



AL-HUDA Insight

January - April 2017

Rabbi-us- Sani - Rajab 1438 A.H.

Issue 4

Sincerity Integrity Tolerance Benevolence Dedication Discipline Respect

To serve humanity by imparting knowledge of Qur'an and Sunnah - the only way to attain peace in this world and the hereafter



Prepare for Ramadan

The Messenger of Allah ﷺ said:

Ramadan has come to you a blessed month. Allah has made obligatory upon you its fasting. In it the gates of heaven are open, the gates of the Hellfire are closed and the evil devils are chained. To Allah belongs a night in it, which is better than a thousand months. Whosoever is prevented from its good, then he has been deprived.

[Musnad Ahmad: 7418]

Things to do during Ramadan

- * Fasting is a mandatory act of worship; observe it with a pure intention to please Allah ﷻ.
- * Welcome the month of Ramadan with joy and supplications, and make the following invocation when you see the new moon:

اَللّٰهُمَّ اِهْلِلْهُ عَلَيْنَا بِالْإِيْمَانِ وَالْإِسْلَامِ رَبَّنَا وَرَبُّكَ اللهُ

O Allah, let this moon (month) pass over us with blessings, Iman, safety, and in the state of Islam. (O Moon!) My Lord and your Lord is Allah.

- * Practice moderation when preparing the meals for *Suhur* and *Iftar* since this is the month of fasting, not feasting.
- * Do *istighfar* (seek forgiveness), especially at the time of *Suhur*.
- * Take special care of the tongue and resolve not to speak any ill.
- * Complete the recitation of the Qur'an at least once and make an effort to understand and reflect upon its meaning.
- * Keep your tongue moist with the remembrance of Allah (*dhikr*) at all times.
- * Make use of your time and energies productively and refrain from useless activities.
- * Ease the workload for servants and employees.
- * Offer voluntary prayers with prolonged recitation and *qiyam* (standing) as much as possible (especially in *tarawih* and *tahajjud*).
- * Yearn and strive to attain *Lailah al-Qadr*.

Dr. Farhat Hashmi

Purifying souls

Ibn al Qayyim رحمه الله said "Origin of all sins are three:

1. الكبر (Arrogance): It is that which converted Iblis to what he is.
2. الحرص (Greed): It is that which banished Adam عليه السلام from Jannah.
3. الحسد (Jealousy): It is that which incited son of Adam عليه السلام against his brother.

The one who is protected from the evil of these three, he is protected from evil; so kufr is due to arrogance; and sins are due to greed; and injustice and oppression are due to jealousy".

[Al- Fawaa'id 1/58]

Dear Readers,

Assalamu Alaikum wa rahmatullahi wa barakatuhu

We are pleased to present the latest issue of Al-Huda Newsletter, which will serve as an additional communication channel between our growing number of friends and colleagues. Our respected readers, through this issue, will get a comprehensive insight of news from our head office, regional offices and branches worldwide. Further, we will share our plans and programs for the blessed month of Ramadan. I pray that we all fully avail the blessings and benefits of this sacred month.

During this quarter, we were enlightened through inspirational lectures by Dr. Farhat Hashmi on *Sahih al-Bukhari* and *Fiqh al-Qulub*. In the student's corner we will review the reflections and experiences from students who embarked this journey of knowledge.

As summer approaches, new young faces are attracted to the short courses offered by Al-Huda. We will find details of upcoming courses, activities and events in this issue. Furthermore, we will recount new arrivals by Al-Huda Publications as well as mobile apps developed by Al-Huda team.

One of the most exciting news of this edition is glimpses from talent shown by our little scientists at state-of-the-art mega event "Space beyond Horizon" organized by Al-Huda International School.

Finally I would thank everyone who contributed to this edition. Please feel free to bring any comments, suggestions or new stories for future editions: newsletter@alhudapk.com.

Tahira Khan

Educational Activities

Sahih al-Bukhari Sessions

Ustazah Dr. Farhat Hashmi continued conducting *iman* boosting sessions during her 'ilm tours to Al-Huda Institute, Canada and Dubai in March 2017. Web-casted via Al-Huda websites and facebook account, her lectures on 'Kitab al-Maghazi' from Sahih al-Bukhari and Friday reflective sessions of Fiqh al-Qulub are becoming popular day by day.

Highlighting Student Talents

Taleem al-Qur'an 2 Course batch-15 Islamabad, held a speech competition on 15th February after completing the *tafseer* of Surah Yusuf. The eleven participants discussed problems faced by youth today and their solutions. "The major problem of today's youth is being unaware of the teachings of Islam. We lack patience and modesty while being selfish...", said Maryam Aslam in her speech. The event concluded with a prize distribution ceremony.

Enhancing Professional Skills

Skill developing workshops were arranged for staff members of Al-Huda Head Office and area coordinators from various regions. Sadia Mufti conducted effective training sessions to reinforce professionalism, and report writing. About 35 participants attended from Islamabad, Rawalpindi, Azad Kashmir, Lalamusa, Gujrat, Attock, Wahcantt, and Haripur.

Guest Speaker Motivates Students

On 20th February 2017, Sheikh Abdul Wahab Saleem visited Al-Huda Islamabad Campus and delivered a lecture on the importance and virtues of gaining Qur'anic knowledge and spreading it. He shared his feelings about Al-Huda and Dr. Farhat Hashmi in these words:

"In my brief visit, I am humbled to see this center, I have long heard of. I ask Allah to grant you success in both lives and unite you with people who can maintain the light of your torch."

Tree Plantation Drive

Students and staff of Al-Huda Islamabad initiated a spring plantation drive in March. A variety of plants including flower and fruit plants were made available at Al-Huda premises. The students participated actively by arranging, buying and selling and even doing research on names and properties of various plants. Research work was displayed on soft boards.

International Cancer Day

Al-Huda raised awareness against cancer this year by inviting Dr. Saira Hassan, oncologist at Shifa International. In her lecture, she highlighted the importance of self-examination, knowing the early signs of breast cancer, and ways of prevention. Finally, she answered questions posed by students.

Takmeel e Qur'an and Convocation

Al-Huda Islamabad Institute held its 20th convocation and Takmeel of Qur'an ceremony in April 2017. Commencing the ceremony formally, Uzma Norain, Event Coordinator, warmly welcomed the guests. Maria Azeem, Director of the Institute, presented the academic report. Tahira Khan briefly presented history of Al-Huda followed by a review of Al-Huda activities conducted all over the world in 2016. The graduating students shared inspiring reflections, and well prepared presentations, which motivated the audience. The Academic Head of AIS, Sadia Naveed, presented the progress of AIS after which the little students amazed the audience through their performances based on lessons from the Qur'an and ahadith. Ustazah Dr. Farhat Hashmi joined the ceremony through Skype. She emphasized the importance of intention and relationship with Allah. She spoke of what a beautiful journey it has been for her in the past year preparing and teaching Sahih al-Bukhari. She advised the students to hold on to the Qur'an, Seerah and Fiqh al-Qulub lessons to give further boost to their Iman. Almost every eye was in tears upon hearing her heart rendering words. At the end prizes were distributed among outstanding students and staff.

AIS Exhibition

A science exhibition was held at Alhuda International School Islamabad in March 2017. "An extraordinary event, a journey of learning and motivation. Congratulations on selecting an amazing topic...the research work carried out on both scientific and Islamic sides was marvelous! The confidence and knowledge of every participating student on his model was exemplary. Overall it was a very well designed, well planned event with well rehearsed, synchronized and executed efforts of the entire AIS faculty and students", expressed Major Masood Qazi.

Visit to Al-Huda Rahimyar Khan

Al-Huda Regional Office team attended the Takmeel e Qur'an ceremony at Rahimyar Khan branch in December 2016. The students shared their heart touching reflections and experiences at the well-organized event. A medical student on completion of her course remarked: "Taking medical school studies and the Qur'an course together would be very challenging, I thought. But the blessings of studying Qur'an was such that my grades improved and my concepts became clear".

The team also visited the under construction building of the Khanpur branch, Regional Office building Abbasiya Town as well as Sadiqabad and Gulshanabad branches. Skill building workshops were conducted for the staff.

Al-Huda Institute for Men (AIM)

- Workshop on Public Speaking Skills

The students of AIM had an opportunity to polish their public speaking skills through a day long workshop on 7th January 2017. The workshop was highly interactive and activity based where students got chance to practice what they learnt.

- Reunion

In March 2017 a reunion brought back students of Batch-3. The students spent their time reconnecting, reminiscing and engaging with old and new friends. They also shared their experiences of spreading the message of Qur'an which motivated the current students and boosted the morale of the teachers.

The Pinnacle of the Qur'an

Al-Huda Institute, Canada is conducting a course to impart an in-depth study of Surah al-Baqarah. Taught by Sr. Taimiyyah Zubair, the course features online quizzes, group sessions, interactive classes, visuals, and slides. The course got an overwhelming response with 475 registered students in its first week.



Students attending Surah al-Baqarah Course in Canada

Course for New Muslims in Dubai

Al-Huda Dubai extends its services by introducing a course for new Muslims. Eager to know the basics of Islam, ladies from Philippines, Thailand, and India have joined the course.

Qur'an Course in Sydney

Fahm al-Qur'an Course in English and Urdu languages started at Al-Huda Sydney in January 2017.

Upcoming Courses:

- * Tarbiyati Course (May 2017)
- * Dawrah Qur'an (Ramadan)
- * Summer Course Urdu (July 2017)
- * Reality Touch Summer Program (July 2017)
- * Hamaray Bachchay Summer Program (July 2017)



Services to Humanity

Winter Protection Drive

Through the ongoing winter drive, Al-Huda Islamabad distributed 500 quilts and warm clothes among deserving people of Haripur, Abbottabad, Mansehra, Mirpur, AJK, Murree, and Skardu in the first week of January 2017 while Al-Huda Karachi distributed warm clothes among 440 deserving people.



Food Supplements for Children

To help children of community schools meet their nutritional requirements, Al-Huda Lahore initiated a project with guidance of and in collaboration with Al-Huda head office Islamabad. In the first two weeks 1400 kg of milk was distributed amongst 1036 children of 9 community schools.

Water Provision in Buner

Recognizing the dire need for clean drinking water, Al-Huda Regional Office KPK installed a tube well to cater to the needs of the entire population of nine hundred inhabitants of Tehsil Buner district Swat-KPK.

Repair of Masjid in Matli

On request of the residents of village Alipur Ahmed Ali Nizamani, Tehsil Matli, Al-Huda International repaired a masjid to facilitate them in performing their religious obligations.

Ramadan Ration

The blessed month of Ramadan is around the corner. Like previous years, Al-Huda has planned to distribute ration bags among the needy before Ramadan starts. The price of one packet is Rs. 2600. You can contribute your share today.

Account info:

A/C Title: Al-Huda International Welfare Foundation

A/C No: 200126818

A/c Type: PKR

Swift Code: UNILPKKA

IBAN #: PK 65UNIL0109000200126818

Bank: United Bank Ltd

F-8 Markaz Branch, Islamabad.

Donate online:

www.alhudapk.com/donate

Allah said, 'O son of Adam! Spend, and I shall spend on you.' [Sahih al-Bukhari]

Serving via Mass Media

Highlights

- * Al-Huda launches a new website: alhudaaustralia.com
- * alhudaus.com features new interface with a more user friendly installment option and easy options to enrol in a course.
- * Al-Huda Publications (Pvt.) Ltd Mailing List has been created to keep people informed about our new products

Upcoming Projects

1. Al-Huda Live App

- * A new App, Al-Huda Live is being developed for both Android and iPhone with following features:
 - * Live audio streaming of all sessions by Dr. Farhat Hashmi.
 - * Live video streaming.
 - * Display of content for e.g. PDF, ppt etc. on mobile screens during the live session.
 - * Upcoming events' calendar.
 - * Availability of recorded live sessions.
 - * Push notifications to alert users about any new session or event.

2. WhatsApp Student Portal

3. My Al-Huda US App

...and lots more.

Radio

From March 2017, Taleem al-Quran audios are being broadcast from FM 92 Highway Radio Channel Khairpur Meris on FOC.

WhatsApp Groups

Alhumdulillah, our Whatsapp Urdu-Tafseer Groups have reached 65+ in number, including 5 new groups that started just recently. A total of around 1300+ new members from Pakistan, India, U.K., UAE, Saudi Arabia, Germany, USA, China, Australia, Canada, etc. have joined us to benefit from Qur'anic guidance. In order to enhance life management skills of our alumni, different material is shared from time to time which includes:

- * Short audio clips from Tafseer of Ustazah Farhat Hashmi
- * Al-Huda publications like masnun azkaar and du'a cards.
- * Details of Telegram channels for those who want to gain more knowledge.
- * Link to Alhuda apps

Al-Huda Stall at Live Deen

Al-Huda tries to grab the opportunity to introduce authentic, well-researched Islamic products (written and audio visual) to the masses. One such event was held at PC Karachi. More than 1000 people visited. Al-Huda Newsletter, assorted CDs, WhatsApp group flyers, and other informative flyers and pamphlets were distributed for free among the visitors. The enthusiasm and demand for more was very encouraging.

New Arrivals by Al-Huda Publications



- * Surah Al-Kahf (Book)
- * Surah Yusuf (Book)
- * Surah al-Mulk (Card)
- * Umar bin al-Khattab (Book)
- * Fiqh al-Qulub 6 (Book)
- * Hasul e Ilm awr Khawateen (Book)
- * Meray Nabi ne Farmaya (Teacher's Resource Book by Hamaray Bachchay)
- * Alhumdulillah (Card)
- * Wudhu - Fazeelat, Ahmiyyat awr Tareeqa (Pamphlet)
- * Supplications for healing (Card)
- * When will you Repent? (Poster set)
- * Perpetual Dhikr (Poster)
- * Qarz se Nijaat ki Duaen (Card)

Pearls of Wisdom



Four things that disconnect a person with Allah are:

- ① **Shaitan** - its remedy is to seek refuge in Allah and opposing satanic temptations.
 - ② **Nafs** - its remedy is to strive hard consistently.
 - ③ **Dunya** - its remedy is self control.
 - ④ **The Creation** - its remedy is spending some time in solitude.
- Some examples how we justify our actions which prevent us from reforming ourselves and becoming close to Allah:
 - * Instead of striving hard to beat our nafs we become more lazy and become despaired by saying, 'we can't do it!'.
 - * We are busy in a rat race to get more duniya, thinking that this will make us more respectful and thus get less time for our worship.
 - * We are consumed with people and then we get depressed and de-motivated when we get hurt by them.

May Allah ﷻ guide us to the best and proper action to remove our cut outs. Ameen

Condolence

Al-Huda condoles the sad demise of our two sisters, Humaira (Al-Huda Riyadh) and Habiba (Al-Huda Karachi). May Allah ﷻ forgive them and grant them highest ranks in Jannah al-Firdaws. May He ﷻ grant patience to the bereaved families. Ameen.

Student Corner

Peace of our Souls

Our soul is not made for this world, so it should not, and cannot find peace, pleasure and contentment here, no matter how hard we try to feed it with the best of worldly foods. No matter how hard we work to make it happy with worldly sources of pleasure. Just like a bird in a cage made of precious gems and gold and stones and the best of food and comfort, the bird can only be happy when it is free to fly up high in the sky. We need to understand the requirements of our soul and we have to nourish it accordingly and if we don't do that, our soul will never be satisfied and it is going to affect our physical being too. We might apparently look happy and successful and satisfied to others, but deep inside, our soul will be hurt and devastated.

Journey through the Unseen

The kind of life we chose to live in this world having conviction in the unseen matters, believing and trusting the promises of the Supreme Being, being satisfied with His commands and following them, having no doubts in our hearts is the kind of life we will live in different stages once we depart from this world. But to be convinced in the unseen, we need to be convinced in the words of Allah, "This is the book that has no doubt". And to be convinced in the words of Allah we need to first seek knowledge. And when we have taken this step, then a journey towards true happiness and comfort begins. Experience it and love it. The comfort of eternal journey starts now.

Naheed Sattar

Salman Farsi's search for the Truth

By reading about his life following things are seen that made him achieve truth:

- * Accepting truth at once,
- * Struggling very hard to achieve it,
- * He was steadfast and focused in his mission, even he didn't care about his own respect and became slave just to get to Muhammad ﷺ and the correct deen.
- * Not only achieving his goal but after that he maintained it also by participating in all the hardships after achieving his mission,
- * We learn from his character that we should strive for truth and stay focused, strive hard and wait for the reward as rewards are not instant.

Shagufta Akbar

Worth of this Duniya

In today's Bukhari lesson we learnt about the actual worth of this dunya in the eyes of Allah ﷻ. The love of dunya is a disease of the heart. Allah ﷻ saves His slave from dunya like we save our patients from food. Competing in gaining maximum dunya creates negative feelings for each other and also jealousy that leads to enmity. When we are given what dunya has in abundance our desires of gaining more and more increases and our level of imaan deteriorates thus we end up making that which will perish more important than that which is eternal (Akhira). Our Prophet ﷺ worried for the akhirah of this ummah we should ponder on what our worries are for our generations to come.

Saima Toro

AlHuda International School Islamabad
under construction
Total Cost: PKR 380 Million

You may donate in full or part in these categories

Contribution Category	Rs.
Construction cost of 1 classroom (Approx.)	2,500,000
Furniture for 1 classroom	110,000
Activity material for 1 classroom	90,700
Computers	1,950,000
Science Lab Furniture & Equipment	1,600,500
Library books & resources	1,150,000
One fan	3,400
One sack of cement	595
One LED tube light and fixture	1,750

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Editorial Team

Patron in Chief: Dr. Farhat Hashmi
Managing Editor: Dr. Firdous Roohi
Editor: Tahira Khan
Associate Editor: Mariam Afzal
Designer: Binte Zahid



AL-HUDA International Welfare Foundation
7 A. K. Brohi Road, H-11/4, Islamabad Pakistan.
Ph. No: +92 51 4866125-9 | Email: info@alhudapk.com
www.alhudapk.com | www.farhathashmi.com