

THE FRIDAY BULLETIN

The Weekly Muslim Update



A Publication of the Jamia Mosque Nairobi

Jamia Mosque Nairobi marks 100 Years with grand centenary events



Jamia Mosque Nairobi is preparing to mark a century since its foundation stone was laid in 1925 and its consecration in 1933, through a week-long series of events.

The centenary events, scheduled to run from Monday, October 27 to Sunday, November 2, will feature a series of events which will showcase the Mosque's rich history.

The week-long program is expected to draw hundreds of worshippers, making it one of the most significant gatherings in the mosque's illustrious history.

As part of the events, a photo and portrait exhibition showcasing the mosque's rich history will run from Monday, October 27 to Thursday, October 30, between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m at Jamia Multipurpose Hall. On Thursday, October 30, the launch of the Jamia Book and the rebranding of Horizon Television will take

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HIGHLIGHTS OF EVENTS

October 27th-30th :

Photo Exhibition

October 30th :

Launch of Jamia Book and rebranding of Horizon TV

October 31st :

Public Lecture & Book Sale

November 1st :

Jamia Open Day

November 2nd :

Free Medical Camp

In Today's Issue



1 The Power of a Thankful Heart

Sleep closes your eyes, but power continues to run through your veins and nerves, sustaining life in your body. Who keeps them alive, active, and vigilant for you?

2 Historic First KJSEA Joins KCSE and KPSEA as National Exams Commence

Kenya's national examination season is officially underway, with the first-ever Kenya Junior School Education Assessment (KJSEA) set to debut next week for Grade 9 students under CBC.

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!

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Muslim personalities among those feted as national heroes

Several Kenyans, including notable Muslim personalities, were among those honoured on Mashujaa Day 2025 for their outstanding contributions and service to the country.

During the national celebrations held on October 20 in Kitui County, a total of 184 individuals from various sectors were recognized for their efforts in Kenya's struggle for independence and post-independence development.

Honouring the country's heroes is part of the mandate of the National Heroes Council, which is responsible for identifying, selecting, and recognizing individuals who have made exceptional contributions to the nation.

The awards were presented across 14 categories, including liberation struggle, spiritual leadership, indigenous knowledge, cultural

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King Salman appoints Sheikh Saleh Al Fawzan as Saudi Arabia's new grand Mufti

King Salman bin Abdulaziz of Saudi Arabia on Wednesday issued a royal decree appointing Sheikh Saleh bin Fawzan bin Abdullah Al Fawzan as the Kingdom's fourth Grand Mufti, succeeding the late Sheikh Abdulaziz bin Abdullah Al Sheikh, who passed away on September 23 at the age of 82.

In addition to his new role, Sheikh Al Fawzan has been named Chairman of the Council of Senior Scholars and Chairman of the General Presidency of Islamic Research and Ifta, with the rank of minister. Born in 1935 in ash-Shimasiyyah, Qassim, Saudi Arabia, Sheikh Al Fawzan was orphaned at an early age and raised by his extended family.

He received his early religious instruction from the local imam, Sheikh Hammoud bin Suleiman Al Tilal, who taught him the Quran and the fundamentals of reading and writing.

Sheikh Al Fawzan began his formal education at a public school in ash-Shimasiyyah in 1950 and completed his primary studies at Al Faisaliyah School in Buraydah in 1952.

He initially worked as a primary school teacher before joining the Scholarly Institute in Buraydah in 1954 as one of its first students. After graduating four years later, he pursued higher studies at the College of Sharia in Riyadh, earning his bachelor's degree in 1961.

He went on to complete both his master's

and doctoral degrees in Fiqh (Islamic jurisprudence) at the same institution.

His master's thesis focused on "Satisfactory Investigations Applying Hypothetical Approaches in the Science of Inheritance," while his doctoral dissertation examined "Rulings Concerning Food in Islamic Sharia."

Before his appointment as Grand Mufti, Sheikh Al Fawzan served as a member of the Council of Senior Scholars and the Permanent Committee for Scholarly Research and Ifta.

He also served as a member of the Islamic Fiqh Council, affiliated to the Muslim World League, and member of the Supervisory Committee for Preachers during Hajj.

A prolific scholar and author, Sheikh Al Fawzan has written numerous books and is widely recognized for his contributions to Islamic education. He is also well known for his participation in radio programs, including the long-running and popular Nur Ala Al-Darb series.



The Jamia Mosque Committee Trustees, Majlis Ulamaa, Majlis, and staff, through the Royal Embassy of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in Kenya, extends their heartfelt congratulations to Sheikh Saleh bin Fawzan Al Fawzan on his appointment as the Grand Mufti of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. They pray that Allah grants him wisdom, strength, and continued success in serving Islam and the Muslim Ummah.

Jamia Mosque Nairobi marks 100 Years

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place from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. On Friday, October 31, the program will feature a public lecture and book sale at Jamia Mosque Nairobi, scheduled from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

The event will continue on Saturday, November 1, with the 9th edition of the Jamia Mosque Open Day, hosted at the historic mosque on Banda Street. Organized by the Jamia Da'wah Department, the event, running from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., will welcome people from all walks of life to learn about Islam and its teachings.

Visitors will have the opportunity to take part in guided tours of Kenya's largest Islamic institution, attend interactive question-and-answer sessions, and view exhibitions on Islamic history and culture. Refreshments, reading materials, Islamic literature, and translated copies of the Noble Qur'an will also be available.

The centenary events will conclude on Sunday, November 2, with a free medical camp organized by the Jamia Mosque Committee, aimed at providing essential

health services to vulnerable members of the community.

Founded in 1902 by Maulana Syed Abdullah Shah, Jamia Mosque stands as a monumental symbol of faith, resilience, and unity among Muslims in Kenya and across the East and Central African region. Today, it remains a vital hub for religious, social, and civic discourse, bringing together leaders and community members to address issues affecting the Muslim community.

HWPL Interfaith Dialogue for tomorrow

Jamia Mosque Nairobi will tomorrow host the HWPL Interfaith Dialogue under the theme "The Role of Religious Leaders in Achieving Sustainable Peace."

The event, organized by Heavenly Culture, World Peace, Restoration of Light (HWPL), will take place at the Jamia Multi-Purpose Hall from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. It is expected to bring together religious leaders and scholars from various faiths. Discussions will focus on peace, love, and unity, with participants exploring common values and promoting understanding and

harmony among religions through comparative discussions of religious scriptures. Last month, on September 18, HWPL held the 2025 Global Peace Education Conference in Nairobi under the theme "Institutionalizing Peace Education: Building a Peaceful Society Together."

The conference, organized to mark the 11th anniversary of HWPL, was attended by high-profile dignitaries including the Speaker of the National Legislative Assembly of South Sudan, the Speaker of the House of Representatives of Antigua and

Barbuda, former Presidents of Mali and Croatia, and the former Vice President of Taiwan, alongside representatives from the Ministry of Education of Zambia, the Mongolian Lifelong Learning Center, and other delegates from over 30 countries.

The forum served as a platform for global educators and peace advocates to discuss the institutionalization of peace education in public systems, share success stories, and strengthen international cooperation in the pursuit of lasting peace.

The power of a thankful heart

Sheikh Mohammed al-Ghazali

Sleep closes your eyes, but power continues to run through your veins and nerves, sustaining life in your body, never ceasing or slackening.

Who keeps them alive, active, and vigilant for you? Who created and caused them to work from nothing? You were not created because you asked to be, or provided for while an embryo and a baby because you asked to be. Rather, it was the Generous Bestower and Glorious Maker Who did these things for you, out of His Grace. He truly is more merciful to you than you are to yourself.

Meaning of Thankfulness

Thankfulness is a word that – along with gratitude – means praise and exaltation, and herein lies its worth and merit.

What is important is that the tongue utters gratitude while feeling it in the heart, and acknowledging from deep inside that God, as the source of every good bestowed, deserves all thanks that is sent.

With every blink of the eye and beat of the heart, Allah acquaints mankind with Himself through the blessings He bestows and the good things He sends. These blessings and bounties, which are renewed throughout every day and every night, should be received with recognition for and thanks to the One Who Bestowed them.

"And it is He who has made the night and the day in succession for whoever desires to remember or desires gratitude." (Surah Al-Furqan 25: 62) If you provide someone with food, give him shelter, pay off his debts, or raise him to a high rank, and he then frowns upon you or gives you his back despite the kindness shown to him, you would perceive him as someone without whom earth would be a better place. What do you think about the Lord of existence – Who creates out of nothing, provides sustenance and clothing, and showers down His Graces and Favors year after year – when He sees that those living and rejoicing in His Blessings are stern and steadfast opponents of Him! "He created man from a sperm-drop; then at once he is a clear adversary." (Surah An-Nahl 16: 4)

Ingratitude

Ingratitude is baselessness. The incessant flow of bounties is just repaid with turning the back to their Giver and disobeying Him in His watchful Presence. With persistence in such behavior, the right to more is diminished to nothing. Therefore

is the command to mankind to thank and express gratitude to Him, their Lord. Gratitude is not a difficult duty that has to be borne with patience; rather, it is the road to perfection that people must walk with determination and purpose.

"O you who have believed, eat from the good [i.e., lawful] things which We have provided for you and be grateful to Allāh if it is [indeed] Him that you worship." (Surah Al-Baqarah 2: 172) Thankfully acknowledging Allah's Favors with sweet composure and acquiescence of the heart towards the Maker makes a person worthy of receiving more. Blessings in his hands are like water poured on a fertile land that bursts with flowers and fruits. Pouring more cannot be withheld or reduced. Contrarily, watering a barren land is a waste, and therefore water is cut off.

"And [remember] when your Lord proclaimed, 'If you are grateful, I will surely increase you [in favor]; but if you deny, indeed, My punishment is severe.'" (Surah Ibrahim 14:7). Severe punishment is thus deserved for the evilness of ingratitude. What will people lose if they enjoy the Blessings of Allah with a thankful heart that acknowledges the Bestower and says to Him, "Thank You." Or is this too difficult?

The Prophet's Thankfulness

Gratitude is more a feeling than mere movement of the lips, a feeling that was superbly translated into sincere actions and behaviors throughout the day and life of Prophet Muhammad. Whenever he woke up, he would say:

All praise and thanks to Allah Who restored to me my soul, made my body healthy, and allowed me to remember Him.

Whenever he finished eating, he would say:

All praise and thanks to Allah Who fed us, quenched our thirst, and made us Muslims. Whenever he returned from relieving himself, he would say:

All praise and thanks to Allah Who made me taste its (food) good flavor, retained within me its power (strength and energy derived from food), and removed from me its harm. Whenever he wore a new garment, he would say:

All praise and thanks to Allah Who has clothed me with this garment and provided it for me, with no power or might from myself.

Whenever he returned from traveling, he would say:

We are returning, repenting, worshipping, and praising our Lord.

Whenever something happened that pleased him, he would say:

All praise and thanks to Allah by Whose Blessings all good things are perfected. And whenever something happened that displeased him, he would say:

All praise and thanks to Allah in all circumstances.

And he prayed:

O Allah, help me remember You, thank You, and perfect my worship of You.

Satan's Plan

What plan did Satan have against mankind after he was expelled from heaven?

His vengeful endeavors were to rob mankind of contentment and make them ungrateful. His vengeful endeavors were to distract them and cover their insight with veils of heedlessness, so that they eat the Bounties of Allah and do not thank Him and see His Grand Signs and do not glorify Him.

When beasts find food, they devour it, sensible of nothing else. And when they lack food, they feel hungry, sensible of nothing else. When healthy, they run and jump. But when sick, they lie down and rest, sensible of nothing else. They know no patience with affliction or thankfulness for bounties. This is the kind of life that Satan wants mankind to live, neither to

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From the Holy Qur'an Ayah of the week

Theme: Faith in Allah's plan

Allah does not
burden a soul beyond
that it can bear...

(Surah Al-Baqarah 2:286)



Vacancy: Da'awah Officer

A well-established Islamic Center in Nairobi is seeking to recruit a qualified and dedicated Da'wah Officer to join its dynamic team.

Requirements:

- Must be below 40 years of age.
- Hold a Degree in Islamic Studies OR Arabic from a recognized institution.

If you meet the above qualifications and are passionate about serving the community through Da'wah, kindly send your application to:

recruitmentkenya70@gmail.com

Application Deadline: 15th November 2025

The distinction between roles and oppression: Muslim Women in Islam

By Umm FatimaZahra

In recent years, the narrative that Muslim women are oppressed has been perpetuated by various media outlets, scholars, and activists in the West.

Despite Muslim women around the world frequently pushing back against this misconception, some of these ideas have, unfortunately, seeped into our own communities. This raises a significant question: Do we truly believe that we are not oppressed, or have we begun to internalise these external narratives?

Understanding the Role of Muslim Women in Islam

Islam has laid out distinct roles for men and women, rooted in balance and equity. The obligations and rights given to each are complementary, designed to uphold the well-being of the family and society. Yet, these roles are often misinterpreted through a modern, secular lens, which leads to the misunderstanding that Muslim women are being "oppressed" by their faith.

For example, some women may question why they need to seek permission from their husband before going out, or why they should adhere to his requests, like covering more modestly, spending more time with their children, or limiting their use of social media.

They may ask: "Why does he get to tell me what to do, but I don't have the same authority over him?" In today's world, this can feel like a form of control or restriction, especially when viewed through the framework of modern gender equality.

The Influence of Secular Ideologies

Secular ideologies have become so ingrained in modern society that even practicing Muslims can sometimes find themselves questioning the values of their faith. Many of the ideas around "freedom" and "empowerment" in the West are built on individual autonomy and breaking away from traditional roles. This often conflicts with the collective and family-centric values of Islam.

Muslim women are frequently told by the West that their modesty, their obedience to their husbands, and their commitment to their families are forms of oppression. While Muslim women may argue against this, it's undeniable that some of these narratives have subtly shaped our thinking.

We may feel uncomfortable or defensive when reminded of the responsibilities Allah has placed upon us as women. But these responsibilities are not burdens—they are honourable duties designed to protect and elevate us, not suppress us.

The truth is, secular ideologies have led to the erosion of traditional family structures in many parts of the world. Gender roles, which once provided stability and direction, are now seen as outdated or

regressive. But in the Islamic worldview, these roles are divinely prescribed and essential for maintaining balance in society.

The Role of the Husband

There is a growing focus on how husbands should treat their wives—reminding them to be kind, just, and caring. These reminders are necessary, given the immense responsibility men carry in Islam to protect, maintain, and support their families. However, it's equally important for Muslim women to understand their own responsibilities and the rights of their husbands. Just as a husband is obligated to fulfill his duties, so too is a wife obligated to fulfill hers.

Islamically, a husband has the right to set certain boundaries within the home, as long as they are in accordance with the Shariah. For instance, he may request his wife to limit her social media use or to dress in a manner that upholds modesty. These are not arbitrary demands meant to exert control, but they are part of the husband's role in safeguarding the household from fitna (temptation) and ensuring the moral integrity of the family.

Yet, in today's climate, many Muslim women may question: "Why should I follow these rules if my husband isn't bound by the same restrictions?"

The answer lies in understanding the distinct, complementary roles that Allah has assigned to men and women. These roles are not identical, but they are balanced. A husband may not have to seek permission to go out, but he carries the heavy burden of being financially responsible for his family, a role that the wife is not required to shoulder.

Preserving Islamic Values in a Secular World

We live in a world where morality is increasingly diluted, and what was once considered inappropriate is now celebrated. The Muslim family unit, with its clearly defined roles and responsibilities, is under threat from the pressures of modern secular ideologies.

Gender roles are being redefined, traditional values are under attack, and the lines between right and wrong are becoming blurred. This confusion, often termed as "woke" mentality, poses a great risk to our families and, most importantly, to our children.

As Muslim women, we must ask ourselves: Are we upholding the values of our faith, or are we succumbing to external pressures that conflict with our deen? Standing for the rights of Muslim women does not mean abandoning the

traditional roles assigned to us. Rather, it means embracing those roles proudly and recognising their value in the eyes of Allah.

It means resisting the urge to conform to secular ideologies that promote individualism at the expense of family and community.

Conclusion: Defining Our Own Narratives

The real question is not whether Muslim women are oppressed, but whether we have allowed ourselves to be influenced by those who don't understand or respect our values. In a world where traditional roles are being questioned and even demonised, it's essential that we define our own narratives. As Muslim women, we are not oppressed by our faith. Rather, Islam grants us a clear, purposeful role in life, one that is integral to the success of our families and our communities.

We must strive to view our responsibilities not as restrictions, but as divine trusts. These roles were created by Allah, who knows what is best for us, our families, and our society. By embracing our roles and understanding the wisdom behind them, we strengthen the fabric of our homes and protect the values that have kept the Muslim community strong for centuries.

It's time to stand for Muslim women's rights, but to do so within the framework of Islam, not under the influence of secular ideologies that have no place in our faith.

Light of Knowledge Quiz

Which of the following Surahs is NOT a Madani Surah?

A Al-Mumtahanah

B Al-Qiyamah

C At-Tahrim

Answer to be revealed in the next issue

Last week's answer was choice C: "Zayd ibn Harithah (RA)"

A guide to a Student's holiday

By the grace of Allah, we have been blessed with one of our most long-awaited holidays! It's been a long year, but alhamdulillah, we've all made it through, and for this, we need to express our gratitude to Allah, for He tells us in the Qur'an:

"If you are thankful, surely I will increase you" (Surah Ibrahim 14:7)

For many, the school break is not something they can look forward to as a holiday, but we, as students, are in privileged enough positions to be able to have a few weeks that aren't governed by timetables and the drone of a daily 8 – 5. The problem with having this break however, is this: we have so much time on our hands that we don't know what to do with it.

There are so many ways of maximising our time during this school break, but we've found that it is much easier to use our time wisely when we understand the reasoning behind it. Especially knowing that while we have expressed our gratitude to Allah verbally, we can continue to do so practically. Understanding and acting upon the following pointers has assisted us in utilising our time well for the sake of Allah, and we hope it will do the same for you:

- Value of time
- Value of seekers
- Emulating the life of the pious
- Importance of sacrifice

The Value of Time in Islam:

There's a very popular hadith in Sahih al-Bukhari which emphasises the importance of utilising the time that we have, and as students, there is nothing more pertinent: Narrated Ibn 'Abbas: The Prophet (peace be upon him) said, "There are two blessings which many people lose: (They are) Health and free time for doing good." (Sahih al-Bukhari 6412)

Free time is very valuable and an asset to seekers of knowledge as we are not just studying for the sake of it, rather we have been chosen specifically by Allah to do His work. Like with any other achievement we aspire towards in life, we must also make a plan for our school break. By dividing up the hours in the day and dedicating it towards different books/topics, we will be able to consolidate our knowledge from the previous year and strengthen our weaknesses for the coming one.

The Value of Seekers of Knowledge:

Students of sacred knowledge are known as a guest of our beloved Prophet (Peace be upon him). In a hadith of Abu Dawud, scholars have been referred to as the 'Wasiyya' (bequest) of the Prophet (peace be upon him) and students described those for whom which the angels spread their wings in humility. The creation, including the fish in the ocean, seek forgiveness for students of deen. (Sunan Abu Dawud 3641)

With such high expectations of us as stu-

dents, it is of absolute necessity that we utilise every minute of our lives, including those in the school break holiday. Every moment that we are given life and the ability to seek 'ilm, we should consider it a blessing and act accordingly for it has been decreed upon us as a gift. This shift in perspective will allow us to see studying in the school break holiday as less of a chore and more as an opportunity to serve our beloved Prophet (peace be upon him), and in turn, Allah Most-High.

Emulating the Life of the Pious:

Often we struggle to find role models who encourage to stay upon the right path – especially during the school break holiday when we are not in the company of our blessed teachers and other classmates. One of the biggest perks of being students of knowledge is that we have plenty of predecessors to look back upon and use their lives as models for our own. In the Qur'an, Allah gives the examples of 17 Prophets who have passed and instructs the Prophet (peace be upon him):

"Those are the ones whom Allah has guided, so from their guidance take an example." (Surah al-An'am 6: 90)

It is in our best interests to be amongst the best of mankind, and the only way we can do that is by emulating the lives of those who have come before us and dedicated their lives to the work of deen.

The Importance of Sacrifice:

In Islam, there is a unique concept of maximum strife and effort by one's own self called mujahadah. In the context of the school break, it may very well feel like a big sacrifice to not partake in the leisurely activities others might be doing, but think of it this way, your choice to study and contin-

ue in your way towards the path of Allah is an act of mujahadah. Allah tells us in the Qur'an:

"And those who strive for Us – We will surely guide them to Our ways." (Surah al-Ankabut – 29: 69)

"And whoever strives only strives for [the benefit of] himself." (Surah al-Ankabut – 29, Ayah 6)

What is sacrifice? 'Mujahadah': striving, making maximum effort is extremely important. Whether a student is becoming a Hafidh or an 'Alim, or is in academic studies, he should put maximum effort into his studies. The holidays give the student plenty of time to delve into his curriculum books.

Conclusion:

In conclusion, as seekers of 'ilm, our break from a routine of study should not result in total abandonment of studies, but at the same time we must keep a balance between giving our bodies the due refreshment it requires along with keeping in touch with our Qur'an, our Kutub and our 'ibadat. Keep yourself busy, because an idle mind is a devil's workshop.

Although we are on a break, penning down what we hope to achieve from the break is often a good start to ensuring some sort of productivity. How often have holidays past and we reflect back thinking: 'Where has it gone?'. The Prophet (peace be upon him) said, "A believer is not stung twice (by something) out of one and the same hole." (Sahih al-Bukhari 6133) Let us not make the same mistakes we have made previously, be insightful and well prepared. Happy holidays!

(From Siblings Of Ilm)

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

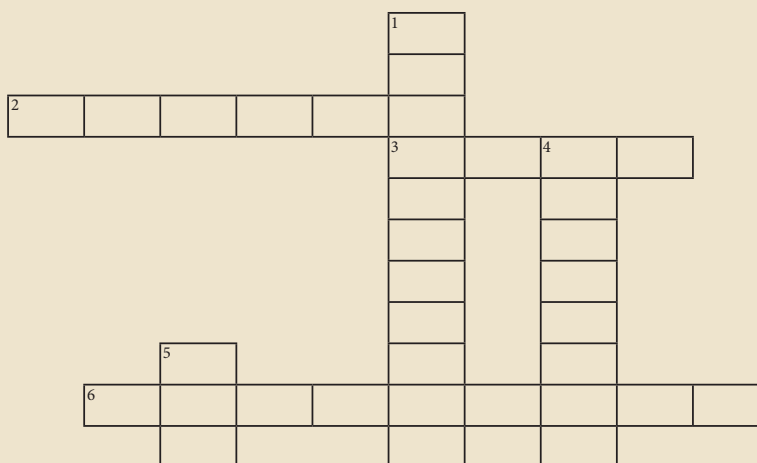
LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS

ACROSS

- Ikhlās
- Abuhurairah
- Hatīf

DOWN

- Bayt almal
- Uluhiyyah
- Adam



ACROSS

- Hadith compilation done by a student of Imam Al-Bukhari.
- The first Makki Surah revealed to Prophet Muhammad (PBHU).
- Another term referring to Sunnah (recommended not obligatory)

DOWN

- Category of Tawheed affirming Allah's (SW) Names and Attributes.
- Arabic word of shoes.
- Prophet known as Najiyullah (The one saved by Allah).

CIPK urges Madrassas to remain open during long holidays

Madrasahs and Islamic centers across the country have been urged to remain open during the ongoing long school holidays to give Muslim children more opportunities to learn Islamic teachings and stay productively engaged.

The Council of Imams and Preachers of Kenya (CIPK), Nairobi Chapter Secretary, Sheikh Ibrahim Muhammad Kazee, emphasized the importance of utilizing the holiday period to strengthen Islamic education.

He expressed concern over the increasing trend of madrasahs closing during holidays and the declining enrollment in those that remain operational.

"Holidays present a great opportunity for Islamic schools to impart knowledge to school-going children. It is worrying when madrasahs close during holidays such as Christmas," said Sheikh Ibrahim.

He cautioned madrasah administrators against allowing Muslim children to develop

misconceptions about non-Islamic festivities, urging them to reinforce the correct understanding of Islamic values and identity. The CIPK official further stressed the need to revitalize Islamic education to enhance enrollment and equip children with essential religious knowledge.

He encouraged madrasah administrators to take advantage of the long holidays to focus on the spiritual and moral development of Muslim children.

Muslims urged to support humanitarian causes and the needy

Muslims have been urged to extend emotional and financial support toward humanitarian causes to help those in need and build a stronger, more compassionate society.

The call was made by Sheikh Muhammad Bahero, who noted that Islamic charities have long played a vital role in providing social services, alleviating poverty, and promoting humanitarian initiatives.

Speaking on Sunday at the Star of Hope Association (SOHA) headquarters in Kambi Juu, Isiolo, Sheikh Bahero said his visit reflected a shared commitment to humanitarian service, education, and community empowerment.

He appealed to Muslims across the country to support orphans and vulnerable members of society to improve their livelihoods, emphasizing that Islam encourages generosity and care for others.

"Islam encourages Muslims to live life by helping one another, as it fosters respect and love among all people—family, kin,

friends, neighbours, and even strangers," said Sheikh Bahero. "One of the ways to implement this principle is through the act of giving alms."

Sheikh Bahero added that giving alms is a noble way to use one's wealth in the service of Allah, urging Muslims to dedicate their God-given resources to support humanitarian work. He commended

Star of Hope Association for its continued efforts in serving humanity and fostering positive change within the community. In the same spirit, Qari Abdulrazzaq, SOHA's Organizing Secretary, urged Muslims to remember the less fortunate and extend a helping hand to those living in poverty as a means of seeking Allah's pleasure.

As part of its ongoing outreach, Star of Hope Association conducted a food distribution exercise in Garba Tulla, Isiolo County, reaching out to families affected by the prolonged dry spell. Through the initiative, 1,100 house-



holds received maize meal to help ease the strain caused by months of scarce rainfall and harsh living conditions.

Qari Abdulrazzaq thanked donors and well-wishers for their collaboration and generous contributions that made the exercise a success.

"May Allah (S.W.T) bless all our donors and well-wishers for their generosity and continued support in the service of humanity. May Allah accept your Qurbani and reward you abundantly, Ameen," said Qari Abdulrazzaq.

The power of a thankful heart

Continued From Page 3

remember nor thank Allah. This was the oath of Satan on the day he was driven out of heaven.

"I will surely lie in wait for those on Your Straight Path. Then I will come to them from in front and from behind and from their right and from their left, and You will not find most of them grateful (to You)." (Surah Al-A'raf 7:17).

The Consequences of Ingratitude

The worst of ingratitude is when it is a collective feeling into which an entire nation slides. As if there is a written agreement among them not to mention anything good about Allah, and to gorge His Bounties and ascribe them to anyone other

than Him. Were previous nations, such as 'Ad and Thamud, destroyed for any cause other than ingratitude?

It was said to 'Ad:



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There will be a 15% Discount During this Holiday Season. The cost includes

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Exciting News!

We have now opened a new branch at Nasra Gardens, located on Spine Road off Kangundo Road, next to Nasra Gardens Gate A. Our holiday discount applies at this location too!

Vacancy: Kitchen Helpers

We are recruiting Kitchen Helpers to work in Saudi Arabia.

Requirements:

- Age: 21–32 years
- No tattoos
- No visible scars
- Must speak good English
- Must have a valid passport

Interviews: Conducted every week

Commission: Applies

For more details, contact us:

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Jamia Mosque hosts regional rounds of national Qur'an Competition

Jamia Mosque Nairobi hosted the preliminary rounds of the first ever National Qur'an Memorization Competition for the Nairobi Nakuru region, organized by Saudi Arabia's Ministry of Islamic Affairs through the Religious Attaché Office in Kenya, in collaboration with the Supreme Council of Kenya Muslims (SUPKEM).

The three day event, held from Sunday to Tuesday, brought together 113 contestants, reflecting the growing commitment among Kenyan Muslims to Islamic education and the community's deepening dedication to nurturing Qur'anic scholarship.

The competition featured four categories — 30 Juz, 20 Juz, 15 Juz, and 5 Juz — where participants demonstrated remarkable devotion and precision in memorizing the Holy Qur'an. The 30 Juz category proved to be the most competitive, attracting 37 contestants, the highest number among all categories, with participants showcasing exceptional mastery as they vied for a coveted place in the national finals.

The judging panel comprising Sheikh

Mahmoud Hussein, Sheikh Abdulhakim Luambo, and Sheikh Muhammad Sheikh evaluated contestants on their memorization accuracy, adherence to tajweed (rules of recitation), precision in makharij (pronunciation), and overall fluency. Their thorough assessment ensured that only the top two contestants in each category advanced to the national finals.

Speaking after the event, Dr. Abuyasir Ishaq, Coordinator at the Saudi Religious Attaché Office in Kenya, expressed gratitude to participants and organizers for their dedication. "Your enthusiasm reflects the growing commitment of Kenyan Muslims to champion Islamic education," he said.

He reaffirmed the Religious Attaché Office's commitment to promoting Islamic knowledge and strengthening cooperation with Muslim organizations across the country to advance the shared mission of faith and learning.

The national finals, scheduled for December 1, 2025, will bring together qualifiers from Nairobi Nakuru, Mombasa, Isiolo, Garissa,

Mandera, and Wajir, setting the stage for an intense and highly anticipated competition.

Winners in each category will receive significant cash prizes. In the 30 Juz category, the first place winner will receive approximately Ksh 689,000, the second Ksh 517,000, and the third Ksh 345,000. In the 20 Juz category, the top three will take home Ksh 517,000, Ksh 345,000, and Ksh 172,000, respectively. For the 15 Juz category, the prizes will be Ksh 345,000, Ksh 172,000, and Ksh 86,000, while in the 5 Juz category, winners will receive Ksh 172,000, Ksh 86,000, and Ksh 52,000, respectively.

As contestants and the wider Muslim community prepare for the finals, the regional rounds held in Nairobi and other areas stand as a powerful symbol of the growing partnership between Kenyan Muslim organizations and Saudi Arabia's Ministry of Islamic Affairs in promoting Qur'anic education and fostering spiritual growth within Kenya's Muslim community.

Gov't to fast-track Title Deeds for heritage sites, securing Islamic landmarks

The government's plan to expedite the issuance of official title deeds for heritage sites across the country is being hailed as a significant step for Kenya's Muslim community.

Gender, Culture, Arts and Heritage Cabinet Secretary Hanna Cheptumo announced on Monday that the process will be fast-tracked to protect historic sites from land grabbing and encroachment. Many mosques and Islamic institutions occupy parcels of land that hold deep religious, cultural, and communal value but have long remained vulnerable due to the absence of formal legal protection. By securing these sites, the government aims to safeguard both

Kenya's cultural heritage and the spiritual foundations of its Muslim population. The importance of this initiative is illustrated by the 14th-century Kongo Mosque in Kwale County. In April 2025, a Sh1.4 billion land grab attempt targeting the mosque was thwarted by the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC) after individuals allegedly advertised the land for sale despite its status as a gazetted national monument. Other significant Islamic heritage sites earmarked for protection include Jamia Mosque (CBD) and Jamia Mosque Landhies in Nairobi, Masjid Nur (Old Mosque) in Wajir Town, and the Mnarani Mosque ruins and associated sites in Kilifi. These locations, like the Kon-

go Mosque, are not only centers of worship but also living symbols of Kenya's Muslim history and identity. Speaking in Mombasa during the announcement, CS Cheptumo emphasized the importance of preservation, stating, "We have a duty to preserve what we inherited and pass it on to the next generation." She added that the programme will be implemented in collaboration with county governments to ensure a coordinated approach to protecting Kenya's cultural and religious heritage. By formalizing ownership and enhancing legal safeguards, the government seeks to create lasting protection against encroachment and land disputes.

Historic first KJSEA joins KCSE and KPSEA as national exams commence

Kenya's national examination season is officially underway, marking a critical period for learners across the country, with the historic first-ever Kenya Junior School Education Assessment (KJSEA) set to debut next week for Grade 9 students under the Competency-Based Curriculum.

The Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education (KCSE) examinations, which began on Tuesday, October 21, 2025, are currently in progress, while the Kenya Primary School Education Assessment (KPSEA) for Grade 6 learners and the inaugural KJSEA are scheduled to start on Monday, October 27, 2025. The KCSE examinations began with oral and practical assessments, covering subjects such as foreign languages and performance-based courses.

The main written theory papers will follow from Tuesday, November 4, and conclude on Friday, November 21, 2025.

Approximately 996,078 candidates are registered for KCSE this year, reflecting a slight increase from the previous year and underscoring the success of multi-stakeholder efforts in improving literacy levels as more communities embrace formal secondary education.

To ensure smooth and secure conduct, the Kenya National Examinations Council (KNEC) has deployed over 10,000 center managers, more than 12,000 supervisors, over 54,000 invigilators, and upwards of 22,000 security officers nationwide.

Education Cabinet Secretary Julius Ogamba emphasized the importance of integrity, warning against malpractice and calling on all stakeholders to uphold fairness and transparency. The KPSEA assessments for Grade 6 learners and the first-ever KJSEA assessments for Grade 9 learners are set to run from Monday, October 27, 2025. Cover-

ing Mathematics, English, Integrated Science, Kiswahili, and Creative Arts & Social Studies, these assessments are designed to evaluate learners' competencies under the Competency-Based Curriculum.

Over 1.2 million learners are expected to sit the KPSEA, while more than 1.1 million learners will participate in the historic KJSEA, providing critical insights into their readiness for senior secondary education. In total, over 3.4 million learners across Kenya will take part in national examinations this year. As the examination season unfolds, KNEC has called on parents, teachers, and communities to provide supportive study environments and ensure candidates receive adequate rest, enabling all learners to demonstrate their full potential in this defining academic milestone.

Muslim personalities among those feted as national heroes

Continued From Page 1

values and practices, arts, sports, scholarship, professionalism and research, peacemaking, statesmanship, entrepreneurship and industry, philanthropy, human rights, national cohesion and integration, and environmental conservation.

In the philanthropy category, Abdul Bary Hamid, Secretary General of Jamia Mosque Nairobi, was recognized for his commitment to public service through various community initiatives and philanthropic work.

In the liberation struggle category, Haji Galma Dido was honoured posthumously for his contribution to Kenya's independence struggle in Northern Kenya. He was assassinated alongside the first Isiolo District Commissioner, Daudi Dabaso Wabera, while on a peace mission to Sericho, Isiolo.

Also honoured posthumously was Tusmo Ibrahim Ogle, a civic educator and mental health advocate recognized for her philanthropic leadership and dedication to youth development across Northern Kenya.

In the statesmanship category, Mombasa Governor Abdulswamad Shariff Nassir was commended for his transformative leadership in public service and governance. Also honoured in this category was Omar Shuria Abdi, a veteran civil servant whose 45-year career was marked by exemplary leadership, policy expertise, and dedication to improving the Nation-

al Police Service. In the entrepreneurship and industry category, Salat Mohamud Mohamed, Group Chief Executive Officer of Hass Petroleum, was recognized for his exceptional leadership in the energy sector. Fatuma Abubakar Abdalla El Maawy from Lamu was also honoured for her outstanding contributions to entrepreneurship, ethical business, and community empowerment.

Others recognized for their service to the nation include Shukri Baramadi, Chairman of the Kenya Ports Authority (KPA), for his instrumental role in modernization and security initiatives within the public sector.

In the scholarship, professionalism, and research category, Dr. Majid Mbarak Warshow, a cardiologist at the Aga Khan University Hospital in Nairobi, was recognized for his contribution to medical professionalism, clinical excellence, and patient-centred care.

Mwanahamisi Hamadi, a seasoned television anchor, was honoured for her professionalism and her role in empowering women through Mwanamke Bomba, a Citizen TV program that celebrates Kenyan women who have demonstrated excellence, commitment, and innovation across various fields.

In the peacemaking category, Elias Jama Noor and Sagar Aden Hassan were recognized for their outstanding contributions to peacebuilding and the Peace Education

Campaign Torch initiative. In the national cohesion and integration category, Safia Saro Guyo from Marsabit was commended for her efforts to reduce inter-ethnic conflict and foster trust and respect among diverse communities. Mohamed Hassan Hamadi was also recognized for his role in promoting youth mentorship, peacebuilding, and resilience in Kwale County.

In the human rights category, Fatuma Ibrahim Hagar was honoured for her outstanding contribution to the defense of human rights, while Rahma Gulam Abbas was recognized for her work in promoting human rights and ending gender-based violence in Kenya. Yasmin Mohammed Nassur was commended for her leadership in advancing the rights of women and girls across the country, and Suleiman Hamisi Dzole for his exemplary leadership in program management, gender advocacy, and community empowerment.

In the environmental conservation category, Yunis Ibrahim Sheikh from Wajir County was recognized for his efforts in promoting environmental conservation. Additionally, Yunis Abdullahi Matker was honoured for his work in documenting and digitizing indigenous knowledge, while Shimsia Abdullahi Hassan was recognized for her advocacy in promoting the rights and dignity of marginalized groups.

Kakamega to host Islamic Symposium on December 12

Kakamega County is set to host a three-day Islamic symposium beginning on December 12, 2025. The event, titled "The Journey of Faith and the Path to Jannah," is organized by the Iqra Project Group and will take place at Kakamega Jamia Mosque.

Prominent Islamic scholars from across Kenya and neighboring countries are expected to attend the symposium, which will conclude on Sunday, December 14.

Under the theme "Reviving Our Ummah and Building Unity for Generations," the symposium will focus on rekindling the true Islamic spirit through knowledge, promoting moral values, and fostering unity within the Muslim community. "We want to see both Muslim men and women play their role in the spread of Islam and revive the true Islamic spirit through knowledge to build moral values for better upbringing of families and spiritual development," said sister Mariam Wandati, Iqra Project group chairperson.

Among the speakers scheduled to address the gathering are the Director of Information at Jamia Mosque Nairobi, Sheikh Juma Amir; Sheikh Muhdhar Hussein Omar from Nairobi; Sheikh Idd Al-Jaaruf; Sheikh Luti Shafi Kassim; and Sheikh Ramadhan Musa from Busia.

Other speakers and guests also expected to grace the Islamic symposium are Sheikh Musa Sheballah from Bungoma, Sheikh AbdulKarim Wafula, Sheikh Ibrahim Sadalla and Council of Imams and Preachers of Kenya (CIPK) National chairman Sheikh Abdalla Ateka. Guest speakers from outside Kenya include Sheikh Hilal Shawaji Kipozeo from Tanzania and Sheikh Juma Ramadhan.



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