

THE FRIDAY BULLETIN

The Weekly Muslim Update



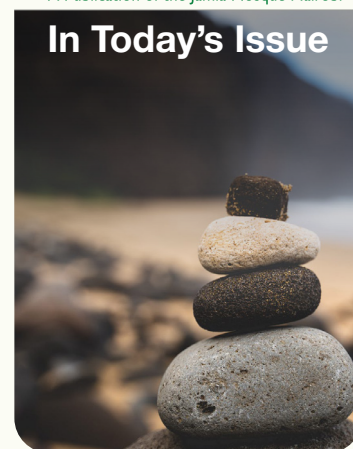
A Publication of the Jamia Mosque Nairobi

AG gazettes new panel for appointment of Waqf Commission Members

Attorney General Dorcas Oduor has appointed a five-member selection panel to spearhead the recruitment of new members of the Waqf Commission, marking a significant step toward operationalising the institution following months of uncertainty. The appointment was formalised through a notice published in the Kenya Gazette dated December 15, 2025, pursuant to Section 7(1) of the Waqf Act, which empowers the Attorney General to constitute the selection committee. The move follows a series of consultative meetings between the Attorney General and Muslim leadership after the dissolution of the previous selection panel, whose revocation was announced in a Gazette notice dated October 24, 2025. Its disbandment had sparked concerns over possible delays in appointing new commissioners and slowed progress in the implementation of the Waqf Act. Key Muslim institutions involved in the consultations included the Jamia Mosque Committee, the Supreme Council of Kenya Muslims (SUPKEM), the National Muslim Leaders Forum (NAMEF) and the Council of Imams and Preachers of Kenya (CIPK).

The newly constituted panel is tasked with identifying, evaluating and recommending suitable candidates for appointment to the Waqf Commission in line with the Waqf Act, 2022. The committee will oversee the nomination process to ensure qualified individuals are appointed to guide and strengthen the Commission's role in managing Waqf affairs. The five-member panel is chaired by Mohammed Alawi Hassun, a former Commissioner with the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC). Other members include Sheikh Hassan Ali Amin, the Nairobi chairman of CIPK; Sumaya Hassan, CEO of Takaful Insurance of Africa and a member of the previous panel; Mohammed Shoaib Vayani, Deputy Secretary General of the National Olympic Committee of Kenya; and Hannan Hassan El-Kathir, founder of HHK Law Advocates. The constitution of the panel is expected to pave the way for the timely appointment of Waqf Commissioners and reinforce confidence among stakeholders in the Muslim community regarding the management of Waqf affairs in the country.

In Today's Issue



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Foremost among these is the perception that one of the main objectives of the surah for a true Muslim is to attain the "tranquil soul" which is mentioned near the end as will be elucidated later.

2 Jamia 2026 annual zonal Quran competition kicks off

The annual Jamia Mosque Nairobi Zonal Quran Competition is gaining momentum as preparations enter high gear, with the zonal contests set to begin this weekend.

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

Boost your Islamic knowledge with our weekly Crossword Puzzle, Knowledge Quiz, and Ayah of the Week.

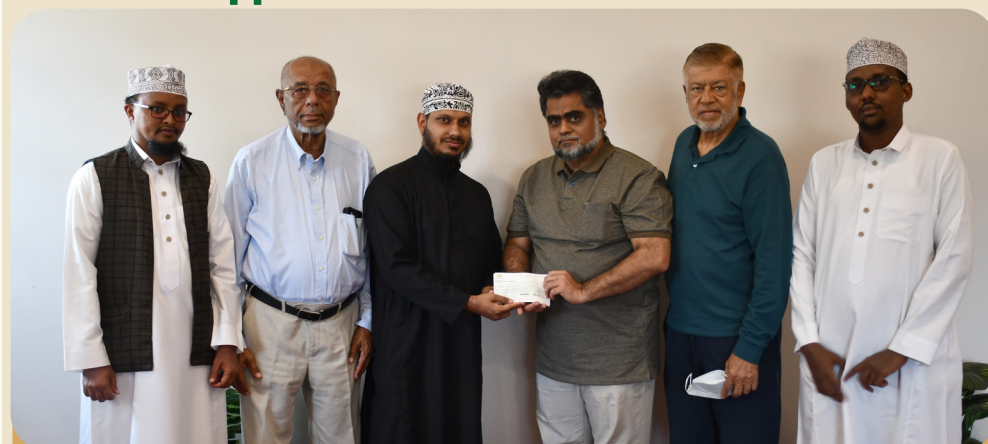
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Parklands Mosque donates KSh 1.1 Million to support Sudan humanitarian relief



Parkland Mosque Imam Abdurahman Ishaq (IN BLACK KANZU) handing over a cheque to Jamia Mosque Nairobi Finance Officer Aboobakar Nazir towards the Sudan humanitarian support last week at Parklands Mosque. Looking on are Parklands Mosque and Madrasah Trust Chairman Fauz Qureshi (SECOND RIGHT), Suleiman Harunani (SECOND LEFT), Jamia Mosque Director of Da'awah Sheikh Muhammad Sheikh (LEFT) and Jamia HR Ahmed Osman Affey.

In response to the worsening humanitarian crisis in Sudan, the Parklands Mosque Committee and Madrasah Trust has donated KSh 1.1 million to Jamia Mosque, Nairobi, to support emergency relief efforts for affected communities in Sudan.

The cheque was presented by Imam Sheikh

Abdurahman Ishaq and received by Jamia Mosque Finance Officer Aboobakar Nazir during a brief ceremony held at Parklands Mosque on Thursday, December 25, 2025. According to the Parklands Mosque and Madrasah Trust, the funds were raised through

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Residents raise alarm over alleged abductions in Isiolo

Residents of Isiolo have raised alarm over what they describe as a growing wave of alleged abductions following the disappearance of two men within a span of one week, sparking fear, anger, and mounting calls for government accountability.

Members of the Isiolo Ajouran community, alongside professionals, family members and friends, are demanding answers regarding the whereabouts of Malele Abdi Hassan, the Head of the National Police Reserve (NPR) in West Location, Isiolo. According to his family, Malele was allegedly abducted by masked men on December 20, 2025, at around 5:30pm while riding his motorcycle home within Isiolo town. His disappearance came barely a day after another reported abduction in

the area. Residents of Chari Ward are also seeking answers over the disappearance of Guyo Lubo, a father of four, who was reportedly abducted on Friday, December 19, near Merti Hotel at Kinna Stage in Isiolo town by unknown individuals.

In both incidents, the circumstances remain unclear and no motive has been established. The families say the cases have been reported to Isiolo Police Station and the Directorate of Criminal Investigations (DCI), but claim no official communication has been issued regarding the whereabouts of the missing men.

Concerned residents say the alleged abductions point to a disturbing trend of enforced disappearances in and around Isiolo, raising serious questions about safety

and security in the region.

The families are demanding thorough, transparent and urgent investigations, insisting that if the missing men are being held by any state agency, they must be produced before a court of law in line with constitutional requirements.

Residents have also called on local leaders, civil society groups and human rights organizations to intervene and help ensure accountability, justice and the protection of fundamental rights.

As anxiety grows within the community, pressure continues to mount on authorities to explain what happened and address what residents describe as an alarming pattern of disappearances in Isiolo town.

Jamia 2026 annual zonal Quran competition kicks off tomorrow

The annual Jamia Mosque Nairobi Zonal Quran Competition is gaining momentum as preparations enter high gear, with the zonal contests set to begin this weekend. The first round of the competitions will commence on Saturday, January 3, 2026 (14th Rajab) at Masjid As Salaam in South C. Subsequent rounds will be staged across various mosques within Nairobi over the coming weeks.

The remaining zonal contests will take place at Masjid Al Farouq, Pumwani, on Saturday, January 10 (21st Rajab); Masjidur Rahma, Biafra, on Saturday, January 17, 2026 (28th Rajab); Al Aqsa Mosque, Komarock, on Saturday, January 24, 2026 (5th Sha'aban); and Al Amin Mosque, Juja Road, on Saturday, January 31, 2026 (12th Sha'aban)—bringing the total to five competition zones. Participants will com-

pete in four recitation categories: Five Juz, Ten Juz, Fifteen Juz, and Thirty Juz. Contestants will be assessed on memorization, Tajweed, Makharij, and overall fluency. The top three competitors in each category will qualify for the grand finale, scheduled to be held at Jamia Mosque during the Holy Month of Ramadhan.

Meanwhile, registration for the Annual Ramadhan Quiz Show—aired on Jamia TV during Ramadhan—is already underway. Registration opens on Monday, January 5, 2026 (16th Rajab) and runs until Friday, January 16 (27th Rajab).

The Quiz Show will begin with the first knockout round from February 3–5, 2026 (15th–17th Sha'aban), followed by the second knockout stage from February 10–12, 2026 (22nd–24th Sha'aban). The semi-final will take place on Saturday, March 7

(18th Ramadhan), with the grand finale slated for Sunday, March 8, 2026 (19th Ramadhan) and broadcast live.

In addition, the Annual Girls' Quran Competition will run on Thursday 19th, Saturday 21st, and Sunday 22nd February (2nd, 4th & 5th Ramadhan) at the Jamia Multi-purpose Hall. The Boys' Quran Competition finals will be held on Thursday, February 26 and Saturday, February 28, 2026 (9th & 11th Ramadhan), culminating in a prize-giving and closing ceremony on Sunday, March 1, 2026 (12th Ramadhan).

The competitions are part of Jamia Mosque's ongoing efforts to promote Quran memorization, Islamic scholarship, and youth engagement in religious learning.

Jaymo Ule Msee embraces Islam, adopts new name after spiritual reflection

Media personality Jaymo Ule Msee, born Wilson Muirania Gathoni, has officially embraced Islam in a decision that has drawn widespread attention and conversation across social media platforms.

Jaymo took the Shahada, the Islamic declaration of faith, at Jamia Mosque Nairobi under the guidance of the Director of Da'awa, Sheikh Muhammad Sheikh. Following the ceremony, he adopted the Islamic name Hakeem Amir Malik. The popular entertainer shared the news in a series of emotional posts on his social media platforms, where he commands an audience of over one million followers. Describing the transition as a deeply personal moment, Jaymo reflected on the spiritual significance of the step. "Today I begin again. A healed heart, a renewed soul, and a life surrendered to Allah. From this moment forward, my steps are guided by faith, service, and purpose," he wrote. His announcement quickly went viral, attracting hundreds of congratulatory messages and expressions of support from followers and fellow public figures.

Many praised him for his openness and sincerity in sharing his spiritual journey. Jaymo Ule Msee is widely recognised in Kenya for his sharp wit, humour, and bold commentary on social issues. He first gained prominence through comedy skits and opinion-driven content on social media, creatively blending humour with relatable Kenyan experiences. His candid approach earned him a loyal fan base and positioned him as both an entertainer and social commentator. A graduate of Political Science and Economics from the University of Nairobi, Jaymo initially worked in the banking sector before transitioning into media and entertainment. His career includes stints at Trace Eastern Africa, Homeboyz Radio and NRG Radio, where he co-hosted popular shows and cemented his place in Kenyan entertainment. Beyond media, he has also been active in politics. In 2022, he served as spokesperson and Head of Media for the Roots Party during the pres-



idential campaign of Professor George Wajackoyah.

Jaymo now joins a growing number of Kenyan public figures who have openly shared their spiritual transformations, with many observers noting the significance of such personal decisions in shaping public discourse on faith and identity.

How to attain a tranquil soul: Insights from Surat Al-Fajr

By Dr. Ali Al-Halawani

The Central Theme of Surat Al-Fajr: Journey to a Tranquil Soul

Every surah of the Qur'an has its own theme as well as objectives.

Every time I read Surat Al-Fajr, certain meanings come into my mind and fill my heart. Foremost among these is the perception that one of the main objectives of the surah for a true Muslim is to attain the "tranquil soul" which is mentioned near the end as will be elucidated later.

The surah starts as Allah the Almighty swears by the dawn, the first ten days of Dhul Hijjah, the Even and the Odd, and by the night when it departs in a way to show their significance and the necessity of discerning man to care about and earnestly observe.

Furthermore, Allah makes His Oath comprehensible to he who possesses intellect, sound reasoning, understanding and religious discernment. He says, "By the Dawn. And ten nights. And the Even and the Odd. And the night when it departeth. There surely is an oath for thinking man." (Surah Al-Fajr 89:1-5)

Lessons from Past Nations Stories

Likewise, a "thinking man" should contemplate over the fate of ancient nations and should see the graces which Allah the Almighty gave them in abundance. However, they turned away from Allah's commands, went astray and misled others, persecuted the faithful and strived against Allah and His Messengers.

They also prevented others from following the straight path of monotheism, and spent their wealth and properties in a way to defy Allah and His Messengers.

They continued doing so until Allah's Command overtook them and they were given tremendous torment in the present life and were promised a severer torment in the Hereafter as is shown elsewhere in the Qur'an.

These past nations were the peoples of 'Ad, Thamud and Pharaoh whom Allah mentioned in the Qur'an in more than one place, so that the faithful may learn a lesson or lessons from their demise (Surah Al-Fajr 89:6-14).

Then comes the Divine Statement, "Verily, your Lord is Ever Watchful," (Surah Al-Fajr 89: 14) to pacify the faithful and all those who follow the path of Da'wah; those who fight against the enemies of Allah; those who declare the truth in the face of each and every tyrant throughout the ages.

He, Glory be His, reassures the faithful that He is with them and that He will eventually grant them sweeping victory over His and their enemies.

Wealth is a Test

Then, Allah shows that wealth and poverty are both a test from Allah. He refutes man in his belief that if Allah gives him abundant provisions to test him with it, it

is out of His honor for him. This is not the case, rather it is a trial and a test.

Likewise, from another angle, if Allah tests him by curtailing his sustenance, he believes that it is because Allah is humiliating him.

As Allah says, "But no!" meaning, the matter is not as he claims, neither in this nor in that. For indeed Allah gives wealth to those whom He loves as well as those whom He does not love.

Likewise, He withholds sustenance from those whom He loves and those whom He does not love.

The point is that Allah should be obeyed in either circumstance. If one is wealthy, he should thank Allah for that, and if he is poor, he should exercise patience as explained by Ibn Kathir.

Following this, Allah the Almighty draws the attention of the "thinking man" to a number of deeds through which he can attain the objective of the whole surah stated above; that's to attain the "tranquil soul".

This includes the command to honor the orphan, feed the poor and the needy and encourage other members of the faithful community to do so. Allah also forbids him to devour the inheritance, or love wealth very much as this increase in love for wealth may increase one in his wickedness. He says,

"No! But you do not honor the orphan. And you do not encourage one another to feed the poor. And you consume inheritance, devouring [it] altogether, And you love wealth with immense love." (Surah Al-Fajr 89:17-20)

The Crucial Hour

Then, the surah shows that on the Day of Judgment everyone will be recompensed according to what he did of good or evil. As Allah the Almighty informs of what will happen on the Day of Judgment of the great horrors in His saying,

"No! When the earth has been leveled - pounded and crushed
And your Lord has come and the angels, rank upon rank,

And brought [within view], that Day, is Hell - that Day, man will remember, but how [i.e., what good] to him will be the remembrance?

He will say, "Oh, I wish I had sent ahead [some good] for my life."

So on that Day, none will punish [as severely] as His punishment,

And none will bind [as severely] as His binding [of the evildoers]." (Surah Al-Fajr 89:21-26)



This is for the criminals and the wrongdoers among the creatures.

The Tranquil Soul

Yet, in reference to those who observe the aforementioned acts of worship as well as take care of Allah's commands and fulfill their religious obligations, they will surely attain the pure and "tranquil soul" which is always at rest and abiding by the truth. This soul will be addressed on the Day of Judgment as,

"O tranquil soul! Come back to your Lord; well-pleased, well-pleasing." (Surah Al-Fajr 89: 27-28)

This means, it will be called upon to return to Allah's company, His reward and what He has prepared for His servants in His Paradise. On that day, this soul will be pleased with Allah, and Allah will be pleased with it and gratify it.

Indeed, a true believer and "thinking man" wishes to hear this statement from Allah the Almighty on the Day of Judgment,

"O tranquil soul! Come back to your Lord; well-pleased, well-pleasing. Enter then among My servants, And enter My Paradise!" (Surah Al-Fajr 89: 27-30)

May Allah the Almighty make us all hear that Divine Statement on the Last Day! Ameen.

From the Holy Qur'an Ayah of the week

Theme: All good deeds are rewarded



"Indeed, those who have
believed and done
righteous deeds indeed,
We will not allow to be
lost the reward of any
who did well in deeds."

(Surah Al-Kahf 18:30)

Managing intimate desires: A guide for unmarried sisters

By Umm Fatima Zahra

As Muslim women, we are encouraged to live our lives according to the teachings of Islam, which provides guidance on every aspect of life, including how to manage our personal and intimate desires. For unmarried sisters, this can be hard, especially in a world that often promotes instant gratification. However, Islam offers practical solutions and spiritual practices to help navigate this sensitive area with dignity and faith.

Understanding the Importance of Patience and Taqwa

The concept of Taqwa (God-consciousness) is central to managing intimate desires. Being mindful of Allah's presence in our lives can help us control our urges and act in ways that please Him. The story of Prophet Yusuf (AS) is a powerful example of Taqwa in action. When faced with intense temptation, Yusuf (AS) sought refuge in Allah and resisted, demonstrating immense strength and submission to Allah. Sisters, reflecting on his story can inspire us to stay strong and resist urges that may lead us away from the straight path.

Fulfilling Emotional and Social Needs

Often, intimate desires stem not just from physical needs but also from emotional and social ones. It's essential to surround yourself with supportive family and friends who share your values. Engaging in meaningful conversations, participating in community activities, and cultivating close relationships can help satisfy your emotional needs, reducing the intensity of physical urges.

Engaging in Spiritual Practices

Turning to spiritual practices can help you redirect your focus and energy. Here are

some ways to enhance your spiritual life:

1. Regular Prayer and Du'a: Performing your daily prayers (Salah) on time and making du'a (supplication) for strength and guidance can help you stay connected to Allah and seek His assistance in overcoming challenges.

2. Fasting: Fasting is a powerful way to control your desires, especially when marriage isn't yet an option. The Prophet Muhammad (Peace be upon him) recommended fasting for those who struggle with their sexual desires. It helps you control your body and mind by focusing on worship and self-restraint.

3. Recitation of the Qur'an: Regularly reading and reflecting on the Qur'an can provide comfort and reinforce your commitment to leading a righteous life. It serves as a constant reminder of the rewards of patience and the consequences of succumbing to sinful behaviour.

4. Engaging in Dhikr: Remembrance of Allah through Dhikr (repeating phrases of praise) can help keep your mind occupied with positive thoughts, reducing the space for undesirable desires.

Avoiding Triggers: Practical Steps to Protect Your Heart and Mind

One of the most effective ways to manage intimate desires is by avoiding situations that can trigger them. Sisters, this includes being mindful of what we watch, read, and the company we keep.

Here are some practical tips:

- Limit Exposure to Arousing Content: Avoid watching films, TV shows, or reading material that could arouse intimate desires. This also extends to social media, where suggestive content is often prevalent. Con-

sider curating your social media feeds or taking breaks from it altogether to maintain your peace of mind.

- Be Selective with Your Company: While it's important to have friends and a social circle, be mindful of the conversations and environments you engage in. Avoid spending time with people who may encourage behaviour or discussions that lead to arousal or temptation.

- Physical Boundaries: If you find that certain interactions or environments lead to feelings of arousal, it's important to set boundaries. This could mean avoiding one-on-one meetings in private spaces or being cautious of close physical contact with non-mahram brothers.

Making It a Habit: Incorporating these Practices into Daily Life

The key to managing intimate desires is consistency. By incorporating the spiritual practices and avoidance techniques into your daily life, you can train your mind and body to respond in healthier ways.

Here's how:

- Start Small and Build Gradually: Begin by integrating one or two practices, such as increasing your Dhikr or being more mindful of the media you consume. As these become habits, gradually incorporate more.

- Create a Routine: Establish a daily routine that includes time for prayer, reflection, and activities that fulfil you. This can help keep your mind focused and prevent idle moments that may lead to temptation.

- Use These Practices in Different Situations: Whether you're feeling lonely, stressed, or tempted, use these spiritual practices as a go-to solution. Over time,

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JAMIA MOSQUE BURSARY 2026 GRADE-10 INTAKE

The JMC Education Committee invites applications from suitable qualified and eligible student for the grade 10 scholarship 2026 award. The applicants for this limited number of scholarships must meet the following criteria: -

- Must have sat for the 2025 Kenya Junior School Education Assessment (KJSEA) and obtained at least a **MEETING EXPECTATION I (ME-I)** grade and above.
- Be an orphan or from a family with **extreme** financial needs.
- Must have been admitted to Grade 10 in a Public School.

Application Procedure

Fill in the JMC Bursary Forms which are available at Jamia Library or can be downloaded at Jamia website: www.jamiamosque.co.ke/bursary

The following documents must be attached to the form: -

1. Copy of (KJSEA) Results Slip.
2. Copy of the grade 10 Admission Letter.
3. Parents ID/Death Certificate (Copy).
4. Hand Written Application Letter by the applicant/student.

This sponsorship will benefit the successful applicants through **Grades 10,11,12** on the basis of the student's academic performance and disciplinary record. Furthermore, successful **grade 12 graduates** from this group will also be eligible to receive upon application, partial University funding from Jamia Mosque's Education Committee. Please deliver your application to the Jamia Mosque Library or send it to:

The Secretary General: P.O Box 100786-00101, Nairobi
OR email it as a one document (Pdf) to info@jamiamosque.co.ke
NOTE: DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION 6TH JANUARY 2026

Light of Knowledge Quiz

Which prayer allows a traveler to combine two prayers at the time of the earlier one?

A Jama' Ta'khir

B Qasr

C Jama' Taqdim

Answer to be revealed in the next issue

Last week's answer was choice B :
" Surah Al-Mulk "

7 Long lasting remedies for youthful stress

From headlines to deadlines, peer pressure to school pressure, and technology trouble to family troubles, the youth are constantly dealing with stress from different situations. We all experience stress from time to time, and it is good to remember that stress is simply the body's way of responding to the changes in life. Yet whether these changes are positive or negative, the resulting stress can still bring about feelings that can affect your state of mind, body, and even health. You can seek relief through great remedies infused in reminders from the Quran and hadith, accepting that these changes are trials for you. "We test you by good and by evil as a trial." (Surah Al-Anbya 21:35)

1. Call on Allah

Whatever you are going through, no matter how enormous or flimsy the situation may seem, turn to your Lord. Complain to Allah first and foremost. He created you and He knows what is best for you, and He has asked you to call on Him. Isn't that a big help? Knowing that relief is only a short request away, you really have no excuse not to ask. When you turn to Him, He will relieve you of the stress and fill your heart with faith and contentment. He will guide you to the best form of action to take. "Your Lord has said: Call on Me: I will respond to you." (Surah Ghafir 40:61)

2. Dhikr— Allah

You can survive through any stress storm, when you keep your tongue moist with the remembrance of Allah. Engage in it with full presence of mind while pondering on the meanings. "The hearts of those who believe find rest in the remembrance of Allah. Verily in the remembrance of Allah do hearts find rest." (Surah Ar-Ra'd 13:28) Constant remembrance is a great means of reflecting about Allah's Oneness and His unique attributes. This act will engulf you with inner peace in today's fast paced world. One of such profound words of remembrance as captured in a narration states, Whoever says: Allah is sufficient for me, none has the right to be worshiped except Him, upon Him I rely and He is Lord of the Exalted throne.' (Whoever says it) seven times in the morning and in the evening, Allah will take care of whatever worries him/her of the matters of this world and the hereafter. (Abu Dawud)

3. Reciting, Reflecting and Listening to the Quran

The words of the Quran bring comfort and solace, through the verses contained within. Knowing that it is speech of Allah and a promise to the believers, you

should eagerly run to it in times of stress as well as for regular reflections when seeking a deeper connection with your fashioner. Reciting the Quran is an act of worship, yet beyond that you must remember it is a manual for your everyday challenges. Reflecting on its meaning brings about a greater connection with its message and listening to the great words can move you beyond speech, creating a yearning for Allah and His pleasure. "This is the Book (the Quran), whereof there is no doubt, a guidance to those who are Al-Muttaqun [the pious and righteous]." (Surah Al Baqarah 2:2)

4. Gratitude

If you are reading this article, then you have a lot to be thankful for. Your life, your sight, intellect, ability to read, internet connection, laptop/tablet/mobile, and many more blessings. "Then which of the Blessings of your Lord will you both (jinn and men) deny?" (Surah Ar-Rahman 55:67) Everything is from Allah and He Blesses us out of His mercy. Whatever He gives you, take it as a trust and use it wisely. And what may seem like a loss or withholding could actually be for the best. It is only when you are grateful that you will find contentment in every situation. Think about this for a minute – what do you really own that comes only as a result of your knowledge and effort? Is it your health, wealth, career or family? If you remember that your wealth and your children are only a trial from Allah, you will seek the everlasting reward from Him instead— Paradise. And you won't worry too much over temporary inconveniences.

5. Positive Social Support

We all need friends and companions, and a huge part of youth is all about social interactions. What matters is who you choose to spend your time with. When you spend it in the right company— with those who remind you of Allah and the everlasting home of Paradise— they will empower your faith and knowledge and fill your heart with inspirational reminders. A person is likely to follow the faith of his friend, so look to whom you befriend. (Abu Dawud and Tirmidhi) Negative company, on the other hand, will lower your Iman and affect your morals and approach to different life situations. They will draw you to lowly desires, backbiting, and wasting time. This will only cause you stress upon stress. "Ah! Woe to Me! Would that I had never taken so-and-so as a Khalil (an intimate friend)! He indeed led me astray from the Reminder (this Quran) after it had come to me. And Shaitan (Satan) is to man ever a deserter in the hour of need." (Surah Al-Furqan 25:28-29)

6. Night Prayers (Tahajjud)

While it is tempting to spend all night browsing the Internet, watching movies, or playing games just to get over some of your worries, why not invest your night time in tahajjud prayers for a more permanent way to manage the stress? You can prepare for this special time by getting some rest during the day and going to bed early while observing the night time sunnah routine. So while the world is sleeping, wake up and engage in a deep conversation with Allah. Ask for for-

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

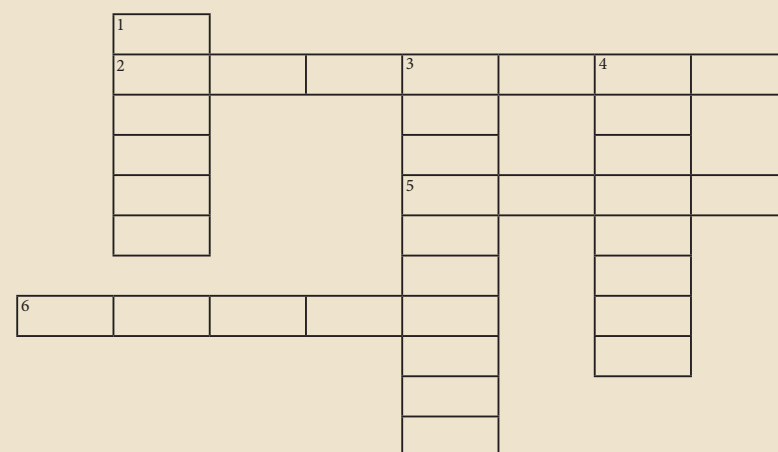
LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS

ACROSS

4. Kulliya
5. Maghrib
6. Jama

DOWN

1. Al Muhyi
2. Janazah
3. Waqiah



ACROSS

1. A name of Allah (SWT) meaning 'The Most Compassionate'.
5. The only person taught the names of animals/things by Allah (SWT).
6. Islamic term referring to prophets who are sent with a new divine law/ book from Allah (SWT).

DOWN

1. The name of the sins that are explicitly forbidden in the Qur'an that carry serious consequences, requiring sincere repentance (Tawbah).
2. Voluntary fasting on the 13th, 14th, and 15th of each Islamic month.
4. The term Firestation in Arabic.

Duale sounds alarm over rising insecurity in Garissa

Health Cabinet Secretary Aden Duale has expressed concern over the escalating insecurity in Garissa, urging county security teams to take decisive action against drug abuse and the growing menace of knife-wielding teenage gangs.

Speaking on Sunday during the commissioning of a new tuition block at Hafsa Binti Sirin, Duale issued a stern warning to youth gangs accused of terrorising residents in recent weeks. He called for responsible parenting, saying parents must instill strong Islamic values in their children and take charge of their upbringing. He criticised parents who resort to retrogressive Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) mechanisms to shield their children from facing the law, insisting that such actions undermine justice and embolden criminals.

"If you arrest a child involved in crime and any parent comes to defend them, arrest that parent as well. If your child is disturbing the community, stabbing people, robbing innocent mothers and you try to free

him, then both of you need to be behind bars," Duale declared.

Garissa has in recent weeks witnessed increased cases of robbery with violence involving teenage gangs moving on motorcycles and attacking unsuspecting residents with sharp knives. Last month, Garissa Teachers College tutor Hilary Ochieng was stabbed to death by the gangs after being robbed of his valuables.

Security agencies say collective efforts by some clans and community members to negotiate or bail out suspects have weakened the fight against crime, giving criminals room to continue their activities.

Garissa County Commissioner Mohamed Mwabudzo acknowledged the presence of rival gang groupings in various parts of the town, revealing that some have splintered into smaller factions now fighting each other. He urged parents and local leaders to play a greater role in enhancing community security, noting that the Nyumba Kumi initiative has not been effective.

Mwabudzo further lamented challenges in

sustaining prosecution of suspects, citing frequent withdrawal of cases due to victims failing to record statements or testify in court.

"Sometimes when victims recover their stolen belongings, they do not come forward to testify or present exhibits, making it difficult to proceed with the cases," he said.

He disclosed a shocking case of a suspected criminal with 18 files that were withdrawn at the police, court, or Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP) level. Authorities, he said, are now considering imposing heavy bonds to deter repeat offenders.

"Some of them are currently in remand after attempts to manage them through other means failed, largely because victims and witnesses do not come forward," the county boss added.

Security authorities have vowed to intensify efforts to restore safety in Garissa as residents continue to live in fear of the armed teenage gangs.

Global outcry as Israel recognises Somaliland as independent state

A growing wave of international condemnation has greeted Israel's decision to formally recognise Somaliland as an independent and sovereign state, with major regional blocs and numerous governments warning the move threatens regional peace and international stability.

Last week Israel announced that it now considers Somaliland—Somalia's northern breakaway region that has sought international recognition since declaring independence in 1991—as an "independent and sovereign state," becoming the first country to do so.

The declaration prompted an immediate backlash. Somalia denounced the decision as a "deliberate attack" on its sovereignty, warning it would undermine peace and security in the Horn of Africa. The African Union (AU) strongly reject-

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Sudan aid effort receives Ksh 1.1 million boost from Parklands Mosque

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contributions from mosque members, worshippers, and well-wishers, and will go toward humanitarian assistance for thousands of Sudanese families displaced by the ongoing conflict. Jamia Mosque launched a humanitarian appeal last month to mobilize resources in support of Sudanese civilians facing severe hardship due to the protracted conflict that has claimed tens of thousands of lives and forced more than 12 million people to flee their homes within and outside Sudan. Jamia has partnered with the Al-Imdaad Foundation, through which the funds will be channeled to ensure effective delivery of aid on the ground. Speaking during the event, Parklands Mosque and Madrassah Trust Chairman Fauz Qureshi said supporting vulnerable communities was a key pillar of the mosque's social outreach mission. "It is our policy to reach out to worshippers and well-wishers to lend a hand in alleviating human suffering," he said. "We commend our congregants and the Parklands Mosque Committee for standing together to support this noble humanitarian cause."

Sudan has been engulfed in conflict since April 2023 following a power struggle between the Sudanese Armed Forces and

the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF). The United Nations has described the situation as a "war of atrocities," with millions displaced amid escalating violence, hunger, and destruction of infrastructure. Recent reports indicate that the humanitarian situation continues to deteriorate, compounded by severe weather events such as floods and droughts. Attacks between December 25 and 26 in Um Baru and Kerno near Sudan's western border with Chad reportedly displaced more than 7,000 people, while ongoing fighting in regions including Darfur and Kordofan continues to deepen the crisis. The Sudan Doctors Network reported on December 27, 2025, that more than 200 civilians, including women and children, were killed in western Darfur in what it described as "ethnically motivated attacks" in Ambro, Serba, and Abu Qumra—actions it condemned as grave violations of international humanitarian law. Jamia Mosque leadership has pledged continued engagement with partners

and the Kenyan Muslim community to mobilize further assistance for Sudan, appealing to the public to support ongoing relief efforts aimed at saving lives and restoring dignity to affected families. Contributions towards the humanitarian efforts for Sudan can be channeled through the Jamia Mosque Mpesa Paybill number 150770, account SUDAN.



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Ereri Jamia Mosque launches donation drive to support vulnerable families

The Ereri Jamia Mosque and Islamic Centre in Nanyuki, Laikipia County, has rolled out a groundbreaking initiative aimed at empowering less fortunate members of the community through education, improved welfare and access to essential services.

The campaign, dubbed "Donate KSh 1,000 or 2,000 Monthly Challenge," seeks to mobilise regular financial contributions from well-wishers to fund various social development projects, including the establishment of community infrastructure and provision of educational opportunities for needy families.

Speaking to Friday Bulletin, Sheikh Asad Gitay said the primary objective of the initiative is to uplift the socio-economic

standards of the local Muslim community while ensuring long-term sustainability of welfare programmes. "Our aim is to improve the socio-economic welfare of the Muslim community and reduce reliance on external aid. This KSh 1,000 challenge will serve as a sustainable income-generating initiative to support education, health and other social needs, as well as meet the day-to-day running costs of the mosque," Sheikh Asad said.

He noted that the number of vulnerable Muslims in need of assistance has increased significantly, yet the mosque's resources remain limited, prompting the committee to seek a structured support system through the new initiative.

In addition to social welfare projects, the

mosque plans to drill a borehole and install hand pumps to provide safe and reliable water to communities in the Ereri area, where access to clean water remains a challenge. Sheikh Asad appealed to Muslims in the region to contribute generously and support the initiative, emphasising the importance of unity, sacrifice and collective responsibility in fulfilling community obligations. He further called on donors, charitable organisations and well-wishers to partner with the mosque in supporting the noble cause.

Contributions can be made through M-Pesa Paybill 400200, Account Number 857232, or via mobile number 0796 809 881. For more information, interested supporters can contact 0704 133 623.

Government to open second phase of Senior School Placement revisions

The government will open a second phase of Senior School placement revisions for approximately 68,000 learners whose initial transfer requests were declined following the Kenya Junior Secondary Education Assessment (KJSEA).

The revision window is tentatively scheduled to run from January 6 to January 9, 2026, ahead of the official reporting date for all Grade 10 learners on Monday, January 12, 2026.

This phase targets learners whose earlier applications were rejected and those willing to consider less-subscribed schools with available capacity. Most of the declined requests were from candidates seeking admission to highly competitive

national (C1 cluster) senior schools. Unsuccessful learners will be required to reapply through their Junior School Head using the same procedure used during the first placement phase.

Speaking to the media, Basic Education Principal Secretary Professor Julius Bitok said the move is intended to ensure fairness and accommodate learners' interests while maintaining balanced enrollment across schools.

"The goal is to ensure all learners are placed in schools that match their interests and performance, while also ensuring schools across the country attract sufficient numbers," Prof. Bitok stated.

He revealed that out of 183,000 applica-

tions processed so far, 116,000 have been approved while 66,000 were declined. "Out of the 183,000 applications that have been processed, 116,000 have been approved, while 66,000 have been declined. That is the position we have now," he said.

The PS noted that while the country has 262 C1 senior schools, demand remains heavily concentrated in about 20 top-tier institutions, resulting in intense competition and limited spaces.

He added that learners will have another opportunity to revise their choices once the first phase concludes, pointing out that several C1 schools in remote areas are yet to attract adequate applicants.

Lasting remedies for youthful stress

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givenness and for clarity about your affairs, and offload your worries. Use this period to grow a bond with your Creator. When one third of the night remains our Rabb [Lord], Most High, Most Exalted, descends to the first sky and announces, "Who is there to beseech Me that I may answer his prayer and who is there to seek forgiveness that I may forgive him..." (Muslim)

7. Renew Intention

You can change your mindset and reduce stress by tapping into the great power of intention. When you feel overwhelmed with problems and self-defeating thoughts, push Shaitan out of the radar by adjusting your intention switch. You can get more reward and feel better and energized with renewed intention. It always helps knowing that your actions are backed by great and sincere intentions such as gaining the pleasure of Allah, rather than petty worldly reasons such as seeking someone's attention. Next time you feel stressed, make an intention for His sake and push ahead, all the while purifying this intention.

De-stress Your Life

Do you seek inner peace and happiness more than anything in your life right now? You can achieve this when you learn to manage the stress in your life. But what greater stress could come upon you than what happened to the companion of the

fish, Jonah?

Or losing your wealth, health and family as Ayyub found himself? Or desperately seeking help as Hajar did when moving between Safa and Marwa? (Source: www.youthlyhub.com)

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Muslim women urged to seek knowledge, play role in Da'wah

Muslim women in Kenya's Western region have been urged to pursue Islamic knowledge and play a more active role in Da'wah (calling others to Islam), a move speakers say is vital in nurturing morally upright families and building stronger communities.

The call was made during a symposium held at the Kimilili Islamic Centre in Bungoma County, which brought together Muslim women from Bungoma and Trans Nzoia counties. Speakers at the event underscored the historical contributions of women to the growth of Islam since the time of Prophet Muhammad (Peace Be Upon Him), noting that their role remains central to the faith today. Addressing the gathering, Sister Umi Wabomba encouraged Muslim women across the region

to prioritise learning, reminding them that seeking knowledge is a sacred duty for every Muslim. She cited the first revealed Qur'anic command, "Iqra" (Read), as a constant reminder of the importance of education in Islam.

Sister Umi said acquiring knowledge enables Muslim women to better understand their faith, practice correct worship, make informed moral choices, and counter misconceptions.

"Islam has provided a strong foundation for seeking knowledge right from the era of the Prophet (peace be upon him). It encompasses all knowledge that promotes consciousness of Allah and enhances humanity's devotion to Him," she said. She added that a knowledgeable woman becomes the "first madrasa (school)" for her

children, shaping their faith, values, and character, and by extension influencing the moral strength of society. Ustadha Fatma echoed the sentiments, urging women to serve as role models within their families and communities. She encouraged mothers to guide their children, especially girls, through exemplary conduct, modest dress, positive speech, and strong adherence to Islamic teachings.

Other speakers at the symposium, themed "Significance of Seeking Knowledge in the Practice of Islam," included Brother Ibrahim Ambwere, Sheikh Musa Shebela, Sheikh Muhammad Ramadhan, and Sheikh Hassan Makokha, who reiterated the importance of education in empowering women and sustaining Islamic values in society.

Global outcry as Israel recognises Somaliland as independent state

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ed the recognition, saying it risks "setting a dangerous precedent with far-reaching implications for peace and stability across the continent." AU Commission Chair Mahmoud Ali Youssouf reaffirmed that Somaliland "remains an integral part of the Federal Republic of Somalia," dismissing any moves to legitimise its separation.

The Arab League similarly condemned Israel's decision, with Secretary-General Ahmed Aboul Gheit calling it "a clear violation of international law and a flagrant infringement of the principle of the unity and sovereignty of states." He cautioned that unilateral recognitions amount to unacceptable interference in Somalia's internal affairs.

The Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) echoed that position, branding the decision "a grave violation" of international principles and warning that it could destabilise the

Horn of Africa. GCC Secretary-General Jassem Albudaiwi said the move "represents a dangerous precedent" that threatens regional stability.

The Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), alongside foreign ministers from countries including Algeria, Egypt, Iran, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Türkiye, Qatar, Nigeria, and Yemen, issued a joint statement rejecting Israel's recognition, citing "serious repercussions" for security in the Horn of Africa, the Red Sea region, and beyond. At the United Nations Security Council (UNSC), the majority of member states criticised Israel's move during an emergency session convened in New York. While the United States stopped short of condemning the development, it maintained that its own policy on Somaliland had not changed.

Several states warned that the move may also have implications for the situation in Gaza. The Arab League's UN envoy,

Maged Abdelfattah Abdelaziz, rejected "any measures arising from this illegitimate recognition aimed at facilitating forced displacement of the Palestinian people."

Somali President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud said that Israel's "unexpected and strange" recognition of Somaliland may have implications for Palestinians in Gaza. "Somaliland has been claiming the secession issue for a long time, over the past three decades, and no one country in the world has recognised it," Mohamud told Al Jazeera in an exclusive interview from Istanbul, Türkiye, on Tuesday.

Somaliland's leadership has long campaigned for global recognition, with President Abdirahman Mohamed Abdullahi making it a political priority since assuming office last year. However, despite its functional institutions and relative stability, the region remains internationally recognised as part of Somalia.

Managing intimate desires: A guide for unmarried sisters

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they will become second nature, helping you to maintain control over your desires.

The Dangers of Rushed Marriages: Avoiding a Quick Fix

In moments of intense desire, it's tempting to see marriage as an immediate solution. However, sisters, it's crucial to avoid rushing into marriage solely as an outlet for physical desires. Marrying a man without considering his character, values, and most importantly, his religiosity, can lead to long-term challenges and dissatisfaction. When looking for a husband, prioritise his piety and commitment to Islam. A man who fears Allah will be a better partner in helping you build a life centred around faith. Also, be cautious of long engagements. While engagement is a time to get to know each other, and to prepare

for marital life, it should not be a period where boundaries are crossed.

Seeking Support and Counselling

If you find it particularly difficult to manage your desires, consider seeking support from a trusted mentor, Islamic scholar, or counsellor who can provide you with personalised advice and encouragement. Sometimes, having someone to talk to can make a significant difference in how you cope with your feelings.

Trusting in Allah's Plan

Finally, it's important to remember that this phase of life is part of Allah's plan for you. Trusting in His timing and wisdom can help you maintain peace of mind. Marriage may come at a different time for everyone, and being patient in this regard is also a form of worship.

Managing intimate desires as an unmarried Muslim woman is undoubtedly challenging, but with faith, patience, and practical strategies, it is possible to navigate this aspect of life with grace and strength. By staying connected to your faith, engaging in fulfilling activities, and seeking support when needed, you can maintain your dignity and spiritual well-being while waiting for what Allah has destined for you.

Remember, every effort you make to uphold your Islamic values is seen and rewarded by Allah, and your patience will ultimately lead to peace and fulfilment. Stay strong, dear sisters, and trust that Allah will provide for you in the best way and at the best time.