

# THE FRIDAY BULLETIN

The Weekly Muslim Update



A Publication of the Jamia Mosque Nairobi

## Umrah trip for Winner of 2026-1447 Jamia Boys Quran Competition



Top three winners of each category, Members of Jamia Mosque Committee and Cultural and Religious Attaché at the embassy of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in Kenya, His Excellency Mohammed Mater Mahzari (SEATED CENTRE) and Judges pose for a photo during the closing and awarding ceremony of the Annual Jamia Mosque Quran Competition held yesterday at Jamia Mosque Nairobi.

The 15th edition of the annual Jamia Boys' Quran Competition concluded yesterday with a colourful closing ceremony at Jamia Mosque Nairobi, where outstanding young memorizers of the Holy Qur'an were celebrated for their excellence.

The three-day competition was organized by the Jamia Mosque Committee Nairobi in partnership with the Embassy of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in Kenya, through the Cultural and Religious Attaché's office under the leadership of His Excellency Mohammed Mater Mahzari. The event attracted 85 contestants drawn from 14 madrassas and Islamic institutions across Nairobi County.

Held within the precincts of Jamia Mosque Nairobi, the competition featured four categories: memorization of five ajzaa, ten ajzaa, fifteen ajzaa, and the entire Qur'an. Participants demonstrated strong mastery of memorization and recitation, with judges assessing accuracy, fluency, and adherence to the rules of tajweed. In the highly competitive Whole Qur'an category, Abdirazak Abdi Ibrahim from Kajiado Hill Integrated emerged overall winner after impressing judges with his complete memorization of the Qur'an and strong command of tajweed. He was awarded a cash prize of KSh150,000, an acrylic cone plaque, and a fully sponsored trip to Makkah to perform the lesser pilgrimage

(Umrah). Mukhtar Muhammad Ahmed from Manaahil Educational Centre and Ahmed Muhammad Hili from Al Huffadh tied in the second position, each receiving KSh135,000 in cash prizes.

The 15 Ajzaa category was won by Khadar Sharif Abukar from Rowdhatul Ridhwan, who took home KSh120,000. Hamza Hillowle Ali from Al Misbah Education Centre finished second and received KSh100,000, while Muadh Darot from Madrassatul Nasra placed third with a cash award of KSh85,000.

In the Ten Ajzaa category, Muadh Abdi Ibrahim from Ma'hadul Banin claimed first position and was awarded KSh85,000. Ayub Sahal Karane Hassan Kassim from Al Fadhl secured second place with KSh65,000, while Muhammad Abdi Ali from Al Huffadh came third and received KSh50,000.

The five Ajzaa category saw Hilaal Ali Muhammad from Ma'hadul Banin take the top spot, followed closely by Mahir Bishar Ali from Nurein Educational Center in second place. Mubarak Fuad Abdi from Al Fadhl finished third. They received cash prizes of KSh50,000, KSh35,500, and KSh20,000 respectively.

In the madrasa category, Ma'hadul Banin emerged the overall winning institution and

Continued to Page 13

### In Today's Issue



#### 1 Set Your Goals For Ramadhan

As believers seeking the pleasure of Allah and Paradise, Ramadhan is a "dream project" placed before us. To complete it successfully, we must clearly understand its goals.

#### 2 Muslims Worldwide Commence Fasting

Muslims across the world on Wednesday, February 18, 2026 corresponding with the year 1447 on the Islamic calendar, began observing the holy month of Ramadhan, a period of worship, sacrifice, and charity.

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

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

Don't miss your copy!

#### CONTACTS

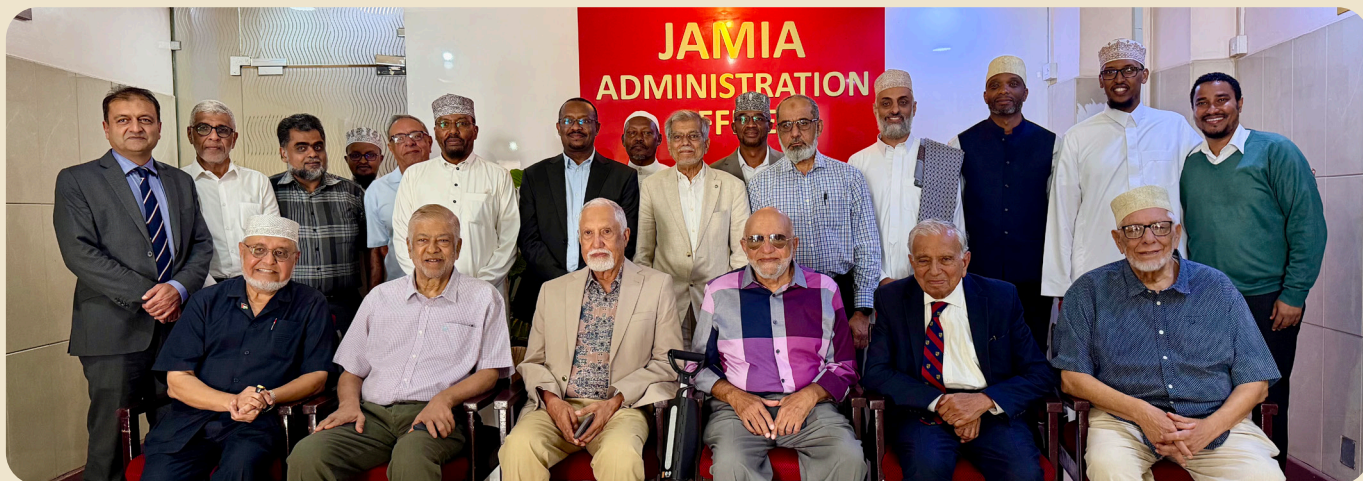
P.O Box 100786 00101 Nairobi  
Tel: 2243504/5

email: [fridaybulletin@jamiamosque.co.ke](mailto:fridaybulletin@jamiamosque.co.ke)

Scan Here to Give Us Your Feedback!



## Dr. Hafiz ur Rehman pays a courtesy visit to Jamia Mosque



On Monday, Dr. Hafiz ur Rehman (SEATED THIRD RIGHT) paid a courtesy visit to Jamia Mosque, Nairobi, where he was hosted for luncheon and taken on a tour of the Jamia Mosque Complex. Dr. Hafiz ur Rehman is the former President of the Islamic Medical Association of North America. He is a highly respected physician, community leader, and humanitarian whose life reflects a deep dedication to medicine and service to humanity. A proud graduate of King Edward Medical University in Lahore, Pakistan, he laid a strong academic foundation at one of the most prestigious medical institutions in South Asia.

## Muslims across the globe begin observing the Month of Ramadhan

Muslims across the world on Wednesday, February 18, 2026 corresponding with the year 1447 on the Islamic calendar, began observing the holy month of Ramadhan, a period of worship, sacrifice, and charity. The month commenced following the sighting of the crescent moon in Saudi Arabia and other parts of the Middle East, marking the beginning of fasting from dawn to dusk. Religious leaders have called on Muslims to observe the fast with piety and generosity, embodying the spirit of the holy month by extending kindness to those in need.

In his address delivered at Jamia Mosque Nairobi, Sheikh Jamaludin Osman conveyed best wishes to the Muslim faithful upon reaching the blessed season of Ramadhan. "We implore you to utilise this opportunity in devotion to the worship of Almighty God and strive to do good deeds

in order to earn divine rewards," Sheikh Jamaludin remarked. Sheikh Jamaludin urged Muslims to make the best of the sacred period, dedicate time to attending religious learning sessions at their respective mosques across the country, emphasizing the immense rewards and blessings associated with it.

He further noted that Ramadhan is not just about abstaining from food and drink but also presents an opportunity to strengthen one's relationship with Almighty Allah. The Imam of Jamia Mosque Nairobi encouraged Muslims to increase acts of worship during this period, including the recitation of the Noble Quran, giving to charity, observing late-night prayers, and seeking Allah's forgiveness at all times. He also advised well-endowed members of society to assist the less fortunate by donating alms and foodstuffs to needy

households. "We must appreciate that Allah has not given us wealth equally, and it is therefore prudent to provide support to those who do not have sufficient means for their livelihood," he said. Meanwhile, President William Ruto has extended a special message of goodwill to Muslims across the country as they observe the month of Ramadhan. In a recorded message, President Ruto reminded the Muslim community of the importance of the period for spiritual reflection, self-discipline, and devotion to acts of charity.

"This is an opportunity for you to commit yourselves to strengthening faith, and committing to do that which is right," he said. The President commended the Muslim community for their contributions to the country and urged them to uphold their spirit of care and support for the less privileged.

## Jamia Mosque to host 13th annual Qur'an memorization competition for Girls

The thirteenth annual Jamia Mosque Qur'an memorization competition for girls is set to take place next week, bringing together young reciters from across the capital in a celebration of excellence in Qur'anic learning. The three-day event will be held on Thursday, February 26, and Saturday, February 28, with the closing ceremony scheduled for Sunday, February 29, 2026, at the Jamia Mosque Multi-Purpose Hall. The competition is organized by the Jamia Mosque Committee Nairobi in conjunction with Direct Aid Kenya, formerly known as the African Muslims Agency (AMA). Participants from madrassas and Islamic institutions across Nairobi County are expected to compete in several categories, including full memorization of the Holy Qur'an (30 chapters), 15 chapters, 10 chapters, and

five chapters. The tiered structure allows contestants to participate according to their level of memorization and ability.

Organizers say the annual competition continues to play a vital role in nurturing Qur'anic excellence among young Muslim girls, encouraging them to uphold the teachings of the Qur'an and allowing its message to serve as a guiding light in their lives. The initiative aims to build a Qur'an-centred generation distinguished by knowledge, discipline, and strong moral character.

Last year's competition saw Sumaya Abdullahi Ali of Darul Muttaqin emerge as the overall winner after topping the category for memorizing the full 30 chapters of the Qur'an. She walked away with a cash prize of Sh150,000 and an acrylic cone plaque. Second place went to Hafsa Umar of Al-

Bushra, who received Sh130,000, while Fathi Hassan Rashid of Mus'ab Education Centre and Bushra Muhammad of Mus'ab Bin Umeir tied for third place, each earning Sh110,000.

In the 15-chapter category, Zamzam Irsahad Sahal of Mus'ab Bin Umeir claimed first position, followed by Hafso Hussein of Zaydul-Khayr in second place, and Afnan Abdi Hassan of Mus'ab Education Centre in third. They received cash prizes of Sh110,000, Sh100,000, and Sh90,000 respectively. The 10-chapter category was won by Hafsa Khalid of Mus'ab Bin Umeir, with Fardowsa Abdikadir of Darul-Quran Komarock finishing second and Nawal Osman Moalim of Darul-Ilm taking third place. Their prizes stood at Sh90,000, Sh80,000, and Sh70,000 respectively.

## Welcome, O blessed month!

The Messenger of Allah (Peace be upon him) said, "Do good all the time, and seek to be recipients of the 'outpouring' of Allah's mercy. Indeed, Allah showers down these (special) 'outpourings' of His mercy to whomsoever He wills from His slaves." (Tabarani). Although Allah constantly showers His mercy, love and blessings upon us throughout the year, there are certain times of the year wherein He is even more Generous to us. These are the special seasons, days and moments in which it is even easier to acquire His pleasure, earn His forgiveness and be saved from the Hell-fire. The blessed month of Ramadhan is one such season when we witness the fruits of Allah's love and kindness. The Messenger of Allah (Peace be upon him) said, "The month of Ramadhan has come to you, a blessed month in which Allah – Exalted and Majestic is He – has obligated (its) fasting upon you. In it the gates of Paradise are opened, the gates of Hell-fire are closed, and the rebellious devils are chained. In it, Allah has a night which is better than a thousand months. Whoever is deprived of its good is truly deprived!" (Nasa'i). Ibn Rajab (rahimahullah) quoted the earlier scholars as saying: 'This ḥadīth is the basis for congratulating one another for the arrival of Ramadhan. Why shouldn't the believer be congratulated when the gates of Paradise have opened? Why shouldn't the sinner be congratulated when the gates of the Hell-fire have closed? Why shouldn't the intelligent one be congratulated for a time when the devils are chained?' Allah instructed His beloved (Peace be upon him): "Say: In Allah's grace and mercy let them rejoice. That is far better than whatever (wealth) they accumulate." Ramadhan is indeed from the mercy, kindness and generosity of Allah upon us. Let us rejoice and feel happy with its arrival. Let us be from those who are pleased with Ramadhan and are eager to strive in it. Let us show Allah how happy we are with His special month through our intentions, worship and desire for reward. Let us not be of those who become miserable with Ramadhan's arrival and feel 'forced' to fast its days.

### The Immense Kindness of Allah

Allah says in the Holy Qur'an, "(fast for) a limited number of days..." (Surah Al Baqarah 2:184) Fasting is obligatory upon us only for a limited number of days (29/30 days). From His mercy, Allah made this amount manageable and easy for us. Furthermore, He made this short amount of time a source of immense blessings. Ḥafṣah b. Sirin (rahimahallah) quoted Abul-'Aliyah (rahimahallah) as saying, "The fasting person is in a state of worship so long as he does not backbite anyone, even if he is sleeping in his bed." Then Ḥafṣah would say, "How wonderful it is that I am in a state of worship whilst

I am sleeping on my bed." We also witness the immense generosity of Allah in the following ḥadīth. A man came to the Prophet (Peace be upon him) and said: "O Messenger of Allah, if I testify that there is no god worthy of worship except Allah, and that you are the Messenger of Allah, I pray the five prayers, I give zakah, I fast Ramadhan and I stand in prayer during its nights; then who do you think I am from?" He (Peace be upon him) said: "From the Ṣiddiqin and the martyrs." (Ibn Hibban) The Ṣiddiqin are those who have attained the highest status of iman, conviction and truthfulness. Even in difficult times, their actions consistently verify their words. Examples of such people include the best of the Prophets' followers, such as Abu Bakr al-Ṣiddiq (radīy Allahu 'anhu).

### Ramadhan: The Annual Milestone

Just as Friday punctuates our week, and the five daily prayers punctuates our days, Ramadhan punctuates our year. The Messenger of Allah (Peace be upon him) said, "The five daily prayers, Jumu'ah to Jumu'ah, and Ramadhan to Ramadhan expiate for (the sins perpetrated) in between them, so long as one stays away from the major sins" (Muslim). Ramadhan is the benchmark of the year. If we strive hard during it to stay away from sins and attain the pleasure of Allah al-Karim (The Most Generous), we will enjoy its fruits throughout the year. Ibn al-Qayyim (rahimahallah) wrote, "Whoever's Jumu'ah is safe from evil, his week will be safe from evil. Whoever's Ramadhan is safe from evil, his year will be safe from evil. Whoever's ḥajj is safe from evil, his life will be safe from evil."

### Ramadhan: The Example of Yusuf ('alayhis-salam)

Ibn al-Jawzi (rahimahallah) writes: "It has been said that the example of the 12 months is like the children of Ya'qub ('alayhis-salam): Ramadhan is like Yusuf ('alayhis-salam), while the remaining months resemble his brothers. Just as Yusuf was Ya'qub's most beloved child, Ramadhan is likewise Allah's most beloved month.

### Reflection 1:

From his mercy and compassion, Yusuf forgave his brothers and said, 'There is no blame on you today' (Surah Yusuf 12:92). Ramadhan is likewise the month of compassion and mercy. It is a month of blessings, goodness, freedom from the Hell-fire, and forgiveness from the All-Powerful King.

### Reflection 2:

The brothers of Yusuf ('alayhis-salam) came to ask him if he could remedy their situation. Subsequently, Yusuf ('alayhis-salam) treated them with kindness and was hospitable to them. He provided them with



food and told his servants: 'Put their (traded) goods back into their saddlebags, so that they may recognise them when they go back to their family, and perhaps they may return' (Surah Yusuf 12:62). Thus, one person remedied the shortcomings of eleven others. Likewise, the month of Ramadhan is one month that remedies our shortcomings and deficiencies of the other eleven months.

### Reflection 3:

Ya'qub ('alayhis-salam) had eleven sons who were living with him and whose actions he would see at all times. However, his eyesight did not return due to any of their clothing. Instead, it returned due to Yusuf's shirt. Likewise, if the sinner smells the scents of Ramadhan, sits with those who remind him of Allah, recites the Qur'an, and avoids backbiting and vain talk, he will be forgiven after being a sinner. He will become close after he was far. His heart which was previously blind, will now have the ability to 'perceive'. Throughout his entire life, he will be granted tawfiq (divine providence) to obey Allah, and in his last moments, his soul will be extracted gently from his body. When he eventually meets Allah, he will be blessed with forgiveness and lofty ranks in Paradise. So, by Allah, take advantage of this blessing during these few days; and you will soon see endless blessings and a very long period of rest and relaxation, Allah willing." (Adapted from Bustan al-Wa'izin)

## From the Holy Qur'an Ayah of the week

Theme: Fasting

"O you who have believed,  
decreed upon you is  
fasting as it was decreed  
upon those before you  
that you may become  
righteous."

(Surah Al-Baqarah 2:183)



## Why Ramadhan is the best time to renew marital love

By Fathima Nafila

When making Ramadhan plans, the focus is often on reciting more Qur'an, praying taraweeh, preparing the kitchen in advance, and even decorating the house for the season. "Improve marriage" rarely tops the list or even finds a place at the bottom. However, a successful marriage can be your key to Jannah even if the kebabs for iftar aren't well-done. So I would say your marriage requires almost as much attention as anything else in Ramadhan. It is a common occurrence that Shaytan (Satan) creates problems for married couples. He knows too well that destroying marriages is the most effective way to cause widespread chaos in society. When we enter Ramadhan, the devils are chained. With the devil's presence removed from your marriage, you witness the real state of your relationship, i.e., how much of it was the devil's doing and how much of it was your own. This is the time for husband and wife to examine the state of their souls individually first, and then to fix the loopholes in their marriage so that they are well fortified when the devils return.

### It's Your Golden Opportunity

Let the month witness the renewal of your marital ties and a better reflection of each other's light. Let it be a time for fixing your own soul and helping to raise the status of your spouse so that one day you can enter Jannah together by the mercy of Allah. While Ramadhan is bursting with potential to reset your life and get you springing on a lighter step (physically as well as spiritually!), it would be just any other month if we didn't make the effort. Spiritual elevation does not happen automatically. It requires awareness of the status quo and then conscious effort to make improvements. "Sister," you say, "it is hard enough for me to manage the routine shift and extra commitments during Ramadhan. Must we add marital issues to the list too? Where is the time for that?" Well, I would say that when it comes to working on your marriage, all it takes is a shift of attitude – something that does not take hours out of your day.

### With that in mind, here are some suggestions for what you can do together.

Although there are many couples who do not live together for Ramadhan due to work reasons or some other legitimate cause,—they may be separated for a few days at a time or even for the entire month—the suggestions below are valid even for such couples, so don't stop reading here!

#### The Key Is "Together"

You will (hopefully) be making dua' anyway. So instead of working on your duas in isolation, compile a Ramadhan dua' list together. If you have children, then include them in this process. List out everything you want Allah to bestow on you, your family, your work, your grave,

and the hereafter. This list can stretch to over fifty or hundred items, and that's okay. (If you're not making intense dua during Ramadhan, then when?) Then make dua for all those things throughout the month. Rather than asking Allah alone, you are now asking Him together, although in different places and at different times of the day. That's teamwork! Another thing you can do is make a good deed chart to race each other on good deeds.

### A key point here is to avoid overwhelming yourself with goals. This will cause early burnout and make you give up.

Instead, take account of your capacities and set a few goals that are realistic for your situation yet are slightly outside your comfort zone so that they can actually be competitive. Compete with your current state so that you become one or two steps better than what you used to be; don't try to compete with some theoretical ideal that leaves you thinking, "I'm not going to be that good, so why bother?" If you usually recite five pages a day, make your Ramadhan goal to recite 10 pages, for example. Then race each other to tick off the goals each day. "...so race to [all that is] good..." (Surah Al-Ma'idah; 5:48) Again such good deeds are what you will hopefully be doing anyway, so why not let it benefit your marriage by making it a healthy competition? Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) would physically race his wives, so why not a good deed race?

### Seize the Opportunity

Now that the devil is locked up, you can take an honest look at your spouse and appreciate them for who they are.

Let the theme of this month be mercy and forgiveness, and apply it at every opportunity. Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) said: "The most complete of the believers in faith, is the one with the best character among them. And the best of you are those who are best to your women." [Tirmidhi]. This applies to both husbands as well as wives.

Show mercy towards them by going easy on your expectations and by contributing more to the marriage yourself. Also ask Allah to have mercy on your spouse and reward them for everything they do for you and for the efforts they make, even if those efforts aren't always successful. Don't forget to also thank Allah for the mercy between you. Just as you have come into Ramadhan to reform and reset, provide leeway for your spouse to also have a non-judgmental space

within which to improve.

### Forgive Each Other

Allah (Glorified and Exalted is He) is the Lord of the worlds. Yet there are many who disobey Him, speak ill of Him during difficult times, or are lazy in worshipping Him. Regardless, as long as they believe in Him, He is ready to forgive them when they repent. Who are we in comparison? What ego or status do we have that warrants us a place on such a high pedestal that we cannot forgive those who wrong us? What prevents us from forgiving our spouses and in-laws for their human flaws? Forgiving each other and your families frees up emotional capacity that can be used to grow your love for each other instead. No matter what happened in the past, resolve to dump the baggage in these holy days and use that energy to create better things in your marriage. Beyond forgiving the major rifts, also practice forgiveness in everything negative that happens during these days. You may notice that some things that always upset you about your spouse are actually easy to overlook, and you should hopefully carry this realization with you beyond Ramadhan as well.

### Pray Together

Yet another deed that you can engage in together is voluntary prayer at night. "Whoever prayed at night in it (the month of Ramadhan) out of sincere Faith and hoping for a reward from Allah, then all his previous sins will be forgiven."

## Light of Knowledge Quiz

When must the intention (niyyah) be made for an obligatory fast?

- A Before Maghrib
- B During the day
- C Before Fajr

Answer to be revealed in the next issue

Last week's answer was choice A :  
" Surah Al-Baqarah "

## Beware of the sinister thief: Social Media

Social media has transformed our way of life. While social media may offer some benefits, research has shown that regular use of social media causes mental health problems, addictions, lower attention spans, physical health problems, poor sleep quality, relationship problems and more. However, the most harmful effect of social media is on our hearts and our relationship with Allah (‘azza wa jall).

Today, one of the biggest obstacles in our journey to Allah is social media and the entertainment industry. Thus, before the month of Ramadhan begins, it is vital that we reassess our relationship with social media and reflect on its harms. Ramadhan is the month in which we should undertake a much needed ‘detox’. Psychologists are now advocating ‘fasting from social media’. If we could do the same in this month for our spiritual health, our Ramadhan would truly be transformative. The following are some of the key harms of social media and practical solutions we can take to protect ourselves:

### 1. Time waster & addiction

Social media is the biggest thief of our time. Millions of dollars have been spent on designing social media platforms to ensure that we become addicted to them, using psychological and behavioural techniques such as infinite scrolling, instant gratification, personalised algorithms and constant notifications. These platforms distract us from our goals, hinder us from our social and familial responsibilities, and reduce our ability to focus. Our worship, such as salah, dhikr and seeking knowledge, is particularly impacted, and we struggle to maintain it for any significant duration.

**Solution:** As Muslims, every moment of our lives is precious and we must use our time consciously, wisely and productively, especially in Ramadhan. Therefore, try to detox from social media completely. Otherwise, reduce it to the bare minimum: have a set ‘window’ in which you allow yourself to catch up on it, rather than just saying ‘I’m going to reduce it.’ For example, ‘I will use social media for twenty minutes after ifṭar.’ Deactivate all social media apps and remove them from your phone. You can also use free apps or plug-ins on your browser that restrict the limit on when and for how long you can use social media.

Similarly, don’t waste your time arguing pointlessly online. Al-Awza’i (rahimahullah) said, “When Allah intends evil for a people, He makes them busy with arguing, and prevents them from (real) action.”

### 2. Gazing at haram

Social media platforms are full of haram and harmful imagery. It’s common to see enticing pictures and videos of evil acts and the opposite gender. Gazing at haram is a poison which leads to the darkness of the heart and stops us from tasting the sweetness of iman and worshipping

Allah. Along with lowering our gazes from anything which incites lust, we should also avoid looking at the glitz and glamour of the world, as this makes our hearts attached to the world.

**Solution:** We have to protect ourselves from all haram, including looking at that which is haram. Similarly, we should ensure that we are not posting anything which can be a source of temptation for another person. Ramadhan is the time to end any haram interactions with the opposite gender and unfollow any account that is harmful or not beneficial to your spiritual and mental wellbeing.

### 3. Backbiting, slander & lying

It is common for people to criticise others or talk badly of others on social media, even sometimes under the guise of ‘da’wah’. It is not just the person who backbites that is sinful. Even the one who is listening or reading is sinful as he is complicit in spreading negativity and harm to others.

If what was shared was not even true (and as an observer you are unlikely to know whether it is true or not), then it falls under the extremely dangerous major sin of slander. Spreading false information can have serious consequences for individuals, communities, and the Ummah at large. Backbiting, slandering and lying are major sins which should not be taken lightly. Each has disastrous consequences in this world and the hereafter.

**Solution:** Do not spread or share negative information about others. Before posting anything, consider if it is necessary and respectful to share. If you have a concern, speak directly to the person involved, with the correct etiquette. If you are following someone who is speaking badly or negatively of others, unfollow that person. If you want to share information about an event/topic, verify it is correct before you share it, otherwise don’t share it.

The Prophet (Peace be upon him) was once shown the horrific punishment of a man lying flat on his back and another man standing over his head with an iron hook. (The man standing) would put the hook in one side of the man’s mouth and tear off that side of his face to the back of his neck, and (he would tear) his nose from front to back, and his eye from front to back. Then he would turn to the other side of the man’s face and do just as he had done with the other side. He would hardly complete this side when the other side would return to its normal state. Then he would return to it to repeat what he had done before. The Prophet (Peace be upon him) was told that this was the punishment for a man who goes out of his house in the morning and tells lies that are spread all over the world (Bukhari).

### 4. Public sins & justifying sins

Immorality and sin have been normalised and even glamourised on social media. Actions that were taboo and socially unacceptable a mere half a century ago, even amongst non-Muslims, are now commonplace for both non-Muslims and Muslims alike. Sins are no longer considered matters that one should be ashamed of; something which must be kept between oneself and Allah (‘azza wa jall). Many of us brazenly expose our sins through online platforms seen and read by tens of thousands of users.

The Prophet (Peace be upon him) said, “Everyone from my Ummah will be forgiven except those who publicise their sins” (Bukhari).

Openly sinning not only shows your contempt for the din, but encourages others to sin too. Do you want to be carrying the burden of other people’s sins? What is even more lethal is the ever-increasing number of ‘Muslims’ who try to ‘justify’ or

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

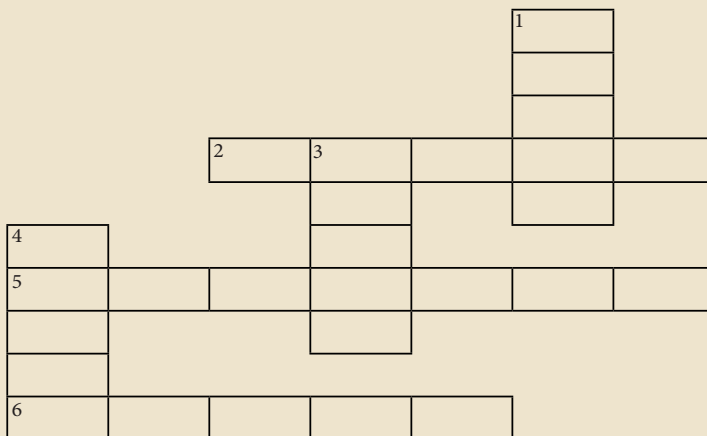
### LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS

#### ACROSS

- 2. Nuh
- 3. As Salaam
- 5. An Nas

#### DOWN

- 1. Bakkah
- 2. Najm
- 3. Sihhah



#### ACROSS

- 2. Meal to end the fast at sunset.
- 5. The Name of Allah meaning “The Most Patient”.
- 6. Meal eaten before dawn to begin fast.

#### DOWN

- 1. Arabic name for the moon.
- 3. Surah meaning “The Daybreak”
- 4. The Prophet(Pbhu)recommended breaking fast with this fruit.

## NASAH: Ramadhani ni fursa ya kuzitakasa nafsi zetu na kuacha maasi

Ndugu Waislamu, tulio na nyoyo zilizojaa dhambi, njooni tupae mbinguni kwa pamoja kwa kutumia mabawa ya toba ili tupate kunufaika na rehema, msamaha na maghfira ya Mwenyezi Mungu katika mwezi huu mtukufu wa ramadhani.

Ni fursa nyingine adhimu ya kutenda mema na kuacha mabaya tuliokuwa tukiyatenda katika kipindi kingine chote cha miezi mingine. Tuko katika mwezi ambao Mtume Muhammad (SAW) alisema hivi kuuhusu: 'Unakuja katika nyoyo kwa baraka na maghfira na kwa siku kadhaa kutua katika nyoyo za waumini wenye hamu ya kutubia na kuomba maghfira na kuacha maasi. Katika kufunga kwake Muislamu hupata mafunzo ya kutenda mema na kuacha mabaya ndio maana tunashuhudia kwa kiasi kikubwa maasi kupungua katika mwezi huu.

Waislamu, ambao walikuwa walevi, wa-

zinsi, wapigaji kabari, wezi wa kimabavu alhamdulillah wamesitisha matendo hayo kwa sababu ya kufunga mwezi mtukufu.

Hakika hapa ndipo ambapo jamii ya Waislamu tunatakiwa kujitathmini na kutafakari. Je, baada ya mwezi hii ya kufunga ikiisha tutarudi katika maasi yaliokolea katika nafsi zetu, ama tutachukua njia ya uchaji Mungu? Tuchukue fursa hii kubadilisha tabia zetu kikamilifu. Tutubie tauba ya kikweli. Tumelezwa kwamba mwenye kutubia anatakiwa atomize mashariti matatu ambayo ni kuacha maasi kabisa, kujuta kufanya maasi, kuazimia kuwa hatorudia tena maasi hayo.

Lakini inavyoonekana wengi wetu ni kama tunamchezashere Mwenyezi Mungu aliyetukuka kwa kuacha madhambi na maasi mwezi wa Ramadhan peke yake, tukidhani kwamba Mwenyezi Mungu ni wa Ramadhan peke.

Hivi sasa Misikiti zimechangamka, lakini tukifikia mwisho mwisho ya mwezi wa ramadhani tunaghura msikiti. Waislamu tujitathmini. Ramadhani ni chuo cha mafunzo ya ucha Mungu.

Ndugu zangu katika Imaan nautusia nafsi yangu na zenu kuzitakasa nafsi zetu ziwe katika daraja ya nafsi zilizotulia, kwa asili nafsi zimeumbwa kwa asili kuwa na Matamano, hivyo tumuombe Allah atupe Tawfiq tuweze kuzidhibiti nafsi zetu kuzielekeza kwenye Imani thabiti ya Kiislamu na tuzilee mpaka zivutike kwenye hali ya kutenda mambo mema yatakayotukurubisha kwa Mwenyezi Mungu Mtukufu hivyo iwe ni sababu ya kupata radhi na Maghfira ya Mwenyezi Mungu Mtukufu, kisha tudumu katika Uongofu wa utakaso wa nafsi zetu mpaka turejee kwa Mola wetu hali ya kuwa ameturidhia.

## 'Wakumbukeni Waislamu maeneo kame kwa futari', Viongozi wasihi

Waislamu wametakiwa kupunguza mrundiko wa futari ndani ya mwezi mtukufu wa Ramadhan ili kuwasaidia maskini, mafukara na wenye kustahili kusaidiwa wakiwemo Waislamu maeneo kame.

Hayo yameelezwa na viongozi wa kidini wa Kiislamu ambawametaka jamii zinazoishi katika maeneo yanayokumbwa na ukame wapewe misaada ya dharura wakati wanapoanza mfungo wa mwezi wa Ramadhan.

Ramadhani ya mwaka huu, iliyoanza rasmi siku ya Jumatano Februari 18, 2026 inaadhimishwa wakati ambapo sehemu kadhaa za nchi zinakabiliwa na ukame.

Baadhi ya kaunti zilizoathirika na ukame ni Mandera, Turkana, Wajir, Garissa, Marsabit, Isiolo, Kajiado, Kilifi, Kwale, Tana River na maeneo ya Lamu.

Wakiongea viongozi hao wakiongozwa na Mwenyekiti wa Baraza Kuu la

Waislamu nchini (SUPKEM) tawi la Lamu Mohamed Abdulkadir, walisema ni vyema Waislamu kuwa na utaratibu wa kuandaa futari ya kati na kati ambayo itakuwa ya aina moja iliyo nzuri na bora kwa kuliwa ili sehemu nyengine iweze kusaidia wasiojiweza na mafukara katika jamii ya waislamu na wengineo.

Abdulkadir aliongezea kusema kwamba kufunga wakati kuna uhaba mkubwa wa maji mara nyingi huathiri afya, kusababisha kishungi au kizunguzungu na hata mtu kupoteza fahamu, hasa hali hiyo inapochanganyika na joto kali linalosababishwa na ukame.

Vilevile, Bw Abdulkadir alisema hali ya ukame hufanya wengi kukosa kuhudhuria ibada katika misikiti mingi.

"Badala ya waumini kuzingatia ibada ya kufunga na swala za pamoja, wanalazimika kutanguliza suala la kujiokoa kwa sababu ya uhaba wa maji unaohitajika kwa udhu

katika misikiti hiyo. Ni kipindi ambacho waumini katika maeneo kame Basuba hulazimika kusafiri mbali kutafuta maji na hatimaye hukosa mahubiri na swala misikitini," alisema Bw Abdulkadir.

Bi Maryam Abatika wa Kijiji cha Basuba katika Msitu wa Boni, aliomba serikali ya kaunti na serikali ya kitaifa kuzingatia kusambaza chakula cha msaada na maji.

Kwa sasa, eneo kubwa la Basuba linakabiliwa na uhaba mkubwa wa chakula na maji, hali ambayo Bi Abatika anahofia inaweza kusababisha wengi kushindwa kuzingatia Ramadhan.

"Hatuna maji wala chakula cha kupika wakati wa iftar au suhoor. Tutafanyaje katika hali hii? Hiki ni kipindi ambacho maji yanahitajika sana kwa kila jambo linalohusiana na Ramadhan, lakini hayapo. Kuna haja ya hatua za haraka kuchukuliwa," alisema Bi Abatika.

## Ramadhani ni Mfungo sio Kifungo

RAMADHANI, kwa asili yake ni Mfungo wa kujizuia kwa hiyari kwa kuacha kufanya mambo mazuri ya halali kwa lengo la kumfanya mfungaji kuwa Mcha Mungu, na wala sio kifungo cha kuacha mambo mazuri na kushinda na njaa. Saumu sio ibada geni bali ni ibada ambayo imepatikana katika umma zilizotangulia kwa mujibu wa Qur'aan 2:183.

Makusudio ya ibada ya Saumu, kama vile ilivyo kwa Salah, Zakah, Hijjah na ibada nyinginezo, si kutekelezwa tu kama ada bali lengo la ibada hizi ni kumjenga Muumini katika uchaji Mungu wake ikizingatiwa kwamba mwanadamu ni Khalifa au balozi wa Mwenyezi Mungu katika ardhi (Qur'aan, 2: 30).

Ramadhani haikuja kama msimu wa Ibadada, bali imekuja kama kipimo cha uhalisia

wa utumwa wetu kwa Allah (s.w), kuelekea katika Ucha Mungu. Waislamu wa kweli hawakaribishi Ramadhani kwa ratiba za Ibadatu, bali kwa utayari wa kubeba changamoto za Ummah kama vile kuondoa unyanyapaa kwa watu wasiojiweza, maskini na fukara. Mara nyingi malengo hayo hayafikiwa kwa kuwa Ibadatu ya Funga ya Ramadhani, inahusishwa na suala la njaa na kiu, ndio maana haina athari yoyote baada ya siku 30.

Ni kama vile Waislamu hujiandaa kwa kushinda na njaa na kiu kwa siku chache, badala ya kujiandaa kubeba uwajibikaji kwa Ummah, kutatua changamoto halisi za kijamii na kuacha athari za Ucha Mungu baada ya Ramadhani." Ndio maana tunaona matokeo yake kuwa Ramadhani inapita bila kuacha malengo yaliyokusudiwa am-

bayo ni kumfanya mfungaji kuwa Mcha Mungu. Ibadatu katika Uislamu ni mfumo sio matukio, kwani Allah (s.w) hakuwaridhia Waislamu kama mkusanyiko wa matendo ya Kii bada, yaliyojitenga na maisha, bali aliridhia mfumo wa maisha unaolenga kumjenga Mwanadamu, kuunda jamii yenye uadilifu, kuwa wema, utu na huruma pamoja na kusimika uwajibikaji wa pamoja wa kijamii (Ummah).

Ndani ya mfumo huo, Ibadatu zimegawanywa kwa hekima kubwa mbili ambazo ni faradhi 'Ain (wajibu wa mtu binafsi) na Faradhi Kifaya (wajibu wa kijamii na kinfumo). Mgawanyo huo haukuja kwa hamasa, ushabiki wala urahisi wa kufundisha, bali ni kanuni ya kimuundo

**inaendeleo katika Ukurusa Wa 7**

## Ishini kwa mafundisho ya Qur'an ili kuendeleza amani, Noordin ashauri

Waislamu wamehimizwa kuimarisha nidhamu yao ya kimaadili na kuimarisha uelewa wao wa mafundisho ya Kiislamu kama yalivyomo katika Qur'an na Sunnah — mila za Mtume (amani iwe juu yake).

Wito huo ulitolewa na Noordin Haji, Mku-rugenzi Mkuu wa Huduma ya Kitaifa ya Ujasusi (NIS), wakati wa hafla ya kufunga mashindano ya kila mwaka ya Qur'an katika Madrasa ya Ibn Abbas huko Masalani, Kaunti ya Garissa. Hafla hiyo ilifanyika Jumapili, Februari 15, 2026.

Katika hotuba yake, Noordin alisisitiza umuhimu wa sio tu kukariri na kuhifadhi Qur'ani bali pia kuelewa na kutekeleza mafundisho yake. Alibainisha kuwa mwongozo wa Qur'ani unasalia kuwa suluhu la kudumu kwa changamoto nyingi zinazoikabili jamii ya kisasa.

"Wakati tunajivunia kukaririna kuhifadhi Qur'an, hatufuati mafundisho yake kila mara. Ikiwa kweli tungeishi kwa mwongozo wake, hakungekuwa na migogoro na mgawanyiko mdogo kati yetu," alise-

ma. Aliongeza kuwa kufuata maadili ya Qur'an kunaweza kusaidia kushughulikia migogoro ya koo inayoendelea Kaskazini Mashariki mwa Kenya, na kuzitaka jamii kukumbatia ujumbe wake wa haki, umoja na huruma.

Akizungumza na wazazi, viongozi wa kidini na wanafunzi, Noordin pia alionya dhidi ya rushwa na uchochezi, akibainisha kuwa baadhi ya watu hufuata mali bila kuzingatia chanzo chake na, badala ya kuendeleza amani na kuishi pamoja kwa usawa, huchochea mivutano ndani ya jamii.

Madrasa ya Ibn Abbas, iliyoko katika mji wa Masalani katika Eneo Bunge la Ijara, ilianzishwa na marehemu babake Noordin', Mohamed Yusuf Haji, Seneta wa zamani wa Garissa aliyefariki Februari 15, 2021.

Madrasa hiyo ilianza mwaka wa 2007 ikiwa na wanafunzi 30 pekee na tangu wakati huo imepanuka hadi matawi tisa katika eneo bunge hilo. Hadi sasa, zai-



di ya wanafunzi 800 wamehitimu kutoka taasisi hiyo. Sherehe hiyo iliadhimishwa kwa kutafakari na kuenzi urithi wa kudu-mu wa marehemu seneta katika kukuza elimu ya kidini. Mku-rugenzi Mkuu alia-hidi kuwa familia yake itaendelea kuunga mkono programu za madrasa' kwa heshi-ma ya maono ya baba yake.

## Ramadhani ni Mfungo sio Kifungo

### yaendeleo kutoka Ukurusa Wa 6

yenye malengo mahsusi ambapo 'Ain' hu-muandaa Mtu na 'Kifaya' humfanya Mtu huyo kuubeba mzigo wa Ummah.

Tatizo la Ummah ni kupotoshwa kwa maa-na ya Ibada, darsa na mawaidha yamejaa jinsi ya kufunga, jinsi ya kuswali, jinsi ya kusema "mimi nimefunga" pale unapoku-tana mambo si mazuri."

"Lakini kuna kimya kikubwa katika swa-li la msingi, baada ya Funga ya Rama-dhani, Ummah huu unatakiwa uwe katika hali gani. Naye Mtume (s.a.w.) akasema kwamba yule ambaye hatoacha maneno yasiyo na msingi wa ukweli, Allah hana haja na kuacha kwake kula na kunywa kwa ma dai kwamba amefunga .

Utaona kwamba hizi ibada zote zinalenga kumjenga Muumini ka tika uchaji Mungu wake. Na ili tufaidi zaidi na Saumu ya Ramadhan ni muhimu tujilulize baadhi ya maswali, "Jee umefunga Ramadhan ngapi katika uhai wako ?, Jee Saumu imekubadili vipi au imekuzatiti vipi kama ba lozi wa Allaah?, Ni ibada ipi unayo-nia kuendelea nayo baada ya Rama-dhan?, Ni nini unachokusudia kuacha katika madhambi baada ya Ramadhan?" Na kama umewahi kufunga Ramadhan kadha na hazikukubadili au kukuzatiti, huja Ramadhan na ikakuondokea kama msimu wa baridi na pengine kukuachia homa kwa kuwa umetumia vitu vya baridi kufungua Muadhini shida iko wapi ? Jee Ramadhan imefeli kama mfumo wa male-zi au ni wewe ambaye umekosa kufaha-mu namna ya kutekeleza funga yako?

Mafanikio katika Saumu ya Ramadhan kwa asli mia fulani hutegemea mata-yarisho ya mja kabla ya Ramadhan . Wakati ambapo baadhi ya waja watafa-

dhilisha kuzama katika maasi katika miezi au siku karibu na Ramadhan au kusitisha tu maovu katika Ramadhan au kuwa na mion-doko fulani katika Ramadhan tu kama ku-vaa kisheria. Masahaba wa Mtume (s.a.w.) ambao waliufahamu vyema Uislamu kuliko mimi na wewe na ambao wana vyeo tofauti na sisi mbele ya Allaah walianza mapema

kufanya mazoezi ya kutekeleza i b a d a hii tuku-fu kwa kufunga Saumu za Sunna na kumuomba Allaah awafik-ishe kati-ka mwezi wa Ram-a d h a n . Walikuwa wakise-ma, " Ewe Mola tupe B a r a k a k a t i k a mwezi wa Ra-jab na Sha'baan na utfik-ishe kati-ka mwezi wa Rama-dhan." Kwa ufu-

pi ni kwamba walihisi ladha na utamu wa kuwa katika ibada na kuwepo katika tangamano na tangamano thabiti na Al-laah. Na ili kupata faida na utamu wa iba-da au jambo lolote ni ulifanye kwa mda likukumbatie na wewe ulikumbatie.

## VFP launches Sh100 weekly Gaza fund via M-Pesa in historic move

In a historic milestone for grassroots humanitarian mobilization in Kenya, Voices For Palestine (VFP) has unveiled a structured weekly fundraising campaign through M-Pesa Ratiba, enabling Kenyans to commit at least Sh100 per week toward sustained, life-saving support for Gaza. The initiative marks a significant shift from periodic fundraising appeals to an organized, predictable model of long-term humanitarian assistance.

The campaign was launched during the release of VFP's two-year activity report at Jamia Mosque on February 14. Through Safaricom's Ratiba service, supporters can automate their weekly contributions via the M-PESA App or by dialing \*334# (option 9), using Pay Bill 150770 under the account TREE4GAZA (Jamia Mosque Committee).

VFP chairman Ahmed Sharrif described the initiative as critical in ensuring steady humanitarian flows to Gaza amid an on-

going crisis. Over the past two years, the organization has facilitated nearly one thousand life-saving surgical procedures and raised more than Sh98 million. The funds have supported emergency medical operations, hot meals, food parcels, hygiene kits and shelter assistance for displaced families.

Sharrif credited implementation partners including Al Khair Foundation, Al Imdaad Foundation and Islamic Relief for delivering aid on the ground, emphasizing that predictable funding will allow for expanded feeding programmes, essential medicines and educational support for vulnerable children.

Speakers at the event underscored the importance of institutionalizing solidarity. Former Manderu Senator Billow Kerrow termed support for Gaza a moral and humanitarian duty, urging Kenyans to remain steadfast. SUPKEM North Eastern Regional Coordinator Dr. Adan Yusuf Sheikh of

the Supreme Council of Kenya Muslims echoed the call, stressing that consistent contributions can collectively generate transformative impact.

Founded in November 2023, VFP brings together a coalition of Muslim organizations including the Jamia Mosque Committee and the Council of Imams and Preachers of Kenya, among others, to coordinate advocacy and humanitarian relief.

With the Ratiba platform now in place, VFP has moved beyond one-off appeals to establish a historic model of continuous, organized solidarity which transforms small weekly contributions into a long-term humanitarian lifeline. Organizers say the Sh100 pledge is not merely symbolic, but a strategic mechanism designed to guarantee stability, scale up medical interventions and ensure that Kenya's support for Gaza remains consistent, structured and impactful.

## Ksh30 Million raised to support Madrassas and Da'awa activities in Isiolo

At least Ksh 30 million was raised during a fundraising event held last Saturday in Merti, Isiolo North Constituency, to support 43 madrassas and strengthen Da'awa activities across Merti and Cherab sub-counties in Isiolo County.

The fundraiser was part of a broader initiative to mobilize resources for improving infrastructure, expanding classroom space, upgrading learning facilities, and enhancing structured Da'awa programmes aimed at promoting religious education and community outreach in the region.

The event was organized by Sports, Art and Social Development Fund Chief Executive Officer Nuhu Mohamed Ibra-

him, and drew a large turnout of political leaders, religious figures, and community stakeholders. Among those in attendance were Farouk Kibet, an aide to President William Ruto; Didmus Barasa; Japheth Nyakundi; John Bwire; Yusuf Farah; and Rehema Jaldesa, the Chairperson of the National Gender and Equality Commission.

Addressing the gathering, the leaders underscored the importance of Muslims investing in development-oriented initiatives, noting that such efforts are critical to improving socio-economic wellbeing, shaping moral values, fostering social cohesion, promoting youth empowerment, and advancing inclusivity within communities.

They also lauded the role of faith-based

institutions in strengthening religious education, nurturing unity, and driving grassroots development, particularly in arid and semi-arid regions.

In his remarks, Mr. Ibrahim emphasized the central role played by mosques and madrassas in community life.

"Supporting our mosques and madrassas is key to strengthening the moral fabric of our society and promoting social development," he said.

Organizers noted that the funds raised will be channeled towards priority projects identified by local religious leaders and education committees, with implementation expected to begin in the coming months.

## SUPKEM releases official list of accredited Hajj agents for 2026/1447

The Kenya Hajj Mission under Supreme Council of Kenya Muslims (SUPKEM) has officially released the list of accredited Hajj agents for the 2026/1447 pilgrimage, providing guidance to Kenyan Muslims preparing for the sacred journey to Makkah and Madinah.

The comprehensive list, unveiled at SUPKEM headquarters in Nairobi, features 14 recognized Hajj groups and 65 approved agents across the country. These agencies will manage essential travel logistics, including flights, accommodation, ground transportation, and guidance throughout the pilgrimage.

The accredited groups include Daru Salam General Trading Limited, Namira Hajj Group Limited, Al-Miraj Group, Al Wahdah Group, Rehlatu Towfiq Group, Multazam Hajj Group, Jamarat Hajj Group, and Taiba Hajj Group.

Other approved agents are Mashair Hajj Group, Sahal Hajj Group, Elaf United Group, Safina Hajj Group, Noor-Al-Haramain Group, and Pwani Association Hajj Group.

"All the listed agencies have been thoroughly vetted and meet the standards set by both SUPKEM and the Saudi Ministry of Hajj. We want every Kenyan pilgrim to have a safe, smooth, and spiritually fulfilling journey," said SUPKEM National Chairman Al-Hajj Hassan ole Naado.

SUPKEM has cautioned Muslims intending to perform Hajj to avoid unverified operators who may expose pilgrims to financial loss, logistical challenges, or even denial of entry into Saudi Arabia due to incomplete or invalid documentation.

The publication of accredited agencies forms part of SUPKEM's wider strategy to protect pilgrims from exploitation and en-

sure transparency in pilgrimage arrangements. "The Council has worked closely with the Saudi Ministry of Hajj to ensure Kenyan agencies comply with international standards, including health, safety, and customer service requirements," Ole Naado added.

SUPKEM has pledged to monitor the performance of accredited agents, address complaints promptly, and provide timely updates throughout the Hajj season to ensure pilgrims are fully prepared.

Hajj, one of the five pillars of Islam, is an obligatory act of worship for all able-bodied Muslims who can afford it at least once in their lifetime. Each year, millions of Muslims converge in Makkah to perform prescribed rites over a five-day period, marking a journey of profound spiritual significance.

## Set your goals for Ramadhan

When we have to undertake a project, we invest a great deal of effort and time into ensuring the project will be successful. Projects are initiated, then planned out, then executed and monitored. And once they are completed, they are evaluated.

If we can do this for projects at work, then surely the 'project' of Ramadhan is far greater. As people seeking the pleasure of Allah and Paradise, Ramadhan is the 'dream project' that has landed effortlessly on our desks.

In order to prepare a plan which will help us to successfully complete this project, we have to be clear about its goals. These goals will provide the framework of a successful Ramadhan. Everything we do in Ramadhan should lead to the following goals:

### The Goals of Ramadhan

#### 1. Increase and strengthen your iman

Ramadhan is the perfect opportunity to rejuvenate our iman and accelerate our journey to Allah. We should strive to increase our iman in Allah by increasing in our ma'rifah (knowledge) of Him, love for Him, fear of Him, hope in Him, trust in Him and sincerity to Him. Our iman in Allah's Angels, Prophets, Books, the Last Day and al-Qadr should also increase.

#### 2. Embody servitude ('ubudiyah) and submission

Ramadhan is the training ground to develop 'ubudiyah: where we become true servants of Allah through our constant humility and awe of Him, and always expressing our dire need of Him. We can speed up our journey to Allah by infusing all our physical acts of worship with the quality of 'ubudiyah. In our everyday lives, we are accustomed to giving in to our desires. If we feel like eating, we eat. If we feel like drinking, we drink. Through Ramadhan, we should aim to train the nafs (inner self) to submit itself to Allah, and to comply with His commands.

#### 3. Taste the sweetness of worship

The goal of Ramadhan should not be to just perform x number of good deeds. Every act of worship in Islam consists of both an outer manifestation ('action of the limb') and an inner reality ('action of the heart'), which is its essence and core. We should aim to focus on these inner dimensions, through which we will taste the sweetness of worship inshaAllah.

#### 4. Purify your heart

One of the aims of Ramadhan is to elevate the soul to its intended station: the tranquil soul. Ramadhan is the perfect time to purify the heart from diseases such as envy, hatred, pride, anger, hypocrisy, hard-heartedness. When the heart is purified, it is less susceptible to the whispers of shaytan, and more able to defend itself from doubts (shubuhah) and desires (shahawat).

#### 5. Develop good character

Excellent character is an integral part of our din, and there is no better time to cul-

tivate this than in Ramadhan. Our beloved Prophet (Peace be upon him) said, "When one of you enters the morning in the state of fasting, he should neither use obscene language nor act ignorantly. If anyone insults him or argues with him, he should say: 'I am fasting, I am fasting'" (Muslim). Ramadhan is the perfect time to become the best of Allah's servants: those who bring the most benefit to others, those who treat their parents, spouses, children, families and wider communities with kindness and excellence.

#### 6. Become attached to the Qur'an and the night prayer

Whilst the primary purpose of fasting is to gain taqwa, the purpose of Ramadhan is to connect with the Qur'an. Ramadhan is the month of the Qur'an. The Qur'an is guidance, which is supposed to mould our lives. It is not merely to be beautifully recited. The recitation of the Qur'an is supposed to increase our iman and deepen the love and awe of Allah in our hearts. This will only occur if we recite with deliberation and reflection.

Qiyam at night is one of the greatest acts of worship a servant can perform. It brings with it a sweetness which is nearly impossible to experience otherwise. By the time Ramadhan ends, we should aim for the night prayer to become a habit so that we can make it part of our everyday lives throughout the year.

#### 7. Bring your heart to your salah, dhikr & du'a'

Ramadhan is the perfect time to develop and train ourselves to perform salah, dhikr and du'a' with excellence. We should set specific goals in relation to how we are going to improve in each one e.g. increase khushu', recite the morning and evening adhkar with deep reflection, du'a' for a longer duration, and so on.

#### 8. Develop consistency

Ramadhan is a bootcamp for cultivating our hearts, souls, morals and ultimately our lives, so that the obedience of Allah becomes our lifestyle. We should worship Allah in Ramadhan with the mindset that our efforts are not limited to Ramadhan; rather we want to transform our lives through it and make it a consistent part of our lives.

#### 9. Attain Allah's forgiveness, freedom from Hell-fire & entry into Paradise

There are endless opportunities to be forgiven in Ramadhan, gain freedom from Hell-fire and be admitted into Paradise. We should be determined to not miss out on any of these opportunities.

10. Tame your nafs to stay away from sins and attain taqwa

One of the key goals of Ramadhan is to tame the nafs and stop sinning. By refusing your nafs what it desires (food, drink, sleep), you develop

self-control. This greater level of self-control should help you the next time you are tempted to sin. Ramadhan is the time to elevate the soul from its base desires (stomach and private parts). Aim for your fasting and Ramadhan to remove the love of the world from your heart; and let your soul soar high above the ground, away from the body, and upwards towards its Creator and Originator.

A large number of goals can feel overwhelming. However, once you have understood the overall goals, do a self-analysis as to where you currently are and what you would like to focus on. Everyone is on their own unique journey. Perhaps you already perform the 5 daily prayers punctually, but your target is to build up a daily habit of salah al-duha. Or perhaps you don't struggle with envy, but you do struggle with anger, so you can focus on managing your anger this Ramadhan.

#### Ramadhan: The Battle Against the Nafs

Think of Ramadhan as a battlefield. The enemy you are trying to defeat is your nafs. It is an enemy which has conquered you many times over in the past. This Ramadhan, however, you are determined that by the help of Allah, you are going to conquer it. You are going to be the winner, and not the loser. This will require planning, effort, tonnes of du'a' and perhaps even a change in strategy.

One such strategy is to manoeuvre around your nafs, and subtly trick it. When you are struggling to keep momentum, say to yourself: just a little while longer. After Ramadhan, you can go back to enjoying the halal pleasures. For now, just keep going for a little while longer. Once, Bishr al-Hafi (rahimahullah) was walking with one of his companions towards a city. His companion wanted to drink water from a well. Bishr said to him, "We will drink from the next well that appears on the way." Every time they would approach a well, Bishr would say, "From the next well." When they finally reached their destination, Bishr said, "This is how we journey through the world." We ask Allah al-Hayy (The Ever-Living), al-Qayyum (The All-Sustainer) to make this Ramadhan our best Ramadhan, and we ask Him to not entrust us to ourselves for even the blink of an eye. (From LifeWithAllah)

### SPACE TO LET !!!

#### Jamia Plaza

- Three offices 3rd Floor
- Office 2nd Floor

#### Jamia Towers

- Office 1st floor
- Six offices 2nd floor
- Shop

#### ALL APPLICATIONS TO:

The Secretary General Jamia Mosque Committee P.O.BOX.  
100786-00101, Nairobi Or drop the at  
Jamia Mosque Administration (First Floor)

## Religious institutions shape Kenya's moral compass, says MP Keynan

In a landmark affirmation of faith-based leadership in Kenya, Eldas MP Adan Keynan has credited religious institutions for shaping the moral compass of society and nurturing responsible, disciplined citizens. Speaking as the chief guest at the graduation of the first cohort at Markaz Al-Mubarak Madrassa held recently in Eldas town, Keynan said their role goes far beyond spiritual guidance, extending into mentorship, community cohesion, and social stability. "Religious institutions are the bedrock of our society. They guide our youth, instill values and keep our communities united in times of challenge," Keynan said, highlighting the enduring influence of mosques, madrassas, and other faith-based organizations.

The ceremony brought together religious leaders, scholars, and community leaders who showcased the transformative work of faith-based centers in instilling integrity, compassion, and accountability among the youth.

Keynan added, "It is the work of our imams, sheikhs, and madrassa teachers that builds principled citizens who will lead our country with honesty and compassion."

Religious leaders present also, emphasized the importance of moral education and spiritual guidance in shaping future leaders, while applauding community partnerships and investments that have strengthened mosque and madrassa infrastructure across the constituency.

The event also highlighted the crucial

partnership between parents, communities, and faith institutions. Keynan urged families to actively engage with religious centers to ensure children receive holistic guidance, describing moral education as "the foundation of a stable and progressive nation."

As the ceremony concluded, it was clear that religious institutions remain enduring pillars of ethical leadership and social cohesion, guiding Kenya's youth with values that promise a more disciplined, principled, and united society.

By recognizing their central role, leaders like Keynan are not only commending faith institutions, they are setting a precedent for sustained collaboration between politics, community, and spiritual guidance.

## Night Prayers: The quiet heroism of night worship

By Dr. Bashir Maalim, PhD

Allah SWT describes a noble quality of the believers, saying: "They abandon their beds, invoking their Lord with hope and fear, and donate from what We have provided for them." (Surah as-Sajdah 32:16)

This verse reveals the sincerity and spiritual ambition of people who rise from the warmth of their beds, preferring the closeness of their Lord over the sleep. Their worship springs from an equilibrium of Rajaa (Hope) and Khawf (Awe), while their generosity proves that faith is not merely spoken but acted upon. Allah reinforces this quality in another verse: "And they used to sleep little at night, and in the early dawn they would seek forgiveness." (Surah Adh-Dharyyat 51:17-18)

The First generation that was with the Prophet (Peace Be Upon Him) understood deeply the virtue of the late-night hours. The Prophet (Peace Be Upon Him) said: "The best prayer after the obligatory prayers is the night prayer." (Muslim) And he (Peace Be Upon Him) taught that in the last third of the night: "Our Lord descends to the lowest heaven... saying: 'Who is asking Me so that I may give him? Who is seeking forgiveness so I may forgive him?'" (Bukhari & Muslim)

The Salaf exemplified these verses in living form. Hassan Al-Basri (May Allah have mercy on him) said, "I have not found anything harder on the soul than night prayer." Yet he persisted, saying that the sweetness that followed was enough to make him forget the hardship.

Imam Awzai (May Allah have mercy on him) said, "Whoever lengthens his standing at night, Allah eases his standing on the Day of Judgment." And when Ibn Mundhir was asked how he could maintain night prayer for decades, he replied, "We trained our souls upon it until they found comfort in it."

For them, abandoning their beds was not a heroic spectacle but a quiet routine grounded in love with Allah, longing for forgiveness, and confidence in the promise of

reward. Allah says: "And whoever comes to Me walking, I come to him running." (Hadith Qudsi, Bukhari) And He promises: "No soul knows what delight of the eyes has been stored for them as reward for what they used to do." (Surah As-Sajdah 32:17)

Night worship refines sincerity because it is performed away from the eyes of people. It trains patience, humbles the ego, reduces attachment to worldly comforts, and fills the day with barakah. It was said by the early Muslims: "The honor of the believer is his standing at night, and his glory is his independence from people." The believer who sacrifices comfort for the sake of Allah finds strength in character, clarity in purpose, and sweetness in his relationship with his Lord.

Practical ways to cultivate this habit  
Some of the practical steps that can make night worship and late-night dhikr attainable rather than overwhelming:

1) Sleep with intention: Before sleeping, make a firm niyyah to rise for prayer. Intention itself earns a reward and aligns the heart toward worship.

2) Start with small actions: Begin with two Raka'at or brief Adhkar. The Prophet (Peace Be Upon Him) said: "The most beloved actions to Allah are those that are consistent, even if small." (Bukhari & Muslim)

3) Adjust sleep habits: Reducing late-night screens and idle gatherings makes waking

easier. Many scholars mentioned that night prayer is the fruit of disciplined evenings.

4) Use alarms strategically: Place alarms away from the bed to require movement. Some of the Salaf would ask family members to wake them up—cooperative worship nurtures consistency.

5) Make Dua for tawfiq: Ask Allah for success in the night. Ibn Taymiyyah noted that the most beneficial means to an act is seeking Allah's help for it.

6) Remember the reward: Reflect on the special forgiveness, acceptance of Dua, and tranquility promised in those hours. Thinking of reward makes sacrifice lighter.

7) Connect worship to charity: As the verse mentions giving, even small amounts of charity after-night worship reinforces sincerity and compassion.

8) Forgive and seek forgiveness: Many Salaf linked night worship to reconciliation with others and repentance—clean hearts awaken more easily for Allah.

The people described in Surah As-Sajdah 32:16 are not superhumans; they are believers who choose Allah over comfort. By training ourselves gently and consistently, we partake in a noble legacy of devotion. May Allah SWT make our nights illuminated with remembrance, our hearts adorned with sincerity, and our days enriched with barakah. Allahuma Amiin.

## NAMSA Iftar appeal

**Namsa wishes to remind all Parents and Guardians while we welcome the holy month of Ramadhan 2026. Let us remember that our Muslim students will be in session for the greater part of the month particularly those in boarding schools. In this regard, we kindly appeal to you to support the arrangements put in place by your respective institutions under the guidance of your patrons to ensure the smooth observance of this blessed month**

**Please note that institutions prefer contributions in the form of dry food items such as rice, cooking fat/oil, wheat flour, sugar, and dates to facilitate the smooth running of the program. We also take this opportunity to reach out to our alumni and nearby institutions to kindly consider our boarding facilities in their Iftar programs during Ramadan.**

**For further guidance or clarification, please do not hesitate to contact us:  
Bro. Umar Sakwa – 0722234569 OR Ibrahim Sharrif – 0722947050**

## Catholic Church to probe hijab complaints in Kisumu Schools

The Catholic Justice and Social Department (CJSD) in Kisumu has pledged to address complaints regarding the wearing of hijabs in Catholic-sponsored schools, following concerns raised by a parent in Siaya County. The commitment was made after a meeting between Catholic clerics and representatives of the Muslim Education Council (MEC) held on Monday, February 16, 2026, in Kisumu. The talks were prompted by an incident at Lwak Girls Secondary School, where a parent reportedly withdrew his daughter after she allegedly faced harassment for wearing a hijab. MEC Siaya County representative Safia Okoth Raila described the engagement as a constructive step towards resolving the matter. She said Catholic officials requested 10 days to investigate the complaint and reaffirmed their commitment to religious tolerance, including

adherence to Ministry of Education directives on the wearing of hijabs in schools. "They asked to be given 10 days to investigate the matter, and a progress report will be presented during a subsequent meeting bringing together the Catholic Justice and Social Department, the Muslim Education Council, and the Inter-Religious Council of Kenya," Safia said. She added that the Church also pledged to support Ramadan programmes in Catholic-sponsored schools within the Kisumu Archdiocese. According to Safia, arrangements will be made to facilitate iftar (breaking the fast) and suhoor (pre-dawn) meals, as well as provide space for prayers, to enable Muslim students to observe the holy month without difficulty. "This is a positive step which we greatly appreciate. During the next meeting, we expect broader representation from Muslim leadership to deepen discussions

on improving the welfare of Muslim students in Catholic-sponsored schools and expanding cooperation on interfaith matters," she said. The CJSD, which operates under the Kenya Conference of Catholic Bishops (KCCB), focuses on grassroots advocacy, dialogue and civic education aimed at addressing social injustices and promoting inclusive engagement. In the past, Catholic leaders have defended policies requiring all students, including Muslims, to attend church services in Catholic-run schools, arguing that such practices are part of school regulations. However, critics have termed the requirements unconstitutional, saying they violate freedom of worship. They further argue that because Catholic-sponsored schools receive public funding, they are obligated to uphold the rights of all students regardless of religious affiliation.

## Drought deepens food crisis in Northeastern: Relief efforts underway

North Horr, Chalbi Desert, and other parts of Northeastern Kenya are facing a severe humanitarian crisis as prolonged drought continues to devastate pastoralist communities. For families whose livelihoods depend on livestock and grazing lands, rainfall is not merely seasonal—it is the lifeline of survival. With successive failed rains, wells have dried, pastures have vanished, and livestock, the backbone of the local economy, are dying in alarming numbers.

What began as a period of scarcity has now escalated into an acute food security emergency, leaving thousands of families struggling to survive. Mothers trek long distances under the relentless sun to fetch water, families ration meager meals, and the most vulnerable—including children and the elderly—face an increased risk of malnutrition.

The once-arid landscapes of the Chalbi Desert now bear stark testimony to the scale of this crisis. In response, Maahad

Daawah Organisation has intensified relief operations across the hardest-hit and most remote settlements. Through careful planning and local engagement, the organisation has successfully distributed essential food supplies to over 10,000 families in Merti, Saku, Chalbi, North Horr, Laisamis, and even reaching as far as Ramisi and Samburu in Kwale County. Each parcel, containing staple food items, aims to stabilize households facing immediate hunger. Delivering aid across challenging terrains is not merely logistical—it is an expression of communal solidarity, affirming that those enduring hardship remain part of a caring Ummah.

While these efforts have provided critical relief, the scale of the crisis means that continued support is essential to prevent further deterioration of living conditions. Islamic teachings emphasize compassion as an actionable duty, not a passive sentiment. While drought may feel distant to urban residents, it is a lived reality for



families who share our faith, prayers, and hopes for stability. Maahad Daawah Organisation pledges to ensure all contributions are handled with transparency, accountability, and dignity. The organisation calls on the wider community to support these ongoing relief efforts through: M-Pesa Paybill: 865508 Account Name: Relief and Iftar  
May Allah ease the suffering of those affected, bring relief to their lands, and accept these efforts in service to humanity.

## 22nd MMY Annual Quran Competition set to kick off in Mombasa

The 22nd edition of the Muslim Mercy Youth Group (MMY) Annual Quran Competition is set to officially commence on March 6, 2026, at the Makadara open grounds in Mombasa.

The three-day event, themed "Bushra – Glad Tidings," will be broadcast live across multiple platforms, allowing audiences both locally and internationally to witness the exceptional talents of Quran reciters.

The Chief Guest at the MMY annual event will be the acting Chief Kadhi of Kenya Sheikh Sukyan Hassan Omar.

The competition, concluding on March 8, 2026, is divided into five categories: five chapters, ten chapters, twenty chapters,

and the entire Quran. Participants will compete within their categories, demonstrating their memorization prowess, fluency, and dedication.

The judges to officiate during the memorization competition would be drawn from Uganda, Tanzania, Zanzibar assisted with their Kenyan counterparts. Winners stand to receive highly coveted prizes, including a fully paid Hajj trip and cash awards, making the event fiercely competitive.

Since its inception in 2003, the MMY Quran Competition has been a key highlight of the organization's annual calendar during Ramadhan, attracting participants from across Kenya and beyond.

The competition continues to play a signifi-

cant role in promoting Quranic knowledge and excellence in the Muslim community. During the 21st edition held last year, Ayub Hassan Ali, 21, a student at Markaz Al-Bushra in Nairobi, triumphed in the prestigious 30 Juzuu category. He was awarded a Hajj package worth Ksh 650,000 alongside a cash prize of Ksh 60,000, setting a high standard for this year's contestants.

The MMY Annual Quran Competition remains one of East and Central Africa's most celebrated platforms for nurturing young Quran reciters and promoting religious scholarship. For more information contact 0722 850 877 or 0733515382.

## Taiba Dental Unit to offers free dental implants this Ramadhan

Taiba Dental Unit based along Park Road in Nairobi is set to offer a rare opportunity for eligible individuals to receive dental implants at no cost.

According to Dr. Mahabubur Rahman Khan the initiative is aimed at supporting disadvantaged members of the Muslim community and that during this Ramadhan, Taiba Dental Unit and Dual Dental Implant Company of Egypt through a Zakat-funded initiative will conduct free dental implant.

"The entire dental implant procedure will be conducted completely free of charge through Zakat funds, targeting less for-

tunate members of the community," he added. The programme is limited to 40 patients, and all participants must undergo a screening process. Screening is being conducted through Masjid Al Ameen, located near the Juja Road Estate in Nairobi.

Registration for screening is currently ongoing. Interested individuals are encouraged to register through Masjid Al Ameen or seek further information by calling 0720 474747.

Dental implants are surgically placed posts inserted into the jawbone to act as artificial tooth roots. They provide a strong and stable foundation for replacement teeth such

as crowns, bridges, or dentures. Implants offer a durable, long-term solution that restores both chewing function and appearance, closely mimicking the look and feel of natural teeth. Over time, the implant fuses with the jawbone, ensuring stability and comfort.

In Kenya, the cost of a single dental implant typically averages around Sh100,000. However, through this charitable partnership, beneficiaries will receive the procedure free of charge.

## Beware of the sinister thief: Social Media

*Continued From Page 5*

make 'ḥalal' what Allah ('azza wa jall) has clearly made ḥaram.

**Solution:** Do not share any of your sins (however 'minor' they may be) in public and on social media. Instead keep your sins secret between you and Allah as far as possible and ask Allah al-Ghafur (The Most Forgiving) to forgive you. If you have already shared sins on social media, go through your account and delete them immediately. Never ever justify committing a sin; admit your weakness and ask Allah to forgive you.

### 5. Riya (showing off) & arrogance

The opposite of ikhlaṣ (sincerity) is riya (showing off/ostentation) and sum'ah (seeking fame), both diseases of the heart. In an era of social media and constant 'sharing', we are more susceptible to riya', as we focus on impressing the watchful gaze of our followers instead of being watchful of the Gaze of Allah, al-Muḥaymin (The Vigilant). We feel pressured to 'share' everything, including our good deeds.

This leads us to doing good deeds for others (riya') instead of doing it for the sake of Allah. It also leads to self-admiration ('ujb) and pride (kibr) because the constant validation and attention received through likes, comments, and followers can contribute to an inflated importance of one's inner self (nafs) and a sense of superiority over others.

Likewise, if we are involved in seeking knowledge and da'wah, we are more vulnerable to shayṭan's attempts to pollute our efforts with riya'.

**Solution:** In order to avoid the trap of riya, we should not share things unnecessarily — it must be useful and purposeful. We must constantly guard and renew our intentions for sharing good content. We should be humble and modest in our interactions with everyone, and we should always ask Allah ('azza wa jall) to grant us sincerity and humility.

### 6. Envy

Gone are the days where we could only envy those whom we saw. Thanks to so-

cial media, we have access to the little details of millions around the world. This often leaves us feeling envious of lifestyles we see others enjoying, but we ourselves can-

not access. Sometimes the feeling of envy (ḥasad) creeps up on us without us realising. If we fight back against it, we will be rewarded. Envy can be deadly: it leads to hatred and tension, tears down relationships and breaks families. Likewise, we are also responsible for ensuring that we do not inadvertently cause others to feel envious of us, so we should be mindful of what we share.

**Solution:** Ramadhan is a month to detox from social. To combat envy, stop following people who you are likely to feel envious of. Reflect on Allah's blessings and remember that He is The Most Just (Al-'Adl). Consider that the person you are envious of may have ten problems for every one blessing you see. Similarly, protect yourself and your family by not sharing your personal life or triumphs on social media at all. May Allah al-Tayyib

(The Pure) purify us from our addictions, liberate us from the prison of 'social media', and attach our hearts to Him.

**(From LifeWithAllah)**



مؤسسة محمد السادس للعلماء الأفارقة - فرع كينيا  
MOHAMMED VI FOUNDATION OF AFRICAN OULEMA - KENYA BRANCH

### Qur'an Competition 2026

Mohamed VI Foundation of Africa Oulema-Kenyan branch will be conducting its Quran memorization competition preliminary stages for the following categories:

- 30 Juzuus (whole Quran)-Max age 40 years
- 5 Juzuus or more- Max age 15 years

The competition would be according to Qiraatu Warsh or any other Qiraah.

Participants will be from the four administrative regions in Kenya:

1. Central Region (Nairobi, Central and Eastern Provinces).
2. Coast Region
3. North-eastern Region
4. Western Kenya Region (Nyanza, Rift Valley and Western Provinces).

The competition will be held at a time to be communicated by the regional coordinators. The venue will be at Mauladad Nursery School of Islamia Madrasa Society in Park Road, Nairobi. Further information regarding the exact date will be relayed to successful applicants for the competition. Winners will participate in the International competition to be held in Fez, Morocco, or any other member country of the foundation either in-person or online.

**For more information contact:**

**0704970002/0735172192-HQ**

**Coast Region: 0722470333 (Shariff Salim)**

**Western Region: 0724622025/0733921195 (Sheikh Ibrahim Saadallah)**

**Central Region: 0733997569 (Sheikh Abdulrehman Shariff Mwansab )**

**North Eastern: 0721511977 (Sheikh Adan Khalif)**

The following information is necessary when applying to the regional coordinator:

1. Full name.
2. Sex.
3. Name of institution/Madrasa.
4. Phone number of contact person.
5. Birth certificate.
6. An indication of the administrative region from where the application is originating.

**The deadline for receiving application to participate in the competition is 20<sup>th</sup> March 2026.**

## Charities launch Ramadhan Iftar appeal to feed needy families in Nairobi

Community-based charitable organisations Source of Hope and As-habul Yatim have launched an appeal to well-wishers to support their Ramadhan iftar feeding programme, which aims to provide daily meals to more than 250 needy Muslims during the holy month of Ramadhan. The initiative targets vulnerable families and individuals living in Mathare, Huruma, and Kariobangi—areas that continue to grapple with high levels of poverty, unemployment, and food insecurity. Speaking to the Friday Bulletin, Muhidin Ali, the founder of Source of Hope, said the need on the ground is urgent and overwhelming, especially during Ramadhan when many families struggle to afford even a single meal for iftar.

“The residents of Mathare, Huruma, and Kariobangi are in dire need. Many households cannot afford food,” Ali said. He noted that the programme seeks not only to provide food but also to restore dignity and a sense of community among the most vulnerable members of society. “Ramadhan is a month of mercy, sharing, and compassion. Through this iftar programme, we want to ensure that no Muslim breaks their fast hungry simply because of their economic situation,” he added. The organisations plan to distribute hot iftar meals and food packs throughout the month, prioritising orphans, widows, the elderly, and low-income families. As-habul Yatim, which focuses on the welfare of orphans and vulnerable children, will work alongside Source

of Hope to identify and reach the most affected households. According to the organisers, rising food prices and limited income opportunities have worsened food insecurity in informal settlements, making community-driven interventions critical during Ramadhan. “This is a collective responsibility. Even the smallest contribution can help put food on the table for someone in need,” Ali said, calling on individuals, organisations, and corporate partners to support the initiative. Well-wishers who wish to contribute to the Ramadhan Iftar programme can do so through the following channels: KCB Bank Sahl Account Number: 1348868643; M-Pesa Paybill: 4009061; Account Name: Iftar

## Umrah trip for Winner of 2026-1447 Jamia Boys Quran Competition

Continued From Page 1

received a cash award of KSh50,000. Al Fadhlu and Al Huffadh tied for second position, each earning KSh50,000, while Rowdhatul Ridhwan and Kajiado Hill shared fourth place and were awarded KSh20,000 each. Speaking during the ceremony, Deputy Chairman of Jamia Mosque Committee Nairobi Abdullatif Essajee commended the Saudi Embassy for its close collaboration with Jamia Mosque Nairobi in supporting Islamic projects in the country. He expressed gratitude for the embassy’s continued backing of the Quran memorization competition, noting that over the past 15 years it has become one of the

mosque’s most anticipated annual programs and has inspired similar initiatives in other regions. Jamia Mosque Committee Da’awa Convenor Sheikh Ibrahim Lethome urged Muslims to deepen their understanding of the teachings of the Noble Qur’an and to reflect its values in their daily lives. On his part, Imam of Jamia Mosque Nairobi Sheikh Jamaluddin Osman encouraged madrasa teachers to place greater emphasis on tajweed and the Arabic language to further strengthen learners’ skills and familiarity

with the language of the Qur’an. The closing ceremony was attended by several dignitaries, including Saudi Arabia Cultural Attaché Mohammed Mater Mahzari, Jamia Mosque Committee Secretary-General Abdulbari Hamid, Treasurer Billow Kerrow, Deputy Treasurer Khider Farouk Adam, Imam Sheikh Jamaluddin Osman, and Jamia Executive Officer Said Abdallah, among others.

**RAMADHAN DARSA** 1447 A.H | 2026

تفسير  
سورة الكهف

**SURAH AL-KAHF**  
SHEIKH JAMALUDIN OSMAN

JAMIA MASJID | BAADAL ASR | JUMAMOSI NA JUMAPILI

@SheikhJamaludinOsman

**mw alimu national**  
Shaping tomorrow. Together.

**معلم**  
mualim

- 100% RIBA-FREE
- NO HIDDEN CHARGES
- INSTANT FINANCING

**ENSURE YOUR EARNINGS STAY AS PURE AS YOUR INTENTIONS**

Switch your salary to Mualim for transparent, Shariah-compliant banking.

Courtesy of Mualim dt sacco shariah board

Contact Us:  
0735 360 391  
0795 604 621

www.mwalimunational.coop

@mwalimunational  
Mwalimu National

## IUK to host Inter-Campus Quran memorization competition in Ramadhan

The Islamic University of Kenya (IUK) has announced plans to host an inter-campus and colleges Quran Memorization Competition during the holy month of Ramadhan in 2026.

Dubbed the Ramadhan Quran Challenge, the competition is scheduled for 23rd February 2026, corresponding to 6 Ramadhan 1447 AH.

The event will bring together students from the Islamic University of Kenya, drawn from various colleges and academic disciplines, to showcase their skills and dedication in memorizing the Noble Quran. According to

the university, the competition is part of its broader effort to cultivate and strengthen interest in the memorization and recitation of the Holy Quran among university students. Organizers say the initiative also aims to nurture spiritual growth and reinforce Islamic values during the sacred month of Ramadhan. The competition will be conducted across five categories: memorization of three chapters, five chapters, ten chapters, fifteen chapters, and the entire Quran. Participants will compete within their respective categories, demonstrating both

accuracy and consistency in their memorization.

Winners in each category will be awarded cash prizes, a move expected to heighten competition and encourage wider participation among students. Students from all faculties and colleges who wish to take part in the Ramadhan Quran Challenge have been encouraged to register through Dr. Alaa Eldin, the designated coordinator for the event.

## Jamia Mosque Kinna turns to solar power to cut electricity costs

Jamia Mosque Kinna in Isiolo County has adopted renewable energy in a move aimed at reducing high electricity costs and improving essential services for the local community. The mosque has commissioned a new solar power system donated by former Nairobi Governor Mike Sonko. The installation will power the mosque and support a water supply system serving more than 160 households in the area.

The project also includes the installation of high-capacity water storage tanks to ensure a reliable supply, particularly as Muslim faithful prepare for the holy month of Ramadhan. Speaking during the commissioning ceremony held over the weekend, Sheikh Abdullahi Kanjora said the mosque's electricity consumption had been a significant financial burden.

"The mosque uses large amounts of electricity and the project will help to significantly

reduce the electricity bills," Sheikh Kanjora said. "Reducing the amount spent on electricity would free up funds for other social programmes." Community members welcomed the initiative, describing it as a major boost for a remote area that has long faced infrastructure challenges.

Mzee Mohammed Guyo said residents were delighted with the development, noting that the benefits would extend beyond the mosque.

"As a community, we never expected such a project in this remote area," he said. "It will greatly benefit our school-going children, especially when doing household chores and their homework."

Addressing attendees at the event, Sonko said the Kinna project marks the first phase of a wider community support programme targeting underserved religious institutions and households in northern Kenya.

He revealed that at least five more mosques in the region have been identified as lacking electricity and water—conditions that have forced worshippers to perform ablution (udhu) at home before attending prayers.

Sonko added that teams of engineers from Nairobi and Isiolo are already on the ground installing additional solar systems, water connections, and public address systems. The initiative also includes the distribution of prayer mats (mikeka) and the upgrading of mud-walled mosque structures to improve their condition in Kinna and across Garbatulla Sub-county. The commissioning ceremony was attended by several local leaders and religious figures, including Sheikh Hussein Ibrahim Bulle, among others.

## Kakamega High School to provide Mosque, IRE teachers

Kakamega High School has agreed to allocate space for the construction of classrooms that will also serve as a mosque, a move aimed at addressing the spiritual needs of its Muslim students and promoting religious inclusivity within the institution. As part of the new measures, the school will also introduce Islamic Religious Education (IRE) and Arabic language studies, expanding learning options for Muslim learners.

The decision brings relief to more than 140 Muslim students who have previously faced challenges in observing their daily prayers while at school. The resolutions were reached following a consultative meeting between the school administration and the Muslim Education Secretariat at Western Province (MESWEP), held in the aftermath of an incident in which pork was reportedly served to students at the school.

Officials from the secretariat—an affiliate of the Muslim Education Council (MEC)—including Board of Trustees Chairman Nassoro Rashid and Kakamega Upper Coordinator Alfan Ramadhan Amadala, visited the institution to raise concerns over the

matter. During the meeting, which was also attended by MEC executive member Dr. Hassan Ngeri, the school's Chief Principal, Dr. Aliva Elphas, acknowledged the incident and apologised to the Muslim community, assuring them that such an occurrence would not be repeated. Following the deliberations, both parties agreed to strengthen cooperation for the benefit of all students. Under the resolutions, MESWEP will mobilise funds and coordinate the construction of two classrooms that will double as a mosque and IRE learning spaces. The secretariat will also be responsible for sourcing IRE and Arabic teachers, as well as supporting school activities such as Ramadhan programmes and bursary initiatives.

"The principal pledged to work with MESWEP through consultation to ensure that the ethos of the Muslim community within the school is upheld," said Chairman Nassoro.

"Let us come together to raise funds for these noble initiatives. We appreciate all those who raised concerns about this issue,



which may have turned out to be a blessing in disguise, as we now have an opportunity to introduce IRE and Arabic studies in the school. Let us not lose this opportunity," he added.

The developments follow protests by parents over last week's incident. While the school maintained that Muslim students and members of the Seventh-day Adventist (SDA) Church were provided with separate meals, parents expressed concerns over possible cross-contamination and what they described as a lack of sensitivity to their religious beliefs.

## CIPK demands action over Muslim students' rights in Church-sponsored Schools

The Council of Imams and Preachers of Kenya (CIPK) has called on the government to take a firmer stance to ensure fairness and equal treatment for Muslim students enrolled in some church-run and church-sponsored schools, citing alleged violations of constitutional rights. The council strongly condemned what it described as persistent infringements on the religious freedoms of Muslim learners in several institutions across the country. According to CIPK, reports from parents and students indicate that in a number of church-managed schools, Muslim students face restrictions on practicing their faith, leading to discomfort and a sense of exclusion. CIPK raised particular concern over limitations on the wearing of hijabs, access to prayer times and spaces, and participation in religious association activities in some church-sponsored schools in Uasin Gishu County. The council said such actions amount to a direct affront to the constitutional guarantee of freedom of worship and promote religious intolerance. Speaking in an interview, CIPK North Rift chairman Sheikh Abubakar Bini said the situation contradicts Kenya's constitutional commitment to religious freedom, inclusiveness, and equal access to education. "We cannot promote national unity while allowing discrimination in our schools. Muslim students should not be made to feel less Kenyan or less deserving because of their faith," he said. Sheikh Bini acknowledged that many church-sponsored schools are respectful and accommodating but noted that isolated cases continue to generate tension and resentment among affected students. He added that efforts to engage school administrators through dialogue have yielded little success. "They claim this is a policy by school sponsors, but which takes precedence — the laws of the country or internal school policy?" he posed.

He emphasized the urgency of resolving the matter, particularly with the holy month of Ramadhan approaching, warning that failure to act would see Muslim students continue to suffer. He urged Muslim leadership to seek intervention from the Ministry of Education. On his part, CIPK Uasin Gishu chairman Rashid K. Songok called on Muslim leaders to speak out against what he termed as unconstitutional discrimination targeting Muslim students, especially girls, in church-run and sponsored educational institutions.

"Compelling Muslim students to attend church services and observe Christian forms of worship is contrary to the Constitution and violates their right to manifest their faith," Songok

said. In a letter dated February 17, 2026, addressed to the County Education Board, Songok urged education authorities to intervene urgently to end what he described as discriminatory practices against Muslim learners.

"This is to inform you that a good number of schools in Uasin Gishu are infringing on the rights of Muslim students by prohibiting the wearing of the headscarf (hijab), denying them space for prayers, failing to facilitate fasting during Ramadhan, and compelling them to attend religious rites of other faiths," the letter stated. He cited several institutions — including Loreto Girls Matunda, Turbo Girls High School, and Kapsabet Girls High School — as among public schools allegedly violating students' constitutional rights. Songok argued that public schools,

regardless of their sponsors, operate under national laws and public funding and therefore have no justification to deny students their fundamental rights.

"Even where sponsors are churches, the government pays teachers through the Teachers Service Commission, funds infrastructure development, and parents support school projects through Boards of Management. Sponsorship cannot override constitutional rights," he said.

According to Songok, the practices deny Muslim students both their freedom of religion and their right to quality education, forcing some parents to compromise their faith or seek alternative schools despite their children having been officially placed in the affected institutions.

La Riba Banking  
قسم لاربا

# When giving takes root, light grows.

Every act of service plants a seed of hope that shines a light back on our community.

Rooted in charity and growing together. Ramadhan Mubarak.



Your story matters 

Absa Bank Kenya PLC is regulated by the Central Bank of Kenya.  
La Riba banking solutions are fully Shari'ah compliant and approved by the Shari'ah board.

## Leaders and stakeholders in North-Eastern push for education reforms

Community Leaders Education stakeholders and leaders from North Eastern Kenya convened over the weekend to address persistent challenges in the region's schools, signaling a bold and coordinated effort to transform learning across Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASAL).

The high-level forum aimed to develop an evidence-based reform agenda to enhance access, improve quality, and elevate outcomes for learners in historically underserved areas.

It brought together policymakers, educators, community leaders, and development partners for candid, solution-oriented discussions on preparing schools for Competency-Based Education (CBE), boosting learner enrollment and retention, and safeguarding the integrity of national examinations.

A key outcome of the forum was the decision to commission a focused regional study to document structural, systemic, and socio-cultural factors affecting education performance in North Eastern Kenya. The study's findings will guide targeted reforms and inform future investments in the sector.

Dr. Idle Farah, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Frontier Counties Development Council (FCDC), hailed the initiative as a milestone for education in ASAL counties.

"This gathering highlights our shared re-



Picture Courtesy: Horn Afric

sponsibility to raise education standards and expand opportunities for all learners in ASAL regions," he said, emphasizing the importance of collective action in shaping a brighter future for the region's children.

Adding depth to the discussions, NA-CONEK CEO Harun Yussuf stressed the role of collaboration and data-driven planning in achieving sustainable change.

"Through sustained partnerships and the use of credible data, we can design interventions that truly transform education outcomes," he noted.

Led by Horn-Afric, a regional policy think tank, in partnership with FCDC and North Eastern Youth Development (NEYD), the

weekend forum reflected a shared commitment to safeguarding education standards. Stakeholders expressed optimism that evidence-based strategies, coupled with sustained collaboration, will deliver tangible improvements.

Plans are also underway for a major regional education symposium scheduled for mid-April, to be hosted in one of the counties. The symposium will bring together a broader coalition of government officials, educators, community representatives, and development partners to validate research findings, build consensus, and craft a practical roadmap for reform.

KCB SAHL BANKING

We value good deeds just like you do.

In this holy month of Ramadhan, bank with peace of mind by doing your Zakat, Sadaqah and other transactions through a sharia-compliant bank.

Access KCB Sahl Banking products and services at any KCB branch countrywide.

Ramadan Kareem



أفضل خدمة للشعب

Regulated by the Central Bank of Kenya.



LAUNCH YOUR FITNESS CAREER In 2026!

OUR COURSES

1. Diploma in Fitness & Wellness Science  
Duration: 9 Months.
2. Certificate in Fitness Instruction  
Duration: 6 Months



We are located at Nation Centre, 13th Floor Kimathi Street Nairobi CBD.

0746 166 821

www.habibfitnessinstitute.com