

12 Umoor Newsletter

SILK-E-HAYAAT

Series 2 - Edition 1

Moharramul Haraam 1444H to Safarul Muzaffar 1444H

The Duat Mutlaqeen ^{RA} have continued to guide us through the night of *satr* towards the noor of Allah Ta'ala. This year, we witnessed their successor, Syedna Mufaddal Saifuddin ^{TUS}, enlighten the road towards salvation during Ashara Mubarakah 1444H. This edition strives to shed some light on how Mumineen *khidmatguzars* are working tirelessly to attain his khushi! May Allah grant him a long and healthy life till the day of *qayamat*!

Hussainy Masjid, London
Photo Courtesy: Misbah

LONDON ASHARA: BEHIND THE SCENES

Dr Qusai bhai Arsiwala | Project Manager for Ashara London 1444H



Q1: WHEN DID LONDON ASHARA PREPARATIONS TRULY BEGIN?

In the summer of 2018 an indication was given that London should be doing *araz* to host Ashara Mubaraka. At that time, it was only five or six weeks before Ashara and we had no idea on how to start this type of project. But through regulation bodies, government officials and council agencies, we got significant advice and doors just began to open. That year, Ashara was declared in Indore and we took the opportunity to shadow first-hand how an event like Ashara worked from an operational and management perspective. After Ashara 1440, we immediately began our journey of planning and by early 2019 we were able to get the approvals and contractors required to feel confident about our *araz* to be the host city. That year the level of preparation and planning was the most heightened it had been in the forty year history of London *tayyari*, but Ashara was announced as Colombo. Two years later in Shehrullah this year, whilst Moula was in Misr, *araz* for London Ashara was done and an instruction given to review the possibility of making this dream a reality. It seemed an impossible timeline to achieve, but we were able to reactivate the teams who had worked so hard before and we were able to reach out and use the guide that we had already made. That same blueprint that was down on paper, we revisited it and we were able to just take off from where we left. Within weeks we had got to a stage that took us six or eight months to get to last time, and that's what gave us a solid platform to be able to be confident that we could actually pull this off.

Q2. WHAT WERE SOME OF THE EXTERNAL TEAMS WHICH HELPED US MANAGE THE EVENT?

One of our main contractors was GL Events, who are one of the largest event companies in the world and were also running the Commonwealth Games at the same time as London Ashara. For them to even take this on was based on the relationship that they had with us and also the fact that we had invited them to Colombo Ashara the year that Ashara was there. They had seen the live event, they understood it, we had a relationship with them and they wanted to do this event for us and the community at large. They wanted to be part of this history. However, because of their commitments to the Commonwealth Games, they really struggled to be able to fulfill our requirements at the speed we needed. Due to our relationship, they opened their book of contacts and we took on the role internally of the 'Principal contractor'. That meant handling health and safety, the procurement of structures, utilities, regulatory agencies and the Human resource requirement that came with that. We were able to bring the right people on board and create a team that could deliver and in fact did deliver this unbelievable event.

Q3. WERE THERE ANY MIRACULOUS EVENTS THAT HAPPENED DURING THE PLANNING OF THE EVENT?

I think it's been mentioned a number of times that London Ashara in itself is a miracle. Nobody really thought it was possible, and it was not just from us. Even the external agencies, people who do this day in day out across the world, told us what we were trying to do was impossible. I can tell you that in

2022 this year, when we contacted these companies, every single one of them said it's impossible. They told us that it's not going to happen this year and emphasized that the Commonwealth Games, one of the largest events in the UK, is taking place on the same dates and will make resourcing our event almost impossible. 'You are not going to get the suppliers, you're not going to get what you need to run this type of event'. However, within 24 hours, within 48 hours, contractors just started calling us back, saying that we've looked into things, we've called a few people and somehow we think we can do this or at the very least we will give it our very best shot. Before we knew it, things started opening up. For example, the types of structures that we required for the Mawaid and kitchen were of such size and quality, that there are only three or four of them in the whole of Europe, and they are normally booked out for 9-12 months in advance. But at the last minute there was a cancellation in the two or three weeks before we needed these structures and they became available to us. Again, that was unheard of. The company that we were working with said that this has never happened before. There was also an instance the night before *pehli waaz*, that we were called to an emergency crisis

management meeting. The health and safety officers in charge of the site had made a decision. These were people that had worked with us for a long time and they were really very concerned and said to us, "We're very sorry. We never wanted to be in this position. But the site is not fit to be opened in the morning and we don't see any way that in the time left you can open for *pehli waaz*." We were completely broken as we had worked day and night for weeks and were sure we could be ready. The health and safety officials who had the authority to shut the whole site down had made it clear to us that we couldn't open. So what we then did was we sat with them and by 11pm that night we created a list of everything that needed to be done by 06:00 in the morning to be able to open. We gathered *khidmatguzars* from everywhere. We woke people up and got them to site and we did the manual labor that was required. We operated machinery onsite ourselves and using a manual labor force worked through the night. At 05:00 in the morning we completed the work on every single item on the list, and at 06:00 they inspected and they couldn't believe how much had been done in the 5-6 hours that we had. The officials deemed the site safe to be open and Ashara Mubarak commenced as per Aqa Moula's ^{TUS} will.



GLIMPSES FROM AROUND THE WORLD



Establishing a Community Hall

TAHERI MOHALLA, MUMBAI



This year, with Aqa Moula's ^{TUS} benedictions, Taheri Mohalla (Mumbai) acquired a spacious 5300 sq. ft. *markaz* hall. It can accommodate 120 *thaals*, approximately. The new markaz is favorably convenient for Mumineen to commute towards, and is provisioned with the built-in infrastructure of a *madrasa*, a kitchen and a *mawaid*! It is truly Moula's ^{TUS} miracle that, in a bustling hub like Mumbai, the development of such a vital institution was made possible. The *markaz* has already showcased its worth during Ashara Mubaraka, where instead of the usual 40 *thaals*, the count nearly doubled to 75!

Zohair BS Ezzuddin, Amil Saheb



Celebrating Independence Day

BURHANPUR

Independence Day was even more special for Mumineen *farzando* in Burhanpur as they enthusiastically participated in various cultural programs, remembering the freedom fighters and their contribution to the nation. They formed human shapes of numbers to commemorate the 75 years of Independence, spreading awareness for unity in diversity, as well as mutual growth and development for all!

Shk Husain bhai Shk Abdulhusain bhai Fakhri, Quaderia Burhani School



24-hour Noh wal Aweel Majlis

MALAD



Mumineen of Malad performed *ohbat* for Ashara Mubaraka this year by hosting a continuous 24 hour *Noh wal Aweel* majlis. About a thousand mumineen from 20 various *mohallas* attended the majlis. Respective *sadr* and *zakereen* were invited from about 10 to 12 different *mawaze*. The *tazyeen* was put up elegantly. Mumineen performed Zikre Husain ^{AS} with even greater vigor and grief during this year's Ashara Mubaraka!

Shk Mustafa Shk Shabbir Hamid, Amil Saheb

GLIMPSES FROM AROUND THE WORLD



100+ Yoga Sessions

NEW JERSEY

Every Sunday in New Jersey, Mumineen participate in a yoga and exercises session. The sessions are also broadcasted online. These sessions are conducted by experienced yoga instructors, and until now, 100 plus sessions have already been held. Elderly Mumineen in particular have participated with great enthusiasm.

Shk Abbas bhai Salim, Umoor al-Sehat Coordinator



Friday Stalls

KANDIVALI



Mumineen and Muminaat set up stalls twice a month on Fridays in the Masjid complex in Kandivali. The stalls timings are from 11am to 3pm. They remain closed however for 45 mins in between, during *namaz* time. Setting up stalls in this manner has brought *barakat* to Mumineen's businesses. Likewise Muminaat have found a platform to showcase their potential. Overall, Jumoa *namaz* attendance has increased through this program!

Shk Moiz bhai Vajihi, Amil Saheb



Spreading 12 Umoor Awareness

AHMEDABAD

Approximately 15 minutes prior to Ashara Mubaraka *mawaiz* this year, a 12 Umoor presentation was displayed in Ahmedabad. The presentation described the scope of *khidmat* falling under each of the 12 Umoor. This aided a clearer understanding of 12 Umoor amongst Mumineen. The display of other such videos are planned for upcoming *mawaqit* as well!

Abbasali Bheranwala, Umoor Mawarid Bashariyah Coordinator

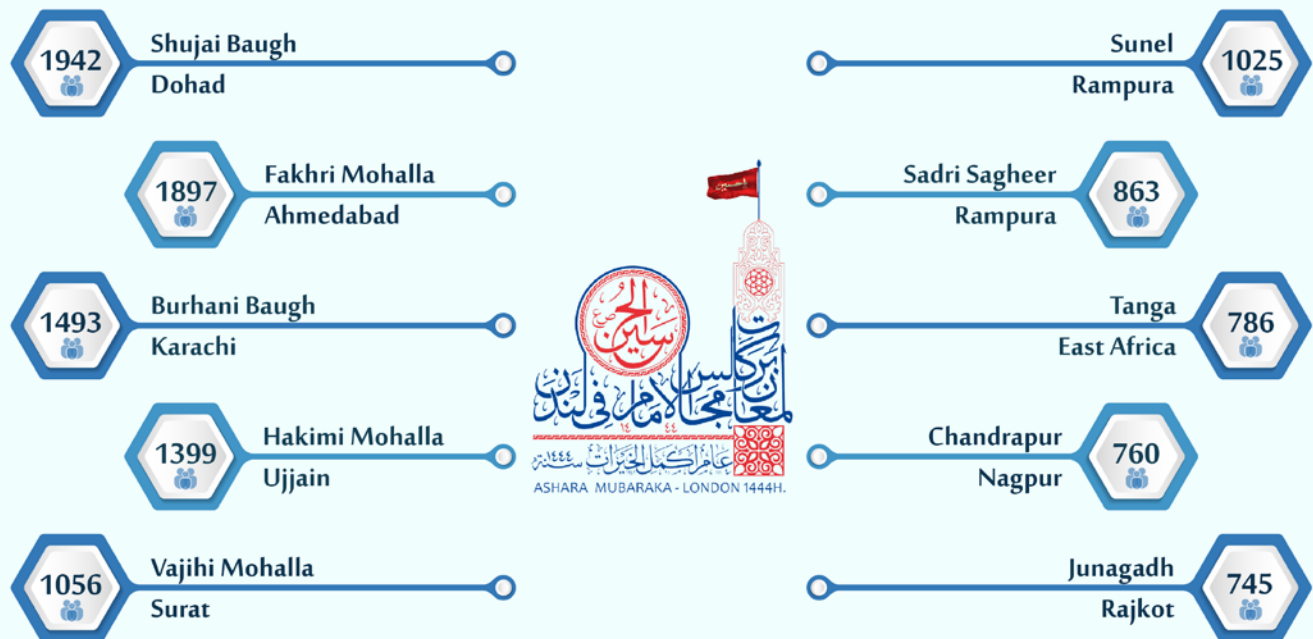
12 Umoor Khidmat		
Aqa Maula (TUS): Har Mumin Khidmatguzaar Hoi		
<u>Umoor Diniyah</u>	<u>Umoor Taalimiyah</u>	<u>Umoor Dakheliyah</u>
Shariyah Pabandi All Religious / Spiritual Activities	All Education Activity including Deen & Dunyah	Internal Affairs, IT Communication Activity
<u>Umoor Maliyah</u>	<u>Umoor Faizul Mawaid il Burhaniyah</u>	<u>Umoor Iqtisadiyah</u>
Accounts & Financial Activities	All Niyaz Activity	Qardan Hasana & Business Development
<u>Umoor Marafiq Burhaniyah</u>	<u>Umoor Qaza</u>	<u>Umoor Amlaak</u>
Upliftment & Welfare Activity	Law & justice Activity	Trust & Properties Activity
<u>Umoor Kharejiyah</u>	<u>Umoor Sehat</u>	<u>Umoor Mawarid Bashariyah</u>
External Affairs, Relation with Govt. Beuracarts	Health & Hygeine	Human Resource Activity

GLOBAL LEADERBOARD - TOP 10

Mawaze with Perfect Haziri in Ashara Mubarak 1444

Here are 10 *mawaze* who have seen complete participation by Mumineen in Ashara Mubarak 1444H. All of the *mawaze* had a hundred percent *haziri* in all *majalis*. Note: The *mawaze* are ranked according to their size.

Some smaller *mawaze* with perfect *haziri* have not been mentioned in this list.



Syedna Mohammed Burhanuddin's *tahqeeq* of the location of Rasul Imam Husain in Ashkelon, Israel

During his visit to Ashkelon, Syedna Mohammed Burhanuddin ^{RA} asked the Masjid's *imam*, Sheikh Abdul Qadir, about the location of Rasul Imam Husain. The *sheikh* replied that a hospital had been built near the actual location. Syedna asked the *sheikh* to accompany him and upon arriving, the *sheikh* pointed to a small, grassy hill with no signage. The *sheikh* said that this hill is the location of Rasul Imam Husain. Syedna Mohammed Burhanuddin ^{RA} asked, "Is this truly the location?" The *sheikh* replied, "Yes, this is it." Syedna Mohammed Burhanuddin ^{RA} said, "There used to be an ocean here." The *sheikh* immediately gestured in front of the hill and said, "The ocean is just ahead." Syedna Mohammed Burhanuddin ^{RA} then stood upon a *masalla* and declared that "This is truly the location of Rasul Imam Husain." The *sheikh* repeated, "I swear to Allah, this is the location of Rasul Imam Husain." Syedna Mohammed Burhanuddin ^{RA} prayed *namaaz* and gave the *sheikh* two *qasida mubarak* to pray. After praying the two *qasida mubarak*, the *sheikh* said, "Mabrook Mabrook! Your words are pure, your thoughts are pure, your heart is pure, your tongue is pure and your actions are pure!" After that trip, Syedna Mohammed Burhanuddin ^{RA} built a *mashad* on that location which we know today as the *mashad* of Rasul Imam Husain ^{AS}.



SILK-E-HAYAAT ARCHIVES

