

SILK-E-HAYAAT

Season 2 | Edition 4 | English

Rajabul Asab 1444H to Shehre Ramadan al-Moazzam 1444H

باغِ یمن و خیر میں کھلتی رہے یہ جامعہ
آپ علم و فن سے بس پھلتی رہے یہ جامعہ

راہِ عز و جاہ پر چلتی رہے یہ جامعہ
کوہِ حلم و رفق پر چڑھتی رہے یہ جامعہ

Standing in the courtyard of Al Jamea tus Saifiyah is a replica of the *Minaret* of al-Jame al-Anwar alluding to the academy being a repository of the intellectual and cultural heritage of the Fatimi Aimmat ^{AS}. While admiring this beautiful structure, it can take one to the past - all the way back to the golden era of al-Qahera being a centre of Islamic education and *sagafat*, just as Al Jamea tus Saifiyah is today.

THE MAKING OF A DREAM: AL JAMEA TUS SAIFIYAH (MAROL)

Sh. Juzer bhai Chawala | Chief Architect for Al Jamea tus Saifiya (Marol)



How special was it to be an important part of the construction of Al Jamea - Marol?

I was not fortunate enough to have been able to study in this great institution, but it will produce great individuals who will one day become *khidmatguzaars*, *moallims*, *amils*, administrators, managers, and *waezeen*, making a huge contribution to society. Being a part of their journey in a small way by creating the ambiance and structure that will house them during their formative years is a significant privilege in my life. Until the day this building stands, I shall partake in those blessings, inshallah. Once again, *alhamdulillah*, *shukran lillah*."

What were the biggest challenges that were faced in fulfilling this massive task?

During the past ten years, there were many different kinds of obstacles that we had to overcome.

One of the first challenges was incorporating the institute's requirements in the limited space that we had. Designing the first such space in Mumbai, with state-of-the-art facilities was a humongous task.

The land that we worked on is a contoured slope with many different levels. Keeping those natural elements in mind, we wanted to design a structure that would complement the topography of the land and help us create something beautiful, functional, and sustainable.

While designing the building, discussions during the project briefings resulted in the decision that the complete building should be qibla-facing. Again, the direction of the plot and this vision was

challenging, but with Aqa Moula's ^{TUS} *nazar* and *dua*, everything fit into place like it was destined to.

Obtaining approvals for a complex project like this was a herculean task. However, every dilemma was solved - one step at a time, and we were able to complete this once-in-a-lifetime project as envisioned by Moula."

How was the construction of Al Jamea different from other construction projects?

In general, when constructing a building, the focus is often on profit, whether it be a residential, commercial, or educational project, or a service-oriented facility like a hospital. For builders, there is a business aspect to it. The purpose is usually for worldly aspirations, such as comfort, health, livelihood, and leisure.

However, Al Jamea is not just any structure; it is an educational institute where the design elements within its walls have a direct impact on the soul, spirituality, and the betterment of one's being. Its foundation and formation are conceptualized on the belief and upliftment of the individuals that are part of this institute and who are closely bound to it.

The focus of this project was not just to provide education, comfort, livelihood, health, and leisure, but to design a building with no profit or gain in mind. The design elements were intended solely for the benefit of the end-users, creating an environment that fosters spiritual growth and enhances learning. The use of intricate calligraphy, Islamic

geometry, and ornamental design elements were carefully selected to create an environment that is both aesthetically pleasing and spiritually uplifting. The building itself was to be a constant reminder that the Quran is the source of all learning. Designing such a building with a focus solely on the end-user was a unique pleasure that allowed us to achieve the best possible results, creating an ambience and environment that is truly one of a kind.

What research or preparation went into merging the different Fatemi Architectural elements into a modern and futuristic edifice?

As an architectural consultant, we worked on the different proportions and scales to make sure that the different Fatemi design elements and details chosen and given by the Funoon Department were incorporated in the design seamlessly. The Funoon Department also provided extensive guidance on the use of calligraphy throughout the building.

We studied an extensive variety of materials and their sustainable uses, to create a look that infused traditional with modern elements that helped bring out the aesthetics of the edifice and maintain a green outlook as per the norms today.

Some of the examples are: the merging of Bab al-Zuwayla with stone cladding and modern facade of glass and GRC. In the courtyard, we have infused gold leafing on calligraphy with glass, which has not been done before.

What are some of the state of the art technologies that have been used or installed in Al Jamea, Marol?

When we started working on the project 10 years

ago, the first thing we realized is that due to the contour of the land that we had to work with, it would be difficult to detail out the different levels in any kind of 2D software that were used extensively at that time.

As such, we adopted a new platform called BIM (building information modeling). This was a relatively new technology especially in India. The entire project was designed on the software.

The entire Al Jamea campus is equipped with a Building Management System (BMS), which ensures a seamless and guided flow of movement throughout the premises. One of the critical design considerations was to maintain gender separation, and the paths of male and female students have been carefully designed to prevent any intersection while still allowing for equal access to all areas of the campus. The campus also facilitates shoeless movement, ensuring the cleanliness and hygiene of the spaces. With the BMS in place, the movement of students, faculty, and staff is streamlined, safe, and efficient, creating a conducive environment for learning and personal development. The building is also made future ready, so that any new technology and any future requirements can be added successfully. In the auditorium, we have provided facilities that can connect all four Jameas to each other.

While designing the building, a detailed climate, wind and sun analysis was conducted to make the building as sustainable and environmental friendly as possible. Other sustainability aspects include a STP (sewage treatment plant), rainwater harvesting, and organic waste disposal to make fertilizer that can be reused within the premises.

DID YOU KNOW?

UNIQUE FACTS ABOUT AL JAMEA MAROL

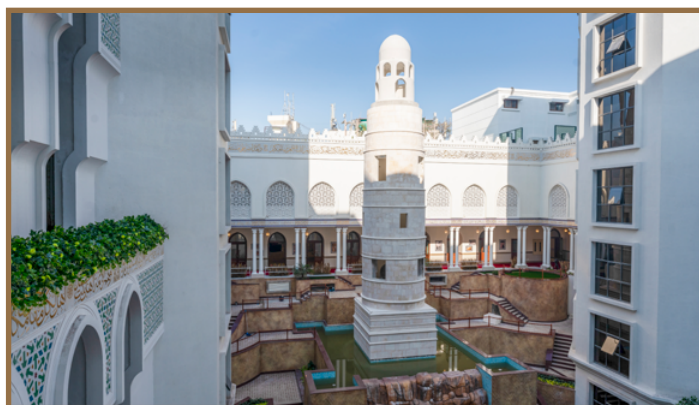


1. The *masjid* of the Al Jamea Tus Saifiyah (Marol) campus replicates the design and architecture of al-Jame al-Azhar.

2. The Ewan of Al Jamea Tus Saifiyah (Marol) is infused with design elements from the mausoleum of three Du'at Multaqeen ^{RA} interred in Ujjain: the 39th Dai Syedna Ibrahim Vajihuddin ^{RA}, the 40th Dai Syedna Hebatullah al-Muayyad fi al-Din ^{RA} and the 47th Dai Syedna Abdulqadir Najmuddin ^{RA}.

3. In Marol, the Mahad building, the Ewan and the masjid are interconnected through a series of doors and walkways and thus form one continuous space allowing for both the fluid motion of people as well as the continuity of symbolic significance across all three buildings.

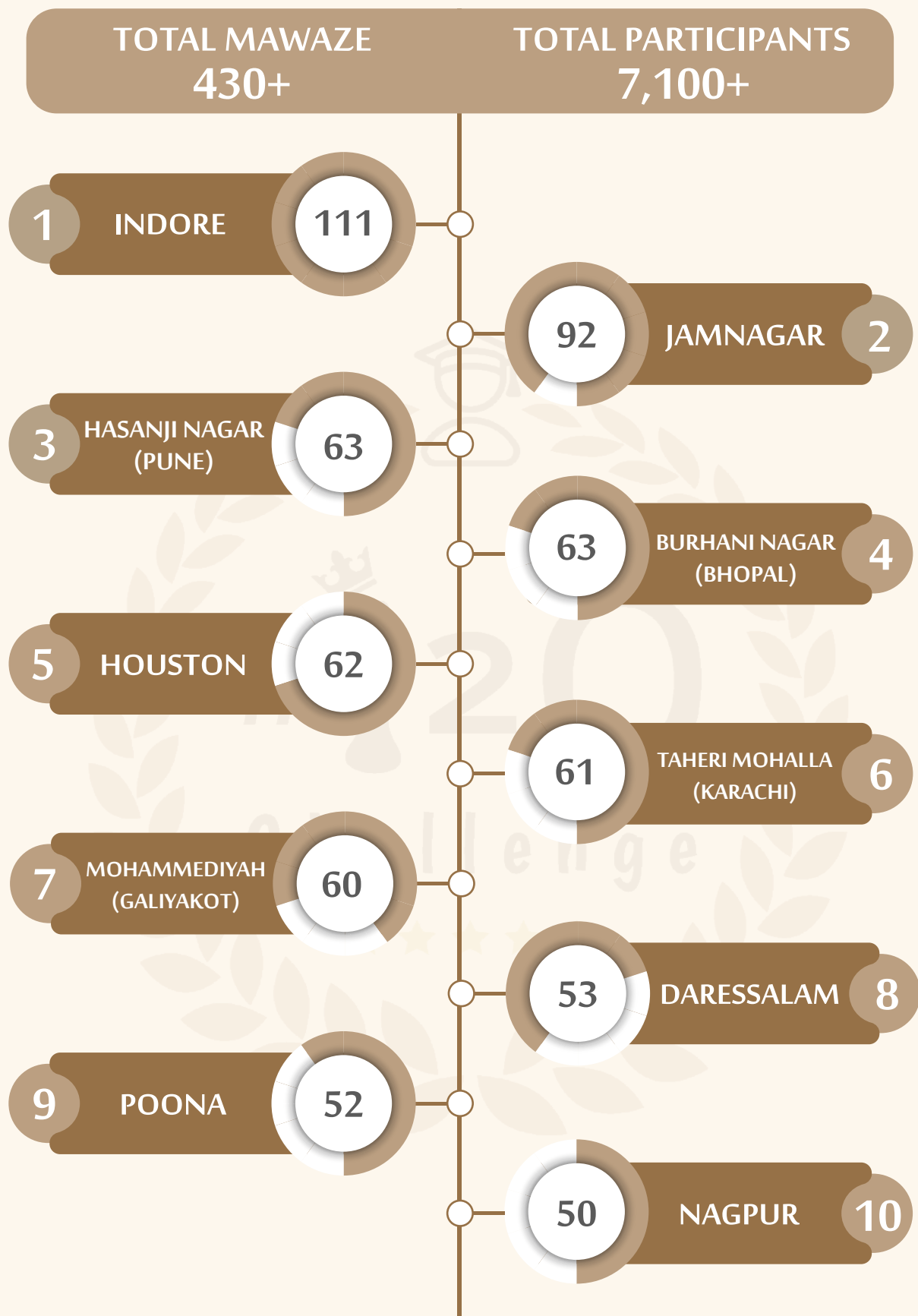
4. The *sahat* in Mumbai features a step garden consisting of eleven levels signifying the maximum of eleven years which students spend at the academy.



10 MAWAZE WITH THE HIGHEST PARTICIPATION IN 12 UMOOR IMTEHAAN

Aqa Moula ^{TUS} graciously gave *raza mubarak* to 12 Umoor members to participate in this year's Imtehaan in their own home towns. 12 Umoor members gathered in their local Masajid on the 8th of Rajab to attempt the 90 minute paper.

Here's a list of the Mawaze with the highest number of participants!



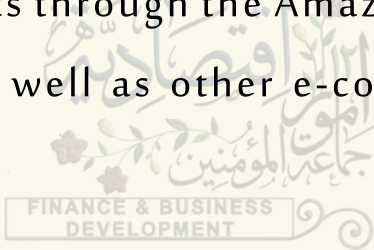
GLIMPSES FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Amazon Boot Camp

DALLAS



The Umoor Iqtesadiyah Committee in Dallas, organised a 2-day Amazon bootcamp. It outlined how one can scale his/her business to greater heights through the Amazon platform, as well as other e-commerce options.



Shk Taha bhai Shk Fakhruddin bhai Jamali, Amil saheb

Analyzing Mawaqet Data

ABBASIYAH, KUWAIT



Attendance data for Mawaqet Deeniyah is analyzed in the Abbasiyah Mohalla of Kuwait to allow the Jamaat to provide assistance to Mumeneen to attend Mawaqet as well as cater to their Niyaz requirements.



M Shabbir bhai Semariwala, Umoor Dakheliyah Coordinator

GLIMPSES FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Saifee Burhani Sports Olympiad

CHITTAGONG, BANGLADESH



On the auspicious occasion of Aqa Moula's ^{TUS} 80th Milad Mubarak, Umoor al-Sehhat and Tolaba members of Chittagong organised the Saifee Burhani Sports Olympiad to promote community health awareness. Sports competitions like futsal, walkathon, carrom, gully cricket, and badminton were held. Mumineen of all age groups who participated in this Olympiad also performed a pledge to abstain from *moharramaat*.

Aliasger bhai Kapadia, Umoor al-Sehhat Member

An Outing for the Elderly

FATEMI MOHALLA, PUNE



Umoor al Marafiq al Burhaniyah Committee and Daerat al Aqeeq khidmatguzars of Fatemi Mohalla, Pune, organised an outing for elderly Mumineen. They dined at a restaurant and participated in some fun activities and games. Many of them had not experienced such an outing in years.



M Shabbir bhai Bhaba, Umoor Marafiq Burhaniyah Coordinator

GLIMPSES FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Moharramaat Barnamaj

THANE



Following Aqa Moula's ^{TUS} counsel on abstaining from *moharramaat*, a meeting was called for parents, and school-going and college-going students in Thane. During the meeting, students and parents discussed the harm in using these substances.



Shabbir bhai Vohra, Umoor Deeniyah Coordinator

Exhibition on the History of Raas al-Imam Husain ^{AS}

TANGA



An exhibition was prepared on the history of Imam Husain's ^{AS} Raas Mubarak in Tanga. Mumineen attended the program about this historical journey with great enthusiasm.

Hashim bhai bin Abizer BS Moiny , Amil saheb

SILK-E-HAYAAT ARCHIVES

