

L A Special Bulletin

Magazine / 1439 Issue (September/October 2018)

**“Read! In the Name of your Lord who has created
all that exists.” (Al Qur’aan 96:1)**

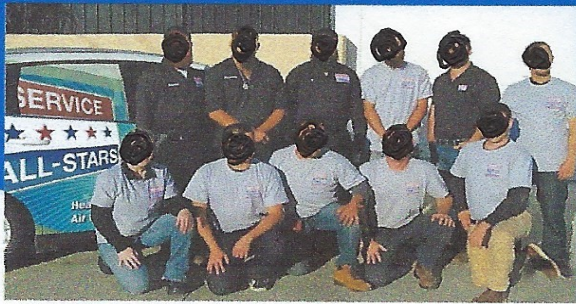
“He has taught man that which he knew not.”

(Al Qur’aan 96:5)

**“...and say: “My Lord !
Increase me in knowledge.”
(Al Qur’aan 20:114) P. 12**

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From the Publisher

August 30, 2018

As-salaamu-alaikum. Indeed, all praise is for Allaah; we praise Him, and we seek His help and we seek His forgiveness.

And we seek refuge in Allaah(Azza wa Jal) from the wickedness of ourselves and from our evils deeds.

Whoever Allaah guides, none can misguide him and whoever He misguides (leaves to go astray) none can guide him.

And I testify that there is no deity who has the right to be worshipped except Allaah alone, and there are no partners for Him.

And I testify that Muhammad (Peace be upon him) is His slave and Messenger.

O you who believe! Fear Allâh (by doing all that He has ordered and by abstaining from all that He has forbidden) as He should be feared. [Obey Him, be thankful to Him, and remember Him always], and die not except in a state of Islâm [as Muslims (with complete submission to Allâh)]. (Aal 'Imraan 3:102)

O mankind! Be dutiful to your Lord, Who created you from a single person (Adam), and from him (Adam) He created his wife [Hawwa (Eve)], and from them both He created many men and women; and fear Allâh through Whom you demand (your mutual rights), and (do not cut the relations of) the wombs (kinship). Surely, Allâh is Ever an All-Watcher over you. (An-Nisaa' 4:1)

O you who believe! Keep your duty to Allâh and fear Him and speak (always) the truth. (70) He will direct you to do righteous charitable deeds and will forgive you your sins. And whosoever obeys Allâh and His Messenger (SAW) he has indeed achieved a great achievement (i.e. he will be saved from the Hell-fire and will be admitted to Paradise). (Al-Ahzaab 33:70-71)

To proceed: Indeed, the most truthful Speech is the Book of Allaah,

And the best guidance is the guidance of Muham-

mad (Peace be upon him).

And the worst affairs are the newly invented matters (in Deen).

Every newly invented matter is a religious innovation,

And every religious innovation is misguidance,

And every misguidance is in the Hellfire.

Well, time for back to school already. Some of us are still at Hajj and most of us (in Los Angeles) are recovering from the "1st 10 Days of Dhul Hijjah" and Eidul Adhaa worship and practices. May Allaah(Azza wa Jal) accept our ibaadah. However, since tomorrow is not promised to anyone, I thought that now is the time to dive into some additional realistic beliefs and actions which we all should have. But first I have to say that I am speaking to myself above all, and then to our readers.

A Muslim says "laa ilaha ill Allah" which means there is none worthy of worship in truth except Allaah. There are two parts because in the intent there is the affirmation and negation. We believe that Allah is the Almighty Creator in our affirmation and we reject all others in worship except Him. Allaah says, "So know (O Muhammad SAW) that Lâ ilâha ill-allâh (none has the right to be worshipped but Allâh), and ask forgiveness for your sins, and also for (the sins of) believing men and believing women. And Allâh knows well your moving about, and your place of rest (in your homes)." (19)

Allaah also says, "Read! In the Name of your Lord, Who has created (all that exists), (Al-Qur'aan 96:1). So by reading and believing we get to "know" who is our Almighty Creator, and who His Messengers are, including the final Messenger Muhammad, and what his Companions heard, witnessed, and recorded about what the believer is commanded to do and what we are prohibited from doing. The key thing is to know that we cannot have knowledge without reading and studying. That is what this issue is about, and we ask Allah the Almighty to aid us in this endeavor.

Shafeeq Qaasim

Publisher/Editor

Support the Da'wah

By Shafeeq A. Qaasim

In the name of Allah(ﷻ) the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful. We should all try to increase our knowledge of the Almighty Creator—Allah(ﷻ). We get some knowledge/information about our deen from our parents and friends. We get most of our knowledge/information from the Imam and Muslim teachers at the Masjid we attend. However, unfortunately, there is a lot of misinformation that we get from the educational system, media and social media. Da'wah is important because we have to disseminate the truth to “eliminate the falsehood”. **Da'wah is how we do it.**

According to many scholars in this field the term Da'wah applies to conveying the message of Islam to non-Muslims and Muslims, and inviting them to Allah. Non-practicing and lost Muslims need to be reeducated and motivated to become better Muslims; they believe they already know Allah (ﷻ) and have been given the concept of TAWHEED. Some objectives of Da'wah are as follows:

- (a) Conveying the message of Islam to non-Muslims and inviting them to Allah (ﷻ)
- (b) Making efforts to remove misinformation about Islam and Muslims from textbooks, reference material and media.
- (c) Making efforts for the integration of new Muslims into the Muslim community.
- (d) Developing material resources, recruiting manpower (volunteers) and providing training for Da'wah workers.

One must realize that the goal of Da'wah to non-Muslims is not to convert them, in fact do not expect it, but the goal is to inform them and educate them. That is our only duty. Da'wah with the intention of conversion might make you too aggressive and might make you come on too strong, hence scaring them away.

Is Da'wah a duty on every Muslim?

Yes, it is a duty assigned by Allah.

In the Qur'an Allah(ﷻ) has placed the responsibility on the Muslim Ummah to convey the message of Islam to mankind. Allah (ﷻ) says in Surah Al-Baqarah: **"Thus We have appointed you a just nation (model community and Ummah), that you may be witnesses against mankind, and that the Messenger may be a witness over you". (Al-Qur'an 2:143)**

We find numerous verses in the Qur'an on the same topic. Here witnessing means to convey the message of Islam, i.e. to call people towards Allah (*da'aa ilallah* as in the Qur'an 41:33). **"And who is better in speech than he who says My Lord is Allah(ﷻ) and then stands firm and invites men to Allah's religion, and does righteous deeds, and says: "I am one of the Muslims".**

Prophet Muhammad (Peace be upon him) completed his assignment in his lifetime by conveying the message to the entire Arabian Peninsula and sending letters to the heads of surrounding countries. In his Khutbah of his farewell hajj he passed on the responsibility to every Muslim when he said, **"Those who are present should convey (my message) to those who are not". (Bukhari).**

He did not allow us to wait until we are a perfect Islamic society before beginning to convey the message. Prophet Muhammad (Peace be upon him) did not wait until a few converts grew up to develop an Islamic society nor did he want us to wait. He said as given in Bukhari, **"Convey for me (to the people) even it be single ayah (verse)".**

No one as an individual or as a community can delay until perfection is achieved; as soon as you have some knowledge of Islam you have a duty to convey it to those unfortunate people who know little or nothing about Islam and invite them to it.

The emphasis is on the transmission of the message of Islam to other human beings. We, the Muslims,

(Continued on page 11)

Al Qawaaid al-'Arbaa' (Part 1): **The Four Foundations of Shirk**

By Sheikh Abdul Wahhab who died in 1206 AH (after Hijrah)

Bismillahir Rahmaanir Raheem

As-salaamu-alaikum. Indeed all praise is due to Allaah, we praise Him and we seek His help and we seek His forgiveness. And, we seek refuge in Allaah from the wickedness and evil in ourselves and from our evil deeds.

Amaab'ad;

Allah the Almighty said, ***“And I (Allah) created not the jinn and mankind except that they should worship Me (alone)”(Qur’an 51:56).***

From the treatise called “The Four Foundations” by Shaikh Muhammad ibn Abdul Wahhab, he said that if you have knowledge that Allah(swt) has created you for His worship and His alone, then you must know that worship is not called worship unless it is accompanied by Tawheed, just like Salaat cannot be called Salaat without purification (ghusl and wuduu). The opposite of Tawheed is shirk, and if you recognize when shirk enters worship, you will know that your worship has been corrupted, and all your righteous actions are destroyed, and the doer is doomed to the eternal fire. So, what is vital is to learn the issues of Tawheed and Shirk so that Allah(swt) purifies you from this evil. Allah (swt) says in the Qur’an *“Verily, Allah forgives not that partners should be set up with Him (in worship) , but He forgives everything else (except that) to whom He pleases...” (Qur’an 4:48).*

To know Shirk, we must know that Shirk comprises of four principles that Allah(swt) has mentioned in His Qur’an:

First principle and foundation of shirk is concerning the disbelievers. Even though they believe in Allah(swt), they set up rivals in worshipping with Allah(swt). Allah(swt) says *“Who provides for you from the sky and from the earth? Or who owns your hearing and sight? And who brings out the dead from the living? And who disposes of all affairs? They will say Allah...” (Qur’an 10:31).*

Second principle and foundation of shirk is concerning intercession and what the pagans said, “We worship them only that they may bring us near to Allah(swt)” but Allah says, *“Verily Allah(swt) will judge between them concerning that wherein they differ. Truly, Allah(swt) guides not him who is a liar, and a disbeliever. (Qur’an 39:3).*

We will continue a discussion of what the intercession consist of with part 2 in the next is of the Los Angeles Special Bulletin Magazine, insha Allah.

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Sheikh Dr. 'Abdullah Bukhari:

Unity & Coming Together Upon the Truth (Part 1)

Transcribed by Abdul-Majeed Qaasim
 From the principles of Ahlus-Sunnah,
 Abu Maryam Tariq, Salafi Publications
 Telelink at Birmingham Annual Conference 2004
 *Graduate of the Islaamic University of Madeenah

He began this talk on one of the fundamental principles of the *AhluS-Sunnah wal Jamaa'ah*. That fundamental principle being *Al - Ijtima'*, their coming together and being together in harmony.

He began by saying, "In the Name of Allaah. All Praise is for Allaah and that we seek Allaah's forgiveness, and we ask Allaah's refuge from the evils of ourselves and our evil deeds. I mention that whomever Allaah guides, then none can misguide that person, and whoever Allaah misguides, then none can guide that person. And mentioning that none has a right to be worshiped except Allaah (alone). And that Muhammad (sallallaahu 'alayhi wa sallam) is the Messenger of Allaah bearing witness to that. And he said indeed the truest of speech is the speech of Allaah, and that the best guidance is the guidance of Muhammad (sallallaahu 'alayhi wa sallam) and that the worst of all affairs, are the affairs that are newly introduced into the religion, and that every affair newly introduced into the religion is an innovation, and that every innovation is misguidance.

And he said, "Oh brothers, I praise Allaah, the one other than whom there is no lord. And other than whom none has the right to be worshipped. That he has granted us this gathering and this lecture. And I ask Allaah that he causes us to be from those people who are guided and those who are guides for others, and that we are not people who are misguided (Ameen).

So this talk is just as a reminder. I wish to remind by it, my brothers, and remind myself by it. Of a tremendous principle. A tremendous principle of Ahlus-Sunnah which is sometimes lost from many peoples minds. And the reason many people overlook it is maybe because they are affected by the ideas of some people who are deviant, or just some of the people themselves, people of the Sunnah. They overlooked this matter so whatever the cause that it's overlooked, then what is necessary is that we make this

matter clear, because this is a matter which is important. So therefore we say that this principle of the unity of the people of the Sunnah and their harmony upon the truth is something commanded by our Lord the perfect and most High. So he says in his Noble book and then the Sheikh quoted a number of ayahs from the book of Allah. Amongst them the saying of Allah the most high, "So cling all of you together to the Rope of Allah and do not separate from each other." And he quoted the second Ayah, "And do not be from the people of Shirk," Those who associate others along with Allah do not befriend them. Those who split up the religion into sects, each sect of them being pleased with what it alone is upon. Being pleased and over joyed with what it itself is upon. "this is my path, the path of Allah which is straight so follow it and do not follow the other paths because they will lead you away from Allah's path, that is what Allah has enjoined you with."

And he quoted the next Ayah, "Those who split up their religion into sects and become separate sects, have nothing to do with them." The Sheikh said, "All of these Ayah's command us with the obligation of *I'tisaam*, clinging onto the truth all together." All of these texts forbid us from whatever will take us away from that obligation, meaning *Al-Furqa* splitting into sects and splitting apart. So they contain a command of unity upon the truth and the forbiddance of splitting away from the truth into sects. and the Sheikh said, "And they command Unity upon the Rope of Allah. That is what is commanded, to cling together upon the strong rope of Allah."

He mentioned that there are many aHadith of Allah's Messenger (sallallaahu 'alayhi wa sallam) which gives the same command and commands the same principle of unity upon the truth. He said for example the Hadith reported by Muslim in his Sahih, from a Hadith of Abu Huraira (radhiyallaahu 'anhu) that the Prophet (sallallahu alaihi wasallam), "Allah is pleased for you with three things, and he hates for you three things. He is pleased for you that you worship him alone and that you do not associate anything along with him in worship and that you cling together all of you and you do not separate. And he hates for you just carrying sayings which are not verified and asking too many questions and wasting wealth." And there is an addition to this Hadith reported by Imaam Ahmad which

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Los Angeles Islamic Chamber of Commerce

By Shafeeq A. Qaasim

Bismillahir Rahmaanir Raheem. As-salaamu-alaikum to all the Muslim businesses, organizations, and readers. The Los Angeles Islamic Chamber of Commerce (LAICOC) is new to Los Angeles and is engaging in organizing and bringing together Muslim Businesses and Muslim Organizations in the Los Angeles and Southern California area during 2018, insha Allah. What better time of the year to launch a new professional Muslim organization than now? Allah(swt) and His Messenger^(Peace be upon him) wants us to engage in halal and successful businesses. There are many narrations describing Prophet Muhammad^(Peace be upon him) and his Companions doing business all around the world, even over 1400 years ago.

The Qur'an speaks about trade in Surah Fatir Ayahs 19-30. Allah says *"Not alike are the blind (disbelievers in Islâmic Monotheism) and the seeing (believers in Islâmic Monotheism). (19) Nor are (alike) the darkness (disbelief) and the light (Belief in Islâmic Monotheism). (20) Nor are (alike) the shade and the sun's heat. (21) Nor are (alike) the living (i.e. the believers) and the dead (i.e. the disbelievers). Verily, Allâh makes whom He wills to hear, but you cannot make hear those who are in the graves. (22) You (O Muhammad ^{Peace be upon him}) are only a warner (i.e. your duty is to convey Allâh's Message to mankind, but the guidance is in Allâh's hands). (23) Verily! We have sent you with the truth, a bearer of glad tidings, and a warner. And there never was a nation but a warner had passed among them. (24) And if they belie you, those before them also belied. Their Messengers came to them with clear signs, and with the Scriptures, and the book giving light. (25) Then I took hold of those who disbelieved, and how terrible was My denial (punishment)! (26) See you not that Allâh sends down water (rain) from the sky, and We produce therewith fruits of*

varying colours, and among the mountains are streaks white and red, of varying colours and (others) very black (27) And likewise of men and Ad-Dawâbb (moving (living) creatures, beasts), and cattle, of various colours. It is only those who have knowledge among His slaves that fear Allâh. Verily, Allâh is All-Mighty, Oft-Forgiving. (28) Verily, those who recite the Book of Allâh (this Qur'ân), and perform As-Salât (Iqâmat-as-Salât), and spend (in charity) out of what We have provided for them, secretly and openly, they hope for a (sure) trade-gain that will never perish. (29) That He may pay them their wages in full, and give them (even) more, out of His Grace. Verily! He is Oft-Forgiving, Most Ready to appreciate (good deeds and to recompense)."(30)

All wealth belongs to Allah. The word *Tijaarah* mentioned in ayah 29 is referring to trade, transactions, and commerce, and appears about 9 times in the Qur'an. Allah(swt) wants us to be successful and gives us guidance and commandments to follow. We are trading what we desire in this world for the gains of the Jannah(hereafter), a place that will never perish. He also says, *"Allâh wishes to make clear (what is lawful and what is unlawful) to you, and to show you the ways of those before you, and accept your repentance, and Allâh is All-Knower, All-Wise. (26) Allâh wishes to accept your repentance, but those who follow their lusts, wish that you (believers) should deviate tremendously away (from the Right Path). (27) Allâh wishes to lighten (the burden) for you; and man was created weak (cannot be patient to leave sexual intercourse with woman). (28) O you who believe! Eat not up your property among yourselves unjustly except it be a trade amongst you, by mutual consent. And do not kill yourselves (nor kill one another). Surely, Allâh is Most Merciful to you. (29) And whoever commits that through aggression and injustice, We shall cast him into the*

(Continued on page 16)

Raising our Own...Our Way

By Grandma Jeddah

Back to School! Back to books! Back to learn! In today's world, it is critical that parents, teachers, and schools control the educational content our children take in. We thank Allah The Most High for our cherished Islamic schools. These sanctuaries provide our children with an environment in which they can learn about their Creator and his commands.

Of course, not all families are able to send their children to Islamic schools. Cost and distance are often prohibitive factors. As an alternative, many parents choose to teach their children at home. Homeschooling allows parents to determine the scope of their children's education, rather than a public school. Teaching our own children is an important responsibility that is not an option but a necessity, many would say.

Any parent or teacher who has thumbed through the pages of a health book, science book, or reading book has likely found occasional material that is inappropriate to teach our children. It has become critically important that the educational materials our children read reflect their Islamic values and promote Islam.

Alhamdulillah, several publishing companies have sprung up to provide educational schoolbooks with the Muslim student in mind. Here are three of those companies.

Noor Publications is a fabulous company founded by sisters Karemah Alhark and Jamila Alqarnain. Both are homeschool moms. They produced two pioneering phonics readers titled *Adam to Zam Zam* and *Yak in the Back*. *Adam to Zam Zam* is a first level reader that introduces the alphabet to beginning readers. *Yak in the Back* is a second level reader that introduces the vowel sounds. The illustrations in both books are colorful, engaging, and promote diversity. Future projects for Noor Publications are the *Islamic Reader 3—Fun in the Sun*, and *Islamic*

Reader 4—Rasheed's Deeds, insha'Allah.

Another excellent educational publishing company geared toward Muslims is Everydayibaada, developed by Umm Julaibeeb Yaleh. She has authored several books, including *My First 100 Sight Words* and *Kindergarten Phonics*. Her company also produced *Kindergarten Math*. Everydayibaada intends to develop an entire curriculum with science, social studies and language arts for Kindergarten through 5th grade students, insha'Allah. The pictures in the books reflect Islamic settings and lifestyles. Images have no facial features, and the people wear Islamic attire. The reading material relates Islamic themes.

An exciting new publishing company that is fresh on the scene is Muslim School Books, founded by Grandma Jeddah, the author of the *Discipline without Disrespecting* parenting e-books. For this fall, Muslim School Books published the *Reading Comprehension Grade 6* workbook. The workbook offers readers grade-level, informational stories about famous contemporary Muslims such as Muhammad Ali, Mahmoud Abdul-Rauf, Maryam Masud Laam and Mustapha Akkad.

The *Reading Comprehension Grade 6* workbook also discusses critical topics on interpersonal relationships and life skills such as the importance of patience, the virtues of shyness, and the harm of alcohol use. Follow-up worksheets accompany each reading selection and cover essential skills in vocabulary, reading comprehension, language, and composition. Muslim School Books is currently working on the *Reading Comprehension Grade 5* workbook and intends to develop phonics workbooks for kindergarten through 4th grade, as well as an entire curriculum for grades Kindergarten through sixth, insha'Allah.

We welcome and thank the founders of such needed and essential educational materials designed for our dear Muslim youth. If you are interested in these valuable educational resources, you may contact the

(Continued on page 11)

(Continued from page 5) **Support the Da'wah**

are not responsible to convert people by force or coercion, as Allah (ﷻ) has clearly forbidden such tactics (**The Qur'an 2:256**). All human beings on earth have an Allah(ﷻ) given freedom to submit to Him (Allah alone) or submit to *taghut* (the worship of idols).

Remember, da'wah has great rewards. Whoever guides someone towards good, will receive the reward of the one who acts upon it. (**Muslim**). This means, if a person is converted through the da'wah you give him/her, you get rewards for all the prayers he/she does or all the fasts that he/she does, etc.

Allah(ﷻ) says **“And those who disbelieve are allies of one another, and if you (Muslims of the whole world collectively) do not do so [i.e become allies, as one united block] to make victorious Allah’s religion, there will be fitnah and oppression on the earth, and a great mischief and corruption (appearance of polytheism)”**. (Surah Anfal 8:73)

This is serious business. Allah(ﷻ) then says, **“And a declaration from Allah and His Messenger to Mankind on the Greatest Day (the 10th of Dhul Hijjah—the 12th month of the Islamic calendar) that Allah is free from all obligations to the disbelievers and so is His Messenger. So, if you (disbelievers) repent, it is better for you, but if you turn away, then know that you cannot escape (from the punishment of Allah(ﷻ)). And give tidings (O Muhammad) of a painful torment to those who disbelieve”**. (Surat at-Taubah 9:3)

Allah(ﷻ) warns us not to take our parents as supporters and helpers if they disbelieve. He says, **“O you who believe! Take not as Auliya (supporters and helpers) your fathers and brothers if they prefer disbelief to Belief. And, whoever of you who does so, then he is one of the Zalimun (wrong doers)”** (Surah At-Taubah v. 23)

Allah(ﷻ) goes on to say **“Fight against those who (1) believe not in Allah, (2) nor in the Last Day, (3) nor forbid that which has been forbidden by Allah and His Messenger (Peace be upon him), (4) and those who acknowledge not the religion of Truth (Islam) among the people of the Scriptures (Jews**

and Christians), until they pay the Jizyah (Islamic tax) with willing submission, and feel themselves subdued”. (Surah at-Taubah 9:29).

In conclusion, it is incumbent on each of you to support the Da'wah. A good place to start is right here with the Los Angeles Special Bulletin and the subsidiaries (i.e. www.lasb.org, abubakrstore.com, www.laicoc.org) insha Allah.

As-salaamu-alaikum.

(Continued from page 10) **Raising our Own...Our Way**

owners personally through Facebook or on their websites: Noonpublications.com, Everydayibaadah.com, Muslimschoolbooks.com

Grandma Jeddah is an elementary-middle school teacher who has taught at an Islamic School in Los Angeles, California for over 35 years. She is the founder of MuslimSchoolBooks, a publishing company that produces Islamic oriented educational books and materials for Islamic Schools and home-school families.

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Bismillahir Rahmannir Raheem

As-salaamu-alaikum

Indeed all praise is due to Allaah, we praise Him, and we seek His help and we seek His forgiveness. And, we seek refuge in Allaah from the wickedness and evil in ourselves and from our evil deeds. Whoever Allaah(swt) guides, none can misguide him and whoever He misguides (leaves to go astray) none can guide him. I testify that there is no deity who has the right to be worshipped except Allaah(swt) alone, and there are no partners for Him, and I testify that Muhammad (saw) is His slave and final Messenger. Amaab'ad (to proceed);

Allah said:

“Read! In the Name of your Lord, Who has created (all that exists), (1) He has created man from a clot (a piece of thick coagulated blood) (2) Read! And your Lord is the Most Generous, (3) Who has taught (the writing) by the pen. (4) He has taught man that which he knew not. (5) Nay! Verily, man does transgress (in disbelief and evil deed). (6) Because he considers himself self-sufficient. (7) Surely! unto your Lord is the return. (8)” (Al Qur’aan 96:1-8)

Indeed, the most truthful Speech is the Book of Allaah, and the best guidance is the guidance of Muhammad (Peace be upon him). And the worst affairs are the newly invented matters (in Deen). Every newly invented matter is a religious innovation, and every religious innovation is misguidance, and every misguidance is in the Hellfire.

This understanding is not only good for all students going back to school, but for all people who are striving to get to the highest levels of Jannah or any endeavor. Having knowledge is essential and is best when obtained with a qualified scholar or student of knowledge, along with our persistent reading and revising. Sometimes we think we are very intelligent, and we don't need a qualified teacher. But, think about any higher level of learning or precise skill, and you should see the importance of learning with a qualified person to obtain the top levels of excellence. Even if we are doing mundane chores such as mowing the lawn, you can read a book, but qualified landscapers can give you some tips to make your work easier and much more professional looking. It is the same way with religious affairs. Studying our subjects in school and studying Islam requires qualified teachers and an in-depth desire to excel and master the materials to achieve excellence.

Allah says:

“Verily, you are those who have disputed about that of which you have knowledge. Why do you then dispute concerning that of which you have no knowledge? It is Allâh Who knows, and you know not. (66)” (Al Qur’aan 3:66)

Have you ever wondered why there is so much division, violence, hatred, and mayhem going on in the world?

Part of the reason surely is because we fight and dispute about that which we have no knowledge. In many cases we don't have knowledge about ourselves, our parents, our families, our neighbors, communities, cities and all that exists, including the Almighty Creator and His Messengers. We cannot possibly know everything, but if we put our trust and faith in the Almighty Creator, He is the Knower and the All Knowing (Al-'Aleem). He knows everything that ever existed and ever was, and He knows everything that has happened and ever will happen. He knows and we only think we know everything.

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Tafsir ibn Kathirs says:

Allah is the Knower of the unseen (Al Ghaib):

“Allah affirms His perfect knowledge, from which nothing is hidden, and that He has complete knowledge of whatever every female creature is carrying, (And He knows that which is in the wombs, whether male or female, fair or ugly, miserable or happy, whether it will have a long or a short life” (www.qtafsir.com/index.php)

Allah the Almighty Creator says:

“O mankind! Be afraid of your Lord (by keeping your duty to Him and avoiding all evil) and fear a Day when no father can avail aught for his son, nor a son avail aught for his father. Verily, the Promise of Allâh is true, let not then this (worldly) present life deceive you, nor let the chief deceiver (Satan) deceive you about Allâh. (33) Verily, Allâh! With Him (Alone) is the knowledge of the Hour, He sends down the rain, and knows that which is in the wombs. No person knows what he will earn tomorrow, and no person knows in what land he will die. Verily, Allâh is All-Knower, All-Aware (of things).(34)” (Al Qur’aan 31:33-34)

So how can we go around thinking that we know it all, or that we cannot learn a lot more? We should be constantly asking Allah to “Increase me in Knowledge”.

Dua ‘ for Increase in Knowledge Compiled & translated By Abbas Abu Yahya

1 – Al-Hafidh Ibn Hajr al-Assqalani (d.852 A.H.) -*Rahimullaah*- said:

‘Regarding the statement: ‘The saying of Allaah Azza wa Jal:

‘Rabbi Zidni Ilma’

<<O my Lord increase me in knowledge>>

This is a clear proof of the Excellence of knowledge. **This is because Allaah Ta’ala did not order the Messenger -sallAllaahu alayhi wa sallam- with request for increase in anything except for an increase in knowledge.’**

[From: ‘Fath al-Bari’ 1/141]

2 – Umm Salma –*Radhi Allaahu anha*– said, the Messenger of Allaah -sallAllaahu alayhi wa sallam- used to say in the supplication in the morning prayer:

‘Allaahumma innee assaluka ilman nafia, wa rizzqan tayyeebun, wa amalan mutaqabilan.,’

‘O Allaah indeed I ask You for beneficial knowledge, and a good Halal provision, and actions which are accepted.’

[Collected by Tayalisee, Tabraani & regarded Hasan by Hafidh Ibn Hajr]

3 – From Anas bin Malik – *Radi Allaahu anhu* – that he heard the Messenger of Allaah -sallAllaahu alayhi wa sallam- supplicating:

Allahumman fa’nee bi-maa ‘allam-ta-nee wa ‘allim-nee maa yanfa’u-nee war zuq-nee ‘ilman yanfa’u-nee

‘O Allaah benefit me with what You have taught me, and teach me that which will benefit me, and grant me knowledge which will benefit me.’

[Collected by al-Hakim, Bayhaqi, Tabraani & authenticated by Albaani in Silsilah No. 3151]

4 – Allaah Ta’ala said:

<< O our Lord give us good in this Dunyaa, and good in the Hereafter and save us from the punishment of the fire >> [2:201]

Al-Hasan said: **‘al-Hasana (good) in the Dunyaa is knowledge and worship, and in the Hereafter it is Paradise.’**

Sufyan said: **‘al-Hasana (good) in the Dunyaa is knowledge and good provision, and in the Hereafter Paradise.’**

Just as Allaah said:

يا عبادي كلکم ضال إلا من هديته فاستهدوني أهدکم

‘O My worshippers! All of you are astray except the one whom I have guided, so seek guidance from Me and I will guide you.’

[Collected by Muslim]

[Taken from: ‘an-Nubdha fee Adab]



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Los Angeles Islamic Chamber of Commerce

Fire, and that is easy for Allâh. (30) If you avoid the great sins which you are forbidden to do, We shall expiate from you your (small) sins, and admit you to a Noble Entrance (i.e. Paradise). (31) And wish not for the things in which Allâh has made some of you to excel over others. For men there is reward for what they have earned, (and likewise) for women there is reward for what they have earned, and ask Allâh of His Bounty. Surely, Allâh is Ever All-Knower of everything. (Surah An-Nisa 32)

So Allah(swt) also wanted us to have the Chamber of Commerce. According to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce "The U.S. Chamber of Commerce is the world's largest business organization representing the interests of more than 3 million businesses of all sizes, sectors, and regions. Our members range from mom-and-pop shops and local chambers to leading industry associations and large corporations. They all share one thing—they count on the Chamber to be their voice in Washington, D.C" (<https://www.uschamber.com/about/about-the-us-chamber>).

The problem is we as Muslims cannot count on them to speak for the Muslims, because we count on Allah(swt) only. We have so many differences. We don't want to celebrate the holidays of the disbelievers (ie. Christmas, Easter, Valentine's Day etc.). We don't want to fornicate, drink alcohol, smoke cigarettes, and dance to the music as they do when celebrating. If we are true Muslims we only celebrate two celebrations per year. They are Eidul Fitr after Ramadhan, and Eidul Adhaa after Hajj. We should not be celebrating anything else, because Allah says, "**O you who believe! Eat not up your property among yourselves unjustly except it be a trade amongst you, by mutual consent. And do not kill yourselves (nor kill one another). Surely, Allâh is Most Merciful to you.**" (Surah Nisa' 4:29)

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ern California Muslim Business Directory (see in this issue) and the LAICOC Business Journal (coming). We can have workshops, seminars, and discounts on products and services within the LAICOC network. Islamic financing, medical care, and education. Insha Allah, we can do it all in a halal and Islamic manner.

These features and benefits are important because Los Angeles city is a booming city. In the next few years we have 2 basketball teams, 2 football teams, the Olympics, and many other events and venues making Los Angeles one of the best cities in the world for business. We will have rapid transit trains connecting and moving people all over Los Angeles. Working together, we can be "One Ummah" and hold on to the rope of Allah(swt) and take advantage of the Bounties of Allah(swt). For more information on how to become a member call brother Shafeeq at (310) 946-2269 or go to the LAICOC website at www.laicoc.org.

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Sheikh 'Abdullah Bukhari

contains the addition, "And that you are sincere and give sincere advice towards those who are in authority alone." All of these and other text are proofs for coming together upon the truth. Part 2 in next issue, insha Allah.

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