

THE INTELLECT BULLETIN

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Your best teacher is your last mistake.

Speak only when your words are more beautiful than silence.



News & Views

10-Year-Old Autistic Boy Memorizes Quran

Along with memorizing the Quran, Abu Musa has also learned to read and write, making a breakthrough for children with autism.

A ten-year-old Palestinian boy with autism has succeeded in studying and memorizing the entire holy book of Qur'an, setting an example for people suffering from autism worldwide.

Quran, Abu Musa has also learned to read and write, making a breakthrough for children with autism.

He has been able to communicate with other children and play games.

Autism, a disorder characterized by impaired communication and social skills, is currently on the rise both throughout Palestine and the world leaving families impacted by it struggling to meet

the needs of loved ones.

While many individuals on the spectrum face challenges in various facets of their lives, a large proportion of those with the disorder possess a natural aptitude in a range of subjects including mathematics, art, music and general rote memory.

As result, many with ASD (Autism Spectrum Disorder) opt to embark in related fields including technology, computer programming, engineering and in careers where having advanced memorization skills are crucial.



The young boy, Khalid Abu Musa, memorized the whole Holy Quran by listening to the verses being read to him repeatedly. The news was announced by Nedve Abdulal, an educational expert from a private school in Gaza where children with autism undergo rehabilitation. Along with memorizing the

Italy seeks to block regional "anti-mosque law"

Since Islam is the only major religion not recognized by the Italian state, the new rules have been seen as being specifically targeted at Italy's one million plus Muslims.

The Italian government has moved to block new building regulations for Lombardy which would make it virtually impossible to build any new mosques in the northern region, officials said Friday.

The regulations, which have become known as the "anti-mosque" law, were approved by the right-wing dominated regional council at the end of January.

Amid an outcry over what critics see as a blatantly discriminatory move, Prime Minister Matteo Renzi's centre-left government has decided to refer the new

rules to the Constitutional Court for review.

Under the regulations, anyone seeking to build a new place of worship for a religion not officially recognized by the state would be subject to an extensive list of special restrictions ranging from the size of associated parking facilities to the outward appearance of the buildings, as well as having to clear a string of new bureaucratic hurdles.

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Women's Right and Progress



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Muslim Holidays Added to New York Public School Calendar

New York City Mayor announced last month that the city's public school calendar would now include two Muslim holidays, Eid al-Adha and Eid al-Fitr, an historic step that he said, "respects the diversity of our city."

The addition of the holy days, two of the most sacred in the Islamic calendar, follows a campaign promise he made to public schools in

recognition of the city's Muslim population, and after years long effort made by the community, pushing for inclusion.

This step is being viewed as positive and huge gain by the Muslim population of the city especially in the face of the current scenarios world over

where Muslims living in the Western countries are striving hard for freedom to practice their basic religious rights such as hijab.



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FACTS, EVENTS & BELIEFS

Masjid-Al Aqsa (Bait-ul-Maqdis)

UMRAH HAJJ²⁰¹⁵

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Toronto Muslims Share Islam with Colleagues

This year, the event was held under the theme #WithMuslims and #AgainstHate, which was designed to reflect the week's goal of promoting awareness of Islamic knowledge and principles.

Offering their colleagues a first-hand experience on Islam, the Muslim Students' Association (MSA) at the University of Toronto hosed Islam awareness week, raising their voice against hate and anti-Muslim

sentiments. "During Question Period in Parliament, Prime Minister Stephen Harper indirectly called Islam an 'anti-women culture.' This small comment speaks about the unfortunate rise of

Islamophobia that we are witnessing in Canada," Bushra Nassab, a third-year peace, conflict, and justice Studies student, told The Varsity.

"We need to show people that the religion is in fact a peaceful religion, and we should not define our perceptions on Islam based on what certain groups do - who most certainly do not represent Islam," she added.

Muslims make around 2.8 percent of



Bait-us-Salam Updates Bait-us-Salam Welfare Trust: Work Continues Despite Extreme Cold

The dedicated students and the teachers of the Quranic Centers of Chitral, strived hard to continue operating despite almost 5 feet of snow on the grounds. Not wanting to disturb the routine set and the work started and missing even a day of Quranic education,

the teachers and the students ploughed through in extreme weather conditions to strive ahead in their quest for knowledge.

The caretaker of one of the Jamia's Quranic center said that sometimes it

took him almost 10 hours to travel to and fro from his designated center and home.

Where life in general had come to a halt in the area blanketed by snow, the quest for Quranic knowledge continued.

Masjid-Al Aqsa also known as the Bait-ul-Maqdis, is located in Jerusalem, Israel. It is no ordinary mosque and is considered the third holiest place in the world after Makkah and Madina, by the Muslims.

It was facing Masjid-Al Aqsa that Muslims used to pray first till the verses asking them to turn towards Makkah were revealed. It was also to this revered place that our beloved Prophet g was taken on the night of Shabb-e-Mairaj and he led the congregational prayers of all the prophets.

The above stated facts are some of the commonly known ones about this mosque but there are some that are not so commonly known which also make this site an important part of the Islamic history.

• Masjid-Al Aqsa is the second house of Allah c built on earth.

• It is the site where hundreds of Allah's c messengers and Sahabas h are buried.

• It is referred to as the 'blessed place' by Allah c Himself and has been referred to in the Quran at least 70 times, directly or indirectly.

• It is one of the places where angels have descended with Allah's c message.

• Masjid-Al Aqsa is the only mosque mentioned in

name in the Quran apart from Masjid-e-Haram. Some more yet lesser known facts are:

It isn't just one mosque

There are multiple mosques on the site that we know as Masjid -Al Aqsa. We think of Masjid Al-Aqsa as the building at the southernmost corner of the Mosque. In actual fact, that is the Qibly mosque, so called because it is the closest to the Qibla. The whole mount is Masjid Al Aqsa and is sometimes referred to the Haram Al-Sharif to prevent confusion. But there are other mosques present on the site which are usually connected to historical incidents e.g. the Buraq masjid, the Marwani masjid and more.

The Dome of the Rock used to look very different

The Dome of the Rock - what is likely to be the first dome ever built in the history of Islam - was built by the Umayyad Caliph Abdul Malik ibn Marwan. It started life wooden with a brass, lead or ceramic cover, but almost a thousand years later during the reign of the Ottoman Caliph Suleiman the Magnificent, the distinctive gold layer was added to the dome along with the Ottoman tiles to the facade of the building.

