

Rajab ul Murajjab 1440A.H. **March 2019**

Assalam Alaikum

With the grace of Almighty Allah and blessings of 14 Masomeen A.S. KSIJ Melbourne Australia continues its focus on getting the community together.

KSIJ Melbourne has conducted a lot of activities in the past couple of months and we request all momineen to pray for the wellbeing, good health and further tawfeeq for all the volunteers who have dedicated their time, energy, money and effort for the service of the lovers of Ahlul Bait (as).

Some updates:

- Application for renewal of expired planning permit for KSIJ Melbourne project with the Melton Council has been granted
- State Revenue Office for provided us confirmation of land tax exemption.
- Fund raising for our brethren in Yemen. KSIJ Melbourne was able to raise AU\$6,600 through various donors.
- Formation of sports sub-committee to organize activities for our community members. Sports sub committee has hit the ground by organizing an outdoor Cricket tournament for gents and Badminton tournament catering for both ladies and gents.

We value your feedbacks and suggestions, please email us at info@ksijmelbourne.org.au.



Exciting News

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The Holy Prophet (s.a.w.a.) says, "Know that surely the month of Rajab is the month of Allah, the الْأَصَمُّ (meaning the month where there is no sound of weapon) and it is a great month. It is called as الْأَصَّمُّ because there is no month amonast the other months as near to Allah than this with regards to sacredness and excellence. Surely the people of ignorance honoured in the era of ignorance and when Islam arrived, it did not but increase its greatness and excellence. Know that Rajab is the month of Allah, Shaban is my month and Ramadan is the month of my Ummah...."



Merits of the Month of Rajab

Merits of the Month of Rajab (Excerpted from Mafatih al-Jinan)

Afzal Sumar

There are four sacred months for the Muslim community. One of them is the month of Rajab, This booklet highlights the benefits of fasting, praying and respecting this special month.

It is narrated from the Prophet (saw) who said: 'the month of Rajab is the greatest month of Allah. No month can come close to matching its sanctity and grace. Fighting the disbelievers in it is prohibited. Indeed, Rajab is the month of Allah, while Sha'ban is my month and (the month of) Ramadan is the month of my community. Surely, the one who fasts (even) one day in (the month of) Rajab deserves the greatest pleasure of Allah. The wrath of Allah moves away from him, and a door from the doors of hell is closed for him.' The seventh Imam Musa b. Ja'far (as) (d. 183 AH / 799 AD) said: 'whoever fasts one day in the month of Rajab has the fire (of hell) keep away from him the distance of one year, while whoever fasts three days (in this month) has paradise become incumbent for him.' Shaykh 'Abbass al-Qummi (d. 1359 AH / 1940 AD) then suggests that if one does wish to fast three days in this month, he should choose to fast on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday since it is narrated that: 'whoever fasts these three days in any of the Sacred months will have Allah reward him with the reward applicable to the worship of nine hundred years.'

The seventh Imam also said: 'Rajab is (the name of) a river in paradise. Its color is whiter than milk; its taste is sweeter than honey. Whoever fasts one day in (the month of) Rajab will have Allah quench his thirst from that river.'

The sixth Imam al-Sadiq (as) (d. 148 AH / 765 AD) transmits the following report from the Prophet of Allah (saw), who said: '(The month of) Rajab is the month of seeking repentance for my community, so increase the seeking of repentance in it for He (Allah) is Forgiving and Merciful. This month is called "al-Rajab al-Asabb" (i.e. the [month of] Rajab in which there is an abundant and excessive outpouring and flow). This is because the mercy of Allah flows on my community (in this month) with abundant exuberance. Therefore dedicate yourselves with increasing intensity to the recitation of the formula:

استغفر الله و اسئله التوبة

Astaghfirullaha wa as'aluhu al-tawba

(Translation: I seek Allah's forgiveness and I beseech His repentance).

A general perusal of the recitations and rituals recommended in the devotional text *Mafatihul Jinan* for this month indicates that the Imams of the Ahlulbayt have encouraged their followers to recite the following formulas / recitations exceedingly in the month of Rajab. These are:

- 1) استغفر الله واتوب اليه astaghfirullaha wa atubu ilayhi (Translation: I seek Allah's forgiveness and I turn repentantly towards Him).
- 2) الله الا الله الا الله a ilaha illallahu (Translation: There is no god but Allah).
- 3) Sura al-Ikhlas.

Of course, there are specifications as to the number of repetitions required of these recitations, and for each specification there are slight changes in the wordings of the recommended formulas, however, the core teaching that one can deduce from all these different specifications and wordings is that an excess in the recitation of these recitations is highly encouraged.

Ibn Babwayhi (al-Shaykh al-Saduq) (d. 381 AH / 991 AD) narrates from Salim by means of a reliable chain who said: 'I visited al-Sadiq (as) in the month of Rajab. This was at a time when only a few days remained in this month. When he saw me, he asked: "Did you fast any of the days of this month?" I replied: "by Allah, no I did not, son of the Messenger of Allah." So he said to me: "Then you have forfeited a reward the worth and scope of which is unknown to any save Allah. Indeed this is a month which Allah has favoured, exalted its sanctity, and has enjoined the reward of grace for those who fast in it." So I said: "son of the Messenger of Allah, what if I fasted during these remaining days, will I be able to partake of some of the rewards applicable to those who have fasted in it?"

He said: "Salim, whoever fasts one day from the last days of this month will be safe from the severity of the agony of death, and he shall be safe from the terrors of the first days of the grave (i.e. the beginning of purgatory) as well as the punishment of the grave. Whoever fasts two days from the last days of this month will obtain the permission of crossing the 'bridge' (with ease) due to it. Whoever fasts three days from the last days of this month will be safe and protected from the circumstances and severities of the day of the Great Fright (i.e., the day of judgement), and he will be granted immunity from hell fire."

As for those who cannot fast, it is transmitted that they should glorify Allah every day a hundred times with the following glorification (*al* -taSbih) so that they may partake of the rewards applicable to fasting:

سبحان الاله الجليل سبحان من لا ينبغي التسبيح الا له سبحان الأعز الاكرم سبحان من لبس العز و هو له اهل

Subhanal-ilahi al-jalil, Subhana man la yanbaghi al-tasbihu illa lahu, Subhanal aʿazzi al-akram, Subhana man labisa al-ʿizza wa huwa

(Translation): Glory be to the Exalted Sublime Deity. Glory be to the One, none other than whom is worthy of glorification. Glory be to the Most Mighty and Most Generous. Glory be to Him who has donned the attire of Dignity and He is most worthy of it.

Merits of the Month of Rajab (cont)

The Famous Supplication of the Month of Rajab

Seyyid Ibn Tawus (d. 664 AH / 1265 AD) relates from Muhammad b. Dhakwan, who was well known by the title of 'al-Sajjad', (i.e. one who prostrates exceedingly). He was famously known by this title because he used to prostrate and weep a lot during prostration, till he lost his eyesight!

He relates: 'I said to al-Sadiq (as): "May I be sacrificed for you, this is the month of Rajab, so teach me a supplication for this month by which Allah may grant me benefit." The Imam said "Write: 'In the name of Allah the Beneficent, the Merciful', and recite (the following supplication) every day of the month of Rajab, morning and evening, as well as immediately after your daily ritual prayers, in the day time and night time:

يَا مَنْ أَرْجُوهُ لِكُلِّ خَيْرٍ ،

'O One from whom I hope all goodness,

وَ آمَنُ سَخَطَهُ عنْدَ كُلِّ شَرٍّ ،

And from whose displeasure I seek safety and security at the moment of (committing) every evil.

يَا مَنْ يُعْطِى الْكَثِيرَ بِالْقَلِيلِ ،

O One who grants abundantly in return for little.

يَا مَنْ يُعْطِي مَنْ سَأَلَهُ ،

O One who grants whoever beseeches Him.

يَا مَنْ يُعْطِى مَنْ لَمْ يَسْأَلْهُ وَ مَنْ لَمْ يَعْرِفْهُ تُحَنُّناً مِنْهُ وَ رَحْمَةً ،

O One Who grants (even) the one who does not beseech Him and does not know Him, (yet He grants) in compassion and mercy!

وَ جَمِيعَ خَيْرِ الْآخِرَةِ ، So grant me the totality of the good of this world and that of the hereafter by my seeking You specifically.

وَ اصْرِفْ عَتِّي بِمَسْأَلَتِي إِيَّاكَ جَمِيعَ شَرِّ الدُّنْيَا وَ شَرِّ الْآخِرَةِ ،

Turn away from me the totality of the evil of this world and that of the hereafter by my seeking You specifically.

فَإِنَّهُ غَيْرُ مَنْقُوصِ مَا أَعْطَيْتَ ،

For certainly, there is no defect in what You grant,

وَ زِدْنِي مِنْ فَضْلِكَ يَا كُرِيمُ

And increase me Your Grace O Generous One.

The narrator said: 'Then (when the Imam reached this point) he extended his left hand and took hold of his beard and then supplicated with the following supplication while taking recourse to the forefinger of his right hand, and said:

يًا ذَا الْجَلَالِ وَ الْإِكْرَامِ ،

'O the Possessor of Majesty and Honour,

يَا ذَا النَّعْمَاءِ وَ الْجُودِ ،

O the Possessor of Kindness and Munificence,

يَا ذَا الْمَنِّ وَ الطَّوْل ،

O the possessor of Favours and Power,

حَرِّمْ شَيْبَتِي عَلَى النَّار

Bar my grey hair from the fire of hell'.



KSIJ SPORTS

Management committee in its first meeting agreed that we need to organise events to keep the community engaged and that would bring the community back together on one platform. With this in mind KSIJ sports committee was appointed and they hit the ground running with organising 2 wonderful sporting events, Cricket & Badminton.

Br. Farrukh Sewani (Team Leader Sports Committee) along with his team, Br. Abbas Roshan, Br. Ali Asghar Rajani and Br. Muhammad Ali Shahidi have done an outstanding job in organising and running the tournaments.

Inshallah there will more sporting events in the near future, so keep a look out for more information soon.



KSIJ President Br. Shabir Alidina presenting trophies to KSIJ Badminton Tournament winners Br. Sabir Sunasara & Br. Salim Raza (left), runners up Br. Muhammad Ali Shahidi & Br. Ali Imran Rizvi (right)







Man of series Br. Mohammed Reza (Chinar Fireballs) (Top left)
Man of the Match Br. Ali Raza (Chinar Fireball) (Top right) Chinar
Fireballs celebrating winning the KSIJ Cricket tournament (left)
KSIJ President Br. Shabir Alidina presenting winners trophy to Fireballs captain Br. Shakeel (right)





SHAHEED HAMID ALI BHOJANI - A MAN OF THE PEOPLE

It is 24 years since the death of Karachi Jamaat President Shaheed Hamid Ali Bhojani, martyred along with 13 friends and

community members on 25 February 1995. This tragedy in Mehfil e Murtaza, Pechs, Karachi, robbed us of noble souls committed to His servitude through fasting and welfare activities. Born on 13 September 1945 in Bombay, Shaheed Hamid was a great Khoja community leader and philanthropist in Pakistan.

A lifetime of service

Shaheed Hamid spent much of his life in community service, leaving a lasting legacy for the Karachi Khoja community. This passion drew him into Jamaat affairs at the age of only 20 in 1965, and three years later he stood for election for the first time. He carried out numerous community activities until 1988,



when he assumed the position of the President of by far the largest Jamaat in the history of the Khoja community.

His relentless efforts and dynamic leadership proved a pivotal force in putting Karachi Jamaat back on the map after many challenging years in the post-partition era. He led a deep overhaul, focusing on democratic norms, education and a sense of belonging and participation. His charismatic attitude was a mobilising force, bringing fresh impetus to the areas of faith, education and community welfare.

Landmark projects

His commitment translated into the construction of Fatimiya School of Karachi, as well as of Anjuman e Khuddamul Qur'an and Bagh e Zehra in Kharadar and Zainab Punjwani Memorial Hospital in Soldier Bazar.

It was during his tenure that the mammoth undertaking of the census was conducted and computerised membership issued, a long overdue project for most of the Jamaats in East and West. He attended the triannual conference of The World Federation of KSIMC in London in 1988 and took the initiative of membership of The WF.

Shaheed Hamid's excellence continued in his professional life. He was elected Chairman of the Travel Agents Association of Pakistan after top-flight experience with Pakistan International Airlines and Syrian Arab Airlines, and later established his own travel agency.

A beacon for future generations

His legacy prevails today, providing guidance and momentum for a vibrant Khoja community that reflects his spirit and endeavours. His memory will be cherished as a beacon for upcoming generations.

They desire to put out the light of Allah with their mouths, but Allah shall perfect His light though the faithless should be averse (Qur'an 61:8)

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Other News

Justin Trudeau names new president for Canada Food Inspection Agency

Mon., Feb. 25, 2019

The agency responsible for safeguarding Canada's food supply has new leadership.

Siddika Mithani will take over as president of the Canada Food Inspection Agency on Feb. 27, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced Monday, filling a nearly two-month old vacancy.

Educated in the United Kingdom, Mithani holds a bachelor's of pharmacy degree and doctorate in psychopharmacology (the study of the effects of drugs on moods and behaviours) from Aston University.

Mithani joined Canada's civil service in 1997, working as a scientific evaluator with Health Canada. She eventually became a director general in the department's Veterinary Drugs Directorate before being promoted to associate assistant deputy minister of the health products and food branch.

Mithani left Health Canada in 2010 to become an assistant deputy minister (ADM) with Fisheries and Oceans, staying in two years before leaving to assume an ADM role with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada. She spent a year as associate deputy minister at Environment Canada before taking over at PHAC.



Najaf Retreat

The World Federation's Najaf Office will be running a retreat specifically designed for nurses, doctors, and medical students in the holy city of Najaf, Iraq, from 15th April to 25th April 2019. If you have an appetite to develop professionally and personally in a spiritual setting then apply today. To find out more about the retreat click here. Application deadline is on the 10th of March.

Some very useful websites:

The holy book Sahifa Alawiya - Duas by Imam Ali Ibn Abu Taleb a.s.: http://www.duas.org/alaviya/

The holy book Nahjul Balagha - of Imam Ali Ibn Abu Taleb a.s.: https://www.duas.org/pdfs/Nahjul-Balagha.pdf

The holy book Sahifa al-Sajjadiyah by Imam Zainul Abideen a.s.:

http://www.duas.org/sajjadiya/sajjadiya.htm http://www.al-islam.org/sahifa/

The noble book Mafateh al-Jinan by Sheikh Abbas al-Qummi: http://www.momin.com/Books/Mafatih-ul-Jinan-9.html Website of Grand Ayatullah Al-Uzma Al-Sayyid Al-Seestani http://www.najaf.org/?lang=english Website of Grand Ayatollah Makarem Shirazi

WHAT IS TAQWA?

Taqwa is submission to the command of Allah SWT, and not going near what Allah SWT has prohibited. (Imam Ja'far as-Sadiq a.s.)

Hence Tagwa consists of:

- Compulsory obedience to Allah SWT in fulfilling the compulsory duties (Wajibāt) and not leaving even a single duty unperformed.
 - Abstaining from what Allah SWT has prohibited (made haram).

Religious Dates during the month of Rajab 1440

- **1 Rajab** 57 AH/677 AD Wiladat Imam Mohammed Baqir a.s & Hazrath Nuh a.s. embarked on the journey of the Ark.
- **3 Rajab** 254 AH/868 AD Shahadat of Imam Ali Naqi a.s.
- **5 Rajab -** 214 AH/829 AD Wiladat of Imam Ali Naqi a.s.
- 9 Rajab 60 AH/680 AD Wiladat of Hazrath Ali Asghar a.s.
- 10 Rajab 195 AH/811 AD Wiladat of Imam Mohammed Taqi a.s.
- 13 Rajab 24 BH/600 AD Wiladat of Imam Ali a.s.:(30 years after the Elephant Year)
- 15 Rajab 148 AH/765 AD Shahadat of Imam Jafar as-Sadiq a.s. & 63 AH/683 AD Shahadath of Bibi Zainab a.s.
- 18 Rajab 10 AH/631 AD Wafat of H. Ibrahim a.s.,son of the Holy Prophet
- 20 Rajab 57 AH/677 AD Wiladat of Bibi Sakina a.s.
- 24 Rajab 7 AH/628 AD Victory in the Battle of Khyber
- **25 Rajab** 183 AH/799 AD Shahadat of Imam Musa Kazim a.s.
- 26 Rajab 4 BH/619 AD: Wafat Hazrat Abu Taleb a.s. (
- 27 Rajab (Shab) Shab-e-Meraj: Ascension to the Heavens of the Holy Prophet; also known as Laylat al-Mab'as
- 27 Rajab 14 BH/610 AD Eid-e-Baset (Mab'as): Start of Prophetic Mission (40 years after the Elephant Year)
- 28 Rajab 60 AH/680 AD Imam Hussain a.s. departs from Madinah