical hardship, mental stress, or emotional torment - knowledge is a prize worth devoting our life for.

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These fundamentals were largely incorporated by true seekers of knowledge in the Islamic world. An example of which can be seen in Ibn Sina. A famed scholar who despite his chaotic life and unintentional involvement in the political turmoil around him, was able to compose unparalleled works. Among his major contributions is his magnum opus: *Al-Qanun fi al-Tibb* (The Canon of Medicine), which was one of the single most important compilation of medicine until the 16th century.

Our Mawali Kiraam ^{RA} have further illustrated the deeper meanings of the Hadeeth Shareef. Not only have they undertaken great difficulties for the pursuit of knowledge, but they have worked tirelessly so that we may do the same. Time and time again - they have undertaken the mission to guide seekers of knowledge, conquering every impediment to the ordeal. One remembers the predicament of Syedna al-Moiyed al-Shirazi ^{RA}. His exile for spreading knowledge cast him through a journey of the wilderness of Arabia, filled with the anguish of being separated from his people. His resolve was tried further by the political climate that prevented him from reaching the *Hazrat* of Imam ^{AS} in al-Qahera. This however was rewarded by Imam's ever famous instruction of "*al-Nashr* (Spread) through my (knowledge) as you wish, be for them (my subjects) as a magnanimous father". Showing once again, the struggle for knowledge and its glorious appraisal.

A shimmering of such ideals can also be seen in those who travelled to the Duat Mutlaqueen ^{RA} of Yemen. It is said that Syedna Yusuf Najmuddin ^{RA} was so dedicated towards his education that he would put aside all personal delivered letters - to remain unblemished by worldly distraction.

The legacies left behind by the scholars of the past



هر گهڙي پيار ۽ عزيزو علمي کو چلو سيرمي



are awe-strikingly breathtaking. For people living in the 21st century, where anything and everything is just a finger-swipe away - the struggles of yesterday seem unimaginable. However, since the time for scarcity of knowledge has come to an end, and that its obstacles have become moot – is it reasonable to believe that the journey of acquiring knowledge has watered down? I am of a completely different opinion.

Information has become abundant these days, but not necessarily knowledge. In these times of virtual libraries and rapid informational exchanges it becomes critical to attain true knowledge. The enemy has evolved. We are in a constant dilemma to distinguish between truth and falsehood, whether it be history books rewritten to glorify the victors or simply wrong statements said by people in power. In an age where the advent of technology has made us live in digital bubbles of our own, the lines between wisdom and propaganda, facts and opinion have blurred even further. It has become even more apparent today that if we are to stay true to who we are, it must be done through the power of hard-earned knowledge.

For a thousand years the Duat Mutlaqeen^{RA} have strived to ensure that Mumineen are afforded the best of education. Through countless sermons – they have taught us to uphold good morals and be a productive part of society. Through hundreds of epistles, books and publications they have elaborated the principles of Islam and highlighted the road towards succeeding in both worldly and spiritual affairs.

Today, under the guidance of al-Dai al-Ajal Syedna Mufaddal Saifuddin^{TUS} – the springs of knowledge

are closer than ever. More *Madaris Iymaniyyah* have ensured that Mumineen have access to *Deeni Taleem*. New MSBs in major cities ensure that our children receive the best balance of *Deeni* and secular education. The four branches of *Aljamea tus Saifiyyah* has enabled more children to get “*Jamea ni Barakat*”. *As-baaq* followed by “*Istefadah Ilmiyyah*” have given more Mumineen the opportunity to learn from the *Kutub of Dawat*. *Hifzul-Quran* Camps have made the dream of becoming a *Hafiz* even more attainable. Online *Talab-ulilm* programs have opened doors for Mumineen all around the world.

In conclusion, the sheer will and resolve of those who set out before us in the quest for knowledge is admirable to say the least. Perhaps it just might be, that even they would be amazed at the opportunities available for us at present day. Is it not beholden upon us to carry forward thier spirit of seeking knowledge?

Does our voyage towards enlightenment not begin to-day?

Let the spirit be revitalized and the quest begin.

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Farzando doing Hifzul Quran in Vidisha, MP

GLIMPSES FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Interview with Shk Murtaza Mohsin Bhai

Head Moallim, Taiyebiyah School, Surat



Why have the Duat Mutlaqeen^{RA} always emphasized on the importance of Madaris Imaniyyah?

“Duat Mutlaqeen^{RA} have always strived to ensure that Mumineen prosper in both their spiritual and worldly affairs. *Madaris Imaniyyah* are one of the most prominent platforms for realizing this mission, as they provide the basic knowledge required for an individual to succeed in both spheres.

“Rasulullah^{SAW} has stated that the key to *Najaat* lies in the *Zikr* of Imam Husain^{AS}. For this reason, the Duat Mutlaqeen^{RA} have placed the discourses of Ashara Mubarakah at the core of *Deeni Taleem*. *Madaris Imaniyyah* thrive to prepare the younger generation of Mumineen both intellectually & spiritually for the reception of these *Mawaiz* which are key to living a happy and fulfilling life. *Madaris Imaniyyah* help pave the way towards the mental and spiritual growth of every Mumin.”

As a teacher, how do you feel when your students complete their Deeni Taleem in your care?

“The feeling is so fulfilling and blissful that it cannot be compared to any other feeling in the world. However, if one had to articulate the feeling, one could say that it is mutual to how a farmer feels when he sees his fields mature into bountiful crops after years of perseverance and determination.

“It gives me great joy to feel part of a bigger picture. The thought of contributing towards something so important is what keeps me motivated in the face of problems. If one such as I would feel this way, one can only imagine the happiness our Moula^{TUS} feels when witnessing the growth in our children.”

A day of Recreation and Learning in Saifee Mohallah, Kolkata



A picnic was organised for youngsters aged between 16 – 25 in Saifee Mohallah, Kolkata. During the programme, the students learned how to set goals and how to achieve them. They were also briefed about the 12 Umoor and as a training exercise they were asked to make 12 Umoor goals of their own. Many students pledged to attend *Asbaaq* after the workshop.

Bridging the Gap of Education in Colombo

As learning shifted from the universal physical model to an online one, many children found it hard to adapt to this new shift and faced huge challenges in the ability to grasp concepts of the curriculum. The Daeratul Aqeeq Umoor Talimiyah Committee realised that a gap needed to be filled and developed a brilliant system to help these children realise their full potential in the new online school mode. This was set in motion by seeking out Mumineen teachers and requesting them to volunteer their expertise, in their respective fields. Next, those that consented were introduced to the learners in need. All these teachers graciously tutored the students at a nominal fee. All is well that ends well and so with the *Dua Mubarak* of Aqa Moula^{TUS} a new initiative was launched.

GLIMPSES FROM AROUND THE WORLD

FUN FACT

120,948 *

Mumineen participate in
Asbaaq Worldwide!

* Count as of Dec 2020

A Step closer towards Aqa Moula 's ^{TUS} Vision



M Husain bhai Topiwala,
Masoolul Mouze - Vidishah

Around 60 Mumineen families reside in Vidisha, a small town near Bhopal, India. With the *Dua Mubarak* of Aqa Moula TUS, 180 out of the 250 residents have completed *Hifz* of *La Uqsemo*. In other words, 59 out of the 60 Mumineen families have at least one person who holds a *La Uqsemo Sanad*.

Currently, we have ongoing classes for Mumineen *Farzando* for *Hifzul Quran*. We have also found that *Duroosul Quran* videos are very effective for learning *Tilawat*. Writing is also used as a method for *Hifz* by struggling students.

Our next goal is to ensure that every household has at least one person who has completed *Hifz* of *Juz Ammah*. We hope that by achieving this, we will become a step closer towards the *Khushi Mubarak* of Aqa Moula ^{TUS} – “*Har ghar ma ek Hafizul Quran hoi*”.

Adapting to the Lock Down



Shk Zohair bhai Badri
Amil Saheb - Dohad

During the lockdown in Dohad, around 500 Mumineen participated daily in Online *Asbaaq*. We organize different *Asbaaq* for Mumineen of different ages and professions to ensure that they could relate to the *Sabaq* content. *Asbaaq* were sometimes held several times a day to make it more practical for Mumineen to attend. We used presentations, quizzes and videos to make *Asbaaq* more lively and interactive.

Asbaaq – A Voyage of Self Realization

Shk Zohair bhai Shakir, Amil Saheb – Ratlam



Our Awliyaullah ^{AS} have always emphasized the importance of the health of body and soul. Just as the body requires nutrition to survive, similarly the soul requires its own *Ghiza - Ilm*. Just as *Ibadat* is *Farizat* on the *Jism* (body) similarly *Ibadat* is *Farizat* on the *Jaan* (soul).

In my experience as an Amil, my *Khidmat* consists of two very important aspects. *Namaaz* – which is *Ibadat* for the body, and conducting *Asbaaq* – which is *Ibadat* for the soul. I have

noticed that when Mumineen participate in *Asbaaq* and receive the *Barakaat* of *Ilme Aale Mohammed* ^{AS}, they undergo a transformation. In my view, *Ilm* elevates thinking, enhances understanding, increases *Ikhlaas*, introduces enthusiasm for *Khidmat*, increases *Khidmat* efficiency, accelerates progress, and results in adherence to *Shariat*. It develops a completely unique form of *Qubooliyat* for *Farmaane Aali*. In fact in my opinion, *Asbaaq* is the principal medium through

which Mumineen understand Moulana's *Farmaan*.

Asbaaq create a bond between the Ummal and Mumineen such that they ease participation in *Khidmat*.

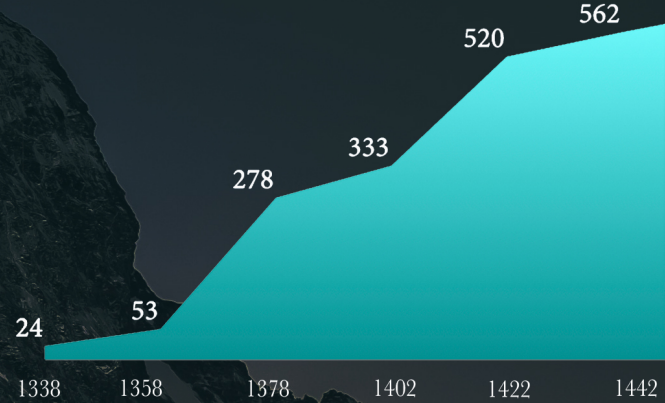
Relations between Mumineen and Umaal are strengthened due to *Asbaaq*. Both doing *Khidmat* and involving Mumineen in *Khidmat* is made a lot easier and fruitful through *Asbaaq*.

“ہر علم ما Top پر پہنچے سگلا”

Our Mawali Kiraam ^{AS} have always emphasized on the importance of education. Following this tradition, Syedna Mufaddal Saifuddin ^{TUS} has given Umooor Talimiyah the lofty vision – “*Har Ilm ma Top par pohche*” (Reach the very top in every field of education). Today, several *Idaraat* of *Dawat* and their local bodies strive day and night to help Mumineen reach new heights in education and prosperity. The figures below show the growth of our community in different educational platforms and programs. Be it phenomenal growth in *Huffaz Kiraam*, increase in *Madaris Imaniyah* infrastructure, influx of students in MSB or rise of participants in online *Imtehaan* – every programme has experienced tremendous development over the past years due to the *Dua* of Awliyaullah ^{AS}.

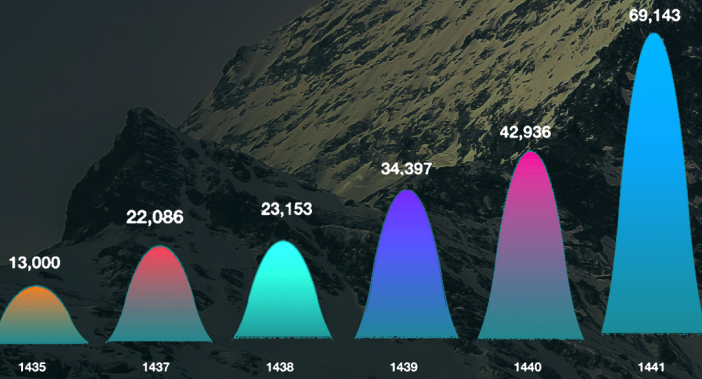
Madaris Imaniyah

Over the course of a hundred years, from Syedna Taher Saifuddin's ^{RA} era to present day, the number of *Madaris Imaniyah* globally has grown from 24 to 562 operating *Madaris*.



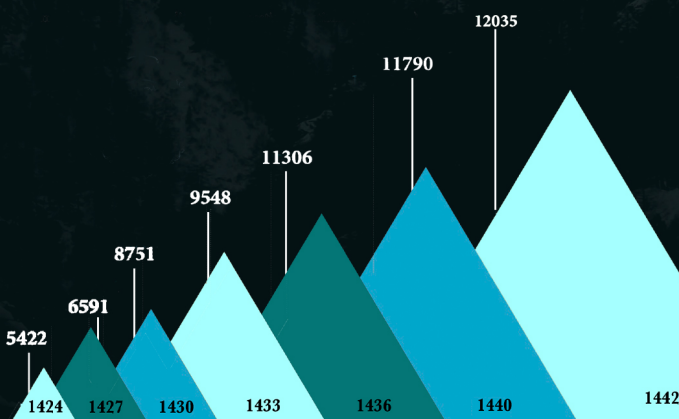
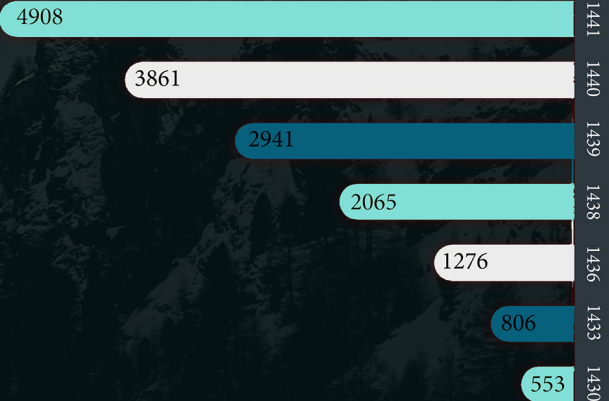
Online Imtehaan

Since its inception, the number of participants in the Online *Imtehaan* has grown by an average of 11,000 people per year, representing an increase of nearly 430% over the last six years.



Huffaz Kiraam

Over the last 11 years, the number of *Huffaz Kiraam* have grown exponentially. Just in the last year, 1,047 mumineen fulfilled Aqa Maula's ^{TUS} wish and became *Haafiz al Quran*.



MSB Farzando

Since 1424, MSB's student population has grown by an average of 1,000 students per annum, from just over 5,000 to over 12,000 today.

QUICK TIPS FOR HIFZUL QURAN

Shk Murtaza bhai Qaari, Mahad al-Zahra, Aljamea-tus-Saifiyah



Tip 1 Always be Happy

Aqa Moulana^{TUS} has always done *Dua Mubarak* for Mumineen that “*Khuda Mumin ne Khusho Khurram Rakhjo*”. This *Dua* is essential for *Hifzul Quran* as staying happy and stress free is vital for *Hifz*. Doing *Hifz* while being stressed is more difficult and the quality of *Hifz* can decline.

Tip 3 Follow a Disciplined Lifestyle

Spaced repetition is an important part of the memorisation process. It involves repeating the verses of the Quran regularly in spaced intervals. Following a fixed schedule for waking up, going to bed, doing *Hifz* etc can become vital for the *Hifz* process.



Tip 2 Be Steadfast to Shariat

There is a very deep spiritual side to *Hifzul Quran*. Remaining steadfast to *Shariat* increases *Ruhaniyat* (Spirituality) within the individual, which is necessary for *Hifz*.

Tip 4 Be Consistent

Consistency is very important for *Hifzul Quran*. It is more important for a person doing *Hifz* to do it regularly – rather than trying to do a lot without consistency. As *Rasulullah SAW* states: “The deed dearest to Allah Ta’ala is that which is most consistent, even if small.”

WISDOM GALLERY



“Allah Ta’ala takes responsibility of the livelihood of one who seeks knowledge.”

#12QCHALLENGE - UMOOR TALIMIYAH

Greetings Challenger!

Do you think you can beat the score of your friends and family in the latest #12QChallenge? Do you think you have what it takes to be named a Scholar of the Community? Scan the QR Code or Click on the Link below and find out!



<https://12qtaalmiyah.paperform.co>

A WORD FROM OUR READERS

“The Journey of Hifzul Quran”

For me, memorizing the Quran wasn’t just about reaching the destination. It became a wholistic development program for many aspects of my life. From time management to achieving my goals and from planning to execution - this journey taught me all I would need in my personal and professional life. The joy of securing my “hereafter”, by attaining Moulana’s^{TUS} *Khushi* holds an absolutely sublime feeling of accomplishment.

Husain Murtaza Bhai Quilonwala - Wafd al-Huffaz, Chennai

“Always aspiring Higher”

By the *Dua* of Aqa Moulana^{TUS} and the *Barakat* of Asharah Mubarakah, I scored 99.2 percent in the 2019 ICSE Board Exams and was ranked 3 in India. After my board exams, I was facing a dilemma - I wasn’t sure if I wanted to pursue Engineering or Medicine. However, this decision was made easy for me when I did *Araz* in *Hazrat Aaliyah* and was granted *Raza* to study medicine. This gave me a clear direction for the future as well as peace of mind. I can now fully concentrate on my studies for NEET Exams in 2021.

Husain Mufaddal Bhai Busrai - Kandivali

