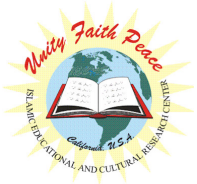


In the Name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful
Prayers and Peace upon His Noble Messenger ﷺ



Islamic Educational and Cultural Research Center

CALIFORNIA, U.S.A

A non-profit, non-political, charitable organization

IECRC Newsletter

May 31, 2003 / Rabi'ul Awwal 29, 1424

Volume 1, Issue 1

IECRC Newsletter Editorial Board

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IECRC wishes you a very
blessed Eid Milad-un-Nabi ﷺ

Inside this issue:

Milad Celebrations in the Bay Area	3
Naats	4,5
Social Responsibilities Carved Out for Muslims	6
Dua for Very Difficult Situations	7
The Science of Dreams	7
IECRC Services	8,9
Visiting Professor, Dr. Manzooruddin Ahmed	10
Iqbal Day	10
Anniversary of Imam Ahmed Raza Khan rahmatullah alayh	11
Dr. Qadri expounds on Shamaail-e-Nabawi ﷺ	11
IECRC Publications & Cassettes	12

Celebrating the Birthday of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (Mawlid) in the Light of Quran & Sunnah

From the Desk of the Editor-in-Chief

One of the strengths of Islam is its diversity. There is room in our communion for Muslims and non-Muslims coming from different cultural and linguistic backgrounds. Apart from diversity, we can also find unity in our effort to bring the message of peace from our Beloved Prophet (prayers and peace of Allah be upon him) to humanity at large on this beautiful occasion of Milad-un-Nabi *sallallahu alayhi wa sallam*. Muslims all over the world commemorate every year at this time, with respect, love, and abounding joy the birthday of

our Beloved Prophet Muhammad (prayers and peace of Allah be upon him).

The Prophet (prayers and peace of Allah be upon him) has said: "Whosoever sends blessings on me one time, Allah sends blessings on him ten times". In fact, rejoicing at the birthday of the Prophet Muhammad (prayers and peace of Allah be upon him) is valid according to the Holy Quran and Sunnah. The Holy Quran says:

"Of the favor and the mercy of Allah let them rejoice." [10: 58]

This order was revealed because happiness makes the heart grateful for Allah *subhaanahu wa ta'aala's* mercy. What greater mercy did Allah *subhaanahu wa ta'aala* grant to mankind than the Holy Prophet (prayers and peace of Allah be upon him) himself, about which He says, "We did not send you except as a mercy to the worlds." [21: 107]? Imam Jalal al Din al Suyuti, in *Al hawi lil fatawi* (193) says: "The Prophet's (prayers and peace of Allah be upon him) birth is the greatest bounty, and his death is the greatest

(Continued on next page)

Welcome

Welcome to the first edition of the IECRC Newsletter being debuted on the auspicious occasion of Eid Milad-un-Nabi *sallallahu alayhi wa sallam* in the blessed month of Rabi'ul Awwal. We hope to insha Allah make this a regular publication to keep you abreast of our activities.

IECRC was established by Professor Dr. Mohammad Ahmed Qadri who is a distinguished scholar from Pakistan, well-versed in both modern education as well as traditional Islamic sciences.

He obtained his Ph.D. in Political Science and a Degree in Law from University of Karachi. He served as the Director of Karachi University's Research Program and regularly contributes monthly articles to the University's publications. He taught at Karachi University for over 20 years and has contributed a large number of research articles at national and international conferences.

Dr. Qadri has completed the Dars-e-Nizami, an 18 year traditional Islamic

course from Pakistan and has studied with scholars from Al-Azhar University, Cairo. He has dedicated his life to spreading the light and love of our beloved Master, Prophet Muhammad (prayers and peace of Allah be upon him) through the Islamic Educational and Cultural Research Center (IECRC), California.

We welcome your feedback about IECRC. Please call us at 510-739-6759 or email us at iecrcna@netscape.net. Thank You.

Celebrating the Mawlid

(Continued from previous page)

calamity. Religious law urges us to express thankfulness for bounties, and be patient and remain calm during calamities. Also, it prohibited wailing and showing grief. Therefore, the rules of Divine Law indicate that it is recommended to show joy during the month of the Prophet's (prayers and peace of Allah be upon him) birth and not to show sorrow for his death."

In *Al hawi lil fatawi*, Imam Al Suyuti wrote a special chapter entitled, *The Good Intention in Commemorating the Mawlid*, at the beginning of which he said, "Someone asked Ibn Hajar about commemorating the Mawlid. Ibn Hajar answered, it occurred to me (Suyuti) to trace it to its established origin, which has been confirmed in the two authentic books: *al Sahihain*. When the Prophet (prayers and peace of Allah be upon him) arrived in Medina, he found that the Jews fast the day of `Ashura; when he inquired about it they said, 'This is the day when Allah *subhaanahu wa ta'aala* drowned the Pharaoh and saved Moses; therefore, we fast it to show our gratitude to Allah *subhaanahu wa ta'aala*.' The Prophet (prayers and peace of Allah be upon him) ordered his community to fast that day, saying, 'We have more right on Musa than they do.' Thus, the day of independence for *Bani Israil* (Jews) became a day of worship for the Muslims. From this we can conclude that thanks are being given to Allah on a specific day for sending bounty or preventing indignity or harm. What bounty is greater than the bounty of the coming of this Prophet (prayers and peace of Allah be upon him), the Prophet of Mercy, on that day?"

This is regarding the basis for Mawlid.

As for the activities, these should consist only of things that express thankfulness to Allah *subhaanahu wa ta'aala*, such as reciting Qur'an, eating food, giving charity, reciting *Naat* (poetry, praising the Prophet, prayers and peace of Allah be upon him), or on piety which induces love in the hearts and stimulates them to follow the footsteps of the Prophet (prayers and peace of Allah be upon him). Ibn Qayyim al-Jawziyya relates that the Prophet (prayers and peace of Allah be upon him) prayed that Allah *subhaanahu wa ta'aala* support Hassan ibn Thabit with *Ruh Al-Qudus* (the Divine spirit) as long as he would support the Prophet

Of the favor and the mercy of Allah let them rejoice.

[Qur'an 10: 58]

We did not send you (O Prophet, prayers and peace of Allah be upon him) except as a mercy to the worlds.

[Qur'an 21: 107]

(prayers and peace of Allah be upon him) with his poetry. Similarly, the Prophet (prayers and peace of Allah be upon him) rewarded Ka'b ibn Zuhayr's (may Allah be pleased with him) poem of praise with a robe (*burda*).

To commemorate the Mawlid, which is basically gathering people together, reciting parts of the Qur'an, narrating stories about the Prophet's (prayers and peace of Allah be upon him) birth and the signs that accompanied it, then serving food, and afterwards departing is one of the good traditions. The one who practices it gets rewarded because it involves venerating the status of the Prophet (prayers and peace of Allah be upon him) and expressing joy for his honorable birth. Al Qastalani (al Bukhari's commentator) in his book *Al*

mawahib al ladunniya (1-148) said, "May Allah *subhaanahu wa ta'aala* have mercy on the one who turns the nights of the month of the Prophet's (prayers and peace of Allah be upon him) birth into festivities in order to decrease the suffering of those whose hearts are filled with disease and sickness."

The famous 8th-century historian Ibn Battuta relates in his *Rihla*: "On every Friday, after the Jum'uah prayers and on the birthday of the Prophet (prayers and peace of Allah be upon him), the door of the Ka'ba is opened by the head of the Banu Shayba, the doorkeepers of the Ka'ba, and that on the Mawlid, the Shafi'i *qadi* (head judge) of Makkah, Najmuddin Muhammad Ibn al-Imam Muhyiddin al-Tabari, distributes food to the *shurafa'* (descendants) of the Prophet (prayers and peace of Allah be upon him) and to all the other people of Makkah." Similar events are recorded as having taken place in Makkah and Madinah up to the year 1917. Only then did these traditions and practices cease in these two holiest cities, though they are still held in the homes of many Hijazi families, attended by many Muslims who come from around the world. There are others who wrote and spoke about Mawlid, such as Imam al Sakhawi, Imam Wajihu Din bin `Ali bin al Dayba' al Shaybani al Zubaidi, and many more, which we will not mention due to the limited space available. From these many evidences, it should be clear by now that celebrating the Mawlid is highly commendable and allowed according to Islamic traditional and societal dynamics. In short we could conclude that Mawlid is a source of unity among Muslim ummah and a sign of grace for Islam. Mawlid itself is a unique factor of Islamic orientation of generations. It is an ongoing scientific process which trains a Muslim's

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Celebrating the Mawlid

(Continued from previous page)

nature. As a matter of fact, Mawlid is a source of satisfaction for the soul and purification of the heart. Someone may ask a basic question about its composition and justification. We must look into the elements of Mawlid. It consists of the following components:

- (1) Recitation of the Quran
- (2) *Naat* (praise about the Holy Prophet, prayers and peace of Allah be upon him)
- (3) Sermon or speech about his Life (Seerah)
- (4) Durood and Salutation
- (5) Dua
- (6) Distribution of food

All the stated factors are the component of Mawlid which are sources of satisfaction to the hearts of the faithful (Momineen). None of them is against Shariah or the orders of the Beloved Prophet (prayers and peace of Allah be upon him). Today it is a necessity of the time for us to celebrate the Mawlid to achieve Barakah (Blessings of Allah) and Unity for our integrity and identification.

All praise be to Allah who chose the religion of Islam for us. May the blessings and peace be upon His servant and Apostle, who is the source of

mercy for all the worlds; and may Allah bless his posterity, his companions and those who follow his footsteps till the Day of Judgement. (Aamin)

Dr. Syeda Saiqa Zubeda

Dr. Syeda has been working as the Principal of the Canadian Institute of Islamic Sciences, Toronto Canada for the past three years. She has designed and taught the Islamic curriculum for the Institute. She obtained her Ph.D. in Islamic Political Sociology and was awarded two gold medals from the University of Karachi, Pakistan. These days Dr. Syeda is fully dedicated towards research work for the IECRC.

Milad Procession and Speeches on the Birth and Life of the Holy Prophet Muhammad ﷺ at the State Capital – Sacramento, California

On Sunday, May 11, 2003 / Rabi'ul Awwal 9, 1424, Prof. Dr. Mohammad Ahmed Qadri, along with members of IECRC attended the 3rd annual Milad-un-Nabi *sallallaahu alayhi wa sallam* procession, organized by Maulana Qari Basheer Ahmed Sialvi, President of the Jama'at Ahl-e-Sunnat, Bay Area at the state capital. The celebration began with a walk from the Federal building to the Capitol building in downtown Sacramento. The short walk culminated in a peaceful gathering in front of the Capitol building where a number of scholars delivered passionate speeches and *Naats* (poetry in praise of the Prophet, prayers and peace of Allah be

upon him). Some of the participants included budding youngsters who presented lovely *Naats* to the Prophet Muhammad (prayers and peace of Allah be upon him) on the occasion of his birth on the 12th of Rabi'ul Awwal. Prof. Dr. Mohammad Ahmed Qadri delivered his ongoing consistent message to a captivated audience stating that the only solution to the current crisis of the Muslims is to restore the love, honor, centrality, and elevated status of Allah *subhaanahu wa ta'aala's* Beloved Prophet (prayers and peace of Allah be upon him) in our lives. He emphasized that Islam is a message of

peace, love, and humanity. Other eminent scholars who presented similar messages were Maulana Mohammad Azeem Qadri, Maulana Aulad-e-Rasool, Prof. Jahangir Hamdani, and many more. Qari Tasawar Iqbal recited the Holy Quran, and among other *Naat* reciters presenting were himself and Qari Muhammad Sabir Haqqani. The beautiful weather and delicious food complemented the serene atmosphere of the gathering, which also piqued the interest of several passers-by. The Master of Ceremonies thanked the Governor of California and the Mayor of Sacramento for facilitating this very important event.

Eid-e-Milad-un-Nabi ﷺ at Aastaana-e-Qadriya, Fremont, California

The blessed night of the 12th of Rabi'ul Awwal was celebrated with much reverence and love at the home of Prof. Dr. Mohammad Ahmed Qadri, also known as the *Aastaana-e-Qadriya* in Fremont, California. The night was illumined by many heart-warming *Naats* in praise of Prophet Muhammad (prayers and peace of Allah be upon him). Dr. Mohammad Ahmed Qadri and Maulana Zubayr Qadri embellished the audience with their pearls of knowledge regarding the Prophet Muhammad's (prayers and peace of Allah be upon him) crea-

tion, birth, life, love and message. This blessed event was further enhanced by the participation of Prof. Dr. Mohammad Abdullah Qadri, Chairman, Dept. of Political Science, University of Karachi, Pakistan and the world's first blind Ph.D. in Political Science. He joined us via telephone from University of Karachi. Dr. Abdullah Qadri is a gold medallist and *Shaykh-ul-Hadeeth*. He recited the Holy Quran, presented a *Naat* and talked of the life of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (prayers and peace be

upon him). IECRC Canada was also connected to the evening through telephone. Since it is the Sunnah of the Prophet Muhammad (peace and prayers of Allah be upon him) to fast on the 12th of Rabi'ul Awwal, the day that he was sent to this earth as Allah ta'aala's greatest blessing, *sahri* (meal taken before keeping a fast) was served to all attending. The evening concluded with night prayers, *salaam* (salutation) to the Prophet (prayers and peace of Allah be upon him) at the time of his birth and Fajr prayers.

Allah subhaanahu wa ta'aala says in His Noble Quran:

*Indeed towards you has come a light (Prophet Muhammad) ﷺ
from Allah, and a clear Book.*

[Al-Maidah 5:15]

The Permissibility of Women Reciting Naats – Poetry in Praise of the Holy Prophet Muhammad ﷺ

A Naat is a Holy recitation praising the most blessed and exalted of all creatures, the appointed guide and perfect model for humanity, the one to whom the trees bowed and shaded, the beloved of Allah, Muhammad (may his sweet soul be blessed and given peace). This recitation is always delivered in a respectful, humble manner so the reciter becomes only the Words. Not a star nor a voice, not even a personality. These heartfelt descriptions and words of praise are intentionally written to arouse the feeling of love for the most perfect of humans (may Allah Exalted and Great bless him and give him peace).

In those auspicious days when he (peace and blessings be on him) was migrating from Mecca sharif to Medina Monawwara, the people of Madina Monawwara anxiously watched and waited for his arrival. At long last, the glorious moment arrived and the children joyfully sang:

*Tala'al-Badru 'alayna
Min thaniyyatil-wada'
Wajaba al-shukru alayna,
Ma da'a lillahi da'*

Oh the white moon rose over us

from the valley of Wada'
and we owe it to show gratefulness
where the call is to Allah.

*Ayyuha al-mab'uthu fina
Ji'ta bil amril mutaa
Ji'ta sharrafta al-Madinah
Marhabanya khayra da'*

Oh you who were raised amongst us
coming with a work to be obeyed
you have brought to this city noble-
ness
welcome! Best call to Allah's Way.

The original references reliably report the participation of girls between the ages of 5 and 13 years. Furthermore, it has also been reported by the historians that there were some women who welcomed the Holy Prophet Muhammad (prayers and peace of Allah be upon him) and his companions (may Allah be pleased with them) by joining in the reciting. It is also well documented and known how much the Holy Prophet enjoyed this display of love and affection toward him (may his sweet soul be blessed and given peace).

About poetry, the Hadith is:

*What's good therein is good,
What is bad is bad.*

In listening to these Holy recitations, Insha Allah, the level of our knowledge of and love for this jewel among gems (may his sweet soul be blessed and given peace) will grow and guide us to the Love of Allah, Glorious is His Majesty!

**Say: If you do love Allah, follow me
Allah will love you and forgive your
sins, for Allah is Oft-Forgiving, Most
Merciful.**

[Ale Imran 3: 31]

Shaikh Shahab Ud-Din Suhrawardi (may his soul be blessed) said:
For those intent with Love of Allah,
Hearing is an aid to perfection.

So let us all aim for perfection in nearness and obedience to our Lord and Creator, Exalted is He.

Khadija Jamal Locks

Sister Khadija is a resident of Los Angeles, CA. She has written "The Wealth of the Inheritors", published by Nuqoosh Press, Lahore, Pakistan. She is currently working on a book on the subject of Islamic stories for children.

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Narrated Abu Huraira (may Allah be pleased with him):

Allah's Apostle (prayers and peace of Allah be upon him) said, "By Him in Whose Hands my life is, none of you will have faith till he loves me more than his father and his children."

Sahih Bukhari, Volume 1, Book 2, Number 13

Tribute to the Holy Prophet Muhammad ﷺ

The Best of Creation ﷺ

*The very first creation, undoubtedly the best
Allah's Beloved, the cause for the rest
Prayed for his Ummah from the day he was born
Morning and night from dusk until dawn*

*Transferred through generations of purity
Arrived into Aamina's womb with complete security
No labor or birth pains did she have in the slight
What she saw coming from her was nothing but light*

*She saw the castles of Qaiser and Kisra crumble in the distance
The millennium old burning Magian light blew out in an instance
The winds of change were blowing in their finest
The scent of Madinah was arriving, at the Merciful's behest*

*Asiya, Maryam and Hawa were sent as nursemaids
To welcome this Mercy to the worlds, never to fade
A bright light shone from his gentle, tender face
The joy of seeing which nothing could replace*

*Clouds covered the Ka'ba, stars bent in humility and awe
Ecstatic with Allah's Greatest Blessing, which the world now saw
Food was at Abdul Muttalib's for three whole days
Even Abu Lahab freed a slave on that blessed Monday*

*He became a source of joy, for Halima, his wet-nurse
After taking him, her emaciated donkey outran the rest
And her goats' dried udders with milk did fill up
They satiated themselves, drinking their fill cup by cup*

*The new babe was a sign from our Lord
Taking only one side, justice did he accord
Leaving the other, for his siblings in milk
So they would have an equal chance to drink*

*The moon would swing by the motion of his blessed baby fingers
The sun revolved around his blessed face, certainly wanting to linger
A cloud would travel with him whatever journey he made
His seal of Prophethood between his shoulder blades*

*He fasted on Mondays and when asked why
"I was born on that day" was the Beloved's reply
Even Abu Lahab receives respite on that day
For his act of joy that he did display*

*Allah, the Most High bestowed upon him special qualities
His naked eye could see 12 stars in the constellation of Pleiades
His blessed vision was as clear at night as it was in the day
He could see behind him just as well as what stood in his way*

*His blessed teeth through his beautiful smile lit up the darkness
To help find lost objects, this light did the Companions harness
The sun didn't dare cast his blessed body's shadow
Could light upon light do such a thing? The answer is clearly no*

*Stones proclaimed the shahada in his blessed hands
The Ka'ba bent towards him in reverence in that holy land
The moon split in two upon his command
The tree stub wailed, for his separation it couldn't stand*

*He is not made like us but his Lord gives him food and drink
To our Merciful Creator, he is the necessary link
Shed one tear in his love and intercession for you is guaranteed
For success on that awesome Day, his intercession is what we need*

*Visit him in his resting place in beautiful Madinah city
This also guarantees intercession and true felicity
Sing his praises and present your love poems in his honor
This is worship of Allah, Most High, Who is his Greatest Lover*

Shagufta Ahmad Qadri

Social Responsibilities Carved Out for Muslims

Today, when we consider social responsibilities, we naturally turn to western thought because many of the underdeveloped nations are so dependent on the generosity of the larger and richer nations. Gradually, and unconsciously, we instill in our youth that generosity and charity belong not to us, but to other people. As we grow older, the need to identify with our community becomes intense and we begin to bond with one another. Thus, often, we learn later in life that charity is one of the major tenets in Islam. The cycle begins and we perform acts of charity during the Holy months, but that is not the true meaning of charity, not at least the way our leader (peace be upon him) taught us. In fact, our Holy Prophet, Muhammad (peace be upon him) was the epitome of charity because it was a continuous act carried out with a tender heart and good feeling toward the receiver, and not a consideration only at certain times of the year. Thus, he conducted himself in ways that demonstrates the importance and valuable lesson that we have ignored because charity is the most important aspect in Islamic social life. Without charity, there can be no egalitarian society; therefore, performing acts of kindness to our fellow human beings regardless of their faith is akin to the kind of charitable works that we have been taught as Muslims.

At the counseling center, every Sunday, at the IECRC (Islamic Educational and Cultural Research Center), Munoz Hall in Fremont becomes a camping ground for the needy, and the physically and emotionally disturbed. No religion comes in between the various counselors or their counsels. Furthermore, there is no required payment of any kind.

In fact, people from all cultures and religious backgrounds come to the center, receive help, and go off with a cheery smile only to visit again the following week. Today, financial gain in every possible discipline is sought and that is one of the reasons why so many people who are in dire need cannot receive the help. On the other hand, this center is not narrowed in its vision of the kind of help people can receive, but no problem is too small or too large to receive help. Yusuf Talal De Lorenzo in his translation of Muhammad Al-Ghazali's text entitled, *Remembrance and Prayer "The Way of Prophet Muhammad"* explains how the prophets and Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) lived their lives on complete dependence on Allah *subhaanahu wa ta'aala*. Furthermore, helping those in need (charity) creates a closer relationship to Allah *subhaanahu wa ta'aala* and that should always be our final aim. Lorenzo translates this idea as: "It is tempting to say that the heart of Muhammad, upon him be peace, and only his heart, was the one to listen to the crier's warning to tear away the barriers of neglect and race to the Sacred, Supreme One" (25). What other lessons do we need other than the two words "neglect and race" to understand that it is our obligation as Muslims to nurture our fellow human beings? We should find comfort in learning that human nature itself makes that comparison, but not in such clear terms as has been passed down to us by Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him). For example, Andrew Carnegie (1835-1919) the son of a damask weaver, physically hungered in the dreadful forties for sustenance. He struggled financially and his parents had no means other than to have him work in a cotton factory at the age of thirteen. Later, by his own energy and hard-work ethics, he became in-

dustrious and achieved great wealth. However, he did not keep his wealth, but gave back to his community (a lesson that was taught to us by our great leader, peace be upon him). In 1900, he published *The Gospel of Wealth*, where he states his famous axiom, "the man who dies rich dies disgraced." Carnegie's philosophy on philanthropy should not be confined to monetary gain. In fact, those who are rich in God-given qualities have just as much responsibility to their fellow human beings. Thus, we can go further and state that men and women who die rich spiritually and emotionally without sharing their God-given talents with others do a great injustice to their fellow human beings. That is the philosophy of our Muslim teachings and as such the IECRC commits to the most profound teachings of our Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) when it counsels people of all races. It is because we are not performing acts of noble deeds, but allowing an illuminated life to appear before us.

Furthermore, during the counseling sessions, women play a major role. Sisters Fahmiza Jasmine Ali, Rukshana Kahtoon, and Shagufta Chand express their hospitality and warmth as they take attendance and graciously seat the visitors. Simultaneously, two other great women provide snacks to those waiting for their turn for advice. Sister Shahida Abid serves tea and cookies to the people; while Sister Bushra Chaudhry brings her delicious gourmet lunch that she cooks with so much enthusiasm and delight. They make the waiting for all the needy a little easier and a little more cheerful.

Khalida Kareemi

Ms. Kareemi is a Bay Area resident and she enjoys writing.

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Dua to Recite When Facing a Very Difficult Problem

First, fast continuously for 3 days – Wednesday, Thursday & Friday. On Friday, take a bath and after Jumu'ah prayer, recite the following dua (prayer). Upon its completion, mention the objective of the dua.

BismiLlahirRahmaanirRaheem

Allahumma innee askaluka bi ismika bismillahirrahmaanirraheem alladhee laa ilaaha illa hu 'aalimul ghaibi washsha-haadati huwa arRahmaanurRaheem wa asaluka bi ismika bismillahirrahmaanirraheem alladhee laa ilaaha illa hu al-hayyul qayyoom laa ta`khudhuhu sinatanwa laa naum alladhee mala`at `adhmatu samaawati wal ardh wa asaluka bi ismika bismillahirrahmaanirraheem alladhee laa ilaaha illa hu wa aradh laahul wujoohu wa khasha`tu laahul aswaatu wa rajilaatil quloobi min khashiyyatihi an tusaalliya `ala Muhammadin wa `ala aali Muhammadin sallallaahu `alayhi wa sallama wa `an tu`teeni mas`alatu wa taqdi haajati bi rahmatika ya arhamarraahemeen

The Science of Dreams

Dreams may sometimes be a source of excitement for those who experience it rarely, but those who experience it regularly, feel very different due to its interpretation. The science of dreams is not new; Arabs carried it out before Islam and other nations too. This science has been referred to by the Holy Quran. This could be called the science of heavenly communication. The first authentic book on this subject is *Tabeer-Ur-Ruiyaa* (The Interpretation of Dreams) by Abu Bakr bin Sireen. He was born two years before the end of vicegerency of Hadrat Uthman (R.A) in 30 AH (636). He was a Tabai; Tabai means a person who did not see The Holy Prophet Mohammad *Sallallahu Alaihe Wasallum* but had met companions of the Holy Prophet Mohammad *Sallallahu Alaihe Wasallum*. In analyzing the science of dreams, we find out three important aspects, which are the main sources of our knowledge regarding the understanding of dreams: (1) The world of power which is concerned with pure ideas (2) The physical world or the sensory world (3) The subtle world or the intermediate world. It is a bridge between two stated worlds that provides corporeal form to reality. In this connection, it is very important to discuss some of the interpretations of dreams for readers.

1. The Sun: Dreaming of the sun identifies father, mother and king. To see the sun rising in one's house is synonymous with marriage for someone unmarried.

For a married person it refers to power and largesse dispensed by the authority. An argument with the sun is a sign for differences either with parents or heads of states. Seeing clouds clearing the sun is a sign of relief from sickness or problems, which may be beneficial either for the dreamer or for his or her parents.

2. The Moon: Dreaming of the Moon simply points out to the birth of a pious child. The possession of Moon means success in a profession or to be granted a big assignment in the near future. The dark or red moon refers to a bad situation for a dreamer in that he or she may be facing a hard time in the near future.

3. The Stars: Seeing the Stars is a significance of honor in society. If someone dreams about eating a star, it would be interpreted that he will be having facilities from the government or high officials. It would also refer to the receiving of higher education. Dreaming about falling stars from the sky is a sign for a tough life or imprisonment for the dreamer.

4. Fire: Just seeing fire would be interpreted as unseen problems that may occur in life. It has also been reported that fire has different colors. If the fire is red or almost like it's natural color, it means success, but if it is blue or black it would mean hard time for the dreamer in the near

future. A fire without flames or crackling which consumes part of the land is synonymous with illness and accidents. However, it is more serious if the fire is coming down from heaven to earth which means the dreamer must have committed some social injustice with their parents, or other relatives, or even with animals. If fire is without smoke, it means problems would occur in the life of the dreamer for a short period of time.

5. Rain: Dreaming of Rain is the mercy of Allah (God). If rain is heavy and it continues and if it hails, it would mean continuous problems or may be difficulties in domestic life. If a cloud covers a particular land or one particular place, it presages illness and suffering for the people of the country or location in question.

Suggestions to the dreamer: An individual who dreams should observe the following principles of dreams:

- 1. Any dream at the time of reporting must begin with Bismillah Hir Rahmannir Rahim**
- 2. The dreamer should not mention the dream to a person who does not know about alpha and omega of dreams.**
- 3. Dream should not be reported after sunset.**

... (To Be Continued Insha Allah)

Prof. Dr. Mohammad Ahmed Qadri

IECRC Weekly Dhikr

Under the spiritual guidance of Prof. Dr. Mohammad Ahmed Qadri, IECRC conducts weekly Dhikr sessions every Sunday at 6:30 PM at:

Munoz Hall
109 J Street
Fremont, CA 94536

The evening comprises of:

- Quran Recitation
- Naat-e-Rasool
- Talk by Prof. Dr. Mohammad Ahmed Qadri
- Dhikr
- Salaam on the Holy Prophet Muhammad (prayers and peace of Allah be upon him)
- Fatiha
- Dinner (the continuing tradition of *Langar-e-Qadria*.)

Please pray that we continue this glorious Islamic tradition of "Dhikr of Allah". As Allah *ta'aala* says in His Glorious Quran:

"Only in the remembrance of Allah is the solace of hearts." – (13:28)

This spiritual gathering is a great solution to modern man's many ailments of stress, depression and anxiety. To learn more about the importance of Dhikr, please visit our website.

For further information about IECRC's Weekly Dhikr or to find out how to contribute towards the *Langar-e-Qadriya*, please call Ayyaz Yousaf Qadri at 408-835-7786.

***Don't forget to listen to
Dr. Mohammad Ahmed Qadri on Hamrahi
Radio 1450 am every Saturday
at 4:00 PM!***

Tune into the Hamrahi Radio Program 1450 am at 4:00 PM every Saturday afternoon to hear Dr. Mohammad Ahmed Qadri speak on different social and spiritual aspects of Islam. This popular series is presented in both English and Urdu for the benefit of the diverse listening audience.

IECRC Spiritual Healing Center

Under the complete guidance of Prof. Dr. Mohammad Ahmed Qadri, IECRC conducts Spiritual Healing sessions every Sunday between 11:00 AM and 1:00 PM at **Munoz Hall, 109 J Street, Fremont, CA 94536.**

Contact phone number: 510-739-6759
Contact person: Dr. M. Ahmed Qadri

The spiritual healing center is unique in that:

- treatment is provided free of any sort of fees
- all peoples irrespective of their color, creed, race, and religion are welcome.
- currently serves close to two hundred people every week.
- people come from all over the USA and abroad for healing.

Healing is provided for all types of ailments that range from benign aches and pains to severe conditions such as cancer and psychological ailments. Please note that the average expected wait time is 2-3 hours due to the large number of patients seek-

Narrated 'Aisha (may Allah be pleased with her): "During the Prophet's (prayers and peace of Allah be upon him) fatal illness, he used to recite the Mu'auwidhat (Surat An-Nas and Surat Al-Falaq) and then blow his breath over his body. When his illness was aggravated, I used to recite those two Suras and blow my breath over him and make him rub his body with his own hand for its blessings." (Ma'mar asked Az-Zuhri: How did the Prophet (prayers and peace of Allah be upon him) used to blow? Az-Zuhri said: He used to blow on his hands and then passed them over his face.)

Sahih Bukhari
(Volume 7, Number 631)

ing help. Alhamdulillah, two more branches of this center operate in the greater Bay Area:

Sacramento Branch:

Contact phone number: 916-688-3022
Contact persons: Sharaaz Khan Qadri & Fatma Qadri, Shaanawaz Khan Qadri

San Jose Branch:

Contact phone number: 408-629-6524
Contact persons: Parwez Zia Qadri & Shagufta Ahmad Qadri

Please pray that we continue this glorious Islamic tradition of "Spiritual Healing". There are many Hadith related to this dying Sunnah of Spiritual Healing in Islam that can be found on the IECRC website.

*To support our noble cause, please make checks payable to IECRC and mail to
P.O. Box 1646, Union City, CA 94587. Thank you for your support.*

IECRC would like to thank Brother Mohammad Shafiq Mir, owner of Khushboo Restaurant (650-558-9735) for graciously sponsoring today's Eid Milad-un-Nabi ﷺ program. Brother Shafiq also sponsors the "Gyarween Shareef" celebration (Anniversary of Shaykh Abdul Qadir Jilani radi Allahu anhu) on a monthly basis at his restaurant. May Allah ta'aala by the waseela of His Habeeb ﷺ reward Brother Shafiq and his family and grant him much blessings for his generosity and open heart. (Aamin)

Vote of Thanks

Ayyaz Yousaf Qadri, Managing Director of IECRC expresses his sincere appreciation to the entire Bay Area community for their support of our center. We hope to be of continued service to all residents of our local community and beyond.

Arriving Very Shortly insha Allah...

Blessings on the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ

An Important Work On The Meaning, Relevance And Importance Of Sending Blessings And Greetings On The Best Of Creation ﷺ

by Prof. Dr. Mohammad Ahmed Qadri

This important booklet illustrates what it means to send blessings and greetings on the Beloved of Allah (prayers and peace of Allah be upon him). Written with evidence from the Qur'an, the Sunnah and from lives of the rightly guided predecessors, the booklet aims to remove much confusion and misconceptions that have been constructed around greeting and sending blessings on the Prophet of Allah (prayers and peace of Allah be upon him). It highlights the spiritual and physical benefits of doing so, describes how the Prophet (prayers and peace of Allah be upon him) hears our greetings, and describes the best possible adaab (manners) of presenting greetings and blessings. Part two of the booklet contains much of the well-known and much revered poetry that is recited worldwide by those who dearly love the Beloved of Allah (prayers and peace of Allah be upon him).

Also to be released shortly insha Allah in the IECRC series of publications:

- ◆ *The Concept of Counseling in Islam*
- ◆ *Healing through Colors*
- ◆ *Dream Interpretation*
- ◆ *The Concept of Spirit / Soul in Islam*

IECRC Opens a New Chapter in British Columbia, Canada

On Friday May 16th, 2003 an IECRC branch was established in the city of Surrey, British Columbia, Canada. This branch is operating under the guidance and direction of Dr. Mohammad Ahmed Qadri. It is a great pleasure to mention that Dr. Syeda Saiqa Zubeda is currently visiting Surrey to oversee the implementation of the various academic programs of the center.

IECRC in Canada inherits its goals and objectives from its parent branch in Fremont, California. Dr. Syeda's presence in Surrey demands emphasis on educational objectives as its starting point. Classes for children have already begun on Saturdays and Sundays under her supervision. These classes cover Islamic and cultural topics such as Seerah of Prophet Mohammad (Prayers and Peace of Allah be upon him), Muslim ethical behavior, Quranic teaching, Social

norms of Islam, etc. Two more subjects will insha Allah be taught for adults entitled:

- Introduction to Sharia for Women
- Tasawwuf as a Science of Purification

Our educational objectives insha Allah will be achieved in three phases. In the first phase, classes will be held in leased commercial premises. The second phase envisions a full-time primary school. In following the principles of IECRC, this school will be unique in its focus and curriculum. It will provide a first-class education and quality environment to both Muslim and non-Muslim students, insha Allah. For Muslim students, our school will offer traditional programs on Quran, Hadith, and Oriental languages. The third phase, insha Allah, will culminate in the establishment of a world-class Islamic University.

Our organization in Canada will remain dedicated to counseling and spiritual healing services for all. It will also provide a platform for IECRC publications and audio/video releases to propagate our objectives in Canada.

IECRC Canada, would like to acknowledge the efforts of the following brothers and sisters: Sohail Rana, Mohammad Iqbal, Adiba Rehman, Aniqah Rehman, and most of all, of Dr. Syeda Saiqa Zubeda.

Shakeel Rehman Qadri

Shakeel Rehman Qadri has been a resident of the Bay Area for the past 18 years. He has a Bachelors degree in Computer Science from National University, San Jose. He has a strong educational, religious background, with special reference to Allama Iqbal rahmatulla alayh's philosophy. He is one of the founding members of IECRC and was instrumental in the establishment of IECRC Canada.

Spiritual Guidance as an Assurance for Unity of the Muslim Ummah

Prof. Dr. Manzooruddin Ahmed

In the first week of April 2003, IECRC was honored by a visit from Professor Dr. Manzooruddin Ahmed, a distinguished Professor at Columbia University, former Vice Chancellor of the University of Karachi, and a renowned scholar and researcher of Islamic Political Systems.

Dr. Manzooruddin Ahmed was introduced to the audience by Dr. Mohammad Ahmed Qadri. On this occasion, Dr. Manzooruddin Ahmed discussed the different aspects of spirituality / Tasawwuf. According to him, Tasawwuf is a practical aspect of Islam, which purifies the heart and mind of an individual and keeps a person moderate in society. This plays a vital

role as a safeguard for human beings. Furthermore, he explained the reason for the success of Muslims in the past. According to him, the secret of Muslims was their spiritual guidance and unity based on honor and respect for each other. He also explained that the Muslims today face serious challenges and problems because they have left the principles of Tasawwuf in their lives and have involved themselves in materialism, which damages their social as well as spiritual lives.

Dr. Manzooruddin Ahmed is the author of several books, that have been translated into different languages including Arabic. Among his works are the following: *Islamic Political Systems in*

the Modern Age: Theory and Practice, Pakistan: The Emerging Islamic State, and Contemporary Pakistan.



Dr. Manzooruddin Ahmed, first row, second from right
Dr. Mohammad Ahmed Qadri, first row, third from right along
with IECRC members in Sacramento

Love of Holy Prophet Muhammad ﷺ as the Essence of Our Lives

Iqbal Day celebrated by Pakistan Association of San Francisco Bay Area

On Friday, May 9, 2003, the Pakistan Association of the San Francisco Bay Area organized a program in honor of Hazrat Allama Iqbal *rahmatullah alayh* at the Mehran Restaurant in Newark, California. The evening began with a Quranic recitation followed by a poetry recitation contest for young children on Allama Iqbal *rahmatullah alayh*. Everyone who participated was appreciated but the winner who stole all hearts was a young 4 year old girl, Zainab, who

recited his famous heart warming and very profound prayer

"*Lab pe aati hai dua*".



Mr. Akhtar Shah, President Pakistan Association awarding first prize for poetry competition on Iqbal Day to young winner, Zainab. Prof. Dr. Mohammad Ahmed Qadri to her right and Dr. Waheed Siddiquee to her left.

The evening continued with talks by eminent scholars of the area including our respected Prof. Dr. Mohammad Ahmed Qadri on the life and contributions of the great visionary, scholar, and lover of the Prophet (prayers and peace of Allah be upon him) of the early 20th century - Hazrat Allama Iqbal *rahmatullah alayh*. Prof. Dr. Ahmed Qadri, a great lover of Allama Iqbal said that one cannot restrict this great personality to the subcontinent because he belongs to the entire Ummah. He also said that if the present generation takes on the message of Allama Iqbal, the next century will become his legacy.

Other eminent and knowledgeable speakers who graced the event were Prof. Jahangir Hamdani, Dr. Waheed Siddiquee, and Prof. Syed Noor. They addressed the audience with the his-

Kee Muhammad se wafaa tune to ham tere hain

Ye jahan cheez hai kya Loh-o-Qalam tere hain

-Allama Iqbal

torical, academic, and philosophical contributions of Allama Iqbal *rahmatullah alayh*, stating that he served the Islamic Ummah through his thoughts, which were communicated to Europe as well.

The program was conducted by Ms. Sahab Hamdani, who is a great admirer of Iqbal and also well versed in his poetry. Mr. Syed Akhtar Shah, President of Pakistan Association thanked the speakers and the audience for coming out and supporting the event.

To sponsor future editions of our newsletter or advertise in it, please contact us at 408-835-7786.

Thank you for your support.

Anniversary of Hazrat Imam Ahmed Raza Khan Barelvi *rahmatullah alayh*

Alhamdulillah, IECRC celebrated the Urs Mubarak (death anniversary euphemized as "Urs" meaning happiness, as death causes the joyous reunion of a Friend of Allah with his or her Lord) of Hazrat Ahmed Raza Khan Barelvi *rahmatullah alayhi* on Sunday, April 27, 2003 (Safar 25, 1424 Hijri) at our weekly Dhikr session in Fremont, California. Prof. Dr. Mohammad Ahmed Qadri, who leads our weekly Dhikr, paid tribute to 'Alaa Hazrat, as the greatest Mujaddid (reviver) of this century is popularly known as, by de-

living a most enlightening talk on his contributions to our Deen. Prof. Dr. Mohammad Ahmed Qadri elucidated the critical role that 'Alaa Hazrat played at the turn of the 20th century in safeguarding the integrity of the Islamic tradition, which is founded in none other than the love and respect of our Beloved Master, Prophet Muhammad (prayers and peace of Al-

lah be upon him). May Allah *subhanahu wa ta'aala* grant us the tawfeeq to follow in the footsteps of this great *Aashiq-e-Rasool* (lover of the Prophet, prayers and peace of Allah be upon him). A brief sketch of the life and contributions of 'Alaa Hazrat is available on the IECRC website.

'Alaa Hazrat is noted for his popular *salaam* (salutation) "Mustafa Jaane Rehmat pe Laakhon salaam" which is the longest salaam written in the honor and praise of the Prophet (prayers and peace of Allah be upon him) in any language.

IECRC will insha Allah be offering

Classes in Arabic (written & spoken; see back page for details)

Fiqh-e-Hanafii (Purification, Prayer, Nikah, Talaq, Counseling ...)

Tafsir (selected portions of Quranic verses with explanation in light of traditional interpretations)

in Hayward (30030 Mission Blvd, Suite 213) for 3 months.

Fiqh & Tafsir classes held on Saturdays

Start date of classes to be announced shortly insha Allah

Please call 916-688-3022 or 408-629-6524 to register.

Prof. Dr. Mohammad Ahmed Qadri expounds on *Shamaail-e-Nabawi* ﷺ

On April 19, 2003, the Woodland Masjid of Woodland, California organized a one-day conference on A'laa Hazrat Imam Ahmed Raza Khan Barelvi *rahmatullah alayh* to celebrate the Urs Mubarak (death anniversary euphemized as "Urs" meaning happiness, as death causes the joyous reunion of a Friend of Allah with his or her Lord) of four great luminaries of the Islamic tradition:



Prof. Dr. Mohammad Ahmed Qadri making dua for the Ummah at the Woodland Mosque

1) A'laa Hazrat Imam Ahmed Raza Barelvi *rahmatullah alayh*
2) Hazrat Imam Bukhari *rahmatullah alayh*
3) Hazrat Data Ganj Baksh Ali Hajweri *rahmatullah alayh*
4) Hazrat Baba Fareeduddeen Ganj Shakar *rahmatullah alayh*
Our respected Prof. Dr. Mohammad Ahmed Qadri was keynote speaker at this blessed occasion and presented a most illuminat-

ing speech on *Shamaail-e-Nabawi salallahu alayhi wa sallam*, where he highlighted the most unique and beautiful physical characteristics of our beloved Prophet (prayers and peace of Allah be upon him), stating that he was an embodiment of perfect beauty granted to him by our Lord. The audio and transcript of this talk is soon forthcoming on the IECRC website insha Allah. The conference was well attended with devotees from as far off cities such as San Jose and even San Diego.

Newly Released IECRC Publications

Living in the Abode of Peace and Purification

Dr. Mohammad Ahmed Qadri & Dr. Syeda Saiqa Zubeda

A great introductory text on Tasawwuf containing the following chapters:

- ⇒ Purification of the Heart Through Love with Allah *subhaanahu wa ta'aala*
- ⇒ Beginning of Tasawwuf in Islam
- ⇒ Spiritual Orders in Past and Present
- ⇒ Relationship between Shaykh and Mureed through Bai'yt (spiritual contract)
- ⇒ Concept of Vice and Virtue in Sufism
- ⇒ Attainment of Spiritual Perfection through Self-Mortification
- ⇒ Conclusion
- ⇒ Glossary of Terminologies Used

Available now for \$25

All proceeds from the sale of this book will go towards supporting IECRC.

Islamic Treatment of Jinn, Magic & the Evil Eye

Dr. Mohammad Ahmed Qadri & Dr. Syeda Saiqa Zubeda

A great introduction to the mentioned topics containing the following chapters:

- ⇒ Introduction
- ⇒ Possession by Jinn and its Treatment in the light of Quran and Sunnah
- ⇒ The Reality of Magic According to the Holy Quran and Sunnah
- ⇒ Prevention from Magic
- ⇒ Concept of Evil Eye According to Islam and the Wisdom to Cure it
- ⇒ Notes and References

Available now for \$15

All proceeds from the sale of this book will go towards supporting IECRC.

Newly Released IECRC Cassettes

Dr. Mohammad Ahmed Qadri

Urdu

Allama Iqbal ka Shikwa aur Jawab-e-Shikwa

(side A)

Allama Iqbal aur Ishq-e-Mustafa 

(side B)

English

The Science of Dreams

Heal Yourself in the Light of Quran and Sunnah

The Concept of Jinn in the Light of Quran and Sunnah

Dr. Manzooruddin Ahmed

English

Islam and Soul Orientation

The Philosophy of Islam

Arabic - Beginner Level Course
Sundays 3 PM - 5 PM, Hayward,
CA

Instructor: Sharaaz Khan Qadri
Call 916-688-3022 to register.

Description: Participants will insha Allah learn basic Arabic vocabulary that will be used as a foundation for future intermediate and advanced Arabic courses. Basic rules of Arabic *Nahu* (Grammar) will be touched upon, although not covered in detail. The terminology of grammar used will only be in the Arabic language. Examples will be used throughout the course to reinforce the rules of grammar covered. The course will be an accelerated version of the University of Damascus Arabic course level 1A and some of 1B.

IECRC Cassettes

The following speeches by Prof. Dr. Mohammad Ahmed Qadri are available through IECRC on audio cassette:

English

- 1 Love of the Holy Prophet (prayers and peace of Allah be upon him)
- 2 The Islamic Culture
- 3 The Concept of Spiritual Healing
- 4 Quranic Therapy - Heal Yourself
- 5 The Philosophy of Love with Allah in Tasawwuf/The Necessity of a Spiritual Guide
- 6 What is Tasawwuf: An Answer by Hadrat Ali bin Uthman al-Hujwari (may Allah be pleased with him) known as Hadrat Data Ganj Buksh

Urdu

- 1 *Ishq-e-Mustafa (sallallaahu alayhi wa sal-lam) aur Munafiqat*
- 2 *Eid-e-Milad-un-Nabi ka Jawaz / Madina-e-Munawarra ke Naam*
- 3 *Durood-o-Salam Maulana Qasim Nanotvi Dar-ul-Uloom Deoband aur Maulana Mohammad Zakarya Tableeghi Jamaat ki Nazar Mein*
- 4 *Durood-o-Salam Ki Fazeelat*
- 5 *Eid-e-Milad-un Nabi (sallallaahu alayhi wa sallam) Tareekh key Ainey Mein*
- 6 *Allama Iqbal (rahmatullah alayhi) ka Hadrat Bilal (radiallaahu anhu) ko Salam*
- 7 *Eid-e-Milad-un-Nabi (sallallaahu alayhi wa sallam) Sawal/Jawab*
- 8 Allama Iqbal aur Tasawwuf (to be released soon inshaAllah)

The following Naats are available through IECRC on audio cassette:

- 1 *Allah-hi-Allah - Sufiana Kalam* recited by Zahid Chaudry Qadri (Punjabi)
- 2 *Yaadey Madinah - Naat* recited by Syed Mansoor Shah (Urdu)
- 3 *Zikr-e-Rasool (sallallaahu alayhi wa sal-lam) - Naat* recited by Naveed Iqbal Rahmani (urdu)

To obtain any of the above cassettes or books, please contact IECRC through email or written correspondence.

IECRC is a community based, grass roots organization and needs your support to continue and expand its services. Any donation towards this noble cause is greatly appreciated.

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