

## Inside this issue

Why are you a Muslim? .....	2
Islam and culture .....	4
Kafir .....	6
New York City .....	8
German schools .....	9
Central African Republic .....	10
Voice of Islam .....	12
Prayer timetable .....	13

# Rocket Science

April 2015

Jumada al-Thani / Rajab 1436



In the name of Allah,  
most Gracious, most Merciful

## Airport Mosque now has Helping Hand food bin

Al-Maktoum Mosque ("Airport Mosque") in Westney Road has agreed to place a Helping Hand food bin at the mosque.

Helping Hand is a project run by the volunteers of Working Together Group (WTG). Each month they collect the food that has been donated at the various mosques where their food bins are located and deliver it to three charities, Fatimah Foundation, Ummah Trust and Haroun Trust.

These charities distribute it to families in need. Many are families in trouble or single parents caring for children.

There are some simple requirements for the food to be useful. It must be halal, inside its "Use by" date, unopened, and non-perishable. Basic items are best, such as rice, pasta, flour, sugar, tea, coffee, cooking oil and canned goods.

Bulk packs, such as 20kg sacks, are very acceptable as one sack can be divided among several families.



"Airport Mosque"

WTG volunteers collect the food towards the end of each month and meet on the last Saturday morning at Onehunga Islamic Centre to divide it up into three. WTG always welcomes new volunteers to help with their various projects.

They maintain careful records and it is interesting to note that people tend to be more generous around Ramadan, although of course there is a need for donations on a consistent basis all year round.

Next time you're in the supermarket shopping for your own family, why not pick up a couple of extra items to drop into the new food bin at Airport Mosque?



## Why are you a Muslim?

Have you ever been asked by someone whether you are a Muslim? Or more specifically "Why are you Muslim"? The latter would definitely get us thinking. For most of us, the answer might be "because I was born a Muslim". But is this the correct answer? What if you were not born a Muslim? Would we still be a Muslim? For those of us who have reverted, why did we choose Islam?

So let's look at this from a logical perspective. *Islam* means "submission", "obedience" or "surrender" to the will of God Almighty. *Islam* comes from the root word *salam* meaning "peace". People who follow the religion of Islam are called "Mu-Islam" or "Muslims" in short.

Here are some facts about Islam:

- You have a choice to follow any religion. You have the free will to choose but you will be ultimately held accountable for your decisions.
- Islam came from the first man on earth (Adam, as) and was spread through a series of prophets, including Ibrahim (Abraham, as), Musa (Moses, as), Isa (Jesus, as), and our final messenger Muhammed (saw).
- We believe that all prophets conveyed the same message, namely that there is no deity worthy of worship other than Allah (swt).
- Islam preaches that body and soul are related. The physical body has a defined period of life on this earth while the soul never dies. It continues its journey even after our physical death on the earth.

- Our purpose of life in this world is to worship Allah and obtain his pleasure. Therein lies the happiness in this world.

Now going back to our original question, "Why Islam?"; the answer is "It gives us a purpose in life". So logically, the next questions are "What is the purpose of life?" "Why are we in this world?", and "What happens when we die?"

Let's look at the first question, "What is the purpose in life?" There are many facets to this question. One might be "to become wealthy". But is that really a purpose in life? What if you achieve this goal? What then becomes your purpose? That means you have no purpose in life after that.

Let's look at some scenarios with regard to wealth:

- A child of six years would prefer a new toy to a cheque of a million dollars.
- A teenager would choose to have party with friends, food, or movies over having a million dollars.
- An adult in his 80s would prefer good health to having a million dollars in the bank.

Therefore we can see that amassing wealth cannot be the ultimate purpose in life.

Islam teaches us the purpose of life. Allah (swt) says in the Holy Quran (Surah Al-Qasas) that the only purpose for which He created mankind is so that they would worship Him. Islam teaches us that "worship" is not limited to prayers or even the five pillars. In fact worship includes all acts of obedience to Allah (swt).



"An adult in his 80s would prefer good health to having a million dollars in the bank."

For example, a person's going to work with the intention of feeding his family is considered *ibadah* or worship. Likewise, visiting a sick person with the intention of following the sunnah is also *ibadah*. Helping the poor and needy is also considered worship. And the list goes on.

As for the next question, "What happens after we die?", Islam teaches us that the life in this world is a test and a trial. We are put in different situations and are assessed on how we respond to them. For example, Allah (swt) might test us with a lot of wealth, or with serious sickness, to see if we remember Him and whether we spend our wealth in His way or of the path of Shaitaan (the Devil). Allah (swt) continues to give us free will in this world for as long as we live, the caveat being that we will be held accountable after our death for our actions.

The first stage after our death is the time we spend in the grave (*kabr*). This place will be a place of happiness or torment, depending on the actions we took in the worldly life. We will abide in it until the Day of Judgement.

The second stage is the Day of Judgement. Every single human being to live on the earth will face

it whether he or she likes it or not. On that day, we will be given our results and our final destiny – Heaven or Hell. If our scale is heavy with good deeds, and we have believed in Allah (swt), we will – insha Allah – be given a place in Heaven. On the other hand, if we did not believe in Allah (swt) or our bad deeds outweigh our good, then we will be given a place in Hell. Now who wants to go there? Nobody!

We will not be questioned on any actions of other people, their beliefs or anything that we were unaware of or incapable of doing. Allah (swt) will be the sole judge. He will act fairly and justly, as there is no better judge than the Creator Himself. He will have the final say. Subhan Allah!

In summary, for the disbeliever, the purpose of life is to amass wealth, money, power, fame, position, etc, with excessive drinking, eating, drugs and gambling. As we saw, none of this will help him after he dies!

See how Islam answers the important questions in life. The purpose of life can be summarised in just two words: Obey God. May Allah (swt) guide us to the straight path. Ameen!



## Islam and culture



There is a lot of confusion about Islam and culture, not only with those outside Islam but also those within Islam. Before we can understand the relationship between culture and Islam, we need to first examine two questions: "What is culture?" and "What is Islam?" In this article, we look at the Quran and sunnah in order to answer these questions.

The Latin root of the word *culture* refers to something that is cultivated or grown like a plant in a garden (as in *agriculture*, *horticulture*). Islam never changes but cultures do. Another meaning of *culture* refers to shared values, practices and attitudes that are practised in a community and develop over a period of time.

Some aspects of culture are positive, while others are neutral. Yet others are negative, bad, evil or unjust. Sadly, some children these days are brought up with no distinction between culture and Islam. This leads them to associate bad aspects with Islam when this is not the case. Examples include "honour killing", the oppression of women, and denying education to girls.

The problem with mixing culture and Islam is that Islam is often portrayed in a bad light. Journalists are ever so quick to associate bad aspects with Islam in the hope of selling newspapers. The blame also lies within us. Some of us are actually confused and believe that these cultural practices are Islam.

So what determines culture and what determines Islam?

Whether we like it or not, each one of us is engrained in culture around us, like swimming in an ocean that

has many rivers and streams that feed into it. We have Arab, Indian, Western and Chinese cultures and many more. Each has its own values, beliefs and systems based on a set of assumptions, likes and dislikes on several aspects including food, clothing, art, and music. While all cultures promote good behavior such as hospitality, respect and honour, there are other traits that are not so positive.

As Muslims, we need to be aware of these subtle differences. We need to ensure that we don't do anything that contradicts the teachings of Islam, thereby disobeying Allah (swt). Things we can think about include:

- Is what I am doing good for me and my heart (kalb)?
- Is this right?
- Is it in line with the teachings of Islam, or is it some sort of tradition or culture?
- Am I disobeying God by doing this?
- Am I driven by greed, pride, fear or egotism, or am I driven by winning the pleasure of God?
- These questions will help us determine what is culture and what is Islam. Sometimes there are conflicts between the two and in those situations, Islam always takes precedence.
- Islam asks us to worship one God, Almighty Allah (swt), who has no partner. The more we know Him, the closer we get to him, the more we become selfless and the more we start to feel for others. As Prophet Muhammad (saw) said, "None of you truly believes until he likes for his brother what he likes for himself".



We then start to show mercy to other humans, animals, vegetation and the earth. Remember that our beloved Prophet (saw) was sent as a mercy to all mankind. We also should strive to achieve this goal. Islam teaches us to become God's representatives on earth (*kalifatullah*). So we have a high standard to live up to.

Allah (swt) says in the Quran that he created man as the best of his creations. When he asked the angels to bow down to Adam, he elevated us above the angels. By the same token, Allah says in the Quran (Surah at-Tin) that he will return us to being the lowest of the low, that is a stature below that of the wild beasts on earth, unless we believe and do good works.

Can culture coexist with Islam?

Absolutely. There is a place for culture in Islam. It should however never be used to harm anyone or anything. It should complement not contradict. It should beautify and not oppress.

Allah (swt) says in the Quran, "O mankind, indeed We have created you from male and female and made you peoples and tribes that you may know one another. Indeed, the most noble of you in the sight of Allah is the most righteous of you. Indeed, Allah is Knowing and Acquainted."

Man was created as a single entity. Within that entity, Allah (swt) created many different cultures. This is not an accident, but rather purposeful, so that we would learn, understand, and appreciate the variety in cultures that he has given. Part of that privilege is that we respect other cultures. Like a rose in a garden of flowers, we are flowers that blossom in our own unique way. When we forget why Allah (swt) created us, we fall into evil, injustice, and division, and

corrupt the living works of arts that we are.

The Prophet (saw) said in his farewell sermon, "All mankind is from Adam and Eve. An Arab has no superiority over a non-Arab, nor a non-Arab has any superiority over an Arab; also a white man has no superiority over a black man, nor a black man any superiority over a white man, except by piety (*taqwa*) and good action. Know that every Muslim is a brother to every other Muslim, and that the Muslims constitute one brotherhood."

As the Prophet has said, within our human race is unity. And within that unity is diversity. Unity does not mean uniformity like soldiers on a march. We don't all look the same. Neither do we act the same. We are like flowers in a garden, each with its own scent. We may all have the same goals and values despite our cultural background, but we may not necessarily achieve them in a similar fashion.

In conclusion, we may all come from different cultural backgrounds, be it Kiwi, Aussie, Indian, Western, Arab, etc. But we all have the same true identity of Islam. Let's all unite under the banner of Islam and set our cultural differences aside and become angels of mercy to all people.





## Mistranslated and misunderstood words: *kafir*

In the February issue, we showed that the common English translation of the Arabic word *jihad*, as “holy war” (and nothing more and nothing less) is almost totally inaccurate. Here we continue an examination of Arabic words used in Islam that are mistranslated and misunderstood by English speakers, the western press, etc.

In the Quran (64:2), Allah (swt) says, “It is He Who created you, so among you are believers (*mumineen*) and disbelievers (*kafirun*).” However, because of that theological categorisation, the Arabic word for the people who do not believe in Allah (swt), *kafir* (sometimes spelt *kaffir*), has been misused as a word of insult or abuse. As Dr Ragheb el-Sergany explains<sup>1</sup>, the true meaning of the word *kafir* (for the person) or *kufr* (for the concept) is different.

Dr Ragheb el-Sergany is an Egyptian (and thus native Arabic-speaking) Muslim preacher, surgeon and academic who is best known for his studies of Islamic history, and his founding and current supervision of IslamStory<sup>1</sup>, a website that deals with the studies of the history of Islam.

In Arabic, the word *kafir* means “a person who rejects or denies”, and likewise *kufr* means the state of “concealing, denying, rejecting”. It is important to note that *kufr* does not specifically mean rejecting Islam, or rejecting Allah (swt), or rejecting the Quran, or rejecting Prophet Muhammad (saw). It can be used for rejecting anything (as can its English equivalent, *disbelieve, deny, reject*).

This is shown clearly by the following ayat from the Quran

(2:256): “Whoever disbelieves in *taghoot* (*yakfur bialtaghooti*) and believes in Allah alone, then he has grasped the most trustworthy handhold that will never break.” In the ayat, the word *kufr* (in the form *yakfur*) is used for disbelieving in *taghoot*. *Taghoot* means everything that is worshipped other than Allah (swt). So, Allah (swt) states that Muslims have to be *kafirs* – of *taghoot*. They have to reject belief in, and worship of, anything other than Allah (swt).

This is very similar to the declaration of faith (*shahadah*) that defines a Muslim. The first half (*la illaha illa allah*) is often translated as “There is nothing worthy of worship, apart from Allah.” This implies that Muslims must reject (be *kafirs* of) the worship of anything other than Allah (swt).

In everyday use (including by some Muslims), the word *kafir* is an insult or almost a curse, referring to someone who rejects Islam. However, “if *kafir* was an insulting word, Allah would not have used it for Muslims.”<sup>1</sup>

The proper term for the common Islamic use should therefore probably be *kafirs of Islam*, meaning “a subset of society who have read, understood and rejected the message of the Quran. Literally, ‘covering up’ mentally and physically the manifest truth which is believed in Islam to be uncovered in the Quran.”<sup>2</sup>

As we have seen, the word *kafir* is often used (wrongly from the Arabic point of view) as an insult for disbelievers. As extensions of this incorrect usage, it has also been used:

- “in South Africa to refer to a black person. Now widely considered an offensive ethnic slur, it was formerly a neutral term for South African blacks. The word is derived from the Arabic term *kafir* (meaning ‘disbeliever’), which originally had the meaning ‘one without religion’.”<sup>3</sup> The *kaffir lily* plant, *kaffir corn* grain, and *kaffir boom* tree have the same South African origin.



Kaffir lily

Kafiristan (Nuristan,  
Afghanistan)

- as *kaffir lime*, for a fruit native to Asia. However, “*The Oxford Companion to Food* recommends that the name *kaffir lime* be avoided in favour of *makrut lime* because *kaffir* is an offensive term in some cultures and has no good justification for being attached to this plant.”<sup>5</sup>



Kaffir lime

- as *Kafiristan*, for “present-day Nuristan Province in Afghanistan and its surroundings ... normally taken to mean *land of the kafirs* in Persian language, where the name ‘kafir’ is derived from the Arabic ‘kaafir’ literally meaning a person who refuses to accept a principle of any nature and figuratively as a person refusing to accept Islam as his faith”<sup>4</sup> The *kafir harp* musical instrument has the same origin.

1 *Islam divides mankind into believers and kafirs* (misconception). Islam Story, 23 January 2012.

2 [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kaffir](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kaffir)

3 [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kaffir\\_\(racial\\_term\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kaffir_(racial_term))

4 [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kafiristan](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kafiristan)

5 [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kaffir\\_lime](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kaffir_lime)



Inhabitants of Kafiristan



Kaffir boom

## Two Eids school holidays in New York City

New York will become the USA's first major city to close its public schools for Eid ul-Adha and Eid ul-Fitr. This was announced recently by Mayor Bill de Blasio and represents a milestone for the Muslim community that has endured suspicion and hostility since the September 11 attacks<sup>1, 2</sup>.

Several other cities, in Massachusetts, Michigan and New Jersey, have also included the holidays in their school calendars. However, New York City is much larger and thus more significant. The Muslim holidays now join other school holidays, including Rosh Hashanah, Columbus Day, Thanksgiving, Martin Luther King Jr. Day and Memorial Day. "This is a common sense change and one that recognises our growing Muslim community and honors its contributions to our city," de Blasio said. New York Schools Chancellor Carmen Fariña said the change reflects and honours the extraordinary diversity of the 1.1 million students enrolled in the largest US school district. According to a 2008 study by Columbia University Muslims make up about 10 percent of the student body in the city's public schools. However, Muslim leaders now estimate that one eighth of city school children come from Muslim families, although the city does not record the religious affiliation of students.

In the upcoming 2015-6 school year, schools will close on 24 September for Eid al-Adha, the first such holiday. Eid al-Fitr, which falls in July during the northern hemisphere summer break, will be designated a holiday for students attending summer school.

The move has been hailed by American Muslims. "Finally, our kids in public schools throughout the five boroughs don't have to choose again between their school and their religious practice," said Imam Shamsi Ali, spiritual leader of Jamaica Muslim Center in Queens. "Today, I am a prouder New Yorker."

"When these holidays are recognised, it's a sign that Muslims have a role in the political and social fabric of America," said Ibrahim Hooper, a spokesman for the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR).

Islamophobes have criticised the move. "People who will criticise it, I think, should go back and look at the Constitution of the United States," Mr de Blasio said. "We are a nation that was built to be multifaith, multicultural."

1 Edgar Sandoval , Ben Chapman 'New York City schools will close for Muslim Eid holidays' New York Daily News, 4 March. [www.nydailynews.com](http://www.nydailynews.com)

2 Michael M. Grynbaum and Sharon Otterman 'New York City Adds 2 Muslim Holy Days to Public School Calendar' New York Times, 4 March. [www.nytimes.com](http://www.nytimes.com)



Mayor Bill de Blasio



Linda Sarsour of the Coalition for Muslim School Holidays at the press conference

## Hijab OK for German teachers

Germany's Constitutional Court has lifted a ban on female Muslim teachers wearing headscarves as long as it doesn't lead to "disruption" at school<sup>1</sup>. This followed the case of a Muslim woman who was denied a teaching job because she wore a headscarf (*hijab*). The Court elaborated that the only grounds for religious symbols to be banned are when they pose "not just an abstract but a concrete risk of disruption in schools," The Court banned headscarves for teachers in 2003, though the wearing of Christian religious symbols such as crucifixes was exempted.

"This is a good day for religious freedom," said Volker Beck, a lawmaker from the opposition Greens party. He added that a bigger threat to German society could be "opponents of diversity," such as neo-Nazis and extremist Muslim Salafists. The ruling was also praised for "reinforcing religious freedom in Germany" by Christine Lueders, director of the Federal Anti-Discrimination Agency.

In 2013, another ruling lessened the pressure on Muslim schoolgirls, allowing them to wear so-called "burqinis" (full-cover swimming costumes) in physical education classes. This arose because of the case of a 13-year-old girl of Moroccan origin who started skipping her swimming lessons after entering one of the country's top high schools.

This year, the German Muslim Council warned of an increasing number of anti-Muslim attacks in the country. Women with a headscarf, imams and mosques are suffering "on a daily basis".

Germany has 4 million Muslim residents. Chancellor Angela Merkel, who joined a Muslim tolerance rally in Berlin in January, accused Germany's growing anti-Islamic movement of spreading hatred and violence against immigrants, pointing out that "Islam belongs to Germany."

<sup>1</sup> 'Muslim women teachers can wear headscarves - Top German court'  
[rt.com/news/240533-germany-muslim-teachers-court](http://rt.com/news/240533-germany-muslim-teachers-court)



Teachers in a German school

## Almost all Central African Republic mosques destroyed by Christians

According to UN figures, over 95 percent of the 436 mosques in the Central African Republic (417 out of 436, according to US ambassador to UN Samantha Power) have been destroyed by Christians. Power described the devastation as "kind of crazy, chilling"<sup>1, 2</sup>.

The turmoil started in December 2013, when armed Christian groups launched coordinated attacks against the mostly Muslim Seleka group that toppled the government in March that year. Because of the violence, at least 5,000 people have been killed and nearly one million of the country's 4.5 million residents have been forced to flee their homes, mostly Muslims. Some Muslim women, afraid of leaving their houses while wearing their hijab, are choosing to give birth in their homes instead of hospitals.

The situation is caused by a power vacuum, and by the withdrawal of foreign peacekeeping troops. A European Union one-year military mission in CAR that was launched in April 2014 is now coming to an end. General Philippe Ponties, who led the mission, said he was satisfied with the outcome: "We are leaving a city [the capital city Bangui] to which peace has been

restored and in which a political process is now in motion. People are now leaving the refugee camps and the internally displaced are returning to their homes. I have the impression that we have accomplished our mission." The mission was charged with securing the airport and parts of the capital, Bangui, and with providing assistance for the setting up of a UN mission in the country. According to Ponties, these goals have been more or less achieved.

However, the country is vast and atrocities by both Christians and Muslims are continuing across the entire country.

Aliou Ousseini, an influential imam, says ten mosques have since reopened, and about 3,000 Muslims have returned to their homes in Bangui<sup>3, 4</sup>.

1 'US envoy: Almost every CAR mosque destroyed in war' Al Jazeera, 18 March. [www.aljazeera.com](http://www.aljazeera.com)

2 John J. Xenakis 'Almost all mosques have been destroyed in Central African Republic' Breitbart, 25 March. [www.breitbart.com](http://www.breitbart.com)

3 '10 mosques in Central African Republic reopen as Muslims trickle home, violence subsides' Fox News, 22 March. [www.foxnews.com](http://www.foxnews.com)

4 '10 mosques reopen in Central African Republic' Press TV, 22 March. [www.presstv.ir](http://www.presstv.ir)



## BUILD THE FIRST MASJID IN NEW PLYMOUTH

The Muslim Association of Taranaki invites you to earn an everlasting reward (Sadaqa Jariyah) by participating in building a much needed Islamic Centre in New Plymouth, New Zealand.

It is narrated that the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: "Whoever build a mosque for Allah – be it large or small – Allah will build for him a house in Paradise." [Sunan al-Tirmidhi]



INSHALLAH WE HOPE TO PURCHASE SMART ROAD BOWLING CLUB @ 185 SMART RD, HILLSBOROUGH, NEW PLYMOUTH VIA A TENDER PROCESS (DUE 8 APRIL 2015) AS NEW PLYMOUTH'S FIRST ISLAMIC CENTRE/MASJID.

WE URGENTLY NEED YOUR SUPPORT TO RAISE A FURTHER \$300,000 BY THE 8TH OF APRIL TO MAKE A CASH OFFER FOR THIS PROPERTY.

NO DONATION IS TOO BIG OR TOO SMALL PLEASE DONATE GENEROUSLY AND BE A PART OF THIS EVERLASTING REWARD INSHALLAH.

THE MUSLIM ASSOCIATION OF TARANAKI IS A REGISTERED CHARITY UNDER THE CHARITIES ACT 2005 NZ, REGISTRATION # CC43865. IF YOU WOULD LIKE AN OFFICIAL RECEIPT, PLEASE SEND US AN EMAIL WITH YOUR DETAILS.

### HOW TO DONATE

**Bank Transfer:**  
Muslim Association of Taranaki  
Acc #: 15-3953-0357272-00  
Taranaki Savings Bank Ltd  
Main Branch, Devon St East,  
New Plymouth, New Zealand

Swift Code: HSBCNZ2A  
Secure Payments can also be made via  
Please visit our webpage for more information @  
 www.nakimuslim.org

### CONTACT US FOR MORE INFORMATION

Web: [www.nakimuslim.org](http://www.nakimuslim.org)  
Email: [nakimuslim@gmail.com](mailto:nakimuslim@gmail.com)  
Phone: 0800 786 000  
Address: 9 Cracroft St, Welbourn,  
New Plymouth, New Zealand

Adeel Baig: +64 279420032  
Yusuf Khan: +64 210682012  
Kamran Paracha: +64 220807035  
Zayd Ahmed: +64 211604583

## By shopping at Jannah Road op shop, you are helping Islamic children's charities



Jannah Road relies on donations of goods for our stock. Please make sure they are in good condition. We are staffed by volunteers and all money after covering expenses goes to Islamic charities. If you can volunteer for a few hours a week, come in and speak with us. We need the community's support. We are next door to Khyber Foods & Spices and opposite the mosque.

- Good quality used items
- Many new items too
- Affordable prices
- Parking spaces outside shop



Jannah Road, 164E Stoddard Road, Mt Roskill, Auckland 0600. Email: [jannahroad@gmail.com](mailto:jannahroad@gmail.com)



## Voice of Islam

VOI delivers the message of Islam based on the teachings of the Noble Quran and the Sunnah (practices) of the Prophet Muhammad (saw).

VOI television is broadcast on:

- SKYTV CH 83 (Face TV) in New Zealand (11.30 am Sat & 9.00 am Sun)
- CTV in Christchurch (see TV guide for times)
- Channel 9 in Dunedin (see TV guide for times)
- Mai TV in Fiji (10.00 am Sun)
- METRO TV in Ghana, West Africa (see TV guide for times)

### 4 April

Quran 4: 135-136 standing firm for justice.

LECTURE: Peaceful coexistence – myth or reality by Sheikh Yusuf Estes.

DOCUMENTARY: Miracles of the Quran 1 part 1.

No stone unturned: Holy books by Sheikh Bilal Dannoun.

### 11 April

Quran 4: 135-136 standing firm for justice.

LECTURE: Passing the torch by Imam Said Rageah

DOCUMENTARY: Miracles of the Quran 1 part 2.

### 18 April

Quran 4: 135-136 standing firm for justice.

LECTURE: The last breath – is it the end?

By Sheikh Tawfique Chowdhury.

DOCUMENTARY: Miracles of the Quran 1 part 3.

### 25 April

Quran 4: 135-136 standing firm for justice.

LECTURE: Race to forgiveness by Abdul Hakim Quick

DOCUMENTARY: Islam denounces terrorism.

Tid Bits: Pillars of Iman by Sheikh Yusuf Estes



Said Rageah

Watch VOI online, or order a free copy of the Quran: [www.voitv.org](http://www.voitv.org)

## Auckland prayer timetable for April 2015

(from [www.islamicFinder.org](http://www.islamicFinder.org). For other cities in New Zealand, see [www.fianz.co.nz](http://www.fianz.co.nz)).

Date	Fajr	Sunrise	Dhuhr	Asr 1	Asr 2	Maghrib	Isha
1	6:09	7:33	1:26	4:44	5:34	7:18	8:37
2	6:10	7:34	1:25	4:43	5:32	7:16	8:36
3	6:11	7:35	1:25	4:42	5:31	7:15	8:34
4	6:12	7:36	1:25	4:41	5:30	7:13	8:33
<b>NB: Put clocks back one hour for the end of daylight savings (winter time)</b>							
5	5:12	6:37	12:24	3:40	4:28	6:10	7:31
6	5:13	6:37	12:24	3:39	4:27	6:09	7:30
7	5:14	6:38	12:24	3:38	4:26	6:08	7:28
8	5:15	6:39	12:23	3:37	4:24	6:06	7:27
9	5:16	6:40	12:23	3:36	4:23	6:05	7:26
10	5:17	6:41	12:23	3:34	4:22	6:03	7:24
11	5:17	6:42	12:23	3:33	4:20	6:02	7:23
12	5:18	6:43	12:22	3:32	4:19	6:01	7:22
13	5:19	6:43	12:22	3:31	4:18	5:59	7:20
14	5:20	6:44	12:22	3:30	4:17	5:58	7:19
15	5:21	6:45	12:22	3:29	4:15	5:56	7:18
16	5:21	6:46	12:21	3:28	4:14	5:55	7:16
17	5:22	6:47	12:21	3:27	4:13	5:54	7:15
18	5:22	6:47	12:21	3:27	4:13	5:54	7:15
19	5:24	6:49	12:21	3:25	4:11	5:51	7:13
20	5:25	6:50	12:20	3:24	4:09	5:50	7:11
21	5:25	6:50	12:20	3:23	4:08	5:49	7:10
22	5:26	6:51	12:20	3:22	4:07	5:47	7:09
23	5:27	6:52	12:20	3:21	4:06	5:46	7:08
24	5:28	6:53	12:20	3:20	4:05	5:45	7:07
25	5:28	6:54	12:19	3:19	4:04	5:44	7:06
26	5:29	6:55	12:19	3:18	4:02	5:42	7:04
27	5:30	6:56	12:19	3:17	4:01	5:41	7:03
28	5:31	6:56	12:19	3:16	4:00	5:40	7:02
29	5:31	6:57	12:19	3:15	3:59	5:39	7:01
30	5:32	6:58	12:19	3:14	3:58	5:38	7:00

“Indeed, I am Allah!  
There is none  
worthy of worship  
but me, so worship  
Me and offer prayer  
perfectly for My  
remembrance.”  
(Surah Taha 13-14)

Asr 1: Maliki, Shafii and Hanbali schools (single shadow length)

Asr 2: Hanafi school (double shadow length)

## Credits

*Rocket Science* is a monthly newsletter produced by the Mount Albert Islamic Trust.

### **Rocket Science editorial board**

Editor in chief: Dr Adam Brown

Board members / writers: Azoorah Ali, Tazkiya Ali, Nishaad Haniffa, Abdur Rahaman, Sheed Ali,

Dr Sharif M A Fattah, Syed Akbar Kamal, Hady Osman

Circulation manager: Sharif Nazre Hannan Saadi

**Disclaimer:** Any material or information posted on the *Rocket Science* mailing list is the sole responsibility of the writer or contributor. The Mount Albert Masjid Board of Trustees, *Rocket Science* list owner, moderator(s) and editor(s) have no obligation to, and may not, review or agree with any item of material or information that anyone makes available through the *Rocket Science* list, and the Mount Albert Masjid Board of Trustees, *Rocket Science* list owner, moderator(s) and editor(s) are not responsible for any content of the material or information.

**Postal Address:** P O Box 16138, Sandringham, Auckland

**Phone:** (+64)(9) 629 4222

**Email:** mtalbertmasjid@gmail.com

**Website:** www.mtalbertislamiccentre.org

<b>Bank</b>	Kiwibank
<b>Branch</b>	St Lukes
<b>Address</b>	Shop 791 Westfield Shopping Ctr, St Lukes, Auckland 1025
<b>Bank phone</b>	(+64)(9) 846 3887
<b>Account name</b>	Mount Albert Islamic Trust
<b>Account no</b>	38-9009-0739910-01

## Why attend Rocket Park jumuah?

- ✓ Central location
- ✓ Plenty of free parking
- ✓ Facilities for ladies
- ✓ Bayan (religious talk) before jumuah prayers
- ✓ All bayans and khutbahs in English

NB We are only open for Friday prayers – not for the five daily prayers.

In December 2010, the **Senior Citizens' Association building, Rocket Park, New North Road, Mount Albert**, was closed for renovation by the Auckland City Council. Following these renovations, we believe we are the only jumuah in New Zealand with air-conditioning and heating.

## Subscribing / unsubscribing

If you have received this newsletter and want to unsubscribe (ie do not want to receive future issues), please send an email to masjidnews@gmail.com with "Unsubscribe" in the subject line. Vice versa, if you have received this newsletter indirectly, and would like to have future issues sent to your email address each month, please send an email to masjidnews@gmail.com with "Subscribe" in the subject line.

## Back issues of *Rocket Science*

Missed an issue of *Rocket Science*? All our monthly issues are available online at the Mount Albert Islamic Trust website: www.mtalbertislamiccentre.org

## *SwT, saw, as, ra*

**SWT:** subhanahu wa ta'ala "Glory to Him, the Exalted" (when mentioning Allah)

**SāW:** salallahu alaihi wassalam "May the blessings and peace of Allah be upon him" (when mentioning Muhammad)

**āS:** alaihis salam "Peace be on him" (when mentioning other prophets)

**rā:** radi allahu anhu/ha/hum "May Allah be pleased with him/her/them" (when mentioning members of Muhammad's family, companions, etc)