

MEELAD CELEBRATIONS IN THE EAST

The Association also supported Meelad celebrations in the East at Masjid Rasool in Aryampathy and Hidayah Cultural Centre at Kattankudy. The program included recital of mowlood, delivery of bayaans and distribution of food. The areas were also decorated and large numbers participated. It was encouraging to note that since our initiative in reviving these activities, there were other organizations too, now celebrating Meelad in the Eastern Province.



Mowlood recital and bayaan at Masjid Rasool, Aryampathy,



Mowlood Recital and distribution of rice at Hiluriya Cultural Centre, Kattankudy

SUPPORT TO CONDUCT REGULAR BAYAANS

One of the successful methods recommended to prevent members of the community being influenced by other forces was to conduct regular lectures/bayans and create greater awareness. On request made by two organisations, our Board

approved to support these organisations to conduct awareness programs, especially to youth and women. We support the

- Association of Ahlunnath Wal Jamaa Theologians, Galle and
- Mursiya Arabic College, Weligama.

DO WE CONCENTRATE ON OUR PRAYERS ?

Many of us have difficulty in concentrating in our prayers. There are three ways to concentrate on your prayers:

1. Committing sins and doing what Allah has forbidden is one of the main reasons for not being able to concentrate in your prayer; therefore do your best to obey Allah SWT and avoid sins.
2. Pick from the Quran the suras or verses you like to read in your prayers and read their translation so it will help you focus and understand what you are saying, therefore, you will be able to concentrate. Read the meaning of Al Fathiha and the other verses you like to read.
3. Understand why you are praying and what is the purpose of each movement eg. when you go to the position of Roukou (bowing) position, feel and tell Allah with your heart that you will never bow to anyone but Him.

And when you say Sami Allah le man hamidah (Allah hears who thanks him) and when you say Rabbana walaka Al Hamd (Thanks to You my Lord) you are thanking him for honoring you and making you stand straight, not like the other creatures who walk on four with their back bent.

When you go to the first Sadjah (you put your head down on the floor) you are representing the earth which you came from and when you get up after the first Sadja you are representing the first time He created you from the earth.

When you go on the second Sadja again on the ground, you are representing when you die and you go back to the ground and when you get up the second time you are representing the second time when Allah brings you back from the dead on the day of judgment. Therefore concentrate with every movement and feel it.

Also the reason you say Allah Akbar (Allah is greatest) every time you move in a prayer is a reminder that Allah is greater than anything you might be thinking about from this world. So be honest when you say Allah Akbar and remember that He is greater than anything occupying your mind while you pray.

Do you know when you stand up to pray and say Allah Akbar, Allah stands before you and the minute your mind goes wondering on many things in this life, Allah turns his face away from you and says (is there anything better than Me, taking you away from Me).

Just give a thought - how lucky we are to meet Allah five times a day to listen to us - while we are wondering and thinking of other things. Let's resolve to pray meaningfully and enjoy our prayers like never before.

EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS FOR FINAL YEAR MOULAVI STUDENTS

Senior Moulavis brought to our notice the increasing trend of Moulavis passing out being lured into different ways, away from sunnath jamaa. They requested our support to arrest this trend. After many discussions with them, a program to conduct educational seminars in various parts of the country was proposed. The seminars will be conducted by academically qualified, learned Ulemas and the subjects would be confined to the concepts of sunnath jamaa. In this way these concepts could be instilled upon them.

The first seminar was held at Serendib Villa Hotel Hotel in Galle with nearly 140 students from 14 Arabic Colleges/madrasas in the Southern Province participating. It was a tremendous success, so much so that immediate request came to conduct a similar program in the Central Province.

Accordingly, the second Seminar was held at Hotel Malapura in Peradeniya with 70 students from 5 Arabic Colleges. Eminent Ulemas including Moulavis M A W M Rizvi Bahji , MBM Hisham (Faththahi), M S M Istikhhar (Baari), M J M Faslan BA, (Ashrafi), M A M Azmykhan (Muaiyidi), M S Ahmed (Mahlari), and M S M Abdulla (Rawli) and M Z Mohamed (Baari) delivered lectures at both seminars.

There is an increasing demand from other areas which could be considered if and when funds are available.



Eminent speakers at educational Seminar in Peradeniya

EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS



Participants at Educational Seminar for moulavi students held in Peradeniya



Moulavi M J M Faslan BA (Ashrafi) delivering lecture



Participants at Seminar - Galle



Educational Seminar for Moulavi Students from 14 Arabic Colleges in the South – held at Galle



Al Usthad M Rizvi (Bahji) delivering lecture



Mowlood was recited and Bayaans by eminent Ulemas were delivered in all the places we visited – Batupitya, Geli Oya and Gampola.

The community expressed their deep appreciation as they stated that they never get the opportunity to listen to the quality of bayaans that were delivered.



MEELAD CELEBRATIONS

Annual Meelad celebrations were held at the Marine Grand Hotel with the recital of Mowlood and bayan being delivered by Moulavi M J M Faslan Ashrafi Director, Daruz Zahra Ladies College, Beruwela. This was followed by Dinner. A large gathering was present.



Bayaan at Marine Grand



OUR CONTINUOUS PROJECTS

In addition to the support provided to Arabic Colleges/Madrasas, the following programs are carried out on a continuous basis

English Classes for Moulavi students conducted at Al Jamiyathul Ghouzia, Dehiwela, Academy of Islamic Higher Studies, Beruwela and the Al Madrasa at Ummu Zavaya, Colombo.

We are pleased to report that the first batch of students at Al Jamiyathul Ghouzia has completed the course.



Presentation being made by the students.

Thafseer, Thajweed and Aqeeda classes in English for ladies are conducted weekly at the Ladies Zavva, Colombo 4.

MISSION TO THE CENTRAL PROVINCE

Following our da'awa mission to the East (2012) and the South (2014), a 23 member delegation consisting of learned moulavis, representatives of other organizations and our members participated in a mission to the Central province on 25th April 2015. During the period of planning of the mission, we were made to understand that sunnath jamaa activities which had been practiced over the years, are no more being conducted. Yet, there were many who were hoping that these activities would be revived. Our visits, though only to a few places, were well received and appreciated.

We visited Batupitya where there was one sunnath jamaa madrasa with a Principal from Kaylipatnam, Tamil Nadu, India. This Moulavi after serving for many years had left for Kaylipatnam but was

recalled soon to revive the madrasa which was facing many challenges.

We also had the opportunity of paying a courtesy call on His Holiness Al Haj As Shaikh Seyed A.I. Athakoya Thangal (Qadiriya Wa Rifaiya)



ITHIHAAD AHLIISUNNATHI WAL JAMAA-ATHI

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Ithihaad Ahlisunnathi Wal Jama- Aathi has completed five years of service to the community. Inaugurated in May 2010, the organization has carried out many programmes in various parts of the country. It has received the support and co-operation of a large section of the community and is now well recognized and accepted as a body that is promoting the concept of sunnath jamaa in principle and practice.

Our program of activities has been increasing over the years and many mosques, Arabic colleges, zaviyas, thackkiyas and religious organizations are increasingly seeking our support.

This we believe is an opportune time to consider a way of finding / arriving at a plan to establish an Office / Centre to further

enhance our Sunnath Jamaa activity, to be able to build on and meet the ever increasing demand that we are encountering. We now have a very vibrant and well versed group of Moulavis/Ullamas working with us who are ever willing to take us forward.

This is a challenge to all you good people who have been so supportive in enabling us to progress, in establishing and promoting Sunnath Jamaa activity in this community. So please help us achieve this goal.

SUPPORT TO MADRASAS INCREASING DEMAND

Hitherto the Association had been supporting the following Arabic Colleges/madrasas with a monthly donation to meet the cost of salaries of the Moulavi teachers –

Jiffriya Arabic College, Dangedera Galle
Al Madrasathul Qmariya, Eravur
AnNahjathul Islamiya Arabic College,
Eravur
Jamiaa Manbaeel Hidhaya Arabic
College, Kalmunai.

While continuing support to above, on requests made we are now supporting the following –

Minnathul Fassiya Arabic College,
Matara
Furqaniya Madrasa, Uluvitike, Galle
Ar-Rahmaniya Jumma Masjid Madrasa,
Hambantota
Azzaviyathul Fassiyyathus Shazuliya,
Matara



Azzaviyathul Fassiyyathus Shazuliya, Matara



Ar-Rahmaniya JM Madrasa, Hambantota