

THE FRIDAY BULLETIN

The Weekly Muslim Update



A Publication of the Jamia Mosque Nairobi

Ruto commissions projects at Umma University, says gov't committed to education



President William Ruto commissions the Dr. Abdulrahman Al-Sumait Complex, a landmark Sh1.4 billion, 10-storey building designed to serve over 10,000 students.

President William Ruto has reaffirmed his administration's commitment to strengthening higher education institutions, saying reforms underway are designed to empower universities to produce skilled and innovative graduates who will drive Kenya's development agenda.

Speaking on Tuesday at Umma University in Kajicho County, where he commissioned the Dr. Abdulrahman Al-Sumait Complex and presided over the ground-breaking of the School of Engineering Phase III, President Ruto said the government is keen on expanding opportunities for learners.

"Ongoing reforms in the education sector are aimed at opening up more opportunities for learners to easily access higher education, thereby transforming their lives," he said.

The President unveiled the Dr. Abdulrahman Al-Sumait Complex, a Sh1.4 billion, 10-storey facility expected to serve over 10,000 students. He also broke ground for the construction of the Umma University School of Engineering, describing it as a "significant step toward equipping young Kenyans with the tools to innovate, build, and lead in the industries of tomorrow."

"We are empowering institutions of higher learning to shape a new generation of graduates — skilled, ethical, and innovative — ready to create jobs, advance technology, and tackle the pressing challenges of our time," he said.

"To realise this vision, we have strengthened governance in our universities, restructured

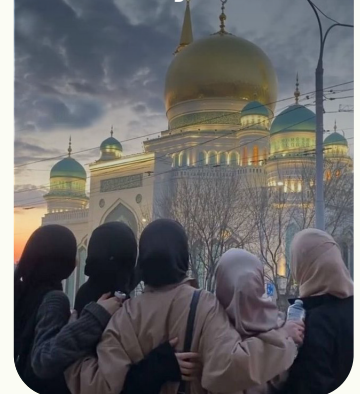
financing, and introduced the transformative Student-Centred Funding Model. These bold reforms have not only safeguarded the sustainability of our universities and restored financial stability, but they have also reduced fees and opened the doors of higher education to more learners across the nation."

Education Cabinet Secretary Julius Migos Ogamba noted that the rapid infrastructural growth at Umma University demonstrates the critical role private sector players continue to play in complementing government efforts to expand access and improve the quality of education.

Umma University, the first Islamic university in Kenya to be accredited by the government, offers certificate, diploma, degree, and post-graduate programmes. The institution blends Islamic morals and ethics with modern learning approaches to produce graduates with integrity-driven leadership skills. Established in 1998 as the Thika Institute of Islamic Studies, Umma has since grown into a fully-fledged university.

The ceremony was attended by senior government officials including Health CS Aden Duale, Kajicho Governor Joseph Ole Lenku, Members of Parliament, Chancellor Dr. Abass Gullet, Dr. Abdulrahman Abdullah Ahmad Al-Fahad of the Kuwait Embassy in Nairobi, Dr. Abdulrahman Al-Muhailan, and Vice Chancellor Dr. Halima Abdullahi, among other dignitaries.

In Today's Issue



1 Islam is not isolation – Seek good friends

Islam is not a religion to be practiced in seclusion or isolation; in short it demands community and friends who will make our journey throughout this life into the next an enjoyable and uncomplicated one.

2 Uhuru Park Gaza solidarity event raises KSh 17 Million

The "Plant a Tree Save a Life" event held on Sunday 21 September, at Uhuru Park in solidarity with Gaza raised KSh 17 million to support medical aid for Palestinians.

3 Discover, Learn, and Play – The Islamic Way!

Boost your Islamic knowledge with our weekly Crossword Puzzle, Knowledge Quiz, and Ayah of the Week. **Don't miss your copy!**

CONTACTS

P.O Box 100786 00101 Nairobi
Tel: 2243504/5

email: fridaybulletin@jamiamosque.co.ke

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Uhuru Park Gaza solidarity event raises KSh 17 Million

The “Plant a Tree Save a Life” event held on Sunday, 21 September at Uhuru Park in solidarity with Gaza raised KSh 17 million to support medical aid for Palestinians.

Funds were mobilized through auctions and donations, with participants contributing personal jewelry and vendors pledging half of their proceeds to the cause.

Organized by Voices of Palestine, the event marked a rare public display of unity in Kenya over the Gaza crisis, challenging the government’s traditionally neutral stance.

Organizers said the large turnout reflected growing frustration among citizens over what they described as inaction in the face of a humanitarian catastrophe. The rally featured motorcades, Palestinian

flags, and messages of support for Gaza and the wider Palestinian cause. During Jumua prayers, Jamia Mosque Executive Officer Said Abdallah expressed gratitude to Kenyans for their generosity, saying the “Plant a Tree Save a Life” initiative demonstrated solidarity both locally and globally.

“On behalf of Jamia Mosque and Voices for Palestine, we want to thank all those who participated in the event at Uhuru Park. We managed to raise about Sh17 million,” said the executive officer.

He appealed to those who had made pledges to honor their commitments in order to support the people of Gaza. Abdallah also noted that the next phase of the tree-planting program, planned for Karura Forest, was on course, with details to be shared soon.

Support towards the Gaza Fund can be made through M-Pesa Paybill number 150770, Account: Tree4Gaza. Contributions will go towards food and medical supplies to be distributed through international humanitarian partners operating in the region.

The call for support comes as the humanitarian crisis in Gaza worsens. Ongoing Israeli bombardments have caused mass displacement, widespread hunger, and destruction of essential infrastructure. Many families are surviving on limited aid, with rising cases of starvation, particularly among children.

The few hospitals still operating remain severely under-resourced, overwhelmed by casualties, and lacking critical medicines, further straining relief efforts.

Duale reaffirms government’s commitment to accountability in health sector

Health Cabinet Secretary Aden Duale has reaffirmed the government’s commitment to transparency and accountability in the operations of the Social Health Authority (SHA), stressing that every shilling allocated to healthcare must directly benefit Kenyan citizens.

Speaking on Tuesday during a groundbreaking ceremony at Umma University in Kajjado, CS Duale underscored the need for stringent oversight in light of recent corruption scandals within the SHA. Audits conducted in early September 2025 revealed widespread irregularities, including inflated claims, duplicate invoices, ghost patients, and falsified records involving multiple private health facilities.

In response, the government moved swiftly. On September 18, 2025, CS Duale or-

dered the closure of 35 hospitals across the country and suspended several others that failed to comply with SHA regulations. The targeted facilities were found to have submitted fraudulent claims for services not rendered or billed multiple times for the same patients.

“Our priority is a healthcare system that is equitable, corruption-free, and accountable,” CS Duale stated, emphasizing that robust measures are being enforced to safeguard public resources and restore confidence in the health sector.

The government has since rolled out rigorous audits, strict compliance checks, and the public release of payment and facility reports to strengthen transparency. These reforms aim to protect public funds, expand maternal and child health services, and im-

prove access to healthcare, particularly in underserved rural areas.

Observers say the decisive action against non-compliant facilities sends a strong message that fraudulent practices will not be tolerated, a move expected to enhance efficiency and integrity in the national health system.

As of September 29, 2025, more than 26.7 million Kenyans have registered under the SHA program, with 4.4 million actively contributing to the Social Health Insurance Fund. The numbers, analysts note, reflect growing public trust in the program and highlight the need for continued vigilance to ensure citizens fully benefit from government health initiatives.

Renowned Islamic Scholar launches Arabic Book on history of Islam in Kenya

An Arabic-language book by renowned Islamic scholar Sheikh Hussein Ibrahim Burale was recently launched in Nairobi, chronicling the history and spread of Islam in Kenya.

The launch, held in Eastleigh, drew hundreds of ulamaa, Imams from different mosques, and Islamic teachers from Nairobi and other towns.

The book, titled *Da’awa al Islamiya Fii Kenya*, provides a detailed account of the early spread of Islam in Kenya, the establishment of Islamic Sultanates along the East African coast, and the challenges Muslims encountered throughout different historical periods.

It also highlights contemporary efforts to spread Islam in the coastal region and other parts of the country, including West-

ern and North Eastern Kenya. A major focus of the book is the plight of Muslims under the government of former President Daniel arap Moi.

It documents incidents such as the Wagalla massacre, in which thousands of Muslims were killed and maimed by security forces in Wajir in 1984, and the burning of Garissa town in 1980, which displaced many families and caused heavy losses.

Sheikh Hussein explained during the launch that he wrote the manuscript in 1989 after years of research, though it was only published a decade later. He said the motivation for the work stemmed from the absence of Arabic literature on the history of Muslims in Kenya.

“When I started working on this book, I saw a big gap. There was no Arabic book that

narrated the history of Muslims in Kenya. There was a need for a reference material in Arabic that Muslims in Kenya and beyond could use to understand their history,” Sheikh Hussein said.

The book also explores how Islam first reached the Kenyan coast through traders and travelers from Arabia and the Persian Gulf, how it spread inland, and how Muslims ruled the coastal strip from Lamu down to Mozambique for centuries.

To gather material, Sheikh Hussein said he traveled across towns in Nyanza and Western Kenya, meeting elders, scholars, and community leaders to collect oral histories, which he incorporated into the book.

Don't give up on Gaza: How knowing Allah sustains hope and resistance

By Jinan Yousef

It has been almost two years since the genocidal campaign against Palestinians in Gaza began—carried out by a murderous and unrelenting occupier, broadcast to the world. Israel has deliberately starved and bombarded 2 million besieged men, women, and children while much of the world stands back to watch.

Brave attempts to break the blockade have been met with detention and violence, and those in power who are able to stop the carnage either show Israel outright support or are content with mild words of disapproval.

Although people of conscience continue to be dismayed and more and more of the public are waking up to the reality of this horrific rampage, something within us has shifted. Our efforts have yet to yield any tangible results, and those who speak out continue to be repressed and attacked.

Many of us have resigned to the feeling that our actions have no real impact because the issue is so much bigger than what any of us are able to affect. The heartbreak has caused our spirits to be broken. So much of the raw anger we saw in the beginning has turned into numbness. Determination into despair. Action into quiet murmurs.

Sincerity and persistence

In life, it's easy to believe and work for an outcome when things go our way. When our du'as are swiftly answered and our efforts yield immediate fruit. But who among us will continue to strive with the same energy and resolve when victory does not come on our timeline? Who will continue to cry out to Al-Fattāh (the Opener) when every door seems bolted shut? Who will trust in Al-Rabb—the Lord of all—when all worldly forces seem to overpower us?

Sometimes, as believers, we unknowingly fall into spiritual entitlement. We believe. We struggle for justice. We speak the truth. Therefore, we deserve to see victory now. But Allah reminds us,

"Do you think you will be admitted to Paradise without being tested like those before you? They were afflicted with suffering and adversity and were so [violently] shaken that [even] the Messenger and the believers with him cried out, 'When will Allah's help come?' Indeed, Allah's help is [always] near." (Surah Al-Baqarah 2:214)

Prolonged perseverance against oppression is a hallmark of history. Jerusalem was under Crusader control for almost 100 years until Salahuddin liberated it in 1187. European colonialism, marked by its numerous genocides, massacres, and crimes against indigenous populations, spanned three centuries, leaving consequences that persist until today. Yet wherever oppressive systems were overturned, by the will of Allah, it was because the people did not stop—they persevered.

One of the signs of a true believer is in their sincerity and persistence—we are in it for the long haul and we see beyond the immediate setbacks. In the story of Saul (Talut) and Goliath (Jalut) in the Qur'an, a group of people, weary from oppression, asked their prophet for a leader so they could fight in the path of Allah (Surah Al-Baqarah 2:246). They claimed they were ready, "How could we refuse to fight in the cause of Allah, while we were driven out of our homes and [separated from] our children?" (Surah Al-Baqarah 2:246). But at every test, they withdrew. They doubted. They dropped off, until only a handful remained. Yet how could only a handful defeat the mighty army of Goliath?

How many times has a small force overcome a mighty one by the permission of Allah? And Allah is with the steadfast. (Surah Al-Baqarah 2:249)

A small group can defeat a mighty army because Allah is with the steadfast. Not those who are discouraged by failures, setbacks, and resistance, or those who turn away due to the enormity of the task, or those who simply watch from the sidelines. Allah is with the steadfast.

And what was the outcome?

So they defeated them by Allah's Will... (Surah Al-Baqarah 2:251)

While Goliath's army stood powerful and the army of Saul lost the majority of its people along the way, those who remained with Saul were unwavering in their commitment. They persisted. They knew what they were up against, but they also knew that Allah was more powerful than Goliath. They knew that nothing they did went to waste, even in the absence of a worldly victory. They had certainty that Allah was with them—because He was, and He always is.

Heartbreak to hope

For many, the pain is just too much. Day after day, witnessing dead children and wailing parents and feeling the guilt of not knowing what else to do, we can often spiral into emotional paralysis. But that guilt and that pain have to move us forward, not hold us back. The latter is from Shaytan. We have to know

that there will be an end, and our brothers and sisters who have passed are at peace with their Lord. Every cry of pain, every drop of blood, every hungry stomach, and every tear that fell will be accounted for. We work for an end to the carnage today with certainty there will be justice, whether in this world or the next.

The ability to see beyond this world is a gift. To see Allah before we see anything else. To believe in the promise of Allah to His faithful servants and to be certain that every action is meaningful. Allah is the Rabb who owns all of creation, the One who sustains this world moment by moment, and the One who will hold us all to account on the Day of Judgment. He is the Master who governs the universe and the One who arranges all matters perfectly, even when we cannot see the full picture.

If you see your Rabb before all else, you will understand that every effort matters. You'll know that Allah is above whatever prevails in this world and you will have certainty that Allah's control is above their control. Our test is whether we will be materialists and only see the immediate, or whether we believe in and work towards the ideal that we want to establish.

So as Muslims, we cannot stop speaking and reminding. We must renew our resolve and continue to build and join movements for the liberation of our brothers and sisters. We must not belittle the boycott efforts.

We must support and stand side-by-side with those brave individuals who are risking everything.

We must support and encourage each other through this. And we must wake up at night, every night, and pray.

From the Holy Qur'an Ayah of the week

Theme: Reliance on Allah (SWT)

"Say, 'Never will we be struck except by what Allah has decreed for us; He is our protector.' And upon Allah let the believers rely."

(At-Tawbah 9:51)



A Muslim Woman's guide to navigating Social Media

By Umm Fatima

In the digital age, social media has become an essential tool for communication, self-expression, and community building. For Muslim women, it provides a platform to connect with fellow sisters in faith, share knowledge, and spread positive messages. However, with these opportunities come challenges, especially when it comes to maintaining Islamic etiquette online. The instant nature of social media can blur the lines between appropriate and inappropriate behaviour, and it's essential for Muslim women to be conscious of the impact of their online presence.

The Fitna of Social Media

Social media is not inherently bad, but it can be a gateway to fitna (temptation) if not used wisely. The Prophet Muhammad (Peace be upon him) reminded us of the dangers of excess in speech, actions, and appearance. On social media, where one can quickly post images or comments without much thought, it's easy to cross boundaries unintentionally. Whether it's through displaying vanity, engaging in backbiting, or being exposed to harmful content, the temptations are endless.

As Muslim women, we must be cautious of how we present ourselves online. Modesty in speech and dress, which is fundamental in Islam, should extend to our digital interactions as well. Posting public pictures, often revealing, be excessive selfies, or engaging in controversial debates may open the door to unnecessary attention or harm. The Quran advises: "And tell the believing women to lower their gaze and guard their chastity, and not to reveal their adornments except what normally appears..." (Surah An-Nur 24:31).

The Impact on Mental and Spiritual Health

Another challenge that comes with social media is the constant exposure to unrealistic standards of beauty, success, and happiness. These curated images can lead to feelings of inadequacy, envy, and even depression. Muslim women are not immune to this, and it's essential to remember that Islam teaches us to be content with what Allah has provided. Social media often promotes materialism and superficiality, which can distract us from our spiritual goals and weaken our relationship with Allah.

Spending excessive time on social media can also take away from more important obligations, such as Salah (prayer), Quran recitation, and time with family. We must be mindful of how much time we spend online and ensure it doesn't negatively impact our deen.

Setting Boundaries and Practicing Etiquette

As Muslim women, we are ambassadors of Islam, even in the digital space. This means that our behaviour online should



reflect the values and morals we hold dear. Setting boundaries is crucial, whether it's controlling the type of content we post, the conversations we engage in, or how much time we spend scrolling through our feeds. Some key points to consider include:

- **Privacy:** Be mindful of what personal details you share online. Islam emphasises the importance of modesty, and this extends to how much of your private life you reveal.
- **Respectful Engagement:** Always engage in respectful and beneficial conversations. Avoid arguments or debates that may lead to anger, backbiting, or slander.
- **Guarding Your Heart:** Be cautious about what you consume. Unfollow or block content that promotes negativity, inappropriate behaviour, or un-Islamic values.

Social Media as a Tool for Good

Despite the challenges, social media can be a powerful tool for spreading good, particularly when used to share Islamic knowledge and uplift others. Muslim women can use their platforms to share reminders of the deen, connect with other Muslim women, and create a positive online community. The key is to remain grounded in Islamic values and ensure that the content we share is beneficial and pleasing to Allah.

Personally, I decided to delete my Instagram and Facebook accounts because I couldn't justify the content I was seeing on social media, even though I was using it for dawah work. I found that there was always something irrelevant to my usual Islamic content, and even the so-called "Islamic" content often contained elements that were haram. This situation led me to make too many excuses for my brothers and sisters' behaviour, which in turn brought a lot of negative thoughts about the moral state of our ummah.

Ultimately, I felt it was better to delete my accounts to maintain my peace of mind and stay true to my values.

Conclusion: Finding the Balance

While I couldn't utilise social media effectively, perhaps others can. Navigating social media as a Muslim woman requires wisdom, balance, and self-discipline. Even though the digital space offers many benefits, it also comes with significant challenges that can affect our mental, emotional, and spiritual well-being. By maintaining our modesty, setting boundaries, and using social media for positive purposes, we can ensure that our online presence aligns with our Islamic values. Ultimately, social media should be a tool to enhance our connection with the ummah and serve Allah, not a distraction from our true purpose.

Light of Knowledge Quiz

Who was commissioned by Caliph Abu Bakr (RA) to compile the Qur'an into a single Mushaf?

A Abdullah ibn Mas'ud

B Zayd ibn Thabit

C Ubayy ibn Ka'b

Answer to be revealed in the next issue

Last week's answer was choice A:
" 28 "

Islam is not isolation – Seek good friends

By Deana Nassar

Raised as a Muslim in a non-Muslim country, my late father instilled in us the significance of supplication.

This was very important for me, especially facing challenges of a practicing Muslim and for a youngster raised in what were relatively conservative ways, the supplications served as some sort of sanctuary.

Many times he prayed for my siblings and I to make decent friends highlighting the value of good company away from loneliness; hence at an early age I was taught by my parents the value of friends, in turn passing my experiences on to my children. Many years later, I have learned that isolation for some is scary, and it's not easy to face confrontations and tests when being alone. However making suitable friends helps making our journey and decisions in life somewhat easier.

Befriend Who Leads You to Allah's Path

One such journey for some is the decision to convert or revert to Islam. Despite being one of the easiest steps, it undoubtedly spells a difficult journey ahead for converts who stay on their own and avoid the community. Unfortunately these are the most likely ones to lose their way.

I read once that strength comes in numbers; hence the continued call for travelling this journey with friends who may guide you when you falter and who may in turn feel secure with your companionship.

Picture being lost in the forest, where we come across a path crowded with people. Wouldn't we feel safer to join in and follow along as opposed to hanging back, or walking on our own, where we might get lost going down an alternative route and in due course off the 'straight path'?

During these trying times and regardless of where we are, Islam is not a religion to be practiced in seclusion or isolation; in short it demands community and friends who will make our journey throughout this life into the next an enjoyable and uncomplicated one. The Prophet Muhammad in fact emphasized that there will be a time when following his ways will in itself be a trial. He said:

"There will come a time when holding onto your faith will be like holding a piece of hot coal." (At-Tirmidhi)

Be a Model of a Good Friend

While making new friends after reverting can be intimidating, it is definitely rewarding. After all, these friends will form a big part of our life. They are the ones who will walk through our life together, sharing our ups and downs and joys and pains.

These friends will be the ones we can talk about anything and everything with. We may or may not

meet up every day, but it does not matter, since the strength of our friendship is not determined by how frequently we meet up but rather the common ground we share. These are the friends who can be trusted to be there for us whenever we need them, and they will go the extra mile for us. We learnt from Prophet Muhammad that following his move to Madinah from Makkah, he spent the initial months establishing friendship and brotherhood demonstrating that it is an important aspect of our life and, as Muslims, integrating with the community is similarly important.

These Muslim communities can be a means of support for new Muslims who have unfortunately often become isolated from family members, and a means of constant companionship. This friendship in fact can be viewed by others who observe your moves without you even noticing. In fact you can even be a teacher of Islam just by practicing being a 'good friend'.

How to Choose Good Muslim Friends

While we, as Muslims, know all our actions are recorded, it was complimenting to hear that the self discipline of Muslims won the commendation of an observer who said she seriously thought of joining me during my next fast praising my Muslim ethics which honored friends without judging.

The Prophet was reportedly asked:

"Which of our companions are best?"

He replied: One whose appearance reminds you of Allah, and whose speech increases you in knowledge, and whose actions remind you of the hereafter. (An-Nasa'i)

It is on this note that I stress that although both born and new Muslims' level of faith goes up and down throughout our life, what will definitely keep someone from straying away from Islam is support from other Muslims, and guidance that we wouldn't have access to on our own.

We should take any chances to connect with each other and cultivate relationships, and look for classes and seminars which offer knowledge and guidance in new terrain of course following the Prophet's advice throughout the process and limiting ourselves to as little male/female intermingling as possible. While finding new friends is difficult, it is not impossible. We need close, long-term relationships; and we need to be able to confide in others; we need to belong; we need to get and give support. In fact studies reveal that if we have five or more friends with whom to discuss an important matter we are far more likely to describe ourselves as 'very happy'. Making good Muslim friends adds a special meaning to life since they help us enjoy the good times and overcome the difficult ones.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

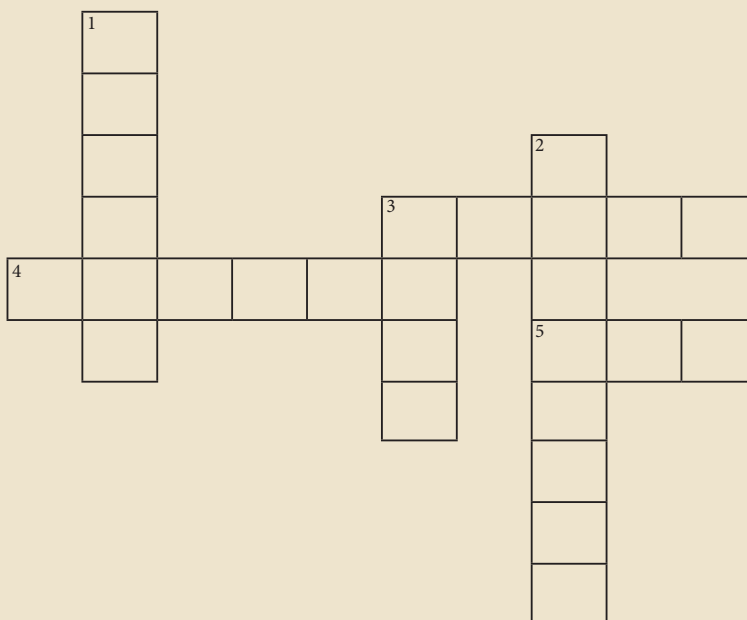
LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS

ACROSS

2. Israfil
3. Zakat
4. Isnad

DOWN

1. Qiblatain
2. Ibrahim
5. Shirk



ACROSS

3. Righteous Servant of Allah (SWT) with hidden wisdom whom prophet Musa (AS) traveled to learn from.
4. Which battle prompted Caliph Abu Bakr (RA) to compile the Qur'an into a single Mushaf?
5. Number of pillars of Iman (faith) in Islam.

DOWN

1. Angel who guards the gates of Jannah (Paradise).
2. Arabic word for citizenship / nationality.
3. Surah that tells the story of the People of the Cave, where Allah (SWT) made them sleep for 300 years.

Mombasa Communities form CBOs to curb rising crimes

In a decisive effort to counter rising criminal activities across Mombasa, local communities are forming Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) to empower residents and strengthen grassroots involvement in crime prevention.

On Monday, Kisauni marked a key milestone in the initiative when 77 self-help groups from Mjambere Ward merged into five larger, structured entities. The new CBOs will focus on women, youth, elders, and persons with disabilities, ensuring a coordinated approach to security while creating economic opportunities for residents.

Speaking at the launch, Governor Abdulsamad Nassir stressed the importance of community participation in safeguarding neighborhoods.

"Safer communities are built when residents are empowered to take charge of their environment," he said, citing the rise in burglaries, petty theft, and other crimes that underscore the need for such interventions.

The CBOs will provide skills training and financial support in sectors such as driving, beauty therapy, and waste management. The programs aim to offer young people and vulnerable groups sustainable livelihoods, reducing the risk of turning to crime. Mjambere MCA Amriya Boy, who spearheaded the initiative, emphasized the importance of structured groups in accessing government support. "Government initiatives are designed to benefit organized groups rather than individuals. By joining these CBOs, residents can enhance their

livelihoods, access support, and actively contribute to the security of their communities," she explained.

The initiative has also drawn strong backing from local elders. Herman Wahato, chairman of the Mjambere Village Elders Group, noted that involving elders in development and security strengthens community cohesion and financial resilience. With more than 800 members already registered, the newly launched CBOs are set to play a transformative role in Mjambere Ward and beyond. By linking economic empowerment with community-led security, residents are positioning themselves as active custodians of their neighborhoods—offering a model that other regions may emulate in tackling insecurity.

KNH explores healthcare collaboration with Muslim community

On Tuesday, Kenyatta National Hospital (KNH) held a consultative meeting with Muslim leaders from various organizations to strengthen strategic partnerships aimed at improving access to quality healthcare.

Kenya's largest referral and teaching hospital expressed its commitment to expanding collaboration with the Muslim community, with a focus on enhancing patient well-being. Discussions centred on supporting Muslim patients through the Imam's office, including initiatives on blood donation, assistance for economically disadvantaged patients, provision of hygiene supplies for caregivers, and continued support during Ramadhan.

Addressing the meeting, KNH Acting Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Dr. Richard Lesiyampe welcomed the deliberations, noting that such collaborations are key to positioning KNH as a leading hospital and specialized healthcare provider in Africa.

He emphasized the critical role of faith-based institutions in promoting health. "Islam recognizes humanity. From an Islamic perspective, health is viewed as one of the greatest blessings that God has bestowed on mankind. It should be noted that the greatest blessing after belief is health," he said.

Dr. Lesiyampe added that partnerships are central to the hospital's vision of improving service delivery. "We cannot rely on the government alone. We must think smarter, attract partners, and create sustainable models that keep KNH financially strong," he said, highlighting collaborations with corporates, philanthropists, development agencies, and religious organizations.

He stressed that the ultimate goal is to create a positive impact on Muslim patients by leveraging community involvement, building synergy, and sharing ideas on how to enhance healthcare delivery.

KNH Muslim Chaplain, Sheikh Mubarak Ali, appealed to Muslims to support his of-



TOP: Abdallah Bajaber, Secretary-General Kenya Association of Muslim Medical Professionals (KAMMP), making comments during the consultative meeting organized by Kenyatta National Hospital's Affiliation and Institutional Development Department.

BELOW: KNH Acting CEO Dr. Richard Lesiyampe addressing the meeting attended by representatives from Muslim organization on Tuesday.

fice in providing essential supplies such as hygiene products to patients and caregivers from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Representatives from organizations including the Supreme Council of Kenya Muslims (SUPKEM), Jamia Mosque Committee Nairobi, the Council of Imams and Preachers of Kenya (CIPK), Darul Kheir Community Center, and the Kenya Association of Muslim Medical Professionals (KAMMP) reaffirmed their readiness to partner with KNH to improve healthcare services.

Jamia Mosque Nairobi Executive Officer, Said Abdallah, urged KNH management to address bureaucracy to make the hospital more efficient and responsive. "The management of KNH should focus on simplifying processes and also address bureaucracy issues to create more flexible and responsive

public services as well as to be more efficient, effective, and responsive to people's needs," he said.

Other leaders highlighted the plight of many Muslims unable to seek medical care due to the high cost of treatment. They urged KNH to introduce outreach programs and medical camps to reach underserved communities. "We need to focus and invest in the health sector. It is important KNH initiate outreach programmes with the Muslim community to build strong collaborations," one leader said.

The meeting concluded with a proposal for more regular engagement between KNH and Muslim organizations to strengthen collaboration and address challenges facing the health facility.

Mombasa to host Gaza solidarity Tree planting and fundraising event

Inspired by the recent Nairobi fundraising in support of Gaza, religious and community leaders in Mombasa have announced plans for a similar initiative on November 8, 2025.

The event, themed "Plant a Tree Save a Life," will be held at Mama Ngina Drive under the auspices of Voices for Palestine, in partnership with Mombasa-based Al Haajar TV and the Mombasa County Government. Other partners include Al Khair Foundation, represented by its country director Muhammad Tariq, and Al Yateem Project Group, chaired by Sheikh Muhammad Obbo.

Ahmed Sharif, Chairman of Voices for Palestine, said the programme will offer Mombasa residents an opportunity to contribute to urgent medical and humanitarian efforts in Gaza. "We stand in solidarity with our brothers and sisters in Gaza. We will

be launching a tree planting programme as well as fundraising for the people of Gaza. It remains our collective responsibility and obligation to help the people of Gaza," he said.

Al Haajar TV station manager Muhammad Hateeb revealed that organizers have set a fundraising target of Sh30 million, nearly double the Sh17 million raised during the Nairobi event. He added that the media house will collaborate with partners to raise awareness and mobilize residents to attend in large numbers.

The Chairperson of the Pwani People's Religious Leaders Forum, Sheikh Abu Qatada, commended the Nairobi initiative as a source of inspiration. "The event at Uhuru Park demonstrated that by standing together, Kenyans can play an important role in alleviating the suffering of the people of Gaza who are in the midst of an unprec-

edented genocide undertaken by the Israeli occupation. We were extremely happy about the organization of the Nairobi event where thousands turned up to show their solidarity for the people of Gaza, and this serves as a motivation for us to stand and support our brothers and sisters in Gaza," he said.

Mombasa County Government also pledged its support for the initiative. Dr. Kame Mbwarali, the County Executive Committee Member (CECM) for Education and Vocational Training, stressed that the administration would provide the necessary backing to ensure success. "This is not about Muslims but humanity. Globally, people from all faith backgrounds have risen up to show their solidarity for the people of Gaza and condemned the excesses being committed against the Palestinians," he said.

Al-Yusra Restaurant becomes first in Kenya to receive HAL-Q Certification

Marking a historic milestone, Al-Yusra Restaurant has become the first establishment in Kenya to receive the internationally recognized HAL-Q (Halal Assurance and Liability Quality System) certification. The recognition not only elevates the restaurant but also positions Kenya as a halal-friendly destination for Muslims worldwide.

The certification, awarded by the Halal Science Centre at Thailand's Chulalongkorn University, affirms that Al-Yusra meets stringent global halal compliance standards. It also underscores the growing importance of internationally recognized systems in guaranteeing food integrity and boosting consumer confidence.

The award ceremony, held last Saturday at Al-Yusra's Banda Street branch in Nairobi, was attended by H.E. Morakot Janemathukorn, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Thailand to Kenya, representatives from the Halal Science Centre, local officials, and members of the media.

Congratulating the restaurant, Ambassador Janemathukorn urged more establishments to seek similar recognition. "This milestone is not just for one restaurant but for the halal hospitality sector across Africa. It sets a benchmark for quality, integrity, and compliance that others can follow. International recognition like HAL-Q reinforces the global standards necessary to build trust in halal food."

The HAL-Q certification is regarded as one of the most rigorous global halal accreditation systems. It involves detailed inspections at every stage of the food supply chain, including verification of halal sources for raw materials, monitoring of storage conditions, scrutiny of preparation methods, controls against cross-contamination, staff training on halal handling, and continuous quality audits.

Al-Yusra's CEO, Abdi Wahab, emphasized the certification's impact on the restaurant's operations. "HAL-Q certification reinforces the need for strict oversight and adherence to halal principles. It challenges us to continue delivering authenticity and quality at every stage," he said.

International certifications such as HAL-Q are becoming increasingly vital as demand for halal dining grows both locally and globally. They offer transparency and accountability while professionalizing the food sector and encouraging other establishments across Kenya and Africa to pursue similar recognition. By securing HAL-Q certification, Al-Yusra has set a precedent for Kenya's hospitality industry and showcased the value of internationally recognized halal standards in safeguarding food safety, integrity, and authenticity.



The Holy Quran Competition 2025

ORGANISED BY THE RELIGIOUS ATTACHÉ AT THE EMBASSY OF THE KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA IN KENYA,
IN COOPERATION WITH THE SUPREME COUNCIL OF KENYA MUSLIMS AND JAMIA MOSQUE NAIROBI

Registration Dates: 20th September 2025 - 13th October 2025

Preliminary Round: 20th October 2025

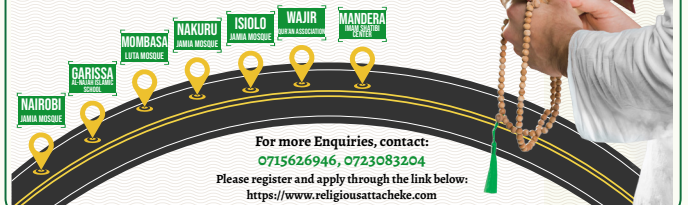
Final Competition: 1st December 2025

Competition Levels and Conditions:

- Memorization of 5 Juz' with recitation and Tajweed (10 yrs and below).
- Memorization of 15 Juz' with recitation and Tajweed (15 yrs and below).
- Memorization of 20 Juz' with recitation and Tajweed (18 yrs and below).
- Memorization of 30 Juz' (the entire Qur'an) with recitation and Tajweed (24 yrs and below).
- The contestant must be a male Kenyan or a legal resident.
- Must complete the registration form and attach one of the following:
National ID, Birth Certificate, or Passport copy, plus a colored passport photo.
- An institution is only allowed to register one participant in a category.



SCAN ME



For more Enquiries, contact:

0715626946, 0723083204

Please register and apply through the link below:
<https://www.religiousattacheke.com>

Family Resource Centre comes of Age in promoting Islamic family Life

Are you a young single man or woman looking to marry but haven't yet met your ideal match? Are you a career woman ready to settle down and start a family? Perhaps you are divorced or widowed and seeking a mature, understanding, and responsible partner. Or maybe you are a prosperous man hoping to marry again while upholding Islamic values.

For more than two decades, the Family Resource Centre (FRC) has been offering solutions to such questions within the Muslim community.

Founded in July 2002, FRC was established after growing concern over the erosion of Islamic family values, particularly the rise in intermarriage between Muslim youth and non-Muslims. Many eligible Muslim women, despite their education and status, were waiting in vain for suitable suitors.

To address this, FRC launched the Islamic Marriage Bureau, a charitable trust dedicated to promoting sustainable marriages and fostering blissful family life in line with Islamic teachings. Beyond matchmaking, the centre also addresses broader challenges facing Muslim youth, families, and marriages.

"Our role at Family Resource Centre is to provide guidance on family issues in accordance with Islamic teachings and prin-



ciples," says Sheikh Abdullatif Abdulkarim, chairman of FRC.

According to Sheikh Abdullatif, FRC's program is comprehensive, covering every stage of family life in Islam—from courtship to marriage and parenting. At the heart of its services is marriage facilitation, which follows a carefully structured process.

Applicants begin by filling in forms that include personal details such as age, marital status, profession, and preferences for a spouse. The process then involves sev-

eral stages: matching, open meetings between prospective spouses, consultations with parents and guardians, and finally the nikah (marriage ceremony).

"Safeguards have been put in place to ensure the entire process conforms to Islamic guidelines. Prospective suitors are required to verify their identities, and contact details such as phone numbers and emails undergo verification. This helps weed out jokers and those with sinister intentions," he explains.

Statistics from the centre show that demand for the service has been consistently high, with many couples successfully matched and married through FRC. Islam, Sheikh Abdullatif stresses, discourages long-term friendships between unmarried men and women outside wedlock. Marriage, he notes, is the best way to preserve chastity and morality.

Beyond matchmaking, the centre also provides a range of counseling and educational services.

"Apart from the matching service, FRC offers counseling on drug abuse, HIV/AIDS, premarital and marital issues. We also organize seminars, lectures, and workshops to educate the Ummah on family matters. We empower youth and parents with knowledge on reproductive health and provide guidance on parenting," says Sister Sofia Ibrahim, one of the program facilitators.

She adds that FRC conducts research, shares insights with Muslim communities worldwide, and helps families navigate modern challenges in raising children.

Importantly, registering at FRC should not be seen as undignified or desperate. With changing times, traditional family introductions are no longer enough, and institutions like FRC have stepped in to provide a dignified, structured, and Sharia-compliant alternative.

The centre is located at the Jamia Mosque, Nairobi. For further information, community members are encouraged to contact them directly.

Women Leaders Engage Jamia on Empowering Women and Youth



On Monday, women leaders Halima Golle (Cherab Ward MCA, Isiolo), Mama Salma Noor (CEO, Dream Team CBO & COMSTECH IOC Focal Person), Ms Hanan Ibrahim (Gender and Human Rights Specialist) Sulekha Duale (Director, Eco Project Initiative & Elmwood Healthcare Institute), and Shukri Abdi (Founder/CEO, East African College for Tourism & Hospitality) met with the Jamia Education Subcommittee, the Secretary General, and the Deputy Chairman to explore initiatives aimed at enhancing the welfare of women and youth in the community.