

PAJNTAN SOCIETY OF VICTORIA

NEWSWIRE JUNE–JULY 2010

1. RAMZAN APPEAL 2010

Imam Baqir (a.s) quoted on the authority of God's Prophet (a.s):

“Heaven is the residence of generous people.”

PSV and PSYG have launched a Ramzan Appeal to collect funds for iftaar provisions to the needy. The funds will be sent to:

- 1. Safina home - a Shia orphanage in Islamabad.**
- 2. Madressa Sakina Bint-ul-Hussain in Lahore.**

For more information or if you wish to donate generously and be a part of this good deed, please contact:

- 1. For Safina Home - PSYG Secretary (psyg@panjtan.org.au)**
- 2. For Madressa Sakina Bint-ul-Hussain - PSV Treasurer (Treasurer@panjtan.org.au)**

A number of other organisations have also launched Ramzan appeals to the world wide Shia community to come together and contribute towards iftaar provisions for the poor and needy Shias. We list the website links of some of these organisations which you may visit if you wish to contribute directly to them:

www.world-federation.org

www.ladyfatemahtrust.org

2. SHEIKH MANSOUR LEGHAI – WE BID HIM FAREWELL

On Saturday June 26th, a formal farewell was organised at the Imam Husain Islamic Centre in Sydney to bid farewell to, without question, the most influential Sheikh we have had in this country. More than 1000 people crammed in – people of all faiths and cultures from across the region. On Sunday morning, Sheikh Mansour was invited at Holy Trinity Church to farewell his many supporters there. That evening, more than 300 supporters showed up at the airport to make their final farewells.

The issue does not end here. The Australian Government has until October 21st to respond to the *United Nations Human Rights Committee* and explain why they charged, judged and executed Sheikh Mansour without ever telling him what he'd done wrong.

Sheikh Mansour might have left Australia but controversy remains, and the battle to see justice ultimately prevail is far from over.

An excellent article was published by Dr Michael Head – Associate Professor of Law at the University of Western Sydney – entitled, “*Asylum seekers and ASIO’s abuse of power*“. Dr Head sees Sheikh Mansour’s case as illustrative of the way in which our security organisation (ASIO) has become ‘*legally unchallengeable*’ – a situation that Professor Head describes as a ‘*grave worry*’.

For more press articles and TV interviews about Sheikh Mansour’s case, visit the website:

www.savethesheikh.com

3. RENOWNED SHAIR AND NAUHAKHWAN VISIT MELBOURNE

Mo'mineen of Melbourne were honoured by the visit of 2 renowned personalities in July.

On 9th July, Safer e Aza Nadeem Sarwar was in Melbourne on the occasion of the shahadat of Imam Musa Kazim (as).

On 22 – 25th July, Zakir and Shair e Ahle Bayt Shaukat Raza Shaukat recited Jashn during the blessed days of Shaban.

May Allah increase the taufeeqat of the mo'mineen in Melbourne and give more opportunity to invite those who do midhat and soz only for the sake of the Holy Ahlul Bayt (as)

4. SHEIKH JEHAD IN MELBOURNE

Sheikh Jihad was back in Melbourne, at Imam Ali Center on 3rd July 2010 to continue his series of lectures in English on **“Issues concerning Youths in the West”**.

This was his fourth lecture on this subject. The first three lectures on this subject were delivered in Panjtan Center in Feb & Apr 2010.

Insha allah Sheikh Jihad plans to come to Melbourne at least once a month to deliver his lectures and mo'mineen (especially the youth) are encouraged to attend these lectures.

5. 2010 PSV SPORTS FESTIVAL

The PSV Cricket Tournament came to an exciting end on 5th June with the final match between Al Mahdi and Hyder 11.

The kids match kicked things off and the final lived upto its reputation as a thrilling encounter with a victory for Al Mahdi by 10 wickets.

6. PSV SECURES FUNDING UNDER VOLUNTEER GRANTS 2010

PSV has been successful in its application for funding to assist its volunteers under Volunteer Grants 2010. The Grant is issued by the Australian Government - Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs.

The Offer for Funding is worth \$ **5000/-** over the next one year period.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

7. UK HOME OFFICE'S EXCLUSION ORDER FOR DR. ZAKIR NAIK

The UK Home Office has issued an Exclusion order for Dr. Zakir Naik preventing him from being granted a visa to enter the UK. Dr. Zakir Naik has in the past, openly supported the accursed killers of Imam Husain (as).

The Muslim Council of Britain had sought to support Dr. Zakir Naik and had written a letter to the UK Home Office deploring the Exclusion Order.

The World Federation of KSIMC, The Council of European Jamaats and the Al Khoei Foundation have collectively noted with deep concern the support provided by the Muslim Council of Britain for Dr. Zakir Naik.

The three organisations showed a united front in expressing their collective displeasure and sent a strongly worded letter to the Muslim Council of Britain. The letter stated:

“The public proclamations of Dr. Zakir Naik relating to Shi’a and Sufi Muslims should not go unchallenged; his open, and sometimes vile, condemnations of Sufi and Shi’a religious ostentations place him on par with violent and extremist ideologies that sit on the periphery of the dichotomous worldview held by Dr. Zakir Naik which in the view of many runs contrary to the spirit of Islam.”

8. THE SHIA WORLD LOSES TWO GREAT ULEMA IN JULY

Hadith says: **"If an 'alim dies, there will be a rift in Islam that nothing, whatsoever, could fill."**

On Sunday, 4th July, Ayatollah Sayyed Mohammed Hussein Fadlallah, passed away at age 74 in Lebanon after a long illness.

On Sunday, 18th July, Ayatollah Sayyid Abbas Hussaini Kashani, passed away at the age of 80 in Tehran.

Both these ulema were among the students of the great teachers Sayyid Abul Qasim Al Khoui and Sayyid Muhsin al-Hakim. Their passing away is indeed a great loss to the Shia world. May Allah give them the rewards reserved for the sincere mo'mineen in the hereafter.

9. NAJAF CEMETARY "WADI AL SALAM" LISTED AS WORLD HERITAGE SITE

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) has agreed to list the Wadi Al-Salam Cemetery in the holy city of Najaf as a world heritage site, Iraq's Ministry of Culture announced.

A delegation from UNESCO visited the cemetery two weeks ago and held meetings with Iraqi cultural officials to discuss listing the site as a world heritage site.

The Wadi Al-Salam Cemetery is the largest cemetery in the Islamic world, or according to some accounts in the whole world. Located near the holy shrine of Imam Ali (AS) the first Shia Imam, it holds the graves of many prophets, thinkers, scientists, and historical figures as well as ordinary people from different countries like Iraq, Iran, India, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Kuwait, and Lebanon. The cemetery covers 6 square kilometres and contains millions of bodies.



RELIGIOUS SECTION

- **Necessity of recognising the Imam Of The Time**

Usman Al Amri says: "I asked Imam Hasan bin Ali Al- Askari (a.s.) when I was in his presence, regarding the saying of his forefathers (A.S.) that, **'The earth shall never be devoid of Allah's proof upon His creatures till the day of qiyamat. And certainly One who dies without recognising the Imam of his time, dies the death of Ignorance'**".

Imam (a.s.) replied, **"This is as true as the bright morning"**.

I then asked Imam (a.s.), **"O son of the Prophet (S.A), then who is the Hujjat and the Imam after you?"**

He (a.s.) said: **"My son, Muhammed. He is the Imam and the Hujjat after me. One who dies without recognising him, dies the death of Ignorance"**.

(Kamaaluddin Vol.2 Pg.409, Kifayatul Asar Pg.292)

According to Imam Jafar as Sadiq (a.s.), the death of ignorance is the death in a deviated and astrayed condition. (Al Kafi Vol.1 Pg.376)

- **Be Prepared For Being Among The Helpers Of Imam Mahdi (A.S.)**

"O You who believe! be patient and excel in patience and remain steadfast and be careful of (your duty to) Allah, that you may be successful". (Surah Ale Imran 3:200)

Hazrat Imam Baqir (a.s.) explains the tafseer of this ayat : **"Have patience in fulfilling the religious obligations, Excel in patience in facing your enemies. And be in contact with your Imam who is awaited"**

(Ghaibat-e-Nomani. pg.27, Yanabiul Mawadda pg.421)

- **From the Book Mishkat ul Anwar - Chapter on Humiliating Believers**

Muhammad ibn Abi Hamze narrated that Imam Sadiq (a.s) said: **"Whoever humiliates a poor believer will be humiliated by God until he stops humiliating him."**

Imam Sadiq (a.s) said: **"Whoever humiliates or belittles a believer for being poor, God will make him known for something in the Hereafter that will make him lose his good reputation."**

Mual'ay ibn Khonayth narrated that he heard Imam Sadiq (a.s) say that the Almighty God said: **"Whoever humiliates My believing servants should prepare to fight with Me, since I rush to help My friends sooner than anyone else does."**

Davood al-Raghi narrated that Imam Sadiq (a.s) said: **"Whoever fulfills the needs of a believer without belittling him will be housed in Heaven."**