

# Al Burhaan

## THE PROOF

159 Thus it is by Allāh's mercy that thou art gentle to them. And hadst thou been rough, hard-hearted, they would certainly have dispersed from around thee.<sup>a</sup> So pardon them and ask protection for them, and consult them in (important) matters.<sup>b</sup> But when thou hast determined, put thy trust in Allāh.<sup>c</sup> Surely Allāh loves those who trust (in Him).

فِيمَا رَحِمْنَا مِنْهُنَّ وَاللَّهُ لِيَتَذَكَّرَ بِهِ مَوْلَاكُمْ  
فَلْيَرْحَمُوا مَنْ كَانُوا يَكْفُرُونَ  
فَاعْفُ عَنْهُمْ وَاسْتَغْفِرْ لَهُمْ وَشَاوِرْهُمْ  
فِي الْأَمْرِ فَإِذَا عَزَمْتَ فَتَوَكَّلْ عَلَى اللَّهِ  
إِنَّ اللَّهَ يُحِبُّ الْمُتَوَكِّلِينَ

قُلْ هَاتُوا بُرْهَانَكُمْ إِنْ كُنْتُمْ صَادِقِينَ

Say, "Bring your proof if you are truthful." 27:64

Mar 2010  
Rabi Ul Awwal  
1431

### SECOND QUR'AN CONFERENCE IN SOUTH AFRICA

(Imraan Goondiwala)

On the weekend of August 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> last year year, there was a get-together of Quranic halaqaat groups from around the country. This was the first ever conference of its kind in South Africa. The theme of the conference was "TOWARDS A QURANIC SOCIETY".

This was the result of a number of halaqaat groups asking the question, "How do we implement the Quran in our lives today?" The purpose of the conference was to answer this question & create a national Quranic platform.

In an effort to move towards a Quranic society, the conference recognised that the first step is to understand the Quran. For this reason, there were presentations that introduced people to the study of the Quran.

"Guidelines to studying the Quran" was an eye opening lecture on using our God given faculties in researching the Quranic text., highlighting the importance of exploring the Arabic.

"The Collection of the Quran & the concept of Tasreef" was a refreshing approach to how the Quran was collected & protected, while the concept of Tasreef allowed delegates an opportunity to understand the Quran using self reference.

An information session on learning Quranic Arabic & using technology provided tools to move forward with studies. Propagation was further re-enforced with a talk on "Comparative Religion" & "My Journey to Islam" by a Catholic revert.

The family unit is of vital importance in any society. A no holds barred presentation on the respective roles of women & men in a Quranic Society was real food for thought.

An active school which teaches secular subjects using the Quran to illustrate various concepts produced a very informative session on "Using the Quran as a Resource for Educating Learners". There was great interest in moving towards replicating this model around the country.

The economic session of the conference explored the "Economic Values of the Quran" through a re-evaluation of concepts such as Riba, Sadaqah & Zakaah among others as they appear in the Quran, followed by a presentation on an operating business being used to sustain a Quranic group showing a clear way forward in "Establishing an Economic Base for a Quranic Society".

This was not just a talk shop as each session was followed by vibrant discussion culminating in the setting of goals & various implementation projects leading up to the next conference. The progress of these implementation projects are continually monitored in order to ensure that these conferences lead to practical implementation of the Quranic ideals, step by step.

The SECOND CONFERENCE will be hosted on the weekend of March 13 & 14 2001. The focus this year will be on a practical way forward.

A booklet with all the papers presented at the 1st conference and a dvd are available. If you would like to purchase a copy, please contact the national coordinator at qucosa@gmail.com or fax to 086-632-0678.

### ISLAMIC HISTORY

(Imraan Omar)

In an attempt to establish a society based upon Quranic principles, it is important to first break the moulds of all un-Quranic ideologies and teachings. To do this we have to retrace our steps. We have to ascertain where and when these ideologies were introduced, and by whom. We also need to ask, what one would hope to achieve by initiating such a ploy, and who would stand to lose. One look at the sad state of Muslims around the world today would be a glaring answer to the above. Muslims have degenerated in all spheres and walks of life; from being "the best suited community raised for the good of mankind" to "enjoin what is good and forbid what is wrong" (3:110); we have become of those who" choose to live our lives in the darkness of ignorance thus belittling ourselves to the rank of cattle, or even worse" (7:179). Yes, sadly, we have fallen prey to the schemes of those who were bent on taking Muslims away from the Quran and reducing them to passive ritualists.

We will retrace our steps and determine how the foundation laid by our dear Nabi (s) and the Caliphs, was whittled away by the enemies of Islam so that the once erect building that was Ad Deen, is now a religion in ruins.-(Cont on page 4)

### INSIDE:

Men and Women have equal status according to the Qur'an, Your Letters, Qur'an knowledge Quiz

MASJID IN THE QURAN

The Quran has directed the Ummah in many places in the Quran as to how a Masjid should function and by whom, together with other aspects. We will now look at these Verses but not in any particular order or sequence. Surah 2 Verse 125-The first House

**125** And when We made the House a resort for men and a (place of)

وَإِذْ جَعَلْنَا الْبَيْتَ مَثَابَةً لِّلنَّاسِ وَأَمْنًا ۗ

security.<sup>a</sup> And: Take ye the Place of Abraham for a place of prayer.<sup>b</sup> And We enjoined Abraham and Ishmael, saying: Purify My House for those who visit (it) and those who abide (in it) for devotion and those who bow down (and) those who prostrate themselves.<sup>c</sup>

وَاتَّخِذُوا مِن مَّقَامِ إِبْرَاهِيمَ مُصَلًّٰى ۖ وَعَهْدًا إِلَىٰٓ إِبْرَاهِيمَ ۚ وَإِسْمَاعِيلَ ۚ إِنَّ كَلِمَاتِهِ

بَيْنِي وَبَيْنَ الْعَالَمِينَ ۚ وَالْعَرَفِينَ ۚ وَالرُّكْمَ الشَّجْوَةَ ﴿١٢٥﴾

The First House built in Mecca is a sanctuary for those who visit it and propagate the Laws of Allah, and thus every Masjid should be so, and abide by it. No restrictions are mentioned in the Quran. By extension this would apply to all such houses built for the same reasons and there should NOT be any restrictions. All such houses are a sanctuary for all, not only Muslims. Surah 7 Verse 29-There must be Justice in the Masjid

**29** Say: My Lord enjoins justice.<sup>a</sup> And set upright your faces at every time of prayer and call on Him, being sincere to Him in obedience. As He brought you into being, so shall you return.

قُلْ أَمَرَ رَبِّي بِالْقِسْطِ ۚ وَأَقِيمُوا وُجُوهَكُمْ عِندَ كُلِّ مَسْجِدٍ وَادْعُوهُ مُخْلِصِينَ لَهُ الدِّينَ ۚ كَمَا بَدَأَكُمْ تَعُودُونَ ﴿٢٩﴾

Is this being practiced in the Masjid or are there decisions that are made against people by Trustees, who think that Masjid belong to them and “they can do what they like”, without any recourse to Consultation. Sincerity would imply being sincere to the Quran. Surah 7 Verse 31 – Do not be spendthrifts with the bounties of Allah

**31** O children of Adam, attend to your adornment at every time of prayer, and eat and drink and be not prodigal; surely He loves not the prodigals.<sup>a</sup>

يٰۤاٰدَمُ خُذْ زِينَتَكَ عِندَ كُلِّ مَسْجِدٍ وَكُلْ وَشَرِبْ وَلَا تُسْرِفْ ۗ إِنَّهُ لَا يُحِبُّ الْمُسْرِفِيْنَ ﴿٣١﴾

Are we adhering to this Verse when we spend without any course to Shura the money of the Ummah when millions are going hungry? We buy up properties in the name of Masjid (especially in the elitist areas) and the Ummah when we are actually promoting our family names or the rich Arabs of the Middle East, at the expense of Allah’s Laws. Surah 9 Verse 18 & 19 Who are maintainers (trustees-directors) of Masjid

**18** Only he can maintain the mosques of Allāh who believes in Allāh and the Last Day, and keeps up prayer and pays the poor-rate and fears none but Allāh. So these it is who may be of the guided ones.

إِنَّمَا يَعْمُرُ مَسَاجِدَ اللَّهِ مَنِ آمَنَ بِاللَّهِ وَالْيَوْمِ الْآخِرِ وَأَقَامَ الصَّلَاةَ وَآتَى الزَّكَاةَ وَكَفَرَ بِالشَّيْءِ الَّهِ فَتَنَّىٰ أَوْ تَلَٰكُ أَنْ يَكْفُرُوۤا مِنِ الْمُفْتَرِيْنَ ﴿١٨﴾

**19** Do you hold the giving of drink to the pilgrims and the maintenance of the Sacred Mosque<sup>a</sup> equal to (the service of) one who believes in Allāh and the Last Day and strives hard in Allāh’s way? They are not equal in the sight of Allāh. And Allāh guides not the iniquitous people.

أَجَعَلْتُمْ سِقَايَةَ الْحَاجِّ وَعِمَارَةَ الْمَسْجِدِ الْحَرَامِ كَمَنْ آمَنَ بِاللَّهِ وَالْيَوْمِ الْآخِرِ وَجَاهَدَ فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ ۗ لَا يَسْتَوُونَ عِندَ اللَّهِ ۗ وَاللَّهُ لَا يَهْدِي الْقَوْمَ الظَّالِمِيْنَ ﴿١٩﴾

Just because you provide the comforts (carpet, water light), can this be taken as that you qualify to control activities in the Masjid. Are the trustees Allah-conscious? Does one have fear that if the Truth of the Quran is postulated then speakers will not come to give talks at Masjid. If so, where is the consciousness of Allah or do we fear people more. Or, are we apprehensive of losing their business and contributions and support? Surah 2 Verse 114.

**114** And who is more unjust than he who prevents (men) from the mosques of Allāh, from His name being remembered therein, and strives to ruin them? (As for) these, it was not proper for them to enter them except in fear. For them is disgrace in this world, and theirs is a grievous chastisement in the Hereafter.<sup>a</sup>

وَمَنْ أَظْلَمُ مِمَّنْ مَنَعَ مَسَاجِدَ اللَّهِ أَن يُذَكَّرَ فِيهَا اسْمُهُ وَسُئِلَ فِي حُرَابِهَا ۗ أُولَٰئِكَ مَا كَانَ لَهُمْ أَن يَدْخُلُوهَا إِلَّا كَخَالِفِينَ ۗ لَهُمْ فِيهَا عَذَابٌ عَظِيمٌ ﴿١١٤﴾

By so doing the trustees are making Zulm and Allah and should await their accountability with a grave chastisement. Surah 9 Verse 107 and 108-Are the trustees, coordinators and directors of Masjid under their control turning the Masjid into Masjid-e-Daraar

**107** And those who built a mosque to cause harm (to Islām) and (to help) disbelief, and to cause disunion among the believers, and a refuge for him who made war against Allāh and His Messenger before. And they will certainly swear: We desired naught but good. And Allāh bears witness that they are certainly liars.<sup>a</sup>

وَالَّذِينَ اتَّخَذُوا مَسْجِدًا ضِرَارًا وَكُفْرًا وَتَفْرِيقًا بَيْنَ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَإِنْصَارًا لِلسُّورَةِ ۗ كَانَ اللَّهُ سَمِيعًا عَلِيمًا ۗ إِنَّ فِي ذَٰلِكَ لَآيَاتٍ لِّمَنْ كَانَ عِندَ اللَّهِ ذِكْرًا ۗ وَاللَّهُ يَشْهَدُ إِنَّهُمْ لَكَاذِبُونَ ﴿١٠٧﴾

# READERS VIEWS

**Email to: [Al-Burhaan@yahoo.com](mailto:Al-Burhaan@yahoo.com) –subject: Letters to the Editor**

Preference will be given to letters in which the contact details of the writer can be published. Those wishing to write under a pseudonym must supply their address and contact details. The editor reserves the right to vet letters. Offensive letters will not be published.

Dear Editor

“Wake Up call to all Muslims”

As a pharmacist working in the public sector I have realized and seen the need for a Qura'nic society. There are people in this country and world, non- Muslim and Muslim that are hungry, that are malnourished, that are dying of diseases. Do we know what hunger is? Is it when you have skipped breakfast, are absolutely starving by lunch time and must have something to eat or else you will “faint” or “die”! Or is it when a child has gone so long without water that his parched throat has no elasticity to swallow?

The leaders in this country have no knowledge about the guidance in the Quran. They live in big mansions with huge swimming pools. They waste water where as the poor people do not even have access to clean drinking water. We as Muslims have the knowledge and guidance from the creator himself, but how do we use it? For a Muslim to undertake a humanitarian act is a way of receiving help from Allah, of erasing sins and of meriting Jannah. Is this our quraanic duty? Is it merely to pay zakaah once or twice a year? To relieve ourselves from our own selfish needs? This makes us no different from the leaders that are living lavishly.

The decision to write this letter was re-introduced into mind when I saw the huge mosque being built in Houghton, from the highway. On enquiring about this mosque it was said to me that it is costing R86 million to build, and then it was said that we should be proud as Muslims that such a monument is being built in our creator's name. Even if the above figure is incorrect, even if the mosque is costing 1 million to be built, I ask you as Muslims do we have the right to do this? How can we build such a monument when they are people starving to death? How can we say it is in our creator name? do we honestly believe that our creator, the one who has instructed us to live simple and to look after the less fortunate is going to be pleased by this? When I asked this to my friends they replied, “Of course Allah will be pleased, it is a mosque, they claimed.” I asked what a mosque is. Do we know the purpose of a mosque? This is nothing to be proud of as Muslims, why would Allah be pleased when our most basic duty is not being performed?

More than 800 million people go to bed hungry every day, 300 million are children. More than one billion people do not have access to clean water. Every year 6 million children die from malnutrition before their fifth birthday. It's time we realize that this is far beyond paying zakaah and feeling good about Imaan. The people that are dying are just like you and me but we treat them as second- class citizens of the world.

I am not trying to make you feel guilty; however as Muslims we must assume a degree of responsibility to build a community.

The study of the Quran gives a clear idea of the intensity of the force with which Islam has stimulated humanitarian action. The mechanism put into place by the Quran has made sure there is a significant support for the most vulnerable. The Quran and hadith do not exclude non-Muslims. The realization that around the globe people are dying of starvation should make us appreciate what we have and use it to help others. This means participating actively to make a change.-**Tabassum Shaikh(JHB)**

Cont.from page 2

Since SOME people openly admit that the Masajid under their control is not for the Quran only to be principally used in it; these Masajid have then deteriorated from the actual intentions of Masajid and thus cause harm and disunity and have become a refuge for those who wage war against the Quran. If this is done deliberately, then Muslims should NOT STAND in it for it is not based on the principles of Quran. It will be the duty of all Muslims to strive towards changing this type of principle for the Quranic ones.

Lastly those who deny any portion of the Quran are rejecters of the word of Allah; for Allah Commands us in Surah 3 Verse 159: Forgive the wrongdoers, level the playing fields (ensuring that all information and bounties are shared) and CONSULT before making a decision; CONSULTATION IS NOT ONLY A HANDFUL OF TRUSTEES, WHEN YOU COLLECT FUNDS FROM THE MUSSALLEES. ALL MUSLIMS, WHETHER THEY CONTRIBUTE TO THE UPKEEP OR NOT MUST BE CONSULTED ON ALL AFFAIRS OF THE UNITY INCLUDING THE MASAJID.

**159** Thus it is by Allāh's mercy that thou art gentle to them. And hadst thou been rough, hard-hearted, they would certainly have dispersed from around thee.<sup>a</sup> So pardon them and ask protection for them, and consult them in (important) matters.<sup>b</sup> But when thou hast determined, put thy trust in Allāh.<sup>c</sup> Surely Allāh loves those who trust (in Him).

فِيمَا رَحِمَةٍ مِّنَ اللَّهِ لِنْتَ لَهُمْ وَلَوْ كُنْتَ  
ظَلْمًا غَلِيظًا لَفَقَضْتَهُمْ مِنْ حَوْلِكَ  
فَاعْفُ عَنْهُمْ وَاسْتَغْفِرْ لَهُمْ وَشَاوِرْهُمْ  
فِي الْأَمْرِ فَإِذَا عَزَمْتَ فَتَوَكَّلْ عَلَى اللَّهِ  
إِنَّ اللَّهَ يُحِبُّ الْمُتَوَكِّلِينَ ﴿١٥٩﴾

WHERE DO WE THE MODERN TRUSTEES FIT? DO WE HAVE THE ABOVE QUALIFICATIONS?

## MEN AND WOMEN ARE EQUAL AS LEGISLATED IN THE QURAN

(Ridwaan Davids)

In traditional Islam, there is this continuous debate to determine the superior status of men over women and women's quest to claim equality. Some of our male folks quote Surah Nisaa verse 34 where men are termed as qawwamoon. This is then interpreted as men having the upperhand over women.

However, Surah Al Ahzab negated all these false ideas and actually liberated women without any exceptions. It drove the final nail into the coffin of those that preached that men are superior to women. See how the Quran beautifully but also explicitly states that there is no ifs and buts about the topic. There are absolutely no exceptions. By referring to the lexicons through the root words of the terms used in verse 35,

one gets a crystal clear picture on the equality of the genders. The following verses are from Surah Al -Ahzab Ayah 33 to 35

**ان المسلمين والمسلمات**

If men has the potential to develop themselves with the directives of Allah, then women also possess similar inherent excellence .

**والمؤمنين والمؤمنات**

**والقانتين والقانتات**

If men can strive to achieve world peace through the application of Allah's eternal laws, then women can also participate .

**والصادقين والصادقات**

If men can streamline their capabilities to work within the limits set by Allah's code of ethics, women can accomplish the same.

**والصابرين والصابرات**

If men can vindicate the truth of their own convictions through their practical implementation in life, women can perform the same feat.

**والخاشعين والخاشعات**

If men can remain steadfast on the path chosen by them, women can act likewise

**والمتصدقين والمتصدقات**

If men has exhaustible capacity to get more and more in harmony with Allah's commandments, once they are set on that path, women also has boundless energy to do so.

**والصائمين والصائمات**

If men can sacrifice baser thoughts for higher ideals, women have the potential to get on par with them.

**والحافظين فروجهم والحافظات**

If men can control themselves, without violating the limitations imposed upon them, women can do better.

**والذاكرين الله كثيرا والذاكرات**

If men can keep their sexual urges within the prescribed limits, so can women.

**اعد الله لهم مغفرة واجرا عظيما**

If men can understand Allah's rules and focus their activities accordingly, women can be equally effective.

If both men and women possess identical capacities and potentials, then the results they achieve should be similar. Therefore, women have their own self respect, dignity and honour granted through the verses of the Quran. No human being has the right and capacity to claim otherwise.

### QURANIC QUIZ

(Answers to previous issue)

- 1)The longest Surah in the Qur'an is Surah Baqarah
- 2)Bismillah is mentioned 114 times in the Qur'an
- 3)Surah At-Tauba Has no Bismillah in the beginning

### QURANIC QUIZ

- 1)What Attribute does Allah's Beautiful Name "Ar-Rashid" Mean?
- 2)Who was called "al-Aziz" in Surah Yusuf?
- 3)The Quran is also known as "Al-Furqan";

### EDUCATIONAL QUR'AN WEBSITES

- 1)ourbeacon.com
- 2)free-minds.com

### PUBLIC TALK

DR. MUSA who received her Ph.D in Arabic and Islamic studies from Harvard University is currently an assistant Professor at Florida International University will be delivering a talk titled- MULTICULTURALISM IN THE QU'RAN on Saturday 13 March 2010 At Nana Hall Crosby, JHB.

Cont. from pg 1

Firstly, our History of Islam, upon close examination, will be found to be the product of the famous or infamous Imam Tabari. His history is considered to be the mother of all history, however, it must be noted that the work was commenced approximately 280 years after the exalted Prophet (s). Also noteworthy is the fact that, by his admission, the compilation is based upon narrations and he blatantly absolves himself from all accountability, by placing responsibility of any imperfection or error, on the shoulders of the narrators. This confession itself should make any thinking person question the authenticity of his work. Secondly, the importance and preference given to Ahadith is so great that many Muslims fail to look any further for judging the criteria between right and wrong. The Holy Quran should always stand in judgement of any Hadith and not vice versa. The Holy Quran is THE CRITERION. Imam Tabari, together with the super group of Imams of Ahadith like Muslim, Bukhari, Abu Dawood and Tirmidhi had a common link. They were all Persians. The Persians were to early Islam what America is to today's Muslim. We will in future issues, look at the link between these factors and how the venom of deceit and misguidance crept into Ad-Deen.

**Let's keep it interactive !!! We would like to hear from you. We look forward to your contributions**

Email: alburhaan@yahoo.com Fax: 086-632-0678

**We welcome articles, the editor reserves the right to edit articles, opinions expressed by writers of letters or articles are not necessarily of *AL Burhaan*.**

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