

In the Name of Allaah, The Most Gracious, The Dispenser of Grace

# The Call النداء



The Newsletter of the Islamic Association of Nova Scotia

May-June 2010 Vol.

## As-Salaamu A'laikum

IANS is once again proud to present it's newsletter. In this issue you will find:

- Article by Dawud Alcox
- Construction Update
- Article by Shaykh Hamzah
- Events and Miscellaneous
- 15 Etiquettes of the Masjid from Maa'riful-Qur'aan

THE CALL is our chance to give important news and keep people on the same page with what IANS is doing. We would also like to thank everyone involved with the help and for their patience regarding the construction and the maintenance of the Masjid.

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2010

- President - Saleem Ahmed
- Vice President - Javad Hoseyni
- Treasurer – Mahmud Sufyani
- Secretary - Dawud Alcox
- Youth Rep - Nabilah Sufyani

For more information about IANS please visit

[www.islamnovascotia.ca](http://www.islamnovascotia.ca)

## Spring Brings a Fresh Start

by: Dawud Alcox

From the many signs that Allaah سبحانه وتعالى has enabled us to witness, the transition from season to season is notable, mesmerizing and above all, a time to take a valuable lesson.

Spring is a time when Allaah سبحانه وتعالى has revitalized the greenness of the lands and before our very own eyes, made the breathtaking events that occurred the year previous, occur once again, a life after a period of death.

A walk in the winter usually brings a feeling of calmness and quietness, almost as if everything were sleeping or dead. A walk in the spring brings the observer a feeling of growth and rebirth. The birds singing and glorifying Allaah سبحانه وتعالى, the honey bee humming as it obediently does it's prescribed tasks and the theme of the land transforms colors, emitting a luscious and verdurous exhibition for us to relish in awe.

It is difficult to not witness the creativity of Allaah سبحانه وتعالى and the hints that He gives us through the medium of His creation of the processes of our very own lives.

Allaah سبحانه وتعالى says close to the meaning in the Qur'aan:

**“How can you refuse to acknowledge Allaah, seeing that you were lifeless and He gave you life, and that He will cause you to die and then will bring you again to life, whereupon unto Him you will be brought back?” (2:28)**

When we pass by these signs we should remember this and reflect that Allaah سبحانه وتعالى will definitely make everyone of us taste death and be brought back to give an account of how our lives were spent.

Moving through the month of May, the construction of the Masjid has come along way since its first nail was pounded.

Physically and spiritually, this Masjid has progressed since it evolved from nobody parked to no where to park.

Through much effort of the members, other helping hands, the diligent Imaam and especially the Infinite Mercy and Grace of Allaah سبحانه وتعالى we now have a foundation for our progress and the progress of our next generation.

However, just as Allaah سبحانه وتعالى sprouts the seed with conditions, so to do we have conditions for the progress of ourselves and for the seeds we are planting. Our characters are in an ongoing construction until our souls are extracted from our bodies.

We are very well aware that usually the more we make effort on something the better it turns out in the end. Not many people can say they have made a perfect cake the first try. Rather it comes with experience and exertion.

We can look at the current situation in a couple ways:

- We are stuck with a pile of tasks, responsibilities and burdens.
- Or..
- We are blessed and privileged with many opportunities, honorable positions (of being maintainers) and actions that please Allaah سبحانه وتعالى.

The construction of the Masjid is in a stage where it requires a lot of assistance and patience. In other words, the treasure chest for rewards in the hereafter and this life are open and ready for the taking.

So let us traverse spring with a fresh start and make a firm resolve to involve ourselves and our families with the Masjid and the activities taking place therein.

May Allaah سبحانه وتعالى enable us to do so and give us the ability to seek His Pleasure. Aameen

## Construction Update

**by: the executive committee**

**ASSALAAMU-ALAIKUM:**

Our last update of Feb 26/2010 provided information about the proposed construction to make the Masjid more energy efficient and to reduce its carbon footprint.

The work completed so far is listed below:

- (1) Power supply to the Masjid has been increased to 400 Amps
- (2) An electric room built in the men's basement to abide by the code
- (3) Heat pumps installed in the praying areas and in the basement
- (4) Electric baseboards removed and supplemental heaters installed
- (5) Removal of defective windows and installation of new ones
- (6) Kitchen remodeled including the installation of an industrial sink, faucet and a industrial dishwasher
- (7) All washrooms and Wudhu facilities upgraded
- (8) Motion sensors installed in selected areas for controlled lighting
- (9) Shade for BBQ built and erected on the lower deck in the back of the Masjid

The construction is not finished as of yet. There are small items left. They are:

- (1) Painting left in some areas
- (2) Electrical work in some areas
- (3) Some carpentry work
- (4) Construction of a shed outside to house the snow blower and garden implements

The executives wish to thank all the brothers and sisters who have generously donated for this effort so far. May Allaah سبحانه وتعالى reward them for their generosity, Ameen.

An accounting of the costs incurred in the present construction will be presented to the members of IANS InshAllaah once all the costs are assembled.

The need for funds to cover off all the expenses still exists. We request that if you have not renewed your membership please do so and also donate towards this worthy cause.

The executives thank you for your patience and understanding and also would like to thank our

invisible volunteers who donate their time, energy and money for the betterment of Allaah's سبحانه و تعالى House.

We pray that He reward them in this world and the Hereafter, Ameen.

Jazak Allaah,  
Wasalaam,

The Executive Committee

## Importance of the Masjid

by: **Shaikh Hamzah Manger**

From the events of the emigration to Madinah, it is clear that the Prophet ﷺ never stayed in any place unless he built a Masjid therein for the believers to gather. He built the Qubaa Masjid when he stayed there for four days. He also built a Masjid between Qubaa and Madinah when the time of the Friday prayer came while he was in the residence of the tribe of Salim ibn Auf in the heart of Ranonaa' Valley. When he arrived in Madinah, the first act he performed was the building of a Masjid. This indicates the importance of a Masjid in Islam. The Messenger of Allaah ﷺ had said close to the meaning:

**"For those people who assemble in one of Allaah's Houses (Masjids) reciting the Book of Allaah and teaching it to each others, there will descend upon them the tranquility and mercy will cover them and the angels will flock around them and Allaah mentions them in the presence of those near Him."**

Allaah سبحانه و تعالى in His all encompassing wisdom decided that the fardh prayer should be performed with the congregation so that the faithful get together, be united and become a compact body .

A complete system makes provision for bringing together the faithful at various stages.

The Prophet ﷺ himself laid down the foundations of this system, gave it the final shape and ordered that it should be followed in every locality where Muslims live.

**"If the people knew the reward for pronouncing the Adhan and for standing**

**in the first row (in congregational prayers) and found no other way to get that except by drawing lots they would draw lots, and if they knew the reward of the Dhuhr prayer (in the early moments of its stated time) they would race for it (go early) and if they knew the reward of 'Isha' and Fajr (morning) prayers in congregation, they would come to offer them even if they had to crawl."**

This system is the order of the Masajid. It is based on a solid ground and provides for a gradual development of the individual. The people of the locality assemble at the Masjid five times a day throughout the week and offer prayers. The Divine instruction is:

**"And bow your head with those who bow (in worship)"(2:43)**



The congregation at prayers should not be a matter of appearances only. It should not be just a group of men collected together but a real unity of mind and spirit. The inner self should be as pure and clear as is the

body. The mind should be in tune, as the body should be in line with the fellow members of the congregation. Collective strength is required for defending the faith and especially for fighting the enemy of man, Satan and his progeny. On the seventh day Muslims in all localities assemble at the Masjid for Jum'a prayers. Allaah سبحانه و تعالى said in Surat Al-Jum'a, (verse 9), what can be translated as: **"O' you who believe! When the call is proclaimed to Prayer on Friday hasten earnestly to the remembrance of Allaah, and leave off business. That is best for you if you but knew."**

The gathering is large and filled with a spirit of piety and devotion to Allaah سبحانه و تعالى. They are busy in uttering words of his praise and reciting the Qur'an. The baser instincts of man, enmity, ill feeling, jealousy, and hatred are subdued; love, brotherhood and faith pervades the atmosphere. The mind is sharpened with the sermon of the Imam, absorbing the spirit of the Imam's address, filled with fear of Allaah سبحانه و تعالى and the day of judgment which are the themes of the address. Then the entire congregation stands as one behind

the Imam and follow him throughout the prayer.

The Quran says about the Masjid Al-Haram :  
***And when we made the house a place of assembly for the people and a place of safety. (2:125)***

No political system or organization can excel the organization of the Masjid in its effectiveness. When this system is strengthened, the Muslims will find that a religious fervor is generated and their worldly affairs are also smoothly conducted. This will infuse the spirit of progress, create discipline, mutual sympathy, purity of the heart, cleanliness of the body, habits of punctuality and other necessary requisites for progress in all walks of life like in the days of the Holy Prophet ﷺ and the first four Caliphs.

When this system was followed with religious zealotry, the community of the faithful prospered and flourished, their domains expanded.

Masajid were the centers of activity and the pulpits served as thrones. Policies were made by the Caliphs from the pulpit. Issues were settled in the Masjid. The Caliph himself led the congregational prayer at the capital of the caliphate. Even the non-Muslims, those who were otherwise critical of Islam, admired this system and the organization of the Masjid.

Therefore, if we neglect this organization and system, we will be deprived of the benefits that flow from it.

According to Hadrat Abdullah bin Mas'ud, the holy Prophet ﷺ said:

***"O Muslims! Allaah has prescribed paths of right guidance for you (to lead you to real success) among which is the offering of the daily Prayers in congregation in the Masjid. If you start saying your prayers individually at home, as so-and-so does, you will be forsaking the Sunnah of the Prophet. And if you forsake the Sunnah of your Prophet, you will certainly be going astray."***

May Allaah سبحانه وتعالى give us the ability to uphold this system.

## Events and Miscellaneous

### Fundraising Event

Saturday the 5th of June al-Hamdulillaah IANS held a fund raising dinner to attempt to cover some of the costs of the construction.

The total amount raised was roughly \$9,000.

Thanks to Allaah سبحانه وتعالى for His help and for providing the people who also contributed with their time or wealth.

### Multi Cultural Festival

This year's multicultural festival will take place on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> of July. It will start around 5pm Friday and end around 6pm Sunday. For more information on volunteering or any other inquiries, please visit the website.

### Weekly Tafsir

Every Friday after Salaat-al-Asr is the weekly tafsir of Qur'aan held by Shaikh Hamzah. Everyone is welcomed and encouraged to come and populate the events that matter most!

### Qur'aan Classes

Qur'aan classes are held by Shaikh Hamzah throughout the week (Monday to Thursday). Please talk to the Shaikh about joining or joining their children to the class. Classes are also available for the sisters on Sundays after Dhuhr.

### Monthly Potluck Resumed

With the construction now nearly completed to a safe level, IANS will be hosting the monthly potluck program once again. The program is held on the first Saturday of the month and the timings will be posted on the website and on the bulletin board.

Any changes to this will be announced inshaah Allaah. Families are encouraged to come and join the community for some good food and good times.

## 15 Etiquettes of the Masjid

by: **Hadhrat Mufti Muhammad Shafi'i Uthmani**  
(*Rahimahullaah*)

An excerpt from his Tafseer "Maa'riful Qur'an":

Scholars have named fifteen items as etiquettes of the Masajid (according to the Hanafi Fiqh). They are:

1. On entering the Masjid one should greet the people already sitting there, with *salam* and if there is no one then say '*Assalamu 'Alayna Wa 'Ala IbadAllai-Saliheen*' (but this is required when those present in the Masjid are not offering their extra prayer or reciting Qur'an. If they are busy in any of these acts, then he should not greet them.)
2. After getting in the Masjid one should offer two Rak'ats as *tahiyyah tul-masjid*. (This is required at a time when offering prayers is not prohibited, that is the time of sun rise, sun set or when sun is directly overhead.)
3. One should not carry out any transactions of sale or purchase in the Masjid.
4. One should not carry any weapons in the Masjid.
5. One should not make an announcement for the search for any of his lost items.
6. One should not raise his voice in the Masjid.
7. One should not discuss worldly affairs in the Masjid.
8. One should not quarrel with any one in the Masjid.
9. One should not try to force his way into a row where there is no room.
10. One should not cross over in front of someone offering prayer.
11. One should avoid spitting or blowing of nose in the Masjid.
12. One should not crack fingers in the Masjid.

13. One should not play with any part of the body.

14. One should keep clean of any filth, and should not take a baby or an insane along in the Masjid.

15. One should keep busy in remembrance of Allaah سبحانه و تعالی abundantly.

After listing these fifteen etiquettes Imaam Qurtubi (*Rahimahullaah*) has remarked that whoever has fulfilled these requirements has done justice with the Masjid, and it has become a place of charm and security for him.

I have written a booklet on etiquettes and formalities of Masjids under the title "Adaab-e-Masjid" (in Urdu). Anyone interested in the subject can consult it.