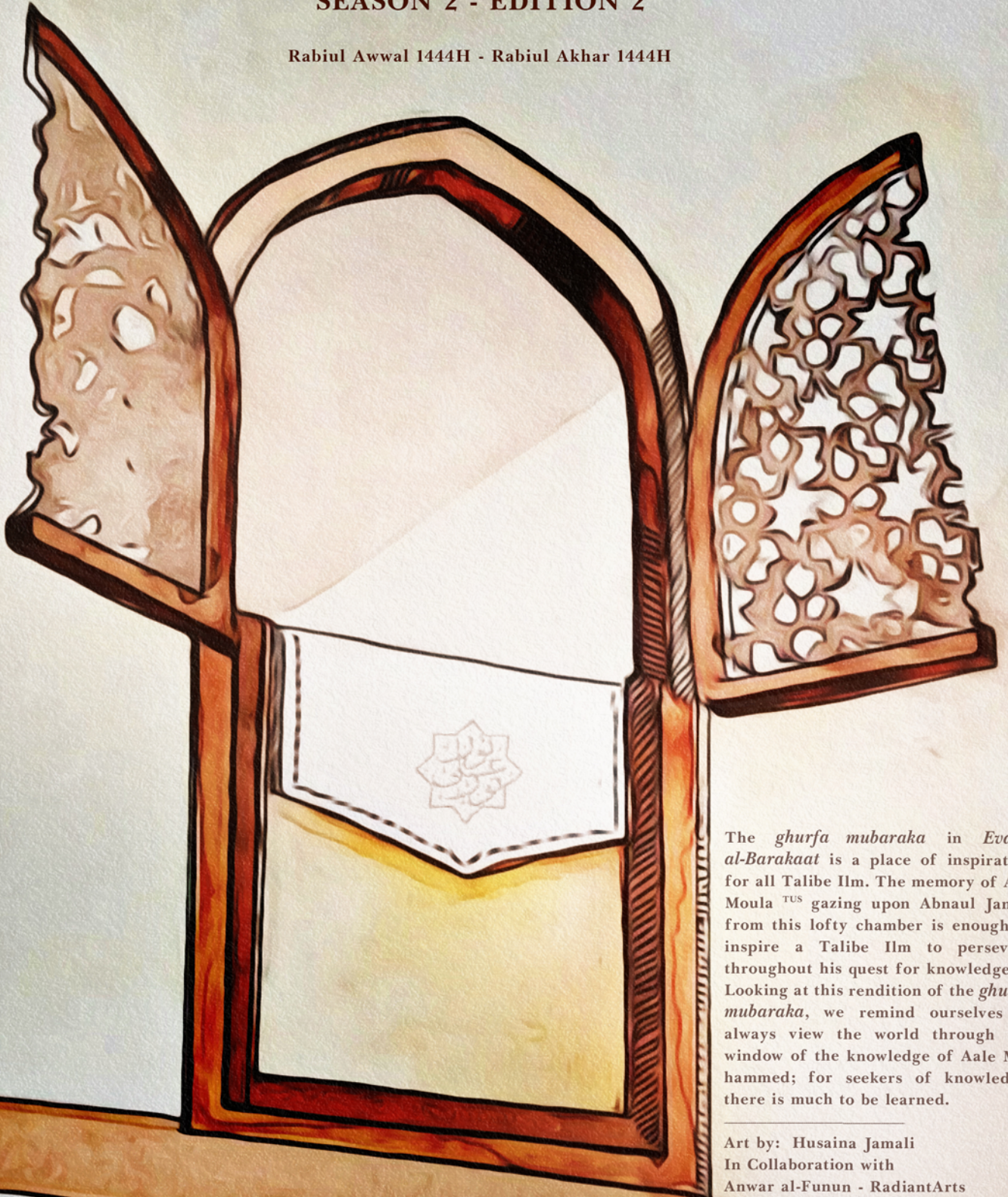


Rabiul Awwal 1444H - Rabiul Akhar 1444H



Art by: Husaina Jamali
In Collaboration with
Anwar al-Funun - RadiantArts

ISTEFADA ILMIYAH: BEHIND THE SCENES

Abdeabiturab BS Shakir | Sigatul Amalat, Badri Mahal, Mumbai



How did the concept of Istefada Ilmiyah develop to what it is today?

I would say that the concept of Istefada Ilmiyah has developed over the years directly as per the directives of Aqa Moula^{TUS}.

It all started in the year 1438, when Shehzada Husain Bhaisaheb Burhanuddin Saheb^{DM} instructed me that it was Aqa Moula's *khushi* that *asbaaq* be organized for the *khidmatguzar* of Dawat. The event later took place as Istefada Ilmiyah, in which *Umaal Kiraam* came from all over the world to participate in seeking knowledge once again under the cool shade of Aljamea tus Saifiyah. The next year, for the first time - *Khidmatguzaro* from all Idaras came together to receive the *barakat* of Istefada Ilmiyah. During that time, we were informed that it was Aqa Moula's^{TUS} *khushi* that even Mumineen participate in these *asbaaq*. Thus *asbaaq* were held for Mumineen that year in the last two days before Milaad.

From the coming year (1440H), registration was put into place for Istefada Ilmiyah to better plan for the ever growing number of participants. That year, I got the *azeem sharaf* to do *araz* to Aqa Moula that more than 5000 Mumineen had attended Istefada Ilmiyah that year, to which he smiled and said "Can that be doubled next year?". Undertaking the *khidmat* of organizing the event, our team took a while to figure out whether so many Mumineen would opt to attend, and secondly whether or not we would be

able to accommodate them. However with the Dua Mubarak of Aqa Moula^{TUS}, everything fell into place and thousands of Mumineen took part in this occasion. This year the attendees of Istefada Ilmiyah will near 30,000, an unprecedented amount made possible only through Aqa Moula's^{TUS} wishes.

How are the venues of Istefada Ilmiyah prepared?

Every year, there is an increasing number of Mumineen who participate in this event and so venues are allotted a specific amount of people as per their capacity. Initially, *asbaaq* were only held in Aljamea tus Saifiyah, but over the years the venues expanded to cover Begumwaari, Khaimat al-Riyazat and the surrounding Masajid in the vicinity. Approximately 20,000+ Mumineen were present this year during Phase 2 to partake in the *barakaat* of Istefada Ilmiyah. To accommodate this number, a total of 53 sites had been allocated for this occasion out of which a few Masajid had also been converted into venues including Rehmatpura and Gopipura, whereas the grounds outside of Cotton Mills were used as venues for the first time ever. We have also tried that *niyaaz* be made available at maximum venues to make it easier for Mumineen.

A major challenge in planning for Istefada Ilmiyah is that *asbaaq* venues are different from venues used for *Mawaiz* or *Majlis* in which a large number of people can be accommodated in one single place. The nature of *asbaaq* deems it nec-

essary that smaller groups are formed, thus increasing the amount of additional planning and logistics required in combining timetables and teachers for each specific group. For this reason, along with preexisting venues, new venues were also created to be taken into use. For example, marquees were set up in a plot in Begumwaari to transform it into an adequate site.

Furthermore, space allocation is not all. Venues also need to be equipped with AV equipment, sufficient lighting, air conditioning, ventilation, as well as HR personnel to make sure that Muminen are comfortable at the venue. Over time we have learnt that if venues are not comfortable, it has a large impact on the overall experience of the listener and so we have tried to improve the system over time.

How many organizers were involved in the management of such multiple venues?

Until now, we had a core organizing team consisting of 3-4 members who would altogether troubleshoot and handle all managerial aspects. However, considering the size and scope of the event that Istefada Ilmiyah has developed into, we have organized several teams to manage this event. This year, the venues were divided into 12 main zones and each zone was captained by a member of Kothar Mubarak along with a coordinator from Toloba. Likewise each venue had its dedicated IT team as well as members from BGI, FMB (to serve refreshments) as well as Umoor al-Sehhat. Additionally *khidmatguzaro* from Kothar Mubarak and other Idaras are assigned

departments to organize every aspect of the event on a central level.

These *khidmatguzaro* work continuously both on field and out to ensure the best possible experience for Istefada in all phases.

How is the *halqa* system managed?

Halqas or groups are created on the basis of the *hadd* of each Mumin. Our team studies the data of every registree and assigns them a group as per the *kutub* that they have studied from in the past. Simultaneously, lists of proposed teachers for each group are presented in Hazrat Aaliyah with their photographs. Teachers are finalized as per the *raza* of Aqa Moula^{TUS}.

What is the main concern for *khidmatguzaro* organizing the event?

Over the years, Istefada Ilmiyah has developed into an event almost as big as Ashara Mubarak in scope. It is always our foremost concern that we manage to cater to the comforts of every Mumin, so that they can devote their time and efforts to the seeking of knowledge. In a way, Muminen previously used to engage in *ibadat amaliyah* for 40 days during *ayyaam al-tabbuddaat*. Today they engage in both *ibadat amaliyah* and *ibadat ilmiyah* in the *ayyaam* leading up to Milaad! Istefada Ilmiyah has now become an integral part of celebrating Milaad Mubarak. My understanding has only gotten stronger over the years that the way Istefada Ilmiyah is being conducted today would not have been possible without the guidance and dua of Aqa Moula^{TUS}! May Allah grant him a long and healthy life!



اس قراءت سے سبق انسانیت کا جو پڑے رفت و اعزاز کی سیڑھی بہ آسانی چڑھے

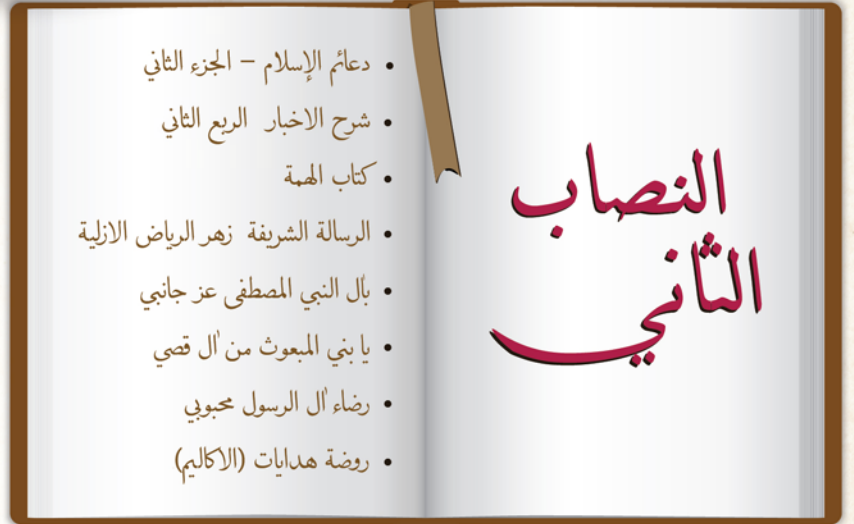


The *kutub* of Dawat have been divided into 7 Nisaab (syllabuses) so that each and every Mumin can get the opportunity to study from the *Ilm* of Aale Moahammed! This illustration sheds some light on the intricacies of each syllabus. May Allah Ta'ala grant us the perseverance to complete them all!



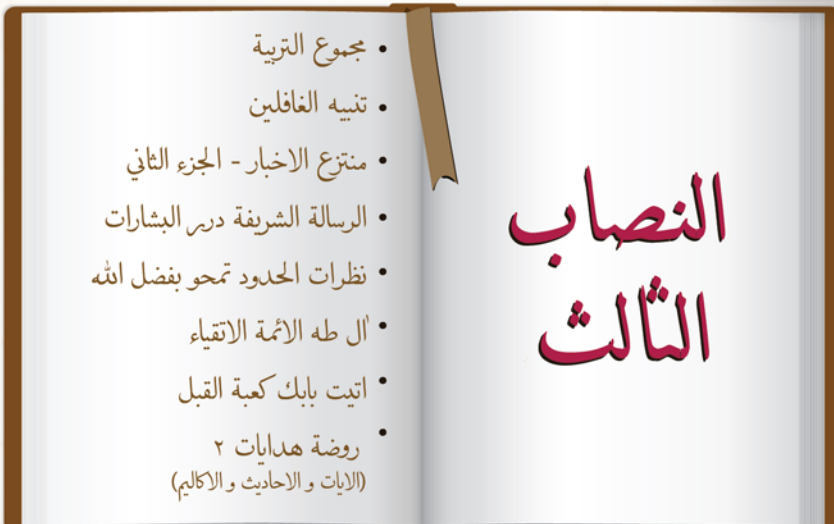
Completed
18,470

Ongoing
1,26,128



Completed
8,288

Ongoing
28,083



Completed
3,713

Ongoing
20,535

Completed
1,935

Ongoing
12,140

النصاب الرابع

- أساس التأويل
- منتزع الاخبار - الجزء الأول
- الرسالة الشريفة - ذات البركة
- هلم الى الأرض المقدسة التي
- من ترى ذا نصر المختار فيما وضعه
- لم لا نجيب على التحقيق داعينا
- يا طيب العصر طيب طوبى
- روضة هدايات ٢
- (اقوال الائمة الطاهرين الى الاخر)

النصاب الخامس

- تأويل الدعائم الجزء الأول
- كتاب المناقب والمثالب
- افتتاح الدعوة
- الرسالة الشريفة - روض عالم القدس
- نهوض المطايا هيج الدنف الصبا
- مدح بني الزهراء خط على العرش
- اهل بيت النبي خذوا بيدي
- روضة هدايات ٣
- (الايات والاحاديث والاكليم)

Completed
714

Ongoing
4,657

Completed
534

Ongoing
7,733

النصاب السادس

- أساس التأويل
- تأويل الدعائم الجزء الثاني
- اخوان الصفاء - الجزء الاول
- الرسالة الشريفة - غرة الحق
- كتاب المجالس والمسائرات
- امحض ولاء بني النبي واخلص
- فديتك يا طيب العترة
- روضة هدايات ٣
- (اقوال الائمة الطاهرين الى الاخر)

النصاب السابع

- المجالس المؤيدية - ١
- اخوان الصفاء الجزء الثاني
- كتاب المصاييح
- كتاب العالم والغلام
- شرح الاخبار ٩-١٦

Completed
144

Ongoing
1530

GLIMPSES FROM AROUND THE WORLD



Comprehensive Business Counseling

MISSISSAUGA



Members of Umoor Iqtesadiyah (Mississauga) provide counseling and assistance to a diverse array of businesses.

Recently, a speaker gave a seminar on "Using Social Media to promote business". For the development of Home industries, a special 3 hour seminar was held, likewise Mumineen who have recently begun their business journey, attain essential counseling.

FINANCE & BUSINESS
DEVELOPMENT

Shaikh Abrar bhai Khurshid bhai Ammarwala, Umoor Iqtesadiyah Coordinator



Mohabbat ni Roti

MULTAN

Rotis were not included in the menu until recently in Multan. However, during the worldwide 4 day distribution programme, Mume-naat participated in the roti preparation khidmat. This *barakat* reverberated up to the point that, currently *roti* is sent 5 days a week! Both the young and the elderly have come together to make this possible!

FAIZ AL MAWAID
AL BURHANIYAH

Hasan M. Habib Husain, Faizul Mawaidil Burhaniyah Secretary



HR Training for Potential HR *khidmatguzars*

FATEMI MOHALLA, MUMBAI



A training and development session for youngsters was held in Fatemi Mohalla Mumbai, by members of Umoor Mawarid al Bashariyah.

Discussions pertaining to the organizational importance of HR, scope of work and its division, took place. Followed by a Q/A session.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Mulla Shabbir bhai Shaikh Ibrahim bhai Motiwala, 12 Umoor Member

GLIMPSES FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Revision of Ashara Mubarakah Mawaiz Nooraniyah

MAROL

Members of the Aqeeq committee in Marol organized an exhibition in Saifee Masjid on the topic of *Ajibto*. Individual tents were dedicated to each *hadeeth* / *kalaam*, wherein short skits, games, quizzes and activities were incorporated to explain each *hadeeth* / *kalaam* respectively. The exhibition started with the Nazafat tent and concluded with the Food Plaza tent, organized by "The Marol Marketplace Cafe". All in all, the program was a successful revision of the Asharah Mawaiz Nooraniyah 1444h, as well as a recreational (change to) refreshing experience for Mumineen.

Ummesalama Madarwala, Aqeeq Secretary



World Food Day

HONG KONG



Under the initiative of Project Rise, food packets were distributed in Hong Kong on World Food Day, amongst underprivileged school children.

An estimate of 80 food packets were distributed, which consisted of oats, pasta, corn kernels, mushrooms, biscuits, jam, Oreo cookies, chocolate etc.

Mulla Taher bhai Shaikh Abdulqadir bhai Muchhala, Faizul Mawaidil Burhaniyah Secretary



Family Sports

MELBOURNE

A family sports day was organized in Melbourne. Diverse games and activities were hosted, such as relay race, tug of war, long jump, 100m race etc. Participants reported enjoying the event thoroughly!



Mustafa Ratlamwala, Umoor Mawarid Bashariyah Coordinator

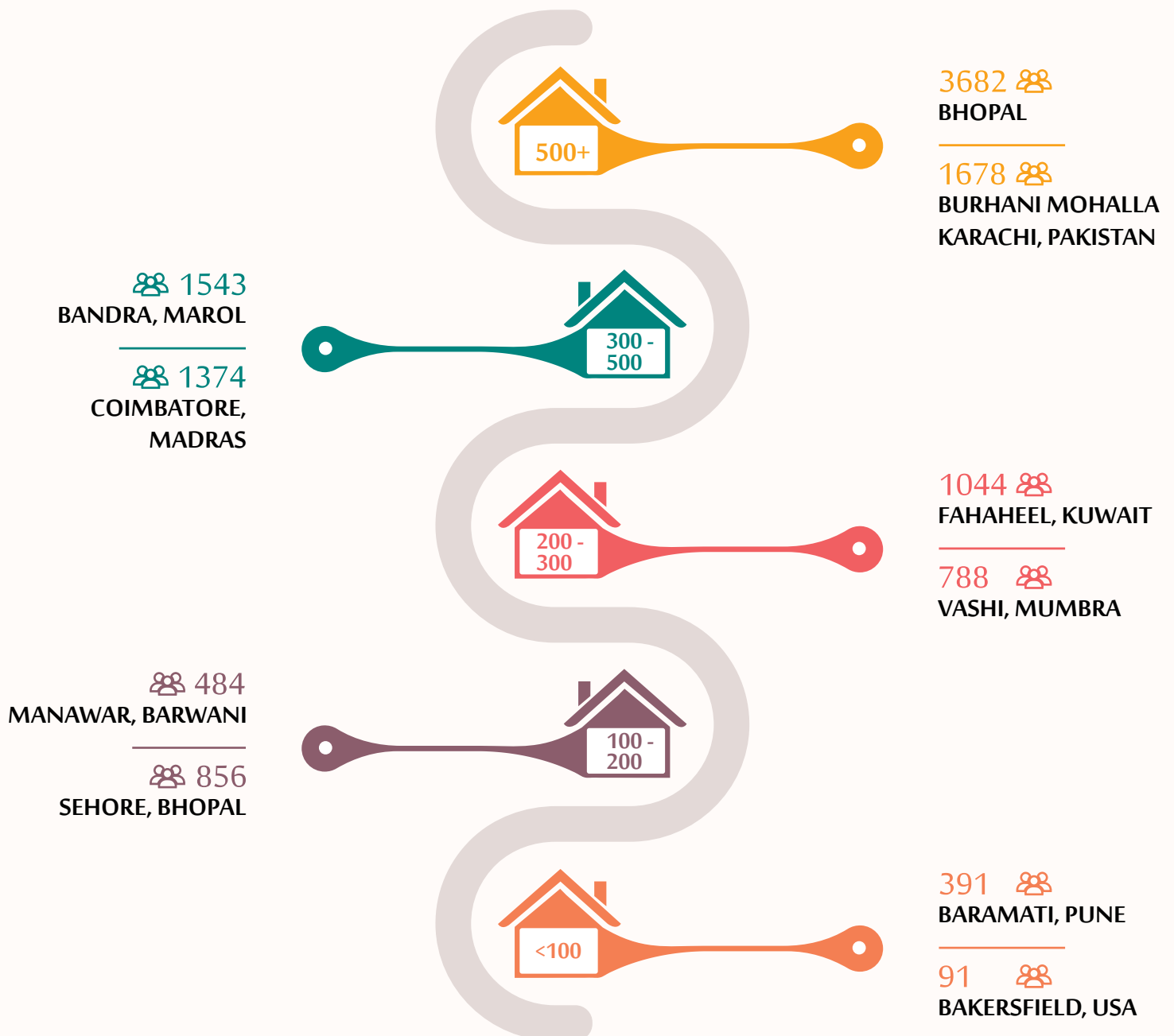
GLOBAL LEADERBOARD - TOP 10

10 *Mawaze* with the highest participation in Nisaab 1 and Nisaab 2 (Asbaaq)

Our goal as a community is to reach 80 percent participation in Nisaab 1 and 2 by the 80th Milaad of Aqa Moula ^{TUS}! Here are 10 *mawaze* which are leading the world in this aspect.

Note: This list mentions only the top 2 in each category as per *mouze* size.

- Above 500 houses
- 300 - 500 houses
- 200 - 300 houses
- 100 - 200 houses
- Below 100 houses



Data as provided by Umaal Kiraam as of 13th November, 2022



THE 'ART' OF LEARNING: LEARNING ART

People use various creative outlets to express their emotions and subjectively represent their world. Art, in all its uncountable forms, is one such outlet. We only have to observe ourselves and our surroundings for an inexhaustible source of artistic inspiration.

Allah Subhanahu's Creation sets the bar for artistic and creative perfection: perfection expressed in Arabic as *itqaan*. The Noble Quran states:

صَنَّ اللَّهُ الَّذِي أَتَقَنَ كُلَّ شَيْءٍ

(Such is) the artistry and work of Allah, who disposes of all things in perfect order (Q 27:88)

Therefore, it is incumbent upon a artisan or craftsman to observe Allah's Creation that He has so perfected, with an eye to improve his or her craft further. There is no limit to benefitting from His *itqaan*, and the more one observes the more one understands and progresses.

Rasul Allah ^{SAW} has stated:

“ان الله يحب الصانع المتقن في صنعة”

“Certainly, Allah loves a skilled craftsman who perfects his craft.”

Through continuous effort and dedication, one can aspire to reach *itqaan* in one's art, infusing a kind of spirituality in it. This spirituality then further facilitates the development of technical mastery, making it a worthy conduit to seek Allah Subhanahu's assistance and grace. RadiantArts, in its humble capacity, sees itself as a motivator, facilitator and promoter in the *itqaan* journeys of Dawoodi Bohra fine artists, calligraphers and photographers associated with the platform. It helps them express themselves creatively, gives them a stage that values their work and encourages their craft-related growth.

Al-Dai al-Ajal al-Fatimi Syedna Mufaddal Saifuddin ^{TUS} states the following:

“علم حاصل كرمي نے تمیں سگلا هر علم انے هنرما
پر پھنچو”

Syedna al-Dai al-Ajal ^{TUS} expressed this statement in the Umoor Talimiyah bethak held in Khandala on 29th Shawwal al-Mukarram 1442/ 9th June 2021. This noble directive encapsulates the teachings on *itqaan* in the *ayat shareefah* and *hadith mubarak* mentioned previously. It enjoins us to continuously learn and re-learn if we are to have a chance at reaching the top of our crafts. Enhancing our *itqaan* is essential to represent our community well and optimise our potential to achieve prosperity.

RadiantArts believes that honing one's craft can help Mumineen artists reach the top of their fields, not only within the community but on national and international platforms as well. An effective way of enhancing *itqaan* is by coming together with like-minded artists who share similar passions. To this end, RadiantArts offers a number of workshops from time to time to help artists progress on their *itqaan* journeys and welcomes them to explore such options on its Instagram handle @radiantarts.workshops. Looking forward to learning together, the platform bids all creatives welcome!

Ruqaiyah Jariwala

SILK-E-HAYAAT ARCHIVES

