

The Intellect Bulletin



Facts, Events & Believes

The blessed month of Rajab is the seventh month of the Islamic lunar calendar. Some interesting facts related to this month are:

|| The Battle of Tabouk took place in this month. This was the last battle Prophet Muhammad ﷺ participated in.

|| Imam Abu Hanifa r passed away this month.

|| Imam Shafee r passed away this month.

|| Imam Muslim r passed away this month.

|| Fighting was prohibited in the month of Rajab as it is considered as one of the four sacred month of the Islamic calendar.

|| During the times of ignorance, the pagans also used to sacrifice goats as an offering to their Gods in this month.

|| A popular belief is that the date of Prophet Muhammad's ﷺ journey to skies, Shabb-e-Mairaj, also falls in Rajab.

It should be noted here that despite this popular believe, there are many renowned ulemas and scholars who say that the exact date and month are not known as they are not mentioned in the Holy Quran and neither in the Sunnah

and Hadith.

Though the significance of this journey is no doubt great, the Holy Prophet ﷺ never singled out this night in the subsequent years as a night for special prayers and supplications and neither did any of his blessed companions take up any such tradition.

'O you, who believe, do not proceed ahead of Allah and His Messenger, and fear Allah. Surely Allah is All-Hearing, All-Knowing.' (Quran 49:1)

Rajab precedes Ramadan by a month and should be taken as a month for preparing for the blessed month of Ramadan, by fasting some of the days of this month if possible, learning new duas and reciting the Quran as this month is also full of blessings.



According to a famous quote he who has lived long, laughed often and loved much, is successful.

Unfortunately, the above mentioned statement is exactly how people at large view the concept of success in their lives. Each individual has put a different interpretation to the phrase 'lived well' and some may measure a good life in terms of a successful career; for some it may mean being surrounded with loved ones and having loyal friends, and yet for some more it may mean living a life of good deeds. Nevertheless, all these interpretations eventually boil down to worldly achievements, possessions and moments.

Google defines success as the accomplishment of an aim or a purpose. It says that its opposite is failure; failure to accomplish the aim or purpose. In these times we are inclined to think of success as a spacious house, an overseas holiday or fame.

As students prepare for their examinations, success will be measured in terms of the rank achieved and grades received. As the admissions rat race begins, success is defined as securing a seat in the top ranked university or play school. As companies prepare to close their accounts and prepare

for their next fiscal year budgets, success comes in the form of bottom line profits.

A student gets admission in an elite school for higher studies based on his Straight A's is successful, despite the fact that he barely talks to his parents at home and is glued to his play station every free moment, let alone pray and thank Allah ﷻ.

The investor banker just bought a new car and is taking his family to Europe for vacation, is successful despite the fact that his income is interest based.

The working woman, just returned from a successful sales conference from the States, where she was acknowledged for her dedicated performance, very successful indeed, her husband who doesn't like her working with non-mehrams is such a close minded person anyways.

How do we define a successful life? Grades, profit margins, budget surplus and other such worldly measures? Is this yardstick we Muslims also measure ourselves against? Is it riches beyond compare, or perhaps good health and happiness?

People work hard for these small successes and they are not to be trivialized however such success is transient. You can't take it with you and Islam tells

us, the only things you can take with you to the grave are your deeds.

Islam discourages its believers to demean or belittle these favors of fame and fortune from Allah ﷻ; but Islam definitely does not relate these to 'successes'!

So then how does Islam define success?

Islam treats the term 'success' in all its true manifestations; and guides to a path which

will lead to 'success' or the accomplishment of one's aim in this transient world, and in the eternal Hereafter; without separating the success of the world from the Hereafter! Islam guides to a Straight Path, which leads to success both in this world, and in the Hereafter. But without a doubt, Islam advocates and encourages its believers to strive and prefer the success of the Hereafter; for that is indeed what Allah ﷻ calls *Falah*, success of both

worlds!

Thus, the one and only way to attain true success in the life of this world, is to aim and strive towards achieving success in the life of the Hereafter! Success in the life of this world is nothing but a simple by-product of the success in the Hereafter.

As Allah ﷻ says in the Quran:

'Every soul has to taste death. It is on the Day of Judgment that you shall be paid your rewards in full. So, whoever has been kept away from the Fire and admitted to Paradise has really succeeded. The worldly life is nothing but an illusionary enjoyment.' (Quran 3:185)

Who are the successful people in Islam?

The Prophets are successful The 'Siddiqueen' or the 'sincere lovers of the Truth' are successful

The 'Shohadaa' or the 'martyrs' and thus the 'witnesses of Truth' are successful

The 'Saaleheen' or the righteous doers of good are successful.

The True Believers are successful

Thus, Hazrat Bilal h a mere slave was successful, whereas Qarun, the rich ruler was not.

The Prophet ﷺ tried once to show his Companions how to weigh people and how to see who is a real loser and who is a real winner. Thus, he asked:

"Do you know who is a bankrupt?"

Affected by the worldly criterions, they answered:

"To us, a bankrupt is the one who has no money or stuff."

So, the Prophet ﷺ said to them:

"A real bankrupt is the one who brings so many good deeds; fasting, Hajj, prayer, but alongside he brings with them slandering for this, backbiting that, beating such. People will thus gather around him to take from his good deeds in compensation of what he has done, till his good deeds are gone. By then, their bad deeds will be given to him till he ends up being cast into the Hell-Fire."

Hence...

Hence, success is not about making a living, but it's about making a life. Even if you are making a wonderful living, with all luxurious items at your disposal, and all your efforts are to fulfill these physical desires you are failing unless you are working hard for the invisible part too as much as it deserves, that is the success of the Hereafter.

Concept of Success in Islam



\$6.5bn (£3.9bn) - its largest ever appeal - to provide medical care, food, water and shelter for the nearly three-quarters of Syrians expected to be in need of assistance in 2014. But all parties involved refuse to comply with the provision of aid to the broken Syrian population.

All peace talks initiated till now by the West have ended with no conclusions.

Views: It is very saddening indeed that along with the West, the Muslim ummah also remains apathetic towards the Syrian conflict as it drags on. Lacking the liquid gold, oil, as a resource, Syria no longer holds interest for the West as it diverts its attention towards Russia and the foreign backed conflict continues to rage.

Syria holds great importance in Islam and has many historical Islamic sites there too. The ongoing conflicts in the Arab world

Disclaimer: Please note that the views expressed in this article are merely an expression of thoughts on the featured news item in light of deen and hikmat by Hazrat Maulana Abdul Sattar and not meant to conflict with any other personal views or opinions.

News: Syrian Conflict

Over the past three years, more than 100,000 Syrians



have lost their lives in the escalating conflict between forces loyal to President Bashar al-Assad and those opposed to his rule. The bloody internal conflict has destroyed whole neighborhoods and forced more than nine million people from their homes. UN has now stopped putting an official count to dead.

At present the the opposition remains fractured and deeply divided, unable to agree much apart from the need to end President Assad's rule as both sides continue to commit war crimes

The UN has asked for

the audiences at the three-day Dubai International Peace Convention by embracing Islam. Arnoud's son, Iskander Amien De Vrie, was one of the 37 people who converted to Islam during the convention.

Arnoud van Doorn was one of the names associated with the anti-Muslim film *Fitna*, which was released in 2008. The film promoted misconceptions about Islam and Arnoud was one of the film's distributors.

Five years later, Arnoud was a changed man having learned more about Islam, which he today calls as 'a religion of peace'. He converted to Islam after learning more about the religion and his decision shocked the world.

"I saw my father become more peaceful after converting to Islam. That's when I realized there is something good in this religion and it made me change my perception of Muslims. I started studying the Holy Quran and going through lectures of important scholars," said Iskander in an interview.

Iskander, 22, credited his college friend Younis for setting a good example of what Muslims really are and how they live their life. "My friend Younis is a good practicing Muslim who taught me something new every day. He was patient with me and there was no way I could be rude to him," said Iskander.

Views: This is an example of when a Muslim starts practicing Islam as a whole even the enemies of Islam will be unable to deny the message of Islam. As was the case at the time of the conquest of Makkah, when the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ and his blessed companions entered the city of Makkah, the non-believers were scared of the revenge that would fall on their heads now. But, on the contrary, the companions, led by



film *Fitna* that caused unrest in 2008, surprised

the example of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ showed great mercy, kindness and courtesy so much so that even the greatest enemies of Islam like Abu Sufyan h accepted Islam.

If the Muslim ummah of today starts practicing the teachings of the Quran and the Sunnah of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ there is no way that they will not find inner peace and not influence the non-believers around them simply by their actions and practices as ___ was by his friend and father.

News: Malaysian Airline MH370 Goes Missing

Over a month and a half has passed since the Malaysian Airline MH370 bound to Beijing from Kaula Lumpur

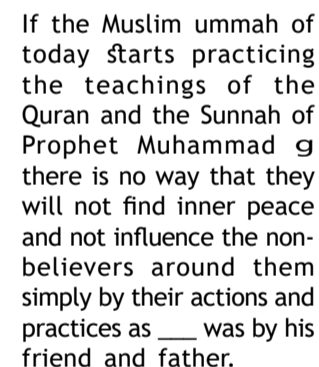
went missing on 8th March, 2014 with yet no signs of recovery or clue as to what actually happened to this flight.

Many theories have formed over this time frame ranging from

terrorist involvements to alien abductions but no credibility has been lent to any. The popularly enforced fate by the Malaysian authorities being that it crashed in the Indian Ocean. But the where and how still need to be answered. Leads like fining of debris in the Indian Ocean to receiving weak signal have all led to nothing and the relatives of the 239 missing passengers and crew continue to grieve their loss.

Views: This is simply a classic example of the universal truth of Allah's ﷻ greatness that the combined technology, efforts and resources of the so called super powers of this world could not and till date, have not been able to locate the missing

airline or yet resolve the mystery of what went wrong whereas Allah ﷻ if wills can even bring life to the death and surely on the Day of Judgment he will raise us all from the dead.



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Sitting in the air-conditioned class I came to realize how this was the beginning of an innovative career to instill Islamic knowledge in a person through a modern perspective using modern means. The atmosphere was very conducive for girls like me who did not have a command on Urdu language. It was, I believe, the first course I had ever attended, which provided a very comfortable environment to gain an understanding of Islam in English as compared to the courses I had earlier enrolled myself in I remember the reason why I left the three year course was mostly because I did half of my paper in English, not being able to express myself in Urdu.

simple lectures relaying basic information about Islam for girls who either came from modern families with little Islamic backgrounds or for girls who were more familiar

As impressive as the first class was, my mind still reminisces the spellbinding orientation day and the great turn out that day which even took our Head by surprise. The brief of At Tayyabat and the goals and objectives she laid out for this 33 weeks course which contributes to most of the success lying behind this program. This program would not have been half



with English rather than Urdu. The division of classes into Fiqh, Tafseer, Tajweed and surprisingly an introduction to Journalism and a Book Club, portrays recognition of the interests of the girls nowadays.

speech she made showed the immense veracity in her determination to bring about an Islamic program which reaches out to the youth of today.

as successful were it not for her endeavors. Her brief speech at the beginning of the Orientation day, delivered in a soft, compelling tone, was direct and straightforward so the parents could comprehend the imperative need

Inauguration of Quran Institutes in Swat and Lahore

Allhamdulillah, BSWT's journey forward continues with full force. Based in Karachi, they dedicated team as till date managed to establish many Quran institutes across the country; this month's achievement being the opening of 12 such institutes in the beautiful valley of Swat.

they were reluctant and finally agreed to paying Rs. 1500/-.

However, the positive aspect of this place is that due to having an inclination towards education, the religious minded locals of Swat have a very good Tajweed. The advantage to the Trust of this was they were able to hire good teachers for their institute and the unique style with which BSWT works towards the education of its students, was easier to

the other in D.H.A.

Fahmedeen Publication's Marketing & Sales Team Successfully Pulls off Stall Activity at major



Publications put up stalls of their publications at various events held in Karachi during the month. The details are as follows:

- A stall was put up at a prime location at the Institute of Business

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to avail an opportunity like this to send their children where they could achieve an Islamic understanding through modern perspective. This is where they could revitalize their judgments of the erroneous outlook of the west regarding the conservative nature of Madrassahs that these children and teenagers have taken and infused in themselves.

cannot fail to acknowledge the beautiful set up of the classes arranged; the timings and the fifteen minutes lunch break which not many courses from other branches of Fahmedeen have. A massive ovation to the Head of At Tayyabat and her team for their contributions and strife in bringing about one of the most successful English oriented programs in the history of Fahmedeen. May Allah accept their efforts and reward them in this world and the Hereafter. Ameen.

Yes it's that time of the year again when teachers, students and of course the parents, all gear up for examinations! For some it's the end of a semester; it may mean graduation for some; and yet for some it means promotion to the next class.

that you do not have to get up again and again.

As stress levels ride up and the competitive streak kicks in, students get into the grueling routine of studying, studying, tuitions and yet more studying!

6. Keep some healthy snack and a bottle of water handy too.

7. Do not stay up late nights to study. Instead start early morning right after Fajr and a good night's sleep.

8. Do not study for more than two hours at stretch, take 15 minutes breaks, and take a quick walk or read something light or anything that makes you relax.

E for Exams!....Sigh!



By Zawjah Uzair

(Note: At Tayyabat is a branch of Fahmedeen and falls under the Baitussalaam Welfare Trust. It is located in Khayaban-e-Muhaffiz, near Ali Mosque, D.H.A, Karachi and offers many Islamic courses in English.)

Concluding this article, I

was held at the Institute of Business Administration (IBA), University Campus. Karachi's renowned Islamic scholars and ulemas presented in this event. This time main target market were the approximately five hundred students who attended and all were given a complimentary copy of the Intellect magazine, Radiance and Fahmedeen. The students responded enthusiastically and subscriptions were also signed up for.

of the Fahmedeen publications there. The



event was attended by the professionals from the banking and finance sector of the economy with participation of from the Chamber of Commerce and some big industrialists too.

- Fahmedeen Publications participated as the official Media Partner at

The stall was visited by various ulemas such as



are put on hold; mothers look up brain food recipes and UPS and generators are fixed to provide uninterrupted study time.

9. Be punctual in prayers.

With all the preps, here are some useful tips to make the study sessions more productive:

10. Switch off your cell phone to avoid distractions and request your friends not to call at the specified times.

1. Make sure the study area is set-up separately from the main household activity area to keep disturbance at its minimum.
2. Avoid sitting on the bed and studying or on a couch which is way too comfy. You will just end up falling asleep!
3. The study area should be well lit but not overly bright, and well ventilated.
4. Choose a comfortable chair and a study table of a reasonable height.
5. Keep all the required books and note handy so

11. Before starting to study, and before starting your exam, do not forget to recite Bismillah, read durud sharif and recite the duas given below:

"My Lord, put my heart at peace for me, and make my task easy for me, and remove the knot from my tongue, so that they may understand my speech." (Quran 20:25-28)

"My Lord, improve me in knowledge." (Quran 20:114)

Lastly remember Allah is the best reward giver and He knows best what efforts you have put in and what is the best result for you. So keep your faith strong.

Bait-us-Salam Updates

last decade and a lot of secular NGOs are working there hence the current scenario there is that there are a lot of good schools there, and inclination towards education too, but unfortunately Islamic education is markedly lacking. People there are willing to pay Rs. 1700/- as school fee, but when 50 families were asked to pay, Rs. 2000/- for Quranic education,

impart to these teachers through workshops which will continue to equip the teachers with the best ways of imparting quality Islamic education to the students and helping in their character building too.

BSWT inaugurated also two Quran institutes in Lahore for females. One is in main market of Gulberg, easily accessible from all locations of the city and

the other in D.H.A. Administration (IBA), University Campus during a one day seminar on Sleep



team of the Fahmedeen

the StrataQuest event held at the Karachi School of Business and Leadership (KSBL). Over 18 business universities and colleges participated in this competition, held in collaboration with the Harvard Business School, USA.

Mufti Rafi Usmani, the ex-governor of the State Bank of Pakistan, the current CEO of Karachi Stock Exchange and heads of various Islamic Banks and they were all given a complimentary copy of the Intellect Magazine and Fahmedeen.

All winners of this competition were given special gift hampers sponsored by Fahmedeen Publications. Souvenir pens and note pads were also distributed amongst all visitors, contestants and organizers of the event.

of the Fahmedeen publications there. The

- Lastly, the recently held 3rd Annual Islamic Finance Expo and Conference (IFEFA), 2014 held at the Marriot Hotel, Karachi, also saw the presence

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The seminar was largely attended by professionals from various walks of life and the response to Fahmedeen publications was great.

- A stall was also put up at the two day Annual Islamic Conference which

The Firsts of Islam

ACROSS

- 2 who was the first female martyr in Islam? (Hazrat _____ RDA)
- 3 who was the first male martyr in Islam? (Hazrat _____ RDA)
- 6 who was the first child of our beloved Prophet, Muhammad (SAW) to pass away? (Hazrat _____ RDA)
- 7 who was the first person to start rak'at (prayer) with jamaat? (Hazrat _____ RDA)
- 9 who was the first woman of the ummah to memorize the Quran by heart? (Hazrat _____ RDA)

DOWN

- 1 who was the first woman to accept Islam? (Hazrat _____ RDA)
- 4 who was the first muazzin in Islam? (Hazrat _____ RDA)
- 5 first mosque of Islam
- 8 who was the first child to accept Islam? (Hazrat _____ RDA)

Answers will be published in the June '14 issue of TIB

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