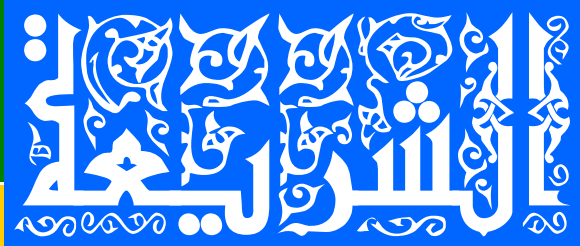




The Shari'ah



YOUR LINK TO ISLAM

SHAWWAAL 1429 / OCTOBER 2008

Hadhrat Ayesha Siddiqah (radhiallahu anha) insulted! Shameless book "Jewel of Medina" insults Mother of the Faithful! Jamiatul-Ulama Gauteng calls for ban on book!

The current war of civilizations between Islam and the West is a war which is fought on numerous battlefronts. Just as deadly combats daily take place in deserts and jungles, so does skirmishes and clashes occur on a regular basis on another seemingly inconsequential, yet equally important, dimension. The clash of cultures and traditions between the two opposing forces, collide on a daily basis and relentlessly spar with one another. The glow of Imaan versus the darkness of Kufr, the sweetness of Halaal against the disgust of Haraam, the joy of *Paaki* (purity) opposed to the hell of *na-paaki* (impurity), the Ribaa-induced greed (currently tearing apart the World financial systems) in contrast to the contentment of Sadaqah. Like the moving of the dunes of the deserts, this ferocious battle, though anchored, shifts and recasts itself in different hues and colours. This battle is fought by both man and jinn, upon the surface of this earth as well as in the skies. This battle is a no holds battle in which only one side will ultimately be crowned victors. Says Allah, Most High: "Most certainly it is the army of Allah who will be victorious." Such a battle had already reached the shores of our country in the form of the book reviews published by The Sunday Times which blasphemed Allah Ta'aala, Nabi Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam and Islam. Presently another challenge has reared its ugly head. The forces of Shaytaan and Kufr have once more gathered their miserable, pitiful, wretched gang in order to launch an assault upon Islam. Under the pretext of "freedom of speech" and "respect for other views", a sneaky, devious and cunning strategy is being employed to disseminate lies and half-truths about Islam. This ignoble and dastardly move brimming with ignoble motives and solely motivated to antagonise Muslims, fuel radicalism, belittle and undermine our religious sensitivities. It seeks to mock that which is holy to all Muslims and to demean that which is honoured by all Muslims. It seeks to undermine the respectability of Islam and Muslims, their honourable institutions and their august and saintly personalities.

Shaytaan, in his attempt to sow anarchy and provoke Muslims into retaliating with violence, enlists myriads of agents amongst both jinnkind and mankind. One such agent of Shaytaan - a prime candidate for a Nobel Prize of evil, indecent, and shameless litera-

ture - is an author by the name of Sherry Jones. A book, entitled the "Jewel of Medina" written by this accursed author, filled with shameless and crude material, refers to Hadhrat Ayesha Siddiqah (radhiallahu anha) in the most shameless manner.

The beloved wife of Rasullullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam, whom the Qur'aan has anointed with the striking title of Ummu-haatul-Mu'mineen (Mothers of the Faithful) has been disparaged and degraded beyond description. Words unfit for an immoral lady of the road have been used to demean her. The publication of this pornographic novel will be ferociously opposed by the ardent lovers of Allah's Rasul Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam and the Ahle-Bait, regardless of the sentiments of those who rub their hands in capitulation at the hypocritical concept of Western "freedom of speech",

To the West, Hadhrat Ayesha Siddiqah (radhiallahu anha) may just be another Muslim person, but in the heart of every Muslim she occupies a special niche. Muslims view the auspicious personality of Hadhrat Ayesha (radhiallahu anha) in the lamp of Imaan, love, adoration and fondness. And why not when she has been the source of goodness and blessings unto the Ummah. And why not when Allah Most High, has revealed many an Aayaat which relates to Hadhrat Ayesha (radhiallahu anha)!

When the Munaafiqeen slandered her with regards to her chastity, Hadhrat Ayesha (radhiallahu anha), was exonerated by Allah Most High. Verses were revealed in the Holy Qur'aan which proclaimed her innocence. Punishments were prescribed for those who slandered her. Admonishments were given to those who exercised carelessness against her. Curses were showered upon those who pained her. Sufficient indeed was Allah for Hadhrat Ayesha (radhiallahu anha).

Once whilst on an expedition with Nabi Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam, her necklace broke and a search was conducted which caused the delay of the Fajr Salaah. Several people were distressed as there was no water nearby. Allah Ta'aala, on this occasion revealed the Aayat pertaining to Tayammum. This convenience which occurred through the blessings of Hadhrat Ayesha (radhiallahu anha), caused her father, Hadhrat Abu Bakr (radhiallahu anhu) to remark: "O Apple of the eye of your father! I did not know you were so auspicious. Through you, Allah has conferred this facility and convenience for

all the Muslims!" (Musnad-e-Ahmed, Vol. 5 p.378)

After the demise of Hadhrat Khadija (radhiallahu anha), Hadhrat Jibra'eel descended with a vision of Hadhrat Ayesha wrapped in a garment of Jannah in a dream which Rasullullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam witnessed. He was informed that she was his future bride.

And indeed she proved herself to be a bride from Jannah. She would grind the grain, knead the dough and cook food with her own hands for her husband, even though she had a maid. She would make his bed and store water for his Wudhu (ablution). She would wash his clothes, comb his blessed hair, and rub scent on his garments. She would happily entertain his guests. In his sorrows, she was a willing partner and in his hunger a willing participant.

She was the one with whom Nabi Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam joyously raced. She was the one whom Rasullullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam loved most. She was the one who made him smile with her innocence. She was the one about whom Nabi Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam said that Ayesha has superiority over other women as (the delicacy) *Tharid* over other dishes.

She was the one who informed us about the conduct of Rasullullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam on the night of Laylatul-Baraa'ah. The life of our beloved Nabi Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam - his eating, drinking, sleeping and scores of other intricate and intimate details - were narrated by her. She was the one who loved her husband Rasullullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam to such an extent that when he indicated his displeasure to her, she, with genuine feminine anguish born out of deep love said: "O Allah, I cannot say anything but send a scorpion or snake to bite me!"

Nabi Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam passed away whilst making Miswaak with a stick which Hadhrat Ayesha (radhiallahu anha) chewed and softened. Rasullullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam passed away in her lap whilst she was cradling his Mubaarak head in her arms. It is her house which Allah had chosen to be the ultimate abode of Nabi Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam. She is the one in whose hands will be the hand of her husband, Rasullullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam on the Day of Qiyaamah.

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ULAMA-E-UMMATI

(Part Two)

In our previous issue, we had, with the Fadl of Allah, Most High, elaborated extensively upon the role and function of the Ulama.

Moulana Maseehullah Khan Saheb (Rahmatullahi alayh) narrated the following incident: Once, Imaam Abu Hanifah (Rahmatullahi Alayh), saw a small boy about to slip in the rain. Grabbing the boy's hand, Imaam Saheb steadied him and said: "Be careful, do not slip!"

The boy spontaneously responded: "Hadhrat, You need to be more careful, for if you slip the whole world slips with you!"

The words of that little boy was appropriate enough to be narrated down the corridor of time. It may have been addressed to Imaam Abu Hanifah

Rahmatullahi Alayh but its meaning and essence are applicable until Qiyaamah to all Ulama. That the Ulama are the brains of the Ummah is beyond dispute. The Mimbar they mount is indicative of the awesome power they hold. If they proclaim the Haraam to be Halaal, everyone eats Haraam. If they proclaim Riba to be legitimate profits, everyone indulges in Riba. In short, if they slip, everyone slips.

The Office of the Ulama has been honoured in a spectacular fashion by none other than Allah Ta'aala in the Holy Qur'aan. The word "Ulama" is used by Allah Ta'aala in numerous verses and referred to in the same grand spirit, by words such as "Ulul-'Ilm", (people of knowledge), "Utul-'Ilm" (those who have been granted Knowledge), Aalimoon and Aalimeen. Hundreds of thousands of Huffaaz memorise these titles and fear forgetting them, millions of Muslims throughout the World recite these Words in enchanting tones and more than a billion and a half bring faith and Imaan upon the Divinity of these sacred words and titles. Truly, after the Ambiya, no segment of mankind has been honoured by Allah, Most High in The Holy Qur'aan in the manner as the Ulama have been, as is apparent from the following:

The Ulama in the Holy Qur'aan

1) The Ulama and the Angels attest to the Tauheed which Allah Ta'aala bears witness to: "And verily Allah bears witness that there is none worthy of worship besides Him, and the Angels and those who have been given 'Ilm..."

2) The Ulama are unequal to others: "Are those who know equal to those who do not know?" Their limbs and their bodies etc. are just like ours. But yet, they are unequal to us! There is something different in that heart, in that brain and on that tongue! The walking, eating, sleeping, thinking, actions and reactions of an Aalim are different from an ignoramus.

3) Allah Ta'aala honours the speech of the Ulama: "And the Ulul-'Ilm said "Woe to you, the Thawaab of Allah is better for those who bring Imaan and do good deeds" The words of the Ulul-'Ilm were so pregnant with meaning and laden with reality that Allah Ta'aala preserved them in His Holy Scripture until the day of Qiyaamah. The Ulama's gaze fall far beyond the world and material merits of pomp, power, competitions and glory.

4) Allah Ta'aala boasts of the Deeds of the Ulama: "Verily when the Aayaat were recited to the Ulul-'Ilm of before, they fell prostrate whilst sobbing."

Such are the humble qualities of the Ulama – Sajdah and Sobbing - which keeps them in proximity unto Allah Ta'aala!

5) Allah Ta'aala quotes the Ulama's speech on the Day of Qiyamah: "And you did not live but for a few moments in your worldly life."

Here we find the Ulama's intelligence being acknowledged and their analysis of the worldly life being quoted even before Qiyaamat takes place!

6) Allah Ta'aala's promise to the Ulama: "And those who were granted 'Ilm, for them there are stages..."

Positions and rank – a Promise from Allah, Most True to the Ulama who are the viceroys and inheritors of the Prophets (Peace be upon all of them)!

7) The Ulama – a solid shield against criticism of Rasullullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam: "And they (the hypocrites) say (sarcastically) to those who were granted Knowledge: "What did he (Muhammed Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam) say just now?"

Since the hypocrites could not decant and discharge their hatred directly at Rasullullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam, they chose the Messenger's messengers – the Ulama as their targets. The hearts of the Ulama are regularly pierced by the arrows of criticism meant for their Chief and their Leader, Muhammed Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam. Such is the love they possess for Rasullullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam, that each striking arrow is worthy of a kiss:

"An arrow meant for him (Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam) struck this fortunate one
O for the joy and the luck of this sinful one,
The secret message of Love shall be written
with flowing blood

If only but the flow would turn into an everlasting flood"

8) Another quote of The Ulama on the day of Qiyamah: "And those who were given 'Ilm and Imaan will say: "And verily this is the day of resurrection but you did not want to know about it."

Today, people yawn out of boredom and incomprehension when the Ulama speak; they mock and jest. However tomorrow when the wax is left behind in the Qabr and they stand under the scorching sun of Qiyamah, will they indeed wish that they had listened!

9) In the heart of an Aalim lies a treasure trove of Nabuwwat: "But, there are open Aayaat (signs) which are in the hearts of those who have been granted 'Ilm."

10) Who recognises the signs of Allah Ta'aala? "And verily in it there are signs for the Ulama." In this Aayat, Allah Ta'aala specifically singles out The Ulama for being worthy of recognising His Signs!

11) Who can foremostly distinguish the parables mentioned in the Holy Qur'aan?

"And these are the parables mentioned which we make mention of to Mankind. And none can understand it except the Aalimoon".

The lessons derived from history can only be fully appreciated, not by historians, but by The Ulama.

12) The Ulama are the ones who fear Allah Ta'aala: "And verily the Ulama are the ones fear Allah Ta'aala".

The Ulama are a mine of *Khashiyat* (Divine Fear). Their knowledge guides them as to why, when and how much fear one should have of Allah Ta'aala. Anyone wishing to be endowed with Divine Fear, will undoubtedly gain this treasure from the Ulama.

From the above quoted verses it is as clear as daylight that after Nabuwwat, there is no greater honour than the office of the Ulama. Love them or adore their good fortune; loath them or abhor their influence – it simply does not matter to an Aalim who values what he has acquired!

The Ulama in the Hadith

The high regard in which the Chief and The Leader of all mankind, Rasullullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam holds the Ulama of his Ummah, can be judged from the immense glad-tidings he has given them. Thus, we find the following honours emanating from nowhere other than the sacred lips of Rasullullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam. Rasullullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam anointed them as his successors - "*The Ulama are the Heirs of the Ambiya*"; he saluted the very ink of their pens — "The ink of the scholar will be weightier than the blood of the martyr on the Day of Qiyamah"; he informed us of the brutal danger they pose to Shaytaan — "*A single Faqeeh is sterner on Shaytaan than a thousand worshippers*"; he acclaimed their status in the Court of Allah — "*That person whom Allah Ta'aala desires good for, He makes him an Aalim and a Faqeeh of the Deen*"; he defined their rank in the hereafter — "*The Ulama will be the neighbours of Rasullullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam in Jannah*"; he elevated them to dizzying heights - "*The Ulama of my Ummah resemble the Prophets of the Bani Isra'il*"; he exhorted the Ummah to pay tribute to them — "*Honour the Ulama and the Huffaaz, for whosoever has honoured them has honoured me and whosoever has honoured me has honoured Allah. Therefore do not be complacent in fulfilling the rights of The Ulama and The Huffaaz, for verily they have such a rank by Allah they are close to being Ambiya with the exception of Wahi being sent to them.*" (Daaru Qutni; Dailami; Munaawir, p. 91)

Just as they disseminated the teachings of Rasullullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam in this world by quenching the spiritual thirst of the Ummah, so too will they assist him in quenching the thirst of the Ummah on the Day of Qiyamah by assisting him in the distribution of the waters of the Haudhe-Kauther!

From the above it is abundantly clear that there simply exists no greater a Ni'mat after Imaan than to be blessed with the 'Ilm of Nabuwwat. The extraordinary virtues and merits, mentioned and narrated by both Allah and His Rasul Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam, are due to the immense task upon the shoulders of an Aalim. The preservation of the pristine Shariah for the next generation, defending it from dilutions and distortions from both the enemy within and without, the propagation of it without fear of enemy or favour of friend — this is the continuous fixation and passion of an Aalim-e-Rabbani! This monumental task would weaken mountains, distress angels, and cause giants to tremble. Failure in this task is not an option for failure is nothing less than a spectacular disaster and a tragic catastrophe, not only for him, but for the entire Ummah — for when an Aalim slips, the whole Ummah slips!

(Next Issue, Insha-Allah: The Warnings)



Tasawwuf: Purifying the Rooh!

Alhamdulillah, whilst it is heartening to observe the thirst and hunger for Deen amongst many people, it simultaneously is vitally important to understand with clarity and precision the nature of the road towards Allah. The destination is Allah's Pleasure; the highway - the Shariah; the vehicle - the Sunnah, the fuel - Aa'male Saalehah (good deeds), the companions - pious persons, the speed - sacrifices, the obstacle - Nafs, the highway robber - Shaytaan. An excellent manner in negotiating this perilous journey, is to adopt the path of Tasawwuf. With the Fadl of Allah, we hereby commence a series of articles concerning this subject which has been compiled from "Shariah and Tasawwuf" and the teachings of Moulana Maseehullah Khan Saheb Rahmatullahi Alayh

Question 1: What is Tasawwuf?

Answer: Tasawwuf is the Rooh (Soul) of our Deen. Through Tasawwuf we are able to systematically purify our hearts of all evil qualities. At the same time, Tasawwuf teaches us how to prepare ourselves to negotiate the challenges of this worldly life whilst reforming and preparing ourselves for the Akhirah.

Question 2: Who requires Tasawwuf?

Answer: Rather, who does not require Tasawwuf? Businessmen, housewives, Ulama, judges, employees, each and every one requires to purify their souls from the rot of insincerity, the crave for fame, the madness to accumulate at any cost, the poison of jealousy, the flames of unjust anger, the poison of pride.

Question 3: Is Tasawwuf to be found in the Holy Qur'aan?

Answer: Yes, the subject of Tasawwuf is referred to in many places in the Holy Qur'aan. Allah Ta'aala says: " Truly, the one who has purified himself is successful." And " On that Day (of Qiyaamat) neither wealth nor sons will benefit (anyone), but that person who comes to Allah WITH A REFORMED HEART."

Tasawwuf teaches us how to "reform" our hearts. Tasawwuf does not only teach us the reality of issues such as Sabr, Shukr - it also teaches us how to experience these states within the confines and the limits of the Shariah. Take the example of making Shukr unto Allah Ta'aala for the Blessings He has bestowed upon us: Instead of merely saying, Shukr business is good, we will now progress towards true Shukr; and that is to make certain that we also Please Allah Ta'aala.

" Be grateful unto Allah" or make "Shukr" unto Allah. The reality of " Shukr" can only be understood through Tasawwuf.

Question 4: Is Tasawwuf to be found in the Hadith?

Answer: Yes, many Ahaadith of Rasullullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam refers to Tasawwuf. Rasullullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam said:

" There is a portion in the body. When it is reformed then the entire body is reformed. When it is corrupt, then the entire body is corrupt. Listen! It is the heart!"

Question 5: Is it possible to spiritually progress without the Shariah?

Answer: No, it is impossible to spiritually progress without strict adherence to the Shariah. The

Shariah is the vehicle of Tasawwuf. Almost all religions demand some type of self-purification. There is no short cut towards the purification of the Rooh. Absolute adherence to the Shariah is a pre-requisite for self-purification.

Question 6: What does the word Mureed mean?

Answer: Mureed means one who intends to do something. In Tasawwuf it means one who intends or desires to have a continuous closeness unto Allah Ta'aala through the medium of the Shariah under the tutelage and guidance of a Sheikh..

Question 7: Why should one have a Sheikh?

Answer: Everything in life consists of conflicting views. In the medical world, we find that there are many cases where doctors have different opinions. Likewise in the legal profession, lawyers haggle about the interpretation of a single law. Similarly, the Ulama also have different opinions in certain Deeni matters. The benefits of having a Sheikh-e-Kaamil are innumerable.

By having a Sheikh we become focused. Deen is obtained from one person in whom we have utmost trust in his ability to lead you towards Allah Ta'aala. By adopting a Sheikh, a person avoids controversies and is more at ease and peace. Sadly, many people spend an entire lifetime mired in unnecessary controversies. Instead of finding solutions, they drift further and further into darkness. In this pathetic state they depart from the Dunyaa with heavy hearts at not having realized the objective of Wusool-Ilallah. (reaching Allah).

Another important issue to remember is that whosoever has acquired mastery in any field; he has done so by virtue of having a competent Ustaad or teacher. No carpenter has achieved expertise by merely studying a book, nor has any doctor, lawyer, architect or engineer etc. achieved perfection in his profession. without the guidance and tutelage of experts in their respective fields.

Similarly the Auliya have attained a deep insight into affairs of the Rooh and Imaan. We accordingly are in need of their companionship if we wish to perfect our Imaan. Thus, Allah Ta'aala instructs us: "O Believers, fear Allah and adopt the company of the Truthful ones."

Question 8: What is Tareeqat?

Answer: Tareeqat means ways or methods. The Sheikh utilizes certain methods, which are permitted in the Shariah, to assist the Mureed in curing him of spiritual ailments and in assisting him on to greater heights of spiritualism and Imaan just as a doctor administers medication.

Question 9: What is Ma'rifat?

Answer: Ma'rifat occurs when the heart becomes purified and becomes a recipient of thoughts, feelings, ideas and perceives a certain degree of the Wisdom behind Allah Ta'aala's Divine Acts. The person who experiences this with regularity is termed to be an Aarif.

Question 10: How should you go about choosing a Sheikh-e-Kaamil?

Answer: When Allah Ta'aala grants one the Taufeeq to turn unto Him earnestly, then a person will automatically feel a great need for some form of individual guidance. Normally, one would find some Saintly person in one's locality, city or country. The closer one resides to the Sheikh or his

Khalifas (representatives), the more the benefit he will derive. If there are numerous Mashaa-ikh in the area, then sit in the company of them all for an equal amount of time. Thereafter, consider whose companionship has affected your heart the most. Initiate correspondence with this Sheikh without taking Bayt. After a few letters, you should have a clear idea whether his *Tariqaa* appeals to you. Remember, to take physical Bayt is not the purpose, the *Maqsad* or the prime reason for initiating your correspondences is to make your Islaah. This is possible without taking Bayt.

Question 11: What are the signs of a Sheikh-e-Kaamil? (A qualified Sheikh)

Answer: A Sheikh-e-Kaamil or a Wali (Friend) of Allah Ta'aala must have the following qualities:

1. He must possess the necessary knowledge of Deen, which he obtained by studying or by sitting in the companionship of the Ulemaa-e-Haqq. A Sheikh who does not possess the basic Knowledge of Deen will lead others astray.
2. He must be a Khalifaa of a reliable Sheikh who is attached to an authentic *Silsilaa*.
3. The *Silsilaa* should be based on the Ahle-us-Sunnah Wal Jama'ah.
4. He should be pious and *Muttaqii* (Fearing Allah Ta'aala). A sheikh who does not, for instance exercise Taqwa and abandons the sacred Hijaab system, will be unable to lead the Mureed towards Taqwa.
5. He must have spent an adequate amount of time in the companionship of his Sheikh. The Righteous Ulemaa of the times hold him in high esteem. There is a difference between prominent Ulama and righteous Ulama. Righteous Ulama are those whose private and public lives conform with the Shariah.
6. His companionship increases a love for the Akhirah and an abhorrence for the Dunyaa.
7. The majority of his Muredeen conform with the Shariah.
8. He is free from worldly desires and is empty of greed for name and fame.
9. He himself engages in Zikr and is forever alert to his own Islaah and shortcomings.
10. He does not leave his Mureeds free. He checks on them and reprimands them on their shortcomings. He considers his Mureeds to be an Aamaanat.
11. His Ta'leem is not confined to Zikr alone, but includes bayaans and Majaalises which evolve around the inculcation of virtues qualities and the shunning of evil traits.
12. He prefers anonymity, and if any Mureed leaves him, he is unperturbed. In fact rejoices at being free of responsibilities.
13. He has experienced and traveled the various stages of spiritual stations and through correspondences and the companionship of his Sheikh he is a *Saheb-e-Haal*. He is an *Abul-Haal* (father of situations) instead of an *Ibnul-Haal* (a child of circumstances).
14. He must be a *Saheb-e-Ijaazah*. (permitted to initiate Mureeds) and be constant on the path of his Sheikh. If one finds such a Sheikh, then one indeed is fortunate in having a key to Allah's doorway!



Why the Jamiatul Ulama Gauteng? (part two)

Our Fatwa in response to SANHA!

While Muslims all over the world are grieving at the plight of their Palestinian mothers, brothers and children who are under brutal Zionist oppression, SANHA has issued a 'fatwa' in defence of its certification of Israeli products as "Halaal".

Since SANHA is prepared to certify and 'bless' Israeli goods in their commercials and since it has done so by justifying its stance on the basis of the Shariah, it has now become imperative upon the Ulama of Haqq to respond and to provide Shar'i evidence, which would conclusively debunk the evidence they have cited.

SANHA, with the silent concurrence of the Fordsburg Jamiat-ul-Ulama, presented incidents in the Holy Life of Rasoolullah (Sallallahu alaihi wasallam) totally unrelated to the horrendous scenario we are faced with. More shocking than their "Fatwa" is the silence of the Ulama fraternity at this strange and infactual Fatwa. Amongst the many reasons for the formation of The Jamiatul-Ulama Gauteng, is that SANHA's Fatwa is backed by the silence of the entire Jmaitul-Ulama (formerly Transvaal). Thus, the continued silence gives credence to such a 'fatwa' and casts suspicion upon the ability of the Ulama to contest what is clearly an extremely disturbing Fatwa even to the layman's limited understanding of Deen. Let us scrutinize the SANHA 'fatwa' rationally and judiciously:

1) SANHA in its Fatwa says: "Be just...even unto your enemy."

SANHA's concept of 'justice' is, plainly speaking, a mockery of the Deen. Since when does Islamic Justice encourage one to serve as agents and servants of a government whose hands are dyed red with the blood of Muslim mothers, the blood of Muslim sisters, the blood of Muslim brothers? Since when does Islamic Justice allow a Muslim to aid the economy of a country who will purchase all types of weapons in order to kill, maim and displace hundreds of thousands of people from the very land which bred them? SANHA has confused — in ignorance or by design — testimony of the truth which is an integral part of The Shariah whilst simultaneously being a party in the scandalous service to a brutal state. What affinity does proclaiming the truth have with advertising and promoting Israeli goods to the Muslim public?

SANHA's concept of justice allows for certifying the merchandise of a state that has and is causing untold suffering to Muslims! What is SANHA's concept of 'justice'? Certifying the products of a state with the nobly "Halaal" emblem whilst Muslims are grinding under the boots and being systematically exterminated and expelled from their lands.

SANHA proudly declares: "Be just to even your enemy." But what about Justice to the wheelchair handicapped Sheikh Yaseen who was made Shaheed whilst coming out of the Masjid by an Israeli missile? Does Sheikh Yaseen not deserve any justice? Does the entire population of Gaza who are forced into starvation by the Israeli Government not deserve any justice? Do the children, the innocent lambs of Islam not deserve any justice?

2) If SANHA's logic of justice had to be accepted it follows from there that Rasoolullah (Sallallahu alaihi wasallam) was—*Na'oothubillah*—unjust to even Muslims. When certain Sahaabah did not participate in the Campaign of Tabook Nabi (Sallallahu alaihi wasallam) severed all relations with them and instructed all Muslims to do the same. According to SANHA's logic this is not justice. Can any Muslim conceive such a dastardly notion in regard to the Nabi of Allah (Sallallahu alaihi wasallam)? Never! But SANHA has cast a blind eye to the sensitivities of the Deen in view of the stakes being so high.

3) SANHA "Fatwa" claims: "800 years of bloodshed was not a reason to declare Roman products Haraam."

In this fallacious reasoning SANHA equates Israeli occupation of Muslim Lands and brutal suppression of Muslims to the wars fought with the Romans. This

is incorrect and an attempt at doctoring a fact to suit the Fatwa.

The fight with the Romans was on the battlefield. The sword was an adequate response to Roman rebellion. Today with Muslims on their knees unable to fight their enemy, the weapon of economic boycott is just about all that is left to show our resistance and solidarity with Muslims whom we cannot come to the aid of. SANHA wishes the Muslim Ummah to lay down this weapon of economic sanctions as well, thus alluding to their ill-intent or good-intent completely misdirected.

SANHA recognizes the fight with the apartheid regime. Its members as affiliates of the Jo'burg Jamiat monotonously trumpet this theme. They concede that economic sanctions played a major role in bringing down the former apartheid government. Let SANHA state unequivocally that the policy of economic sanctions against the previous government was 'a departure from justice with thy enemy'. Let them say that the concept of sanctions plays no role in Islam!

4) SANHA's Fatwa shockingly claims: "The crops of the Jews of Khaibar were exported to Madinah."

In this ambiguous and misleading averment SANHA has scraped the bottom of the barrel in its desperate bid to provide some basis for its unholy axis with the *Mal'oon* Yahoood and their products manufactured and harvested at the expense of genocide!

SANHA should make known which period they refer to in their statement: "The crops of the Jews of Khaibar were exported to Madinah." If they refer to the pre-Khaibar conquest period the simple explanation is that the Muslims and Jews were not at war then. There was a peace-agreement binding on both sides. There was no reason to call on a boycott and implement trade sanctions of Jewish crops harvested in Khaibar.

And if SANHA refers to the post-Khaibar conquest then the error in their averment is too glaring to any student of Deen to proffer any comment. Lest ignorant members of this Ummah labour under SANHA's deception we are constrained to present the fact of the matter. The crops of Khaibar transported to Madinah were not for sale. It was the share, and in the opinion of Imaam-e-A'zam Abu Haneefah (Rahmatullahi alaih) the land-tax, which the *Yahoood* of Khaibar were under obligation to pay to Rasoolullah (Sallallahu alaihi wasallam). SANHA's humbug of 'export to Madinah' is therefore ludicrous.

SANHA says: "The Halaal status of a product is determined by the Law of Allah. Extraneous circumstances, however deplorable, do not make a product Haraam."

Any experienced, qualified Mufti does not only look at issues in isolation. He examines and analyses all aspects upon which his Fatwa will impact. Various dimensions of issues will be scrutinised, evaluated and intensely assessed. It is on this basis that the illustrious Fuqahaa have prohibited many permissible matters due to "*Saddun li Baabal Fitnah*" (Closing the door for future trials).

It will be obvious to any Mufti that the call to declare Israeli products Haraam is motivated by the burning anger at the injustice and inhumane suffering which their Muslim brothers are experiencing. The larger issue is to refrain from aiding and abetting the Zionist terrorists by boycotting their products and not certifying their goods. This moral-code of Islam in defence of its adherents suffering at the hands of the kuffaar brutality has been conveniently overlooked by SANHA. If SANHA had been genuinely keen to identify with the Palestinian suffering, then its Mufti could surely have qualified his Fatwa by simply adding the words:

"Though it is Halaal, yet it should not be purchased due to the boycott call of our parent body, The Jamiatul-Ulama (formerly Transvaal)."

This silence is exactly what confuses the public! Whilst The Jamiat calls for a boycott of Israeli products, its affiliate SANHA gives a blank cheque to Muslims to purchase the products and worse, legitimises the brutal Israeli Government!

5) The example of Abdullah Bin Salaam cited is of no relevance to the pressing issue. Our issue is not one of declaring Halaal to be Haraam.

Extraneous factors, which SANHA's Fatwa point blankly deny, do play a great role in formulating Masaa'il as is apparent from the following Ma'saa'il:

⇒ Allah, Most High prohibited Hadhrat Aadam Alayhi Salaam from eating from the forbidden tree. Allah Ta'aala advised him to take into account the factor of temptation. Thus, Allah forbade him from even going close to the tree. "And do not go close to the tree..."

⇒ Likewise, Allah Ta'aala did not only stop at prohibiting Zinaa, but he forbade us to approach any act which could lead to Zinaa. Says Allah, "And do not go near to Zinaa..."

⇒ Nabi Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam instructed Hadhrat Ayesha (radiallahu anha) to adopt Hijaab from one of her foster brothers who was a lewd character. Did Rasullullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam not take this extraneous factor into account when he barred Hadhrat Ayesha (radiallahu anha), with whom the lewd character had no Shar'i Hijaab, from associating with?

⇒ The Law of Allah is that interest is Haraam. Yet, the curse of Allah even settles upon the person who gains no tangible benefit from the transaction. Thus a witness to the interest transaction is also cursed.

⇒ Similarly, a person manufacturing a liquor bottle is also cursed though he himself may not consume the liquor.

⇒ Just before her demise, Hadhrat Fatima (radiallahu anha) requested that a sheet be spread over her grave when she is buried. Her intense *Haya* (modesty) is the extraneous factor which has caused the Ummah to spread a sheet over the grave of female Marhooms.

⇒ Rasullullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam instructed that all the dogs in Medina Munawwarah be killed. The extraneous factor was that the intense love of the dogs which had entered the hearts of the people.

⇒ Says Allah, Most High: "And wherever you may be turn your direction to Masjidul Haram (in prayer)". No person in his right senses will perform Salaah on a *paak* Musallah in a toilet and cite this Ayah as substantiation that he is merely following the command of Allah and the Divine Law, no matter how "deplorable it may be."

⇒ Rasullullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam prohibited one "who has Imaan upon Allah and The Day of Qiyaamah" to partake from a place where liquor is served, though that food may be Halaal.

The above are a few Masaa'il in which extraneous factors play a role the formulation of a Fatwa. It is upon such basis that the certification of synthetic "Halaal" pork and attending "The Sunday Times food and liquor show" is impermissible. The public now have a choice to examine both the Fatwas and accordingly come to their own intelligent conclusions.

On the one hand they have a Fatwa which is based, as proven, upon highly questionable historical assumptions, misplaced philosophical and moral postulations and is devoid of genuine Shar'i basis.

On the other hand, there is a contesting Fatwa which is based upon a solid response on the premises of The Shariah. It simply does not behove a Mufti to attach a Halaal emblem on Israeli products and cause the Muslims of South Africa to be viewed by the world with derision and scorn and brings untold joy to the Israeli Government since it **OPENLY LEGITIMISES THE ISRAELI STATE'S EXISTENCE!**

We have presented our Fatwa in good faith. If we have erred then it is from our Nafs and Shaytaan, otherwise it is an immense Ni'mat from Allah, Most High.

HARAAM HUKKAH

Smoking the Hukkah Pipe is not only as bad as smoking cigarettes, it is worse! Consider the article below...

Hubble Bubble: Points towards toil and trouble

By May El Meleigy
First Published 4/7/2007

Shisha, the social scourge

In Egypt, the popularity of smoking shisha has become something of a phenomena; men, women and adolescents have taken up the habit often-times to "be part of the crowd" and with the mistaken belief that it is healthier than cigarettes.

The social pursuit of smoking shisha has undergone a huge resurgence over the past few decades particularly in the Eastern Mediterranean, South East Asia, and North Africa regions, according to the World Health Organisation (WHO).

Even in the US and Europe, its popularity has soared with many cafes offering shisha (narghile, water pipe, hookah, hubble bubble are just a few of its pseudo names) and in some countries, shisha has defied public smoking (cigarette) bans.

Smoking shisha however may not only be as dangerous as smoking cigarettes (according to the WHO), but has added health hazards due to the heat involved and the charcoal burning (releasing more cancer-causing substances and heavy metals) and sharing of the pipe (infectious agents such as tuberculosis, hepatitis A, Helicobacter pylori, pulmonary aspergillosis, may be spread by sharing the pipe).

Although the tobacco content in each preparation of shisha is variable, one of three tobaccos are generally used; muessel, which contains about 30 percent tobacco, with the remainder of the contents usually being honey or molasses; tumbak or ajami, which contains a dark tobacco paste; and jurak, which may or may not contain fruits or oils along with tobacco. As the tobacco is burnt on the coals and passed through the water, where it is cooled before it is inhaled, many smokers mistakenly believe this process gets rid of the toxins and makes shisha safer than cigarettes. Evidence to the contrary has recently been published in a review in Pediatrics that found the nicotine content in shisha tobacco to be between 2 and 4 percent, compared to between 1 and 3 percent for cigarettes; and the carbon monoxide (CO) concentration in shisha to be 0.34 percent to 1.40 percent compared to 0.41 percent for cigarette smoke, with CO being more concentrated in the smaller-

sized water pipes than those used for commercial use. CO levels are also more elevated in shisha smoke due to the burning of the tobacco on the charcoal.

As well as containing significant amounts of nicotine, the mainstream smoke from shisha also contains high amounts of tar, heavy metals, arsenic, chromium and lead, especially when compared to smoke in cigarettes.

Furthermore, compared to smoking cigarettes, the mode of smoking shisha (frequency of puffing, depth of inhalation and the length of the smoking session) exposes the shisha smoker to higher concentrations of smoke. Shisha smokers may smoke for several hours at a time and may breathe in more deeply because of the less irritating nature of the moisturised smoke, which is further camouflaged by the fruit flavors that are added to the tobacco.

A review by researchers at Virginia Commonwealth University found that a session of hookah smoking which lasts approximately 45 minutes will deliver 36 times more tar, 15 times more carbon monoxide and 70 percent more nicotine than a single cigarette. Other studies have shown that shisha smokers have increased end-expiratory (end exhaled air) CO levels, carboxyhemoglobin concentrations (CO in the cigarette smoke binds to hemoglobin replacing oxygen resulting in carboxyhemoglobin), and levels of nicotine, cotinine (a major metabolite of nicotine), arsenic, chromium, and lead. Generally, a cigarette will last no more than 5 minutes, which makes approximately 9 cigarettes in order to compare to the 45 minutes hookah session. Confirming these results, the WHO has recently stated that a single session of smoking shisha yields a nicotine intake equivalent to more than one pack of cigarettes and that "a typical one hour smoking session with water pipe leads to inhaling 100-200 times the volume of smoke inhaled with a single cigarette".

Of the few studies carried out on the medical effects of shisha, all suggest that these are similar to those associated with cigarette smoking, including; lung and other cancers, impaired lung function, coronary heart disease, tobacco dependence, infertility and low birth weight (in babies born to shisha smoking mothers). The added risk of contracting infectious diseases is a particular problem for countries such as Egypt where the increased use of shisha is thought to have increased the prevalence of tuberculosis and other infectious diseases.

In addition, in Egypt, a third of all tobacco-related deaths, are from shisha smoking (according to the Egyptian Smoking Prevention Research Institute)

a statistic that warrants more studies, awareness and caution on shisha use.

WHO's recent statement that "there is no proof that any device or accessory can make water pipe smoking safer" should surely deter many people from pretending otherwise, and perhaps stop serving shisha in their homes, as if it is the next best thing to sliced bread, or a pair of Gucci shoes.

Dr May El Meleigy holds a Ph.D in Immunology from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, as well as an MSc. (Toxicology/pathology) and a BSc in pharmacology) from London University. [Article from Daily News— Egypt]



Continued from Page 1..

Hadhrat Aisha Siddiqah insulted...

It is this sacred and blessed memory of the Mother of the Faithful, whose scarf was used during the magnificent battle of Badr as the flag of Islam - which the book "Jewel of Medina" wishes to dishonour and defile. No Muslim worth his salt will accept any option other than calling for this book to be banned in South Africa. It is incumbent upon every Muslim and every organization to rise to the challenge and make his views known to the Government. It is imperative upon us to make our voices heard in no uncertain terms. It is imperative that the Ummah leave aside their petty bickering and stand together in defence of the integrity and honour of Hadhrat Ayesha Siddiqah (radhiallahu anha). We owe it to her and to our beloved Master Sayyadina Muhammed Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam. We owe it to the "Mother of the Faithful" - Hadhrat Ayesha Siddiqah (radhiallahu anha).

Write a civil and courteous letter complaining about this book and call for its banning to:

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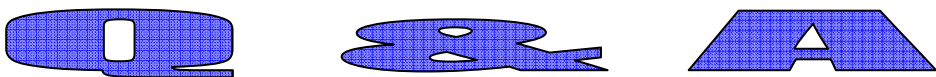
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Q: Is it sunnat for females as well to make Miswaak?

A: Yes, the Miswaak is sunnat for females as well. The Sahaabiyyaat were rigid on the use of the Miswaak just like their male counterparts. Where the Sahaabah would tie their Miswaaks to their swords, the Sahaabiyyaat would tie their Miswaaks to their scarves. It would be ready at hand for use. This clearly demonstrates the emphasis of using the Miswaak for both males and females.

Q: In an argument with my husband the question of Talaq was raised. I asked him, "Are you giving me Talaq?" He responded by saying, "Get out of my sight!" Did Talaq come into effect?

A: His words, "Get out of my sight" could imply, "Get out of my sight as I have given you Talaq." it could also imply, "I do not wish to discuss the issue of Talaq. Therefore get out of my sight." In view of his words not being categorical in reference to Talaq, his intention is the determinant. If his intention was to issue Talaq then one Talaq-e-Baa`in comes into effect. And if his intention was not Talaq, then the marriage remains intact.

DATABASE

The Jamiatul Ulama Gauteng is in the process of setting up a database of Muslims who are keen on receiving occasional important updates on Shar'i issues, such as the above and others.

If you would like to be added to this list and receive free sms's, which will enliven your Islamic spirit and keep you updated on the latest global and local Islamic issues, please SMS your name and postal details to:

083 509 8397

It's not just a chicken matter... EARN DUA'A'S OR CURSES...

Extremism or the Haqq? You be the Judge!

Much debate is raging about the status of commercial chickens. The foremost issue to fully comprehend is that chickens have a real living Rooh. They experience happiness and pain, fear and contentment. Though they may be mere chickens, they recognise and say Aameen to the Dua'aa's of the Malaai-ikah (angels). They get sick and they make Thikr. Says Allah, Most High: "And there is no creation except that it makes the Tasbeeh of Allah..." Why, they even make Sajdah. Says Allah, Most High: "And do you not see that verily everything in the earth and in the skies makes Sajdah to Allah..."

Numerous are the Ahaadith which informs us that birds and fish, curse and bless. As Muslims we have to exercise extreme caution with regards to the welfare of these mute creation of Allah, who will most certainly extract vengeance in both the Worlds if unfairly treated. The following guidelines should clarify much of the confusion provided one is sincere and honest in the search for Haqq.

Rasullullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam has been sent with a message unto mankind called The Shariah.

Irrespective of the dynamics of society and the eras of technological feats etc., that message remains evergreen until the Day of Qiyaamah.

The Mercy of Rasullullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam was not only limited to Muslims, but to non-Muslims as well as Jinkind and the animal kingdom.

Just as the most sinful Muslim yearns to listen to the name of Allah before death and just as the most sinful Muslim would crave to face the Qiblah, so did Rasullullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam speak on behalf of all animals when he instructed us with the following:

- Ensure that Allah's Sacred Name is taken before the chicken is slaughtered.
- That the chicken, whilst lying down, is made to face Qiblah. If it were any other animal, that water be given to it in order to calm it.
- That the knife be not exposed to the chicken as it may cause fear in it.
- That a sharp knife be used so that Maut is not prolonged.

To term any of the following aspects as outdated and extremism is a direct insult to Rasullullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam. To even infer that a single Ta'leem of Rasullullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam contains an element of "extremism" must be viewed as Kufr. As Muslims, we believe that every single Ta'leem of Rasullullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam brims with *Rahm*, mercy, fairness and justice.

Now compare this with the brutal method in which commercial chickens are sadistically slaughtered:

- The chicken is not faced towards the Qiblah.
- It's turned upside down and screams and cries out with desperation and fear.
- It is clamped ruthlessly onto a moving conveyor belt.

Thus, death is not sudden and mercifully executed with a sharp knife.

- Whilst being suspended upside down, blood gushes into its head which increases its distress, suffering and trauma.
- In this lamentable, deplorable and woeful state, its whole head, including its eyes, ears etc. is immersed "water-boarding style" in a container of water through which they are conveyed. No ... its not yet out of its misery...

The water contains electric current which shocks the senses out of the poor innocent chicken's brain and causes it to lose its senses!

Only after this harrowing experience do these creatures, with rolling painful eyes, drooping heads and lamed bodies filled with excruciating pain, now face the slaughterers who, (by their own admission) do not recite the Tasmiyah on each and every chicken, slaughters them at a rate of less than one at 1.25 seconds!

However, without even discussing the vital Tasmiyah issue, the above is sufficient for any half Allah-Fearing Muslim to conclude that these chickens are not fit for even animal consumption.

By Allah! That chicken curses every single human being who is party to the horrendous, dreadful, atrocious and ghastly treatment meted out to it.

By Allah! Every Muslim and Moulana who participates in the certifying, selling and consuming or having any hand in the brutal death of this creation of Allah, must sooner or later taste the curse of that chicken.

Rebellious youth, disobedient wives, oppressive husbands, frustrating ill-health, defiant children, unblessed wealth, continuous worries, unending depression, violent crime...these are but some of the forms which the curse of even a single brutalised chicken take shape. For just how we allow it to suffer and be tortured, so shall all of us, including those who remain silent, suffer! As we sow, so will we reap!

Confound those who expect Islam to buckle and play second fiddle under the demands and commands of commercial enterprises, political correctness and the sickening inferiority complex driven mantra of "the times" and "realism"!

Confound those who term us as "extremist" whilst being party to the worst of brutalities in Islam's history by claiming that they are moderates filled with compassion!

Rasullullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam cried out of anguish when one of his companions took the egg of a bird from its nest. He continued sobbing due to the grief of the mother's bird gnawing at his sacred heart until the egg was returned to its nest. This is heartfelt Mercy! This is the true Islam! Compare this with the treatment of hanging a sliding chicken upside down, "water boarding" it and administering electrical shocks it until it collapses senseless with pain? SANHA is not larger than the teachings of Islam and Rasullullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam!

Are we being fair in our explanation of the Islamic manner of making thabah or are we being extremists? Is this the propagation of the Tal'eem of Islam or mischief-making?

YOU BE THE JUDGE!

Afghan victory hopes played down

The UK's commander in Helmand has said Britain should not expect a "decisive military victory" in Afghanistan.

Brig Mark Carleton-Smith told the Sunday Times the aim of the mission was to ensure the Afghan army was able to manage the country on its own.

He said this could involve discussing security with the Taleban.

When international troops eventually leave Afghanistan, there may still be a "low but steady" level of rural insurgency, he conceded.

He said it was unrealistic to expect that multinational forces would be able to wipe out armed bands of insurgents in the country.

The BBC's Martin Patience in Kabul says Brig Carleton-Smith's comments echo a view commonly-held, if rarely aired, by British military and diplomatic officials in Afghanistan.

Many believe certain legitimate elements of the Taleban represent the positions of the Afghan people and so should be a part of the country's future, says our correspondent.

'Taken the sting out'

Brig Carleton-Smith is the Commander of 16 Air Assault Brigade which has

just completed its second tour of Afghanistan.

He paid tribute to his forces and told the newspaper they had "taken the sting out of the Taleban for 2008".

But he stated: "We're not going to win this war."

"It's about reducing it to a manageable level of insurgency that's not a strategic threat and can be managed by the Afghan army."

Brig Carleton-Smith said the goal was to change how debates were resolved in the country so that violence was not the first option considered.

He said: "If the Taleban were prepared to sit on the other side of the table and talk about a political settlement, then that's precisely the sort of progress that concludes insurgencies like this."

"That shouldn't make people uncomfortable."

Since the start of operations in Afghanistan in 2001, 120 UK military personnel have been killed.

Story from BBC NEWS:

http://news.bbc.co.uk/go/pr/fr/-/2/hi/uk_news/7653116.stm

Published: 2008/10/05

STATE OF THE UMMAH!

Q&Afgaristan

War on Taliban cannot be won, says army chief

Christina Lamb Helmand, Afghanistan

Britain's most senior military commander in Afghanistan has warned that the war against the Taliban cannot be won. Brigadier Mark Carleton-Smith said the British public should not expect a "decisive military victory" but should be prepared for a possible deal with the Taliban.

His assessment followed the leaking of a memo from a French diplomat who claimed that Sir Sherard Cowper-Coles, the British ambassador in Kabul, had told him the current strategy was "doomed to fail".

Carleton-Smith, commander of 16 Air Assault Brigade, which has just completed its second tour of Afghanistan, said it was necessary to "lower our expectations". He said:

"We're not going to win this war. It's about reducing it to a manageable level of insurgency that's not a strategic threat and can be managed by the Afghan army."

The brigadier added: "We may well leave with there still being a low but steady ebb of rural insurgency . . . I don't think we should expect that when we go there won't be roaming bands of armed men in this part of the world. That would be unrealistic and probably incredible."

The [UK] Sunday Times— Oct 5th, 2008

37 nations, 1000's of tanks, aircraft, helicopters, missiles, satellites, bunker buster bombs, humvees, etc., etc....

Versus

THE AWESOME AND BRILLIANT POWER OF ...

Imaan!

Relentless Taliban just keep coming

As their gruelling tour of duty in Afghanistan ends, men of 2 Para tell of relentless battles with an enemy that simply doesn't know when he is outgunned

AS the Afghan sun set over the end-of-tour memorial service last Wednesday at British headquarters in Lashkar Gah, 32 names of the dead, aged between 19 and 52, were solemnly read out, including that of the first woman killed, Corporal Sarah Bryant. Almost every other name, it seemed, was from 2 Para.

The 2nd Battalion the Parachute Regiment lost more lives than any other section of 16 Air Assault Brigade — 11 in total, and five in one week in June — or one in 10 of the unit.

Over the past few days, as the paras flew back to Camp Bastion at the start of their journey home, the mood was sombre. "2 Para took the bulk of the casualties," said Sergeant Andrew Lamont.

"I lost a few good friends I've known for 12 years. Others lost limbs. But when you're out on the bases you just get on. If anything it encourages you to fight to the best of your ability. Only now, as we're going home without them, is it really sinking in."

The most recent victim was popular Lance-Corporal Nicky Mason, killed by a roadside bomb while on patrol keeping the Taliban away from the Kajaki dam. "It was a big shock to everybody," said Lamont, who was just a few hundred yards away when he heard the blast. "When I got back to camp I actually had a cigarette, the first I'd smoked in 19 years."

It was not supposed to be that way. Unlike 16 Air Assault Brigade's first tour in Helmand two years ago, when the then defence secretary John Reid declared that he hoped not a single shot would be fired, they were well prepared this time.

They had almost twice as many men — 7,800 troops and four combat battalions, consisting of the 2nd and 3rd Battalions the Parachute Regiment and two battalions of the Royal Regiment of Scotland. Their commander, Brigadier Mark Carleton-Smith, declared them "the best equipped force the British Army has ever sent".

But the Taliban have also changed tactics, increasingly using improvised explosive devices (IEDs), hiring foreign fighters from Chechnya and Uzbekistan as well as from Pakistan, and even managing to lure defectors from the Afghan national army who had been trained by British and American forces by offering to double their £90-a-month combat pay.

The [UK] Sunday Times— Oct 5th, 2008

Our Man in Kabul Says US Strategy is Failing

By Julian Borger, diplomatic editor and Simon Tisdall in Washington

04/10/09 "[The Guardian](#)" -- Britain's ambassador to Afghanistan believes the US strategy there is failing, Nato reinforcements would be counter-productive and that it would be better if "an acceptable dictator" came to power in Kabul in the next few years, a French satirical weekly reported yesterday.

The comments attributed to Sir Sherard Cowper-Coles were included in a diplomatic dispatch sent on September 2 from a French diplomat in Kabul and published by the French weekly, *Le Canard Enchaîné*, which combines investigative journalism and satire.

The French diplomat, Jean-François Fitou, quoted Cowper-Coles as saying in a meeting: "The American strategy is destined to fail."

"The coalition presence - particularly the military presence - is part of the problem, not the solution," Cowper-Coles is quoted as saying. More Nato troops would have "a perverse effect".

"It would identify us even more clearly as an occupying force and multiply the number of targets [by insurgents]."

According to the published memo, he also says the elected Afghan government of Hamid Karzai had lost all trust, and that it would be a "positive thing" if in five to 10 years, after the departure of British troops, the country was governed by "an acceptable dictator".

A Foreign Office statement issued yesterday said: "It is not for us to comment on something that is presented as extracts from a French diplomatic telegram, but the views quoted are not in any way an accurate representation of the British government's approach. We work closely with our US allies in all aspects of decision making and regularly review our approach."

British officials have expressed deep concern over the security situation in Afghanistan, and have clashed with the US over elements of policy, such as counter-narcotics. The leaked memo has emerged at a time of deepening gloom over the security situation in Afghanistan. The UN secretary general, Ban Ki-moon, said it had "deteriorated markedly" over the past six months, and pointed to the increasing attacks on aid workers. At least 30 have been killed so far this year.

General David McKiernan, the top US commander in Afghanistan, warned yesterday that militant Islamist jihadis were flooding into the country from all corners of the Muslim world to join the Taliban's fight against the Nato alliance, mostly via Pakistan. "They are very well trained. They are good at attacks on soft targets. They are Uzbeks, Chechens, Punjabis, Arabic [sic], Europeans," he said.

Speaking at a press conference in Washington, McKiernan said efforts were underway to improve cooperation with the Pakistani military and intelligence services to halt the flow of jihadis. While he welcomed recent changes at the top of Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence spy agency, he described the ISI as "historically and institutionally complicit" in Taliban activities in Pakistan's tribal areas.

McKiernan confirmed he was seeking an additional three US combat brigades - approximately 10,500 soldiers - to reinforce the 40-country Nato International Security Assistance Force mission. He said the troops should be deployed as quickly as possible.

"HARK! ALLAH'S ASSISTANCE IS NEAR."

[Qur'aan Majeed, Para 2]

Of Prophets and Profits (Newsweek Oct 13 2008)

"For the Holy Month of Ramadaan, Muslims have long indulged in nights of earthly pleasures after daylong fasts. But as the 2008 holiday draws to a close in Europe, participants and experts say those pleasures are becoming decidedly more commercial. Many families have replaced traditional at-home dinners with fast-food feasts and decadent restaurant affairs.

Some Muslims even spruced up the revelry with Christmas-like touches: decorative garlands, bottles of Cham'alal sparkling wine (nonalcoholic) and holiday catalogues offering Holy Qur'an digital Books and the Islamic iPod Qur'an."

The article continues "Of course Europe's Christians have mixed holy days and commerce for years — but until now, over the top merchandising hadn't successfully crossed religious lines. Still, if this holiday was any indication, Ramadan coke cans may be here to stay."

Read the above again and reflect at the miserable state which the Muslim Ummah has plunged to. Truly this is the era in which nothing of Islam is left except it's name! May Allah safeguard our Imaan!

THE GREAT STOCK MARKET (read Casino) CRASH!

The Ulama of Haq had long, very long, long ago warned the public that the dubious Riba driven stock market system was completely incompatible with the lofty principles governing the creation of wealth by The Shariah.

To a great degree, the entire stock market system resembles gambling. Share owners have no control whatsoever as to how the "dice" would "roll". A share certificate is all that a person has to reflect his wealth. He possesses no concrete personal wealth and is left totally at the mercy of "market" forces and the greed of unseen financial grubby hands. Today, he is an uncertain millionaire — tomorrow an authentic pauper and a genuine statistic.

Allah Ta'aala has informed the Muslims: 'And let their offspring and their wealth not amaze you; for verily Allah seeks to punish them with it in this World...' (Qur'aan)

Interest related bankruptcy is just not just a sad, sad word. It translates into suicides, divorces, violence, enmity, cruelty and carnage. But then, what else can one expect for those upon whom Allah and His Rasul Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam has declared WAR?

Questions & Answers

Q. I have read in the kitaab, Sharah Wifaayah, that it is farz according to Imam Abu Haneefah (rahmatullahi alaihi) to make masah of the beard. What is the purport of this? Is masah of the beard also farz just as masah of the head is, or just masah of the head?

A. If the beard is fine leaving the skin underneath visible, then it is *fardh* to wash the skin. And if the beard is thickset and the skin beneath it is not visible then it is *sunnat* to make masah of that part of the beard which is beyond the circumference of the face. In so far as the beard which falls within the circumference of the face is concerned, there are several narrations; one as mentioned in *Sharah Wifaayah*, however, the authentic version is that it is *fardh* to wash all this as well.

Q. My husband and I had an argument over our children's upbringing. In a fit of rage he blurted out, "Get away from here!" No prior mention of talaq was made. Did his words constitute talaq?

A. In this case his intention is the determinant. If his intention was to issue Talaq, then one *Talaaq-e-Baain* came into effect. If his intention however was to silence you and remove you from his presence, not Talaq, then no Talaq came into effect.

Q: Is it permissible to sit at a table to eat?

A: Nabi (sallallahu alaihi wasallam) never ate at a table. In fact, he (sallallahu alaihi wasallam) encouraged eating 'as slaves eat' (i.e. on the floor, with humility and not leaning). The Ulama have written that it is Makrooh-e-Tahrimi to eat at tables.

Amongst many other Darul-Uloom, is a small Madrassah which operates a full time Hifz and Aalim course with limited students under the tutelage of the Jamiatul-Ulama—Gauteng. Parents who share a similar untainted vision of Deen and desire their children to be tutored according to the Tariqa of our Akaabereen, are welcome to apply for the admission of their children. Due to limited facilities and in order to ensure individual attention, the maximum role is twelve students per Hifz class and six per Aalim class. For further information contact:

MADRASAH ASHRAFUL ULOOM, P.O. BOX 546,
DE DEUR, 1884 TEL/FAX NO: 016 590 2280

The Sunday Times Boycott

What do we gain, you may ask, by persisting with the Sunday Times boycott

- We gain the Pleasure of Allah and His Beloved Rasul (Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam).
- We gain the intercession of Nabi (Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam)
- We gain the joy and Thawaab of opposing the enemies of Allah and His Rasul (Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam).
- We gain the pleasure and reward of knowing that we are 'putting our shoulders to the wheel' in standing up for our Beautiful Deen and defending the honour of our Beloved Nabi (Sallallahu Alayhi wasallam)

"THE SHARIAH" was formerly published on A4 paper and Alhamdulillah, with the Fadhil of Allah Ta'ala the subscriber demand has increased together with requests for a more voluminous publication.

We have opted for the present size and increased our print volume. The cost of postage is also astronomical.

We do not have subscribe to the policy of "collectors" neither do we charge for this publication,. Any contributions are a debt unto Allah Ta'aala, which Allah Ta'aala has promised to repay..

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THE SUNDAY TIMES BOYCOTT INDICATOR

Weekly advertising losses: R150 000/

Weekly sales losses: R50 000/

Boycott launched: September 2006

Boycott week 104

Total losses incurred: R2.08 Million

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