

جدید مشن سے آراستہ بیت السلام لیبارٹری کا خدمات میں ایک اور قدم

لیبارٹری آف ڈیپریسیون اور انٹرنیشنل سائیکوجوائنٹل اسٹڈیز کا افتتاح

3 ماہ کے کورس میں لیسچر کے ساتھ ساتھ ماہرین کی نگرانی میں نوجوانوں کی لیبٹی ٹیکنیکل صلاحیتوں کو پروان چڑھانے اور ترقی کے مواقع

ہسپتال لیبارٹری اور کلینک میں ہیماتولوجی، کلینیکل کیمسٹری، پیراسٹولوجی، مائیکرو بائیولوجی اور راولچی شعبوں میں حصول روزگار آسان

کراچی (پ ر) بیت السلام لیبارٹری اینڈ ڈیگنوسٹک سینٹر | انہما کی لاگت اور مستحق زکوٰۃ افراد کے لیے عمل فری ٹیسٹ | تحت اب تک ہزاروں افراد کو معیاری ٹیسٹوں کی سہولت فراہم باقی صفحہ نمبر 3 پیج نمبر 2

بیت السلام ٹیکنیکل انفری انٹی ٹی کوورس کا شاندار آغاز

انٹرنیٹ اور انٹرویو سمیت تین ماہ کے بعد ہزاروں امیدواروں نے سہ ماہی کورس کے لیے 150 اسلامیات طلبہ کیے گئے

ٹیک پارک لاہور آج کا نوجوان ملک صحت کا سرمایہ اس امر سے کوئی شک نہیں ہے کہ نوجوانوں کی تعلیم اور ترقی کے اس دور میں نوجوان آئی ٹی میں زیادہ دل چسپی لے رہے ہیں وقت اور حالات کے تقاضوں کو دیکھتے ہوئے بیت السلام نے آئی ٹی سینٹر قائم کیا ہے جس میں منجانب آئی ٹی کورسز کی مفت ٹریننگ کا اہتمام کیا ہے اس باقی صفحہ نمبر 3 پیج نمبر 1

کراچی (پ ر) ترقی کے اس دور میں نوجوان آئی ٹی میں زیادہ دل چسپی لے رہے ہیں وقت اور حالات کے تقاضوں کو دیکھتے ہوئے بیت السلام نے آئی ٹی سینٹر قائم کیا ہے جس میں منجانب آئی ٹی کورسز کی مفت ٹریننگ کا اہتمام کیا ہے اس باقی صفحہ نمبر 3 پیج نمبر 1

ملک و ملت کو درپیش چیلنجوں سے نمٹنے کے لیے نونہالوں کو معمار وطن بنانے کی گراں قدر تعلیمی خدمات

400 سے زیادہ تعلیمی ادارے اس کا لبرٹری کے 40 ماہر اہل مستفید

دینی اور عصری تعلیم کے لیے شاندار ماحول تربیت کا مثالی نظام نصاب تعلیم کے ساتھ ساتھ کھیلوں سمیت تمام انسانی سرگرمیوں کو بھی لپٹی توجہ ہائش خوراک، ٹیکنالوجی اور علاج سمیت ضروریات زندگی کی مفت فراہمی

تعلیمی اداروں میں سینکڑوں بنیادی تعلیمی مراکز کے ساتھ ساتھ نیشنل ایجوکیشنل کمیشن اور دیگر تنظیموں کے معیار کا کیڈٹ کالج دی انٹیلیجنٹ اسکول کی بڑی تعداد بچوں کے لیے رخصتہ اسلامیات میں برائیں شامل ہیں

گزشتہ تعلیمی سال میں طلبہ کو مہیا کردہ 42 پوزیشنیں حاصل ہوئیں 442 طلبہ نے حفظ قرآن کی تکمیل کی اولیٰ لیون میں بہترین نتائج حاصل کیے اور ٹیکس سمیت متعدد سہولتوں کے مقابلوں میں پوزیشنیں اور شاندار کارکردگی

کراچی (پ ر) بیت السلام ویلفیئر | ٹرسٹ ملک و ملت کو درپیش چیلنجوں سے نمٹنے کے لیے نونہالوں کو معمار وطن بنانے کے لیے باقی صفحہ نمبر 3 پیج نمبر 3

جو کام ہو گیا؟ کہہ کر زکریا کی بابت اسلام کے سب سے بڑے مہم سوس اور

معیاری تعلیم کے ساتھ ہی نسل کی تربیت بھی کر رہے ہیں بیت السلام کے پروگرام میں شرکت اپنی سعادت سمجھنا ان شرعی اور طے کے جن کی گفتگو

مٹانے کے لیے کمالیہ بیت السلام کے ساتھ

ڈھائی کروڑ بچوں کا اسکول سے باہر توجہ توجہ انک سے شرح خلوگی میں اضافے کے لیے ہم پنجاب کے اسکول بیت السلام کو گود دینے کے لیے تیار ہیں

منظومین فلسطین کے لیے کورسز اور پی کی خدمات

ترک خیمیاں اداروں کے شاندار شایعہ اور لباس ہائش پینے کے پانی علاج معالجے کی تسلسل کے ساتھ خدمت جاری

کراچی (پ ر) فلسطین کے مظلوم عوام | کے لیے بیت السلام اپنے ہم خیال ترک | رفائی اداروں کے باقی صفحہ نمبر 3 پیج نمبر 6

بیت السلام لیبارٹری اینڈ ڈیگنوسٹک سینٹر

OPD Clinics ادبی ڈی کلینکس

کراچی (پ ر) گورنر پنجاب منجانب

نے کہا ہے کہ بنیادی تعلیم ہر بچے کا بنیادی اور

آئینی حق ہے قومی باقی صفحہ نمبر 3 پیج نمبر 5

<p>زچہ، بچہ، کلینک</p> <p>بشری ذوالفقار 12:00pm - 1:00pm</p> <p>مشائز ونس تجربہ</p>	<p>چاند کلینک</p> <p>موسم وارث 9:45am - 11:45am</p> <p>ملاحت صیب 2:30pm - 3:30pm</p>
<p>بڈی و جوڑ کلینک</p> <p>معدطہر 10:00am - 12:00pm</p> <p>کاشف انور 2:00pm - 3:30pm</p>	<p>ہارٹ کلینک</p> <p>مستحب 4:00pm - 5:00pm</p> <p>محباشم 12:00pm - 1:00pm</p>
<p>امراض گردہ کلینک</p> <p>فہد نسیم 3:30pm - 4:30pm</p> <p>محمد راشد 12:00pm - 1:00pm</p>	<p>نیورولاجی کلینک</p> <p>حازمی ON</p> <p>عنبر مشتاق 12:30pm - 1:30pm</p>
<p>جزل کلینک</p> <p>عبدالواسع درانی 9:00am - 10:00pm</p> <p>ببینا اقبال 9:00am - 10:00pm</p>	<p>چیت کلینک</p> <p>صلاح الخین 2:00pm - 3:30pm</p> <p>زادخان 2:00pm - 3:30pm</p>
<p>امراض معدہ و جگر کلینک</p> <p>حافظہ حارث الطاف 11:00am - 12:00pm</p> <p>سید طارق 6:00pm - 7:00pm</p>	<p>آکھوں کا کلینک</p> <p>سید طارق 6:00pm - 7:00pm</p>

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سرمسراہیں مسابوق ہزاروں افراد کو کمبل کا عطیہ دیا گیا

بیت السلام کے زیر نفاذ تعلیمی مراکز کے توسط سے کمبلوں کے علاوہ گرم کپڑے اور دیگر موزوں تقسیم کیے گئے

کراچی (پ ر) سردی کا موسم قریب آتے ہی بیت السلام ضرورت مند متعلق گھرانوں کی خبر گیری کا اہتمام کرتا ہے اور ہر سال ہزاروں کمبل، سویٹر، گرم لباس، چادریں، موزے وغیرہ تقسیم کرتا ہے۔ اس سال بھی ملک بھر میں اور خاص طور پر بچی و پس ماندہ بستیوں میں رہنے والے حقیقی مستحق گھرانوں کو گرم لباس، چادریں، سویٹر اور کمبل کی فراہمی کا سلسلہ جاری رہا۔

کراچی (پ ر) بیت السلام ویلفیئر | ٹرسٹ کی رفائی خدمات سے ہر سال رمضان میں لاکھوں افراد مستفید ہوتے ہیں جنہیں سحری، افطاری، راشن، گوشت، پکڑوں، جوتوں کے علاوہ نقد امدادی فراہم کی جاتی ہے۔ ملک کے

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2022ء میں تباہ کن بارشوں اور سیلاب متاثرین کے لیے خدمات کا تسلسل

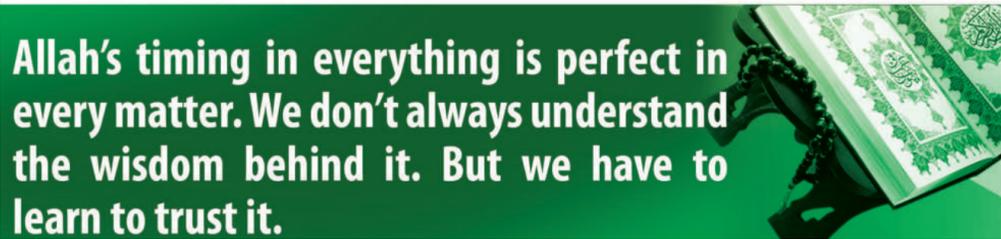
سجایا پاکستان کو گرم کر کے 1036 گھرانوں کی تعمیر مکمل

620 بچوں میں 281 اور پنجاب میں 135 تعمیر گھرانے کے خزانے بلیوں گھرانوں کی تعمیر کے لیے انتظامات کیے جاسکے ہیں

کراچی (پ ر) 2022ء میں ہونے والی تباہ کن بارشوں اور ان کے نتیجے میں آنے والے سیلاب سے متاثر ہونے والے خاندانوں سے تعاون اور ان کی خدمات کا سلسلہ جاری رکھے ہوئے ہیں۔ مجال پاکستان پروگرام گھرانوں کی تعمیر کا جو سلسلہ شروع کیا گیا تھا وہ حال جاری ہے اور اس وقت 1036 گھرانوں کی تعمیر مکمل ہو چکی ہے اور ان کی چھاپا متعلقہ اہل خانہ کو دے دی گئی ہیں، اس وقت بھی بستیوں گھرانوں کی تعمیر منصوبے اور پروگرام میں شامل ہے جن کے انتظامات کیے جا رہے ہیں۔



The world is a vehicle for you. If you drive it, it will deliver you to your destination. If it drives you, you will be destroyed.



Allah's timing in everything is perfect in every matter. We don't always understand the wisdom behind it. But we have to learn to trust it.

BAIT-US-SALAM UPDATES

Baitussalam Welfare Trust Providing Monthly Necessities to White Collar Needy Families with Dignity

A program ongoing for four years, BWT has been providing not only monthly ration but basic necessity items too.

Thousands of white collared needy households are provided for by BWT under a program launched 4 years back in manner that maintains their dignity and respect. Donors to the cause keep the program running and a need is there for more well-wishers to join hand with BWT to continue and further this noble cause.

Baitussalam Undertakes to Provide for Thousands All Over Pakistan This Ramadan

Like every year, this year too, plans are underway to make suhoor, iftar, etc to needy all over Pakistan this Ramadan

BWT intends to reach out to the poor and needy in far flung areas and outskirts of cities, with this program under which suhoor, iftar, eid clothes and other basic necessities will be provided, InshaAllah.

Baitussalam Roti Program Continues

At a nominal price of Rs. 5, only thousand benefit every day.

Launched almost 1.5 years back, this program continues to benefit many who buy a Rs. 5 only roti from the BWT tandoors and are served with respect.



Another Step Taken by Baitussalam Laboratories

Lab Internship Program launched for the young talented youth to gain relevant experience for a brighter future.

Under this program, the participants will get the opportunity to develop their lab technical skills under the supervision of experts along with lectures in a 3-month course



Millions of Rupees Donation Collected & Sent for Gaza

Food, clothing, housing, drinking water, and treatment continues to be provided alongside Turkish like-minded NGOs

BWT Provides Valuable Educational Services to the Youth of Pakistan Through More than 400 educational institutions, 40 thousand students benefited from scholarships Magnificent environment for religious and contemporary education, ideal

training system, full attention to curriculum as well as co-curricular activities including sports, free provision of necessities of life including accommodation, food, transport and treatment is what encompasses the BWT educational programs.

In the last academic year, students got 42 positions in Wifaq Al Madaris examination, 442 students completed memorization of Quran, excellent results were achieved in O & A levels and positions won in many competitions including Robotics.



BWT Winter Blankets Drive

Blankets were donated to thousands of people during winter

Apart from blankets, warm clothes, sweaters and socks were distributed through educational centers managed by Baitussalam Trust.

Continuity of Services for Victims of Catastrophic Rains & Floods in 2022

Construction of 1036 houses completed under Bahaal Pakistan Program

620 constructed houses in Sindh, 281 in Balochistan and 135 in Punjab have been handed over to the families, arrangements are being made for the construction of twenty houses.

Millions of Rupees Donation Collected & Sent for Gaza

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BWT Provides Valuable Educational Services to the Youth of Pakistan

Through More than 400 educational institutions, 40 thousand students benefited from scholarships

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- Makkah Towers
- Anjum Hotel
- Sheraton Makkah
- Hyatt Regency
- Address Makkah
- Jumeirah Makkah
- Hilton Suites
- Marriott Hotel Makkah
- Le Meridien Makkah
- VOCO Makkah

Madinah Munawara Hotels

- The Oberoi
- Madinah Hilton
- Sofitel Shahd Al Madinah
- Anwar Al Madinah Mövenpick
- InterContinental Dar Al Iman
- InterContinental Dar al Hijra
- Dar Al Taqwa Madinah
- Taiba Suites
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- Al Aqeeq Hotel
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Some Significant Events of 2023

You are not alone if 2023 has you feeling worn down. It has been a trying year on the world scene, as the forces of disarray grew stronger. Ongoing wars ground on, while new ones erupted. Geopolitical competition increased, to the point where a meeting between rival heads of state became front-page news even though their talks yielded little tangible progress. In all, good news has been in short supply. So here are my top ten world events in 2023. You may want to read what follows closely. Many of these stories will continue into 2024 and beyond.

1. The global democratic recession continues: Optimists are predicting a fourth wave of global democratic expansion. That prediction was a bust in 2023. Freedom House started the year by announcing that 2022 marked the seventeenth straight year in which global freedom and democracy declined. As if to prove the point, Africa's coup epidemic continued. In July, Niger's military ousted the country's democratically-elected president. Neighboring states threatened to intervene if the coup wasn't reversed, but the military juntas running Mali and Burkina Faso threatened war in response. In August, Gabon's military took power and made vague promises to eventually hold elections. A new progressive party won the most seats in Thailand's May election. However, a backroom deal produced a pro-military government that left the election's biggest winner on the outside looking in. India's government continued to use the law and intimidation to silence critics, and many other democracies restricted freedom of expression. The trend of candidates claiming they would lose their election only if the vote were rigged continued. Far-right parties fared well across Europe, reviving memories of how European democracies collapsed a century ago. Guatemala's attorney general tried to keep the country's president-elect from taking office,

while Peru's attorney general used corruption investigations to pressure lawmakers to help her allies. All in all, not a good year for democracy.

2. The space race heats up: One hundred and fifty years ago the advice was: "Go west." Today the advice might be: "Go to the moon." Both countries and companies are making big bets on space. Seventy-seven countries have space agencies; sixteen countries can launch payloads into space. The moon has been of particular interest. Russia's moon effort ended in disappointment in August when its lander crashed into the moon's surface. Days later, India became the fourth country to land an unmanned vehicle on the moon, and the first to do so near the moon's South Polar Region. Two weeks later, India launched a mission to study the sun. China and the United States also have ambitious moon programs, with NASA aiming to return astronauts to the moon by 2025. These and other space-related efforts are fueling concerns that geopolitical rivalries will lead to the militarization of space.

3. Artificial intelligence (AI) offers promise and peril: AI burst into the public consciousness last year with the release of ChatGPT. In 2023, the technology based on so-called large-language models not only got better—the latest version of ChatGPT is reportedly ten times more advanced than its predecessor—governments, companies, and individuals moved quickly to exploit its potential. That triggered heated debates over whether AI is unleashing a new era of human creativity and prosperity, or opening a Pandora's box that will produce a nightmarish future. Optimists pointed to how AI was unleashing scientific breakthroughs at an unprecedented pace across a range of fields, enabling rapid drug design, unlocking medical mysteries, and solving seemingly unsolvable mathematical problems. Pessimists warned that the technol-

ogy is developing faster than the ability of humans to assess and mitigate the harm it might cause, whether that is creating mass unemployment, hardening existing societal inequalities, or triggering humanity's extinction.

4. War on Gaza: The Middle East looked promising in late September 2023. The Abraham Accords were deepening ties between Israel and Arab countries. Speculation abounded that Saudi Arabia might soon establish diplomatic relations with Israel. A ceasefire in Yemen's bitter civil war was holding. These trends prompted National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan to declare: "The Middle East region is quieter today than it has been in two decades now." That changed just eight days later, on October 7, when Hamas attacked Israel. Roughly 1,200 Israelis were killed, the deadliest day in Israel's history. Some 240 people were taken hostage. Vowing to eradicate Hamas, Israel launched airstrikes against Gaza and then invaded northern Gaza. A negotiated pause in the fighting at the end of November secured the release of roughly one hundred hostages. But fighting soon resumed with Israeli troops moving into southern Gaza. The soaring death toll for Palestinian civilians, most of them women and children, fueled worldwide complaints that Israel was committing war crimes. Israel denied the charge, arguing that Hamas was using Palestinian civilians as human shields. A case filed South Africa in the International Court of Justice against Israel is ongoing right now.

Initial fears that the conflict with Gaza might lead to a broader Middle East war eased by year's end but did not disappear. How the conflict will end and what will follow it remain open questions.

5. Global temperatures shatter records. Climate change is no longer a future threat. It is the world's new reality. Two thousand twenty-three is likely the hottest year on record. Global tem-

peratures have not been this high in 125,000 years, and they are poised to blow past the 2 degree Celsius limit enshrined in the 2015 Paris Agreement. The result has been extreme weather events around the globe, ranging from historic wildfires to extreme drought to record flooding. The once-obscure phrase "wet bulb temperature" entered the lexicon as people worldwide learned firsthand that high temperatures combined with high humidity can kill. Optimists pointed to developments that could turn things around. Total investments in clean energy have soared. The cost of wind and solar power continues to fall and many emitters will reach peak emissions in the next few decades. Humanity may have missed its chance to avoid catastrophic climate change.

6. Earthquakes Bringing Most Devastation in 2023: In 2023, a significant milestone was reached in earthquake-related fatalities, as more than 64,100 lives were lost—the highest death toll since 2010. The Turkey-Syria doublets in February, resulting in the loss of over 59,000 lives, captured international attention due to the widespread destruction, numerous injuries, and a significant number of casualties.

The initial main shock, registering a magnitude of 7.8, stands out as the largest earthquake of the year. Morocco also experienced its most powerful earthquake in centuries in September 2023, resulting in nearly 3,000 casualties. In October, Afghanistan's Herat Province experienced four magnitude 6.3 earthquakes, resulting in the tragic loss of over 1,400 lives. Additionally, a moderate tremor in western Nepal claimed 153 lives in November. In December, another significant seismic event occurred in northern China's Gansu province, leading to 151 fatalities—the nation's deadliest earthquake incident since 2014. Additionally, deadly earthquakes struck Ecuador, Pakistan, and the Philippines.

NEWS & VIEWS

Malaysia bans Israel-flagged ships from its ports in response to Gaza

PM says Israel's actions 'violate international law through the ongoing massacre and brutality against Palestinians'

Malaysia has banned all Israeli-flagged cargo ships from docking at its ports in what it said was a response to the war in Gaza, accusing Israel of violating international law through the "massacre and brutality against Palestinians". On Wednesday, Malaysian Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim announced the decision to impose the maritime ban on Israel-affiliated vessels – singling out ZIM, Israel's largest shipping firm – amid growing alarm over disruptions to global shipping as a result of attacks on cargo ships in the Red Sea.

Ships on their way to Israel will also be barred from loading cargo at any port in the Southeast Asian nation with immediate effect, Anwar said in a statement. Malaysia, where about 60 percent of the population is Muslim, does not maintain diplomatic relations with Israel and advocates for a two-state solution to the Israel-Palestine conflict.

"The Malaysian government decided to block and disallow the Israeli-based shipping company ZIM from docking at any Malaysian port," Anwar said.

The restrictions are a response "to Israel's actions that ignore basic humanitarian principles and violate international law through the ongoing mas-

sacre and brutality against Palestinians".

Malaysia "also decided to no longer accept ships using the Israeli flag to dock in the country" and ban "any ship on its way to Israel from loading cargo in Malaysian ports".

"Both of these restrictions are effective immediately," the prime minister said. Malaysia has donated millions of dollars in aid to Gaza and Anwar has vocally supported the Palestinian cause and condemned Israel's bombardment of Gaza since October 7. Malaysia's ban comes at a time of major disruptions to shipping routes as the Red Sea passage is jeopardised due to attacks by Yemen's Houthi rebels in the world's main East-West trade route.

The Red Sea is linked to the Mediterranean by the Suez Canal, which creates the shortest shipping route between Europe and Asia. About 12 percent of world shipping traffic transits the canal.

Container ships traversing these waters have either switched off tracking systems or have anchored as companies try to reroute and adjust prices. The United States announced the launch of a multinational force to protect trade in the Red Sea after the Houthi attacks forced many shipping lines to suspend operations.

Baitussalam Launches a Tech Park

150 students have been selected from 3000 applicants and three stages of interview and tests out of for free IT courses

Raudha tus Salam Hosts Talent Hunt 2k23: Unleashing Potentials

At Raudha tus Salam, we firmly believe in the inherent talent present within every individual. Yet, often, that potential needs a guiding hand to emerge, igniting creativity that propels our aspirations for a brighter world. For this purpose, we launched the resounding spectacle of a weeklong Talent Hunt 2k23, held from 18th December to 22nd December 2023, echoing the powerful call: "Unleash Your Potential."

Our philosophy revolves around maintaining a harmonious equilibrium between Academics and Extracurricular activities. We passionately advocate that the path to academic excellence involves imparting knowledge through diverse methodologies and engaging activities. Talent Hunt 2k23 encompassed two distinct categories: one set within the classroom and the other projecting brilliance on the stage. Within the classroom setup, an array of activities unfolded that are Art and Craft, Recycling, Culinary Arts, Painting, Sketching, Calligraphy, Clay Art, Paper

Pasting, and more. Simultaneously, the stage came alive with captivating performances of Tilawat, Naat, Quiz, Speech, Drama, and the intellectually demanding Bait Bazi. Notably, Quiz and Bait Bazi were especially tough as students had to

grasp around 300 questions for the Quiz and memorize approximately 250 verses of poetry for the Bait Bazi. It's worth mentioning that our students showcased excellence across three languages: Arabic, Urdu, and English. The event concluded with a

100 percent success, achieving everything perfectly! Witnessing our students immerse themselves in creativity and artistry, reaffirmed our conviction that creativity involves inventiveness, experimentation, growth, risk-taking, learning from

mistakes, and, most importantly, having fun. Alhamdulillah! We happily gave out approximately 80 medals and 250 certificates to honor the achievements of our exceptional winners and participants.

Looking forward, we are thrilled to announce that the forthcoming academic session will commence in August 2024, with admissions opening in February 2024. Insha'Allah, this journey will continue to nurture and celebrate the blossoming talents within our esteemed students.



Boycotts and protests – how are people around the world defying Israel?

From Jakarta to San Francisco, hundreds of thousands of people have taken to the streets over the past three months to protest Israel's ongoing assault on Gaza.

Many more have chosen to express their condemnation using their purchasing power, opting to boycott products and services that support Israel, in turn fueling the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement that was set up in 2005 by a coalition of Palestinian civil society groups. In the United States, students at several universities, including Columbia University in New York City, have said their attempts to speak out against Israel's bombardment of Gaza have met intimidation and censorship.

Across the Atlantic in the United Kingdom, a group of students at the University of York have also been holding events to raise awareness about the events in Palestine.

What is BDS? The BDS movement, established by a coalition of Pal-

estinian civil society groups in 2005, has seen a renewed global interest despite being banned on many US and Canadian campuses and in at least 35 states in the US.

The movement seeks to challenge international support for what it calls Israeli apartheid and settler colonialism – where colonists replace the Indigenous community – and uphold the principle that "Palestinians are entitled to the same rights as the rest of humanity."

Inspired by the South African anti-apartheid movement, the US civil rights movement and the Indian anti-colonial struggle, BDS aims to make boycotts effective by focusing on selected companies and products that have a direct role in Israel's policies against Palestinians.

Their campaign is divided into four categories:

Consumer boycotts: Boycotts of brands that have a proven record of complicity in abuses against Palestinians.

Divestments: Pressure on governments and institutions to stop doing business with companies that enable the Israeli occupation of Palestinian lands.

Pressure: Calls for people and institutions to pressure brands and services to end their complicity in abuses against Palestinians.

Organic boycotts: Grassroots boycotts of brands that openly support Israeli violence against Palestinians.

The current boycott around the world against McDonald's, Burger King, Pizza Hut, Papa John's and other companies is coming from organic grassroots campaigns, not initiated by the

BDS movement, he added.

One of the main reasons for this boycott spree is that the companies' branches or franchises in Israel have openly supported and provided generous in-kind donations to the Israeli military during its offensive, he said.

Impact on locally owned franchises

Many Western brands, particularly those perceived to be pro-Israel, have felt the impact of the boycotts. Local franchise owners – including those of McDonald's in Egypt, Oman, Pakistan, and the United Arab Emirates – have issued statements distancing themselves from the actions taken by their Israeli counterparts.

Many franchises are locally owned, and business owners fear the economic damage and unemployment the boycotts could cause.

Baitussalam School Islamabad Girls' Section Hifz Competition

Students competed in different rounds, gave speeches and performed nasheeds, was an excellent display of Hifz prowess.

Baitussalam School Islamabad's Girls' section recently held a Hifz competition for students from grades 1-7. Students first competed amongst their grade levels and finally 3 to 4 students from each class were selected for the final round. Competition was divided into four rounds. In one round the participants had to recite the asked Surah; in another round, the participants had to identify the

Surah name and whether it was Makki or Madni Surah and recite the next ayah of Surah to the one recited. In yet another round, the participants had to identify the named Surah as either Makki or Madni Surah and in the final round the participants were required to name Surahs before or after the named Surah. It was a test of con-

fidence, Tajweed, memory and presence of mind and Allhamdulillah the students performed exceptionally well. The Grade 1 finalist students competed with grade 2 finalists. The grade 3 finalists competed with grade 4 finalists and gave them a tough time whereas it was a very close call amongst the finalists of Grade 5 and 7, where two students each ended up sharing the 1st

and the 2nd positions. An external judge marked the students on their performance in the competition held over 2 days. Mothers of the finalist students were invited as guests. All students of the school received goody bags for participating, certificates were given to the semifinalists, certificate and medal to the finalists, trophy and certificate to the winners.

