



Newsletter

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**Please show due respect for this publication
as it contains excerpts from the Holy Qur'an.**

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Emergency Aid for Super Typhoon Victims

The Welfare Committee of the Islamic Union of Hong Kong (the Union) recently launched an appeal for funds to provide humanitarian aid to victims of Typhoon Haiyan which struck the Philippines.

In November 2013, super Typhoon Haiyan struck the central part of the country with such ferocity that it left nearly 10,000 dead, injured over 100,000 and rendered hundreds of thousands homeless. Many people are still missing and presumed dead.

To provide early relief to some of the victims, a sum of \$50,000 was remitted by the Union on 13 November 2013 to the Abdur Rahman Center, a Muslim organisation in the Philippines with

which the Union has worked closely over the years implementing various humanitarian projects in the country. In addition, medicine and canned goods consisting of fish, meat and beans were purchased and dispatched to the affected areas.

The Union also launched an appeal for clothes and these together with canned goods and medicine, were sent free of charge through arrangements made by the United Filipinos, Hong Kong.

As at the end of November 2013, nearly \$110,000 had been collected and seven jumbo sized boxes containing medicine, canned goods and clothing were dispatched.



Children victims



Packing the relief supplies



Volunteers and the relief supplies purchased by the Union's Welfare Committee

IU MATTERS

Chief Executive Visits Kowloon Mosque

The Islamic Community in Hong Kong has appealed to the Honourable Leung Chun Ying, Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative region to consider young Muslims who has completed their education in Hong Kong for employment in the Civil Service.

Bro. Saeeduddin, Chairman of the Incorporated Trustees of the Islamic Community Fund of Hong Kong (Trustees) called on Mr. Leung, who recently visited Kowloon Mosque and Islamic Centre, to take into account the growing number of young Muslims who were eligible to join the administration. He emphasised that they should not be deprived of their role as citizens who could contribute towards the development of the city simply because they could not write Chinese.

Bro. Saeeduddin said ethnic minorities and their children faced problems learning the Chinese language and gaining admission to mainstream Chinese schools. He appealed to the Chief Executive to consider students and young people who have completed their education in Hong Kong, are fluent in spoken English and Cantonese and are extremely talented, for employment in the civil service.

“Their talents should not be wasted. Competence and command of written Chinese should not be compulsory and



Haji Saeeduddin introducing IU Chairman, Bro. A.R. Suffiad to Mr. Leung

considered a requirement for Government jobs.” said Bro. Saeeduddin.

Mr. Leung, the first Chief Executive to visit the Kowloon Mosque and Islamic Centre, arrived on 15 November 2013, and was met at the entrance by Bro. Saeeduddin, who took him on a tour of the facility following which he was introduced to other Trustees, representatives of constituent bodies affiliated to the Trustees and to the Imams.

Bro. Saeeduddin in his welcome address thanked the Chief Executive for taking time from his busy schedule to visit the Mosque and he then proceeded to brief him on the work of the Trustees.

He said that the Trustees manage five Mosques and two Muslim cemeteries, provide religious education in madrasahs and conduct introductory courses on Islam. They were the sole authority to issue halal certificates in Hong Kong and at present, 56 restaurants, including

one in Disneyland and one in Ocean Park, have been issued with halal certificates.

In his briefing, Bro. Saeeduddin also revealed that at the request of the United Muslim Association of Hong Kong, the Trustees were embarking on a very important project to construct a Mosque and Islamic Centre in

Sheung Shui which would also include an elderly care centre with 200 beds to serve the community irrespective of race or religion. This project is generously financed by the government of the Royal Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

The Chief Executive said he was extremely pleased to meet those present and appreciated the good work done by the Trustees in managing the Kowloon Mosque and Islamic Centre. He appreciated the fact that the Muslim community in Hong Kong is living in a peaceful and harmonious environment and enjoyed cordial relations with other communities including the local Chinese people.

The Kowloon Mosque and Islamic Centre is situated in Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon and Mr. Leung is the first Chief Executive to visit the Mosque since the handover of Hong Kong to the People's Republic of China on July 1997.



International Conference on Human Rights and Family



Left: Representatives from five religions in Hong Kong; Middle: Imam Yang delivering a talk; Right: Professor Alberto Garcia from UNESCO presenting souvenir to Imam Yang

The Third International Conference on Bioethics, Multiculturalism and Religion has been successfully held recently, which was organised by the UNESCO and Department of Religion and Philosophy, Hong Kong Baptist University. Imam Uthman Yang Xing Ben attended the public forum and gave a theme speech, representing Hong Kong Muslim Community.

This three-day conference gathers bioethics experts from Islam, Buddhism, Christianity, Confucianism, Daoism, Hinduism and Judaism to discuss the complex relationship between universal human rights and cultural diversity in life sciences based on Article 12 of the UNESCO Declaration on Bioethics and Human Rights (2005).

the relationship between human rights and family. He quoted many verses from the Holy Qu'ran and many Hadiths to introduce the Islamic views from seven aspects, including rights of equity, rights of freedom, rights of education, rights of property, rights of privacy and reputation protection, rights of starting a family.

In the address, Imam Yang talked on

Turkish Delegation visits IU



Turkish Delegation led by Mr. Kemal Yurtnaç (fifth from the right)

A three-member strong delegation from the Turkey Scholarship Council from the Office of the Prime Minister of the Republic of Turkey, paid a courtesy call to the Islamic Union of Hong Kong recently.

The delegation headed by Mr. Kemal Yurtnaç, was received on arrival by the Chairman of the Union, Bro. A.R. Suffiad, Haji Saeeduddin, the Vice-Chairman, Haji R.M. Omar, Hon. Secretary, and several Council members.

Mr. Yurtnaç accompanied by Ebubekir Kadri Bişkinler, Mr. Aden Günaydın and Ms Sibel Ipekkın, were briefed on the work of the Union and the role in the educational field among Muslims in Hong Kong. Mr. Yurtnaç thanked the Union and was very

impressed with the Union's role in the Muslim community in Hong Kong.

He further hoped that Hong Kong could send one student to study in Turkey. The delegation was in Beijing, Haerbin and Shanghai for the International Graduate Scholarship Fair before coming to Hong Kong for a one-day visit.

IU MATTERS

IU organises Hajj 2013



IU Hajj Group members in Mecca



IU Hajj Group members before departing

Da'wah Committee of the Union has jointly organised Hajj this year with Koperasi Sejahtera Jeddah. The group comprising of 19 participants left Hong Kong which was led by Bro. Abdul Muhaemin Bin Karim on 7 October 2013 for Jeddah. They were accommodated at Ajjad Hotel near Al-Masjid Al-Haram in Mecca until 20 October 2013.

While in Mecca they also visited historical sites such as Mount of Thaur, Cave of Hira', Mount of Rahmah and Museum of two Holy Mosques. In Arafat and Mina the group was under the arrangement of Maktab 115 and put in VIP Groups.

After completing all the rituals of Hajj, the group left for Al-Madinah Al-Munawwarah to visit the Mosque and the Tomb of the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh). During the 3-night stay in Madinah, the group visited historical sites such as the Masjid of Qiba, the mount of Uhud, the Masjid of Qiblatain, the Baqi' Cemetery and dates market.

On 25 October 2013 the group left Jeddah International Airport and returned Hong Kong on 26 October 2013.

Welcome



New Brothers and Sisters

Alhumdullillah! Another group of brothers and sisters joined our expanding community of Muslims.

At a ceremony held on 22 September 2013, 31 brothers and sisters embraced Islam. The converts – 2 males and 29 females – came from Nepal (1), Canada (1), China (6), Indonesia (2) and the Philippines (21).

The ceremony, organised by the Da'wah Committee of the Union in conjunction with the Helpers of Islam Group (HIG) and Halaqah, began with recitation of verses from the Holy Qur'an by Hafiz Rashid Nomani. This was followed by a talk on Islam by Dr. Mohamed Salah.

Following his talk, Dr. Salah conducted the ceremony by leading the converts in recitation of the Kalimah Shahadah in English. As the converts came from different countries, Bro. Abdul Muhaemin Bin Karim, the Union's Da'wah worker led the 2 converts from Indonesia in recitation of the Kalimah Shahadah using Bahasa Indonesia.

Haji Kasim Ma Fung Wai, Chairman of the Union's Da'wah Committee, then led the 6 converts from China in recitation of the Declaration of Faith using the Cantonese language.

Bro. Kasim Ma and Imam Uthman Yang, Chief Imam of Masjid Ammar, then presented souvenirs to the converts consisting of a copy of the Holy Qur'an, prayer mat,

tasbeih, prayer cap for men and prayer scarf for women.

After presentation of souvenirs to the converts, a short question and answer session ensued and the ceremony concluded with a Du'a by Imam Sulaiman Wang following which light refreshments were served.



Dr. Mohamed Salah

Dr. Salah obtained his BA in Shariah and Islamic Law from Al Azhar University in Cairo, Egypt. He holds an MBA in Islamic studies from Cloverdale College, Theological Foundation, Indiana, USA. He is also a PhD holder in Comparative Fiqh.

Dr. Salah is the presenter of several TV programmes including "Ask Huda", "Correct Your Recitation" and "Gardens of the Pious" all of which are highly acclaimed in Egypt.

Also a lecturer at Al Azhar University, Islamic University of North America and London College. He is now working as a religious adviser to Huda satellite TV, one of the world's leading Islamic channels which has been broadcasting exclusively in English since 2005.

Due to popular demand, the function was originally scheduled to continue after Asr prayers but because of the approach of typhoon Usagi and the imminent hoisting of the No. 8 signal, the programme had to be cut short and it ended at around 4:00 pm enabling over 200 participants to make their way home before public transport services stopped operating.

Of the 31 converts, 21 were students of Hajia Medeenah M. Molina, Chairperson of HIG, who conducts classes on Sundays in Masjid Ammar for those interested in learning about Islam.

A highly respected and prominent scholar, Dr. Salah was in Hong Kong to give a Da'wah training at the invitation of the Union. His visit was made possible through the kind assistance of Bro. Wael Ibrahim of Serving Islam Team.



IU MATTERS

IU Annual General Meeting



The Union held its 65th Annual General Meeting on 15 December 2013 at the Seminar Room of Masjid Ammar & O.R. Sadick Islamic Centre.

More than 44 brothers and sisters turned up for the meeting, which was chaired by the Chairman, Bro. A.R. Suffiad. The current Council members, Haji A.R. Karamdin, Haji R.M. Omar, Haji Nasser El-Morshidy, Bro. Fazal Dad and Bro. Aminul Haque were re-elected to the Council.

Following the AGM, the first Council Meeting was held to elect Chairmen for respective committees.

Office Bearers of the IUHK G

Chairman:	Bro. A.R. Suffiad
Hon. Secretary	Haji R.M. Omar
Building Management Committee:	Haji M.A. Khan
Da'wah Committee:	Haji Kasim Ma Fung Wai
Information Technology Committee:	Bro. Aminul Haque
Membership Committee	Bro. Aminul Haque
Library Committee:	Bro. Ali Mahomed
Publicity and Publications Committee:	Haji Nasser El-Morshidy
Welfare Committee:	Haji A.D. Khan
Co-ordinator, Staff Supervisory Panel:	Haji M.A. Khan
Representatives on the Board of Trustees:	Bro. O.M. Arab
Council Members:	Haji Najeem Khan

International Food Festival - A Big Success



Left: Children were quite interested in the chocolate fountain; Right: Large crowd of brothers and sisters attended the event

Supported by the Union, the two-day International Food Festival celebrating Eid-El-Adha came to a close with great success.

Supported by different Muslim organisations and institutes, all proceeds, amounting to \$22,852.20 donated to the Union's Sadaqah Fund.

This was the first time such large scale event staged in the Osman Ramju Sadick Islamic Centre, and the event can not be successful without the full support from the Community.

During the two-day event different kinds of cuisine and food products from different places and countries

were displayed and sold, including Turkish, Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi, Chinese, Indonesian, Filipino, Thai and Italian.

With the full support from the Union, the event was held on the roof patio on the 8/F of the Islamic Centre.

General Council for 2013/2014

Vice Chairman:	Haji Saeeduddin
Hon. Treasurer:	Bro. O.M. Arab
Canteen Monitoring Committee:	Bro. A. Moosdeen
Education Committee:	Haji Kasim Ma Fung Wai
Investment Committee:	Haji Saeeduddin
Legal & Tax Advice Committee:	Sis. Nisha Mohamed
Medical Committee:	Haji A.R. Karamdin
Sports and Recreation Committee:	Haji M.A. Khan
Co-ordinator, Islamic Association of Macau:	Haji R.M. Omar
Representatives on the Board of Trustees:	Haji Saeeduddin
Council Members:	Bro. Fazal Dad

DU'AA

at the end of a gathering

Arabic

سُبْحَانَكَ اللَّهُمَّ وَبِحَمْدِكَ،
أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا أَنْتَ،
أَسْتَغْفِرُكَ وَأَتُوبُ إِلَيْكَ.

Pronunciation

Subhaana Kallaahumma Wa Bihamdik.
Ash-Hadu Allaa Elaaha Illaa Ant.
Astaghfiruka Wa Atoobu Ilaik.

Outing for Madrassah Children



Volunteers distributing lunch to children

It was a beautiful day when around 50 boys studying Qu'ran at the Masjid Ammar and O.R. Sadick Islamic Centre took time off and went on an outing in Sai Kung.

Accompanied by volunteers and teachers, the students assembled in the Islamic Centre and a special

coach took them to Lobster Bay (Lung Ha Wan) at the tip of Sai Kung Peninsular.

After setting down in an exclusive and tranquil spot, the boys lined up to collect their lunch specially made by volunteers. They later went out to an open space when they enjoyed a game of cricket.

The party returned to the Islamic Centre happy but tired. The event was organised by the Sports and Recreation Committee of the Union.

English

O Allah! Glory and praise be to you.
I testify that there is none worthy of worship except you.
I seek your forgiveness and I return to you in repentance.

Chinese

真主啊！讚頌你超絕萬物，
一切讚頌全歸你！
我作證，除了你絕無應受崇拜的。
我祈求你的寬恕，我向你懺悔。

IU MATTERS

IU Hockey Team Won Praise in Bangkok

A 20-member hockey team of the Union recently has been to Bangkok, Thailand to take part in the hockey festival held at the Royal Bangkok Club.

As ambassador of the Union, the team came 3rd in the 2nd Division of the tournament and received high praises from the 30 overseas teams and organisers.

The IU team comprised of youngsters also had never been abroad and senior players together with their families. They all paid for their own expenses while the youngsters were supported by their senior players.

On the day of their arrival which was a Friday, the team immediately went straight for Jumah prayer. The team went to Haroon Mosque where they were received by Imam Abdul Ahad Thanarat Walcharapisud. After Jumah prayers, the team was treated with a sumptuous lunch consisting of mutton biryani, salad and tea.



IU Hockey Team in Bangkok

The players were briefed on the overall Muslim situation in the Buddhist dominating society. Imam Abdul noted that Muslims were well-respected in Thailand and there are at present seven million Muslims and over 300 Masjids in Thailand.

“The number of Muslims is increasing,” said Imam Abdul.

He invited Muslims from Hong Kong to visit Thailand and build stronger ties between Muslims in Hong Kong and Thailand.

Later officials and players collected a

few thousands Hong Kong dollars and donated to the Masjid.

The IU team was praised for their sportsmanship and discipline by the organiser and other teams and they hoped that the IU team would return again next year. The team was so popular among other participating teams from other countries that they were invited to play in Malaysia and Sri Lanka next year.

The 2-day tournament ended with a grand open air reception on the sports ground where the presentation was held.

Jumma & Sunday Halal Market



The Union is always looking after the needs of our community and different Committees of the Union are constantly finding ways and means to organise events in the Masjid Ammar & O.R. Sadick Islamic Centre to offer services to the Muslims.

The Union in three consecutive Jummahs (Fridays) and Sundays, arrange promotional sales of Halal pastries, bread, cakes and other products which would be difficult to find in the local supermarkets or wet markets.



IU “Street Da’wah”



First Row: Indonesian sisters performed folk dance in the Wan Chai District event; Second Row Left: Brother from Philippines doing street Da’wah in Central; Second Row Right: Volunteers in front of the booth of the Union.

Fifteen Filipinas embraced Islam recently when two brothers, skilled in da’wah, were in Hong Kong to propagate Islam to non-Muslims.

Bro. Mohammed Islam and Bro. Imran Umpad came from the Philippines specially to reach out to the many Filipinas working in the territory.

They arrived in Hong Kong on 15 November 2013. The next day they went to Shelly Street Mosque where visitors to the Mosque were briefed on the functions of a Mosque and on the teachings of Islam. On 18 November 2013, they went to Kowloon Mosque for the same purpose.

The most successful part of their visit however was on Sunday, 17 November 2013. In central district, they set

up two tables and reached out to the many Filipinas who frequent the area, briefing them on Islam and handing out literatures on the religion to them until stocks ran out. As a result, 15 Filipinas embraced Islam and another 64 who wanted to know more about the religion had their particulars taken down.

The two brothers are working in Bahrain and their visit to Hong Kong was sponsored by Discover Islam, Bahrain. Before their departure on 19 November 2013, they prepared some recommendations on da’wah for consideration by the Da’wah Committee of the Islamic Union of Hong Kong.

More related activities were also been held in Wanchai and Causeway Bay Districts.

Forthcoming Events

Lecture by
Dr. Jamal Badawi



- 11 January 2014 (Saturday)
6:30 p.m.
- 12 January 2014 (Sunday)
2:00 p.m.
- 6/F Seminar Room, Masjid Ammar and Osman Ramju Sadick Islamic Centre

Observance of the Birthday of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH)



- 13 January 2014 (Monday) (12 Rabi-ul-Awal 1435 Hijrah)
- 2/F Men’s Prayer Hall, Masjid Ammar and Osman Ramju Sadick Islamic Centre

“From MTV to Mecca How Islam Inspired My Life”



- 14 January 2014 (Tuesday)
6:30 p.m.
- 6/F Seminar Room, Masjid Ammar and Osman Ramju Sadick Islamic Centre

SPECIAL REPORT

My Hajj Experience

by Prof. Osman Yeung Yue Man

I feel doubly blessed in having completed my Hajj trip with my wife in 2013. Despite the initial hesitations and doubts on Ameda's part, we were able to complete the trip thanks to the encouragement and assistance from many individuals. Secondly, the trip carries a special meaning for me as not only we completed our pious duty as required of all Muslims, but also I completed it for my family. With me being a descendant of the 11th generation of Muslims from our forbears in the Beijing area, I simply followed the footsteps of my grandma, father and sixth uncle in having successfully completed my Hajj trip. I am the first in my generation to embark on this meaningful journey.

Many people have written about their experiences and feelings concerning their Hajj encounter, many from a religious perspective. From my experience as a seasoned and global traveler, I would simply reflect on what I saw and viewed as special to be shared with the reader.

As a student of cities, I found interests in the three Saudi cities visited on this trip, namely Mecca, Madina and Jeddah, respectively the third, fourth and second largest cities by population size in Saudi Arabia. Mecca is the most sacred city because of Kaaba, the House of Allah, which had been located there for centuries. Indeed, Prophet Muhammad did his Hajj there before he died. From old pictures of Kaaba in relation to Mecca, it is clear that the city had grown around it, with only very few people and buildings in the beginning. In other words, Kaaba had been the anchor and most important symbol of Mecca over the years.



CUHK Professor, Prof. Osman Yeung Yue Man and his wife, Sis. Ameda Yeung

Because of the competing thoughts between Islam, with the belief of Allah as one God, and many polytheists believing in many gods, Prophet Muhammad had to flee Mecca for Madina in order to escape from his enemies for his personal safety. Between Mecca and Madina, Prophet Muhammad exerted his different controls and influences. In retrospect, it is hard to believe that he was able to put Islam on a firm footing in just 23 years of spreading the religion before he died. Mecca and Madina bear witness today to different kinds of influence of the Prophet.



Jeddah Airport

As Madina is free from the constraints of geography, religious competition and vicious group conflicts, it has developed more orderly as a city, as reflected in its more presentable town planning and glimmering tall buildings. Jeddah, in contrast to the other two

cities, distinguishes itself in having the largest airport in the country. It is built to accommodate huge numbers of visitors to the Hajj every year. In 2013, the official figure of Hajj visitors was 2 million from abroad who came and left by the airport in Jeddah. It was a sight to behold when hundreds upon hundreds of pilgrims in Ihram dress (simply two garments for men) going through immigration formalities. The city appeared orderly, with its frontage on the Red Sea

valued for its views and water access. The Floating Mosque, strategically located along the waterfront, was the most impressive building we visited in Jeddah.



Crowd inside the Al-Masjid Al-Haram

I have visited countless cities in the world, but nothing can be compared with what I saw and went through in Mecca. One can well imagine how congested a city is with two million pilgrims descending on it at the same time. Traffic, accommodation, food, water and so on as daily essentials and life are pressed to the extreme. The streets leading to Mecca's Al-Masjid Al-Haram were crowded with people and cars before and after the five main prayers of the day. We went through the experience daily either as passengers in a car stranded on the main streets, or as pedestrians finding our way to the mosque or other destinations. The

SPECIAL REPORT & IU MATTERS

experience of holding on to a new suitcase in front of the massive clock tower building in Mecca and stranded among people doing their Maghrib prayers in the open air in front of Al-Masjid Al-Haram is something we will always remember. The grounds around the Masjid were filled with people who slept the night and at other times during the main prayer times performing their praying. Kaaba was jammed with people almost around the clock, as we were there several times of the day and in many days.



Al-Masjid Al-Haram, Mecca

The local TV showed conditions at Kaaba most of the time. I had special appreciation and admiration of how well Al-Masjid Al-Haram in Mecca and the Prophet's Mosque in Madina were architecturally designed and constructed. Praying in them gave me a lifting feeling that I never had before,

especially praying with people coming from different corners of the world. Yet we had the same purpose, same ways of showing respects to Allah, and ease of communication. In the Jumah prayer we attended in Al-Masjid Al-Haram, there was only standing room in where we were in the shady interior which was much preferred to the scorching sun in the open square. We got on well and exchanged information with two pilgrims coming from India.

To keep up with the ever-increasing people coming to the Hajj, Mecca has been modernizing its facilities to cope with surging crowds for pilgrimage. In Mecca's Al-Masjid Al-Haram, many cranes have sprung up to signify new constructions are under way to provide for more people coming to pray. Similarly, the pillars for stone throwing in Mina have been rehoused in a modern high-rise structure. Extensive and well-equipped access routes have been built, including one extensive tunnel complete with an automatic pedestrian conveying walkway for the entire route for people going in either direction. These are some of the measures to keep up with the time and to accommodate ever more people coming for

Hajj every year.



Street View of Mecca

Only during the Hajj trip one gets the feeling and reason of how five prayers a day can be dutifully carried out. Even shops and government service are closed when prayer times are called. On the other hand, one feels somewhat overwhelmed by the large number of people who had to sleep overnight on the street, in open squares, or wherever they might find. Overnight accommodation was simply unable to meet demand. There were also many beggars where crowds abounded. Many, I was told, came from as far as Africa, knowing pilgrims were ready to give alms to the poor. In all, it was a trip that has brought many thoughts and new experience to us that are precious to us as Muslims and as the first steps to understand Saudi Arabia.

BBQ event in Chai Wan Masjid



Volunteers delivering lunch to participants



Participants enjoying a good time

It was a warm sunny day when a group of nearly 200 brothers and sisters, old and young took part in the 'BBQ' event organised by the Union's Sports & Recreation Committee at the Chai Wan Masjid during the seasonal holidays.

Special programmes were also arranged for the children and their parents.

Imam Tufail spoke on the subject which a lot of Muslims in Hong Kong asked themselves as 'Why Muslims Do Not Celebrate Christmas?'.

The lunch consisting of Pulao rice,

BBQ meat, curry and milk tea prepared by volunteers and staffs of Chai Wan Mosque and Cemetery in the early morning.

The day-long event ended with a Dua by Imam Haji Sulaiman Wang.



Imam Tufail giving a Islamic short talk

ISLAMIC WORLD NEWS

Hong Kong

Bonds of Faith



Hong Kong's planned sukuk will pave the way for Chinese corporates to sell the debt in the city and pits it against financial rivals London and Singapore in the competition to become a global Islamic finance hub.

"Hong Kong is the gateway to China, which is a very unique proposition," said Baiza Bain, a managing director at Amanie Advisors, a Kuala Lumpur-based Islamic finance consultancy. "The reason why governments would be doing it is to actually open the door for the corporates."

In Asia, Hong Kong will compete with Singapore, which this year became the region's top currency trading centre. Singapore had S\$130 million (HK\$807.35 million) of Islamic debt sales last year. That is only about 1 per cent of the 326.5 billion ringgit of issuance in Malaysia, the world's largest sukuk market and a pioneer of Islamic finance, official data shows.

Hong Kong's move was probably because of "a desire to maintain its status as a leading financial centre for both conventional as well as Islamic finance", said Megat Hizaini Hassan,

Source: SCMP

Singapore

Singapore firm launches travel site for Muslims

A new website for Muslim travellers which includes a global directory of halal restaurants and dedicated city guides launched 18 December 2013 in a bid to capitalise on the growing number of Islamic tourists.

Specialist Singapore-based firm Crescentrating said the site, which is called HalalTrip.com, offers a wide range of features for tourists wishing to travel in accordance with the rules of Islam.

Spending by Muslim travellers is estimated to reach \$200 billion by 2020, up from \$126 billion in 2011.

Tourists can now search flights and hotels on the English-language site as a result of partnerships with online

reservation firm Booking.com, and travel search engine Wego.com.

It also offers a global directory of halal restaurants, mosques and amenities useful the Muslim tourist.

There are dedicated travel and city guides to places such as Istanbul, Beijing, and Kuala Lumpur, highlighting places of interest for the Islamic visitors.

Other features will be added progressively, including Arabic and other language interfaces, the company said.

Crescentrating already runs a website which rates hotels, restaurants, airports and other establishments using such criteria as having halal

restaurants and prayer rooms.

This year, it launched a service that allows Muslim travellers to determine their prayer times and the direction to which they should pray even while they are in mid-flight and across different time zones.

the head of the Islamic finance practice at law firm Lee Hishammuddin Allen & Gledhill in Kuala Lumpur. "The regulators in Hong Kong may need to convince potential issuers, advisers and arrangers to come to Hong Kong to issue sukuk."

"The UK is more closely aligned to Europe and the Middle East and Hong Kong's natural alignment is to China and the wider Asia-Pacific region."

Source: AFP

Myanmar

Islamic head weeps over plight of Rohingya



Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu,
Prime Minister of Turkey

The secretary general of the world's largest bloc of Islamic countries said emotional visits with members of the long-persecuted Rohingya Muslim community – chased from their homes in Myanmar by Buddhist mobs and arsonists – brought him to tears. "I've never had such a feeling," Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu said, as he and other delegates from the Organisation of Islamic Co-operation wrapped up a three-day tour to Myanmar that included talks with its president. He said it was the huge, emotional crowds living in rubbish-strewn camps outside the Rakhine state capital, Sittwe, that made the biggest impression. "I was crying," Ihsanoglu said.

Source: SCMP

Turkey

Turkey lifts head scarf ban in state offices



Turkey lifted a ban on women wearing the Islamic head scarf in state institutions, ending a decades – old restriction as part of a package of reforms meant to bolster democracy. The ban, whose roots date back almost 90 years to the early days of the Turkish republic, has kept many women from joining the public workforce, but secularists see its abolition as evidence of the government pushing an Islamic agenda.

Source: SCMP

Global

Muslims Celebrate Eid-ul-Adha Around the World

Muslims around the world celebrated one of the most important dates in the Islamic calendar, Eid-ul-Adha (Feast of Sacrifice).

Special Eid prayers were offered in every mosque in the morning and followed by celebration with relatives, family members and friends. In most places sacrificial slaughtering of sheep, goats, cows and camels were carried out.

In Hong Kong, even though it was not

a public holiday, muslims, young and old, women and children dressed in their best clothes, attended special prayers in five local masjids before rushing back to their offices and schools.



Source: China Daily

Importance of Seeking Knowledge in Islam



Nasser El-Morshidy

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Islam has given great importance to the process of seeking knowledge. If we look at the first five verses revealed from the Holy Qur'an, we can see that the word "read" is repeated two times, the word "pen" is mentioned once and the word "teach" is repeated twice.

Let us have a look at the following verses in Surah Al-'Alaq. *"Read in the name of your Lord Who created. He created man from a clot. Read and your Lord is the Most Honorable. Who taught by the pen. Taught man what he knew not."* (Qur'an 96:1-5)

Islam makes it a religious duty upon Muslims to seek knowledge. Seeking knowledge with the intention of benefiting oneself and the people is rewarded like performing additional prayers or fasting. The

“

Allah will exalt those who believe among you, and those who have been granted knowledge to high ranks...My Lord, increase me in knowledge.

”

Prophet (PBUH) said: *"Seeking Knowledge is an obligation on every Muslim."* (Ahmed)

Whoever seeks knowledge and help other people to learn will get unaccountable rewards from Allah (SWT). Allah (SWT) will grant him high ranks in this world and the Hereafter. *"Allah will exalt those who believe among you, and those who have been granted knowledge to high ranks."* (Qur'an 58:11)

Knowledge is more important than wealth and property. No wonder, knowledge is among the important things which Allah (SWT) directed Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) to pray that he will be granted more of it. Allah (SWT) says in the Holy Qur'an: *"And say: My Lord, increase me in knowledge."* (Qur'an 20:114)

Having knowledge should

not be a reason for being arrogant. In fact, having more knowledge about ourselves and the world make us feel more humble before the greatness of the creation of Allah (SWT). *"It is only those who have knowledge among His servants that fear Allah."* (Qur'an 35:28)

We ask Allah (SWT) all the time for Paradise. Seeking knowledge is one of the things that will surely lead us to Paradise. The Prophet (PBUH) said: *"Whoever follows a path in pursuit of knowledge, Allah makes his way easy to paradise."* (Bukhari)

Teaching others is one of the good deeds that will get us great rewards even after death. Whoever leaves behind beneficial knowledge will get rewards as long as people are still getting benefits from his knowledge. Prophet

Muhammad (PBUH) said: *"When a man dies all his deeds comes to an end except for three: an ongoing charity, beneficial knowledge and a righteous son who prays for him."* (Bukhari)

It is an irony that while Islam recommends Muslims to seek for knowledge, the Muslim countries are categorized among the developing countries in the world. In many Muslim countries, the percentage of illiteracy is 20 % to 30%. Scientific research and education get a small portion of the yearly budgets in many Muslim Countries.

However, this was not the case during the long history of the Muslim world. Muslim countries were once the most advanced countries on earth. The Islamic civilization was the greatest civilization in the whole world in the Middle Ages and is considered one of the main bases of the modern civilization.

While the medieval centuries are well-known in the Western world as the Dark Ages, they were shining with knowledge and glory in the Muslim world. Public libraries, public hospitals

and universities were located in different cities in the Muslim World. Baghdad, Damascus, Cairo and Grenada were the centers of learning in the whole world.

There were many Muslim scientists who had great achievements in different branches of science. For example, **Ibn Sina (Avicenna)** (980-1037) was a great physician and philosopher. Among his most famous works is The Book of Healing, a vast philosophical and scientific encyclopaedia. His book The Canon of Medicine, was used as a standard medical text at many

universities in Europe until the seventeenth century. ¹

Ibn Rushd (Averroes) (1126-1198) stands out as a towering figure in the history of Arab-Islamic thought. He influenced scholarship in both the Islamic world and Europe for centuries, and is best known in the West for his commentaries on Aristotle's philosophy. Many of his books were used in European universities until the nineteenth century. ²

Al-Khwarizmi (Algoritmi) (780-850) is a Muslim mathematician and astronomer. He wrote mathematical books that

collected and arranged the discoveries of earlier mathematicians. Some words reflect the importance of Al-Khwarizmi's contributions to mathematics. "Algebra" is derived from al-jabr, one of the two operations he used to solve quadratic equations. ³

Al-Farabi (Alpharabius) (870-950) is Muslim philosopher and one of the preeminent thinkers of Islam in the Middle Ages. He was regarded as the greatest philosophical authority after Aristotle. As a philosopher and scientist, he acquired great proficiency in various branches of learning and is reported

to have been an expert in different languages. ⁴

We hope that the Muslim World will be able to restore the glory of the Islamic civilization. The Muslim countries are obliged to achieve more progress and have an advanced place among the countries shaping the modern civilization. Indeed, Muslims should regard achieving progress in different fields of science as a religious obligation and a human responsibility.



Find time to remember Allah



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We all often get stuck in the occasional queue at times whether in the bank or in the airport for check-in, and we all walk to and from the MTR station or the shops. These are the perfect opportunities to do dhikr (remembrance of Allah) as this is pretty much dead time where we can't do much else.

Dhikr is simply remembering Allah and can be done quite easily amongst our mundane daily activities. In fact it is the easiest form of worship as it does not

“If our hearts and tongues are always engaged in the remembrance of Allah, it is harder for us to think about doing something bad or to backbite or gossip.”

require us to be in a state of ablution and it can take different forms.

The most common forms of dhikr are reciting *subhanAllah, Alhamdulillah, la ilaha illAllah and Allahu akbar* or many other words and phrases that glorify Allah; reciting His names or reciting any portion of the Qur'an that we have memorized. In fact, anything that reminds us of Allah is dhikr.

What is the objective of dhikr? First of all, it brings peace to our hearts. Allah said: “*Without doubt in the*

remembrance of Allah do hearts find satisfaction.” (Ar-Ra'd: 28).

Most people in the modern age are searching for the meaning of life or for peace of mind and contentment. We, Muslims have the prescription right here and it is very simple. Ibn Qayyim Al-Jauziyyah said: “*There is no doubt that the heart becomes covered with rust, just as metal dishes-silver, and their like-become rusty. So the rust of heart is polished with dhikr, for dhikr polishes the heart until it becomes like a shiny mirror. However,*

when dhikr is abandoned, the rust returns; and when it commences then the heart again begins to be cleansed. Thus the heart becoming rusty is due to two matters: sins and neglecting dhikr. Likewise, it is cleansed and polished by two things: istighfar (repentance) and dhikr (remembrance).”

If our hearts and tongues are always engaged in the remembrance of Allah, it is harder for us to think about doing something bad or to backbite or gossip. So, dhikr protects us as well as nourishing our souls. It helps us focus on Allah and diverts our attention from our mundane problems and difficulties. In fact, it is more than beneficial for us; we need to do dhikr for our well-being.



2013年朝覲後感

2013年我和太太完成了朝覲，讓我倍感恩惠。儘管太太初時有些猶豫和疑惑，感激一眾哈智鼓勵和協助，最終讓我倆能完成行程。對我而言，朝覲之旅有很特殊的意義，除了是個人完成了作為穆斯林的一大宗教功課外，也代表了我身為祖籍源於北京的第十一代穆斯林，能夠追隨祖母、父親及六叔的足跡，在同輩中首先順利完成朝覲。

不少教親都分享過他們的朝覲經歷，特別是信仰方面的感受。而我這次想換個角度，以我經常到訪世界各地的經驗，談談旅程中一些值得一提的所見所聞。

我的專業是都市研究，這次行程到訪的麥加、麥地那及吉達都各有吸引我的特點，它們依次是沙特人口數目排行第三、第四及第二大的城市。在麥加已屹立多個世紀，使這城市成為最神聖的地方，穆聖在歸真前亦在此完成了朝覲。從歷史圖片可見，麥加城發展初期，居民不多，房屋主要圍繞天房而建。換言之，天房一直是麥加的中心和最重要的標誌。由於伊斯蘭認主獨一的信仰對當時麥加的多神教徒來說是一種衝擊，穆聖為逃避反對者的進逼，率領信眾從麥加遷徙到麥地那。在麥加與麥地那之間，穆聖盡顯他的領導才華與影響力。逆境重重，穆聖卻能在23年間使伊斯蘭教站穩陣腳以致發揚光大，實在讓人難以置信。今天，在麥加和麥地那還能見證穆聖的各種影響。

麥地那由於沒有地理、宗教角力及社團衝突等限制，發展較為有序，從它的城市規劃和亮麗高樓可見一斑。吉達與另外兩個

城市不同，擁有沙國最大的機場，是每年迎接大量朝覲旅客的大門口。據官方統計，2013年經吉達進出境的朝覲旅客就有二百萬人。單是數以百計男性教親，穿上戒衣擠滿入境櫃檯，就已是獨一無二的盛景。吉達面向紅海，在長長的海岸線上，可以找到依水而建的水上清真寺，如此別具特色的建築，給我們留下深刻的印象。

我到訪過無數的城市，但沒有一個能和麥加相比。試想一下二百萬人同時湧入一個城市會是多麼的擁擠。交通、住宿、食物、用水等日常所需都極為緊張。每天五番禮拜前後，通往禁寺的道路都擠滿了人和車。我們不是被困在車上，就是在人潮中找去路。也試過在禁寺旁的鐘樓大廈前，剛巧昏禮時間到了，還來不及或走不進入禁寺的信眾就紛紛在我們身旁就地開始禮拜，我們只好緊緊拿著新的行李箱等候，這種經驗肯定一世難忘。事實上，禁寺周圍聚滿了人，他們在禮拜時間虔誠禮拜，晚上和其他時間則席地而睡。我們在一天不同時間都曾到訪禁寺，發現天房周圍無分晝夜也聚滿信眾。

大多時候，當地電視頻道也在播放天房的現場情況。我非常欣賞麥加禁寺和麥地那聖人寺的建築設計。在當中禮拜，有一種從未體驗過，類似昇華的感受。特別是與來自世界各地的教親緊靠一起禮拜時，縱使大

家來自不同的背景，但同樣有著敬畏真主的心，大家就變得心靈相通。在禁寺的一次主麻聚禮中，我們難得找到一個陰涼的角落，比在廣場上給熾熱陽光直射好受得多，旁邊的是兩位印度的教親，我們雖然是初次見面，但很快就談得很熟絡了。

為應付持續增加的朝覲客量，麥加也增添了很多現代化的設施。禁寺周圍起重機林立，新的工程不斷展開，好讓更多旅客可來朝覲。米納射石的石柱幾年前已經變為高牆，並重新安置於現代化的高樓當中。運輸網絡如隧道和自動行人步道等已完工啟用。種種建設都是配合一年比一年增加的朝覲旅客人數。

只有在朝覲之旅中，我們才能體會到每天五番禮拜是何等需要認真對待。當喚禮聲音響起，街上商店，政府機關，都停止辦公。然而，令人震撼的是有一大群旅客須要露宿街頭，住宿位置明顯供不應求。當然也少不了會碰到行乞的人。據說，他們都知道朝覲旅客樂善好施，有些甚至從非洲遠渡而來。總括來說，我們作為穆斯林和第一次踏足沙特

阿拉伯的旅客，這次旅程確實帶給我們很多珍貴的想法和全新的經驗。





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從伊斯蘭角度 看人權與家庭的意義

“權利”是阿拉伯語“漢格”（單數）複數“候古格”的意譯，但是“漢格”在阿拉伯語裡不單是“權利”的意思，還有“義務”、“責任”、“真理”等意思。伊斯蘭教早在一千四百多年前就向全人類宣佈了人權宣言，載於《古蘭經》和《聖訓》經裡。

“世人啊！我（真主）確已從一男一女創造你們，我使你們成為許多民族和宗族，以便你們互相認識。在真主看來，你們中最尊貴者，是你們中最敬畏者。真主確是全知的，確是徹知的。”（《古蘭經》49: 13）

“你們的生命、財產、名譽都受到保護，不得侵犯。”（聖訓）

伊斯蘭認為，人類同根同源都是阿丹（當）的子孫，“你們都是阿丹（當）的子孫，阿丹由泥土被創造”。（聖訓）人類不是主宰，而是主宰的僕民，是宇宙萬物的主宰在大地上的代理者。“我（安拉）必定在大地上設置一個代理人。”（《古蘭經》2:30）所謂“代理者”的身份，既享有造物主賦予的權利，同時也有對造物主應盡的義務，並且對自己的行為負責。

因此，人類享有的權利是真主（安拉）的恩賜。“他（真主）為你們創造了大地上的一切事物。”（《古蘭經》2: 29）

伊斯蘭的人權思想主要表現在以下幾個方面：

1. 生命的權利

人的生命是真主（安拉）賜予的，是神聖不可侵犯的，“除因復仇或平亂外，凡枉殺一人者，猶如殺死眾人；凡救活一人者，猶如救活眾人。”（《古蘭經》5:32）

在生命的尊嚴和權利方面，穆斯林和非穆斯林都是一樣的。伊斯蘭禁止自殺和安樂死。人死了其屍體應該得到尊重和善待，有尊嚴地安葬（土葬）。人應該活的有尊嚴，死的有尊嚴。

2. 平等的權利

全人類在真主（安拉）的面前都是平等的，“阿拉伯人不比非阿拉伯人優越，非阿拉伯人不比阿拉伯人優越，白人不比黑人優越，黑人不比白人優越，除非憑藉敬畏和善功。”（聖訓）“在真主看來，你們當中最尊貴的人是最敬畏真主的人。”（《古蘭經》49:13）人人法律面前都是平等的。

3. 自由的權利

人人都享有政治自由、思想自由、信教自由，“你說：「真理是從你們的主降示的，誰願信仰就讓他信仰吧，誰不願信仰，就讓他不信吧。」”（《古蘭經》18:29）“宗教無強迫。”（《古蘭經》2:256）“你們有你們的宗教，我有我的宗教。”（《古蘭經》109:6）尊重不同宗教的信仰者。“你們不要辱罵他們舍真主而祈禱的（偶像），以免他們因過分和無知而辱罵真主。（《古蘭經》6:108）

4. 受教育的權利

每個人都有接受教育的權利。“求知是每個穆斯林的職責。”（聖訓）

5. 財產的權利

所有財產都是屬於真主的，人類只不過是受託代管而已。“天地和其間的一切，其權力只歸真主。”（《古蘭經》5:120）
每個人都有通過合法的途徑獲得生計（財富）的權利。“他（真主）為你們使大地平穩，你們應當在大地的各方行走，應當吃他的給養。”（《古蘭經》67:15）伊斯蘭禁止侵吞他人財產，禁止利息，鼓勵勞動和做買賣。

6. 私隱和名譽受保護的權利

每個人的隱私和名譽都屬於人的尊嚴，應當受到保護，不容踐踏。“你們不要偵察（別人的隱私），不要互相背毀。”（《古蘭經》49:12）“你們不要互相誹謗，不要互相起綽號。”（《古蘭經》49:11）

7. 男女都有建立家庭的權利

按照伊斯蘭的教規結婚來建立家庭，鼓勵成年的男女結婚，這是一項聖行。

真主說：“眾人啊！你們當敬畏你們的主，他從一個人創造了你們，從這個人又創造了他的妻子，從他們倆人傳播了許多男人和女人。”（《古蘭經》4:1）

伊斯蘭主張婚姻自主，反對逼婚，禁止同性戀，禁止婚外情，禁止婚前同居，也就是說禁止一切婚外性行為，禁止墮胎。

夫妻雙方都享有相同的義務和權利，來維護一個和睦的家庭，夫妻應當互敬互愛。“他（真主）的一種跡像是：他從你們的同類中為你們創造配偶，以便你們依戀她們，並且使

你們互相愛悅，互相憐憫。”（《古蘭經》30:21）

父母有責任和義務教育子女。“你們都是牧羊人，你們都要為自己所牧的羊負責。”（聖訓）

子女有贍養孝敬父母的義務，父母有得到子女照顧和孝敬的權利。“你的主曾下令說：你們應當只崇拜他（真主），應當孝敬父母。如果他們中的一個人或兩個人在你堂上達到老邁，那麼，你不要在他倆面前唉聲嘆氣，不要呵斥他倆，你應當對他倆說有禮貌的話。你應當畢恭畢敬地服侍他倆，你應當說：‘我的主啊！求你憐憫他倆，就像我年幼時他倆養育我一樣。’”（《古蘭經》17:23-24）

伊斯蘭所倡導的人權和建立家庭的觀念，是建立在對造物主（安拉）的順從和崇拜的基礎上，其目的是完成人作為真主在大地上“代理者”的使命，從而獲得真主的喜悅，獲得兩世之幸福。

IU MATTERS

港伊聯會朝覲團 平安返港



伊聯會朝覲團

香港伊斯蘭聯會宣教委員會同Koperasi Sejahtera Jeddah組織合作組織了今年的朝覲活動。朝覲團由19名成員組成，在穆海明兄弟的帶領下，團員們於2013年10月7日出發前往吉達，並在麥加逗留至2013年10月20日，其間他們將下榻在麥加禁寺附近的Ajjad賓館。

在麥加城內，他們參觀了許多歷史古跡，例如掃爾山，希拉山洞，咾哈麥特山和禁寺及聖寺的博物館。而在阿爾法和米納，團員們在115號辦公室的安排下，得以加入VIP團隊。

完成了朝覲所要求的所有行程後，朝覲團前往麥地那Al-Munawwarah，參觀了聖寺和先知穆罕默德（求主賜其平安）墓。他們在麥地那逗留了三晚，期間參觀了不少歷史古跡，例如庫巴清真寺、武侯德山、雙向寺、白葛阿墓園和深受大家歡迎的椰棗市場。

朝覲團於2013年10月26日平安返回香港。



伊聯會朝覲團團員在麥加

伊聯會曲棍球隊泰國獲盛讚

由20名成員組成的伊聯會曲棍球隊近日訪問泰國曼谷，參加在曼谷皇家俱樂部舉行的曲棍球節。

作為伊聯會的使者，我隊最終在第二分組中取得了第三名的好成績，並獲得組織者與海外其他30支球隊的高度評價。

伊聯會曲棍球隊由一批從未走出國門的年輕人和一些經驗豐富的老隊員組成，部分隊員的家屬也隨隊出征。今次，他們除了自付旅費之外，老隊員們還資助了隊中的年輕隊員。

球隊於當地時間週五到達，之後便直接前往Haroon清真寺禮主麻拜。禮完主麻拜後，全隊受到了Abdul Ahad Thanarat Walcharapisud教長的热情款待，享用了一頓豐盛的午餐，包括羊肉香飯、沙拉和茶。

隊員們聽取了關於泰國——這個佛教國家中穆斯林總體生活狀況

的報告。Abdul教長指出，在泰國穆斯林十分受尊敬，目前泰國有超過七百萬的穆斯林和三百多間清真寺。

“並且穆斯林人數還在不斷增長。” Abdul教長說。

他邀請香港的穆斯林們來泰國參觀訪問，以便加深兩地穆斯林的情誼。

之後，隨行工作人員和球隊隊員籌集了幾千港幣捐贈予清真寺。

伊聯會曲棍球隊在是次比賽中獲得了組辦方與其他球隊的盛讚，並獲邀參加明年的比賽。我隊在參賽的其他球隊中十分受歡迎，有馬來西亞和斯里蘭卡的球隊向我隊發出比賽邀請。

為期兩日的賽事在一片露天球場舉行了盛大的閉幕儀式，為比賽划上句號。

主麻日及星期天清真市集



清真麵包（左圖）；教胞購買土耳其食品（右圖）

香港伊斯蘭聯會一直以來為香港穆斯林社區謀求福祉，以迎合社區內的不同需要。為此，伊聯會內的各委員會均竭盡所能，務求以服務為宗旨，為會員籌辦各式精彩活動。

伊聯會連續三個主麻日（星期五）及星期日在愛群寺日善街舉辦清真食品展銷，當中的清真糕點、麵包及蛋糕都是在本地超市及街市難得買到的特色食品。

香港

信仰的債券



《南華早報》
相關報道

香港正計劃發行伊斯蘭債券，為中國企業在港銷售伊斯蘭債券開綠燈。此舉將有利香港與倫敦和鄰近城市新加坡競逐全球伊斯蘭金融樞紐中心的地位。

吉隆坡伊斯蘭金融諮詢公司Amanie Advisors的常務董事Baiza Bain認為：“香港是通向中國的大門，有其獨特優勢。”他表示：“香港政府這樣做將為大企業來港發行伊斯蘭債券敞開大門。”

香港將與亞洲區最大的外匯交易中心新加坡在伊斯蘭金融市場互

爭長短。官方資料顯示，新加坡過去一年已發行1.3億坡幣（港幣8億735萬）伊斯蘭債券；僅佔馬來西亞（全球伊斯蘭債券發行量最大的先鋒國家）市場總值3265億馬幣的1%。

“香港此舉旨在鞏固其國際金融中心在傳統業務及新興伊斯蘭金融市場的地位。”吉隆坡律師行Lee Hishammuddin Allen & Gledhill伊斯蘭金融業務主管Megat Hizaini Hassan表示：“香港監管機構需要遊說有潛力的發行人、顧問及承辦者來港發行伊斯蘭債券。”他認為，在發展層面上，英國及香港大可因應時區各自發展。英國可靠攏歐洲及中東市場；香港則可著力開拓中國及亞太地區市場，以避免相互競爭。

土耳其

土耳其取消政府部門內
禁戴頭巾的禁令

《南華早報》相關報道

土耳其取消了婦女在國家機構內不可戴頭巾的禁令，結束了幾十年來的來限制，此項禁令是民主改革的一部分，可追溯至近90年前，土耳其共和國建國初期時為了讓大量女性參加公眾勞動，因而設此條例。然而，世俗主義者們認為它的廢止表示政府有意推動伊斯蘭的發展。

緬甸

伊斯蘭領袖為
羅興亞人民黯然淚下

《南華早報》相關報道 Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu

世界最大的伊斯蘭國家聯盟秘書長表示：當他訪問長期受迫害的羅興亞穆斯林社區時，他了解到生活在那兒的穆斯林們在緬甸佛教暴徒和城管的逼迫下背井離鄉，這使他黯然淚下。“我從未有過這樣一種感覺，”Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu說，他和伊斯蘭合作組織代表團的其他成員訪問緬甸期間，曾與緬甸總統會面交談，在結束了為期三日在緬甸的訪問後他表示，最讓他印象深刻的便是一大群哀愁的人們生活在Rakhine州首府Sittwe城外一片遍地垃圾的營地裏。Ihsanoglu說：“我當時就哭了。”

全球

穆斯林慶祝忠孝節



《中國日報》相關報道

全世界各地的穆斯林都在慶祝伊斯蘭曆中最重要的節日之一，忠孝節（也稱“宰牲節”）。

所有清真寺都開放給公眾進行節日特別禮拜。結束禮拜，人們便會走親訪友。在大多數地方，人們都會在這個特別的日子裏宰牲，例如羊、牛或駱駝。

在香港，儘管忠孝節並非公眾假期，但穆斯林們，不論男女老幼，都盛裝打扮來到當地五間清真寺參加節日特別的禮拜，之後便匆匆趕往公司與學校。

新加坡

新加坡發佈穆斯林旅遊網站

為迎合不斷增長的穆斯林旅客，新加坡2013年12月18日推出了一個融合城市指南及全球清真餐廳目錄的旅遊網站。

網站提供全球清真餐館、清真寺及相關設施等資訊；亦涵蓋包括伊斯坦布爾，北京及吉隆坡等較受穆斯林旅客歡迎的旅遊及城市指南，務求讓穆斯林旅客盡情享受一個

舒適合意的旅程。目前，該公司亦營運了一個以有否清真餐館及祈禱室為衡量準則的評核網站；以穆斯林角度評點不同酒店、餐廳、機場及其他場所。

今年，他們推陳出新，增加了一項非常實用的功能，讓身處不同時區及置身飛機上的穆斯林旅客能確定他們的祈禱時間及方位。

IU MATTERS

講座速遞

Jamal Badawi博士
系列講座

- 2014年1月11日（週六）
下午六點半
- 2014年1月12日（週日）
下午二點
- 愛群清真寺暨林士德伊斯蘭
中心六樓研討室

紀念穆聖生辰
(求主賜他平安與吉慶)

- 2014年1月13日（週一）
伊歷1435年3月12日
- 愛群清真寺暨林士德伊斯蘭
中心二樓男禮拜殿

“從音樂頻道到麥加
伊斯蘭如何
點亮我的生活”

- 2014年1月14日（週二）
下午六點半
- 愛群清真寺暨林士德伊斯蘭
中心六樓研討室

伊聯會 “街頭宣教”



上圖：印尼穆斯林姊妹在灣仔區活動上表演傳統舞蹈

左下圖：菲律賓兄弟在街頭宣教

右下圖：志願者們於伊聯會攤位前

兩位資深的伊斯蘭宣教人員近日來港向非穆斯林傳教，讓在港工作的15名菲律賓人得以認識並歸依伊斯蘭。

Mohammed Islam兄弟及Imran Umpad兄弟來自菲律賓，這次宣教的目標群為在港工作的菲籍人士。

他們於11月15日抵達香港，翌日即走訪些利街清真寺，聽取了有關清真寺在伊斯蘭培養及教育方面的各種職能。11月18日，他們參觀了九龍清真寺，得到寺方對清真寺的詳盡介紹。

此行最成功的部份是11月17日（星期日）在中環區的傳教活動

。星期日的中環聚集了不少在港工作的菲律賓人。他們簡單地放了兩張枱，向沿途經過的人派發了介紹伊斯蘭的單張及小冊子，並向有興趣的人講解伊斯蘭。直到所有小冊子都派完了，結果，有15名菲律賓人成功入教；另外有64名表示希望進一步瞭解伊斯蘭，並留下了聯絡方式。活動得到了豐碩成果。

兩位兄弟均在巴林工作，是次出訪活動由巴林的「探索伊斯蘭」贊助。他們更在11月19日離港前為香港伊斯蘭聯會宣教委員會提出了有關宣教工作的一些建議。

國際清真美食節 成功舉辦

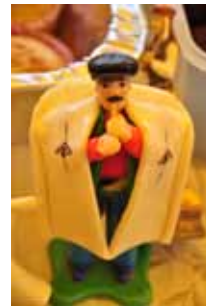
為慶祝忠孝節，為期兩日由伊聯會支持的國際清真美食節成功閉幕。

是次活動由多個穆斯林組織共同參加，\$22,852.20全部收入都捐給伊聯會善款。

這是伊斯蘭中心第一次舉辦此類大規模活動，當然活動的成功也離不開社群各界人士的支持。

在本次活動上，參與者能看到、嚐到不同國家地區的各類美食和包裝食品。其中包括土耳其、印度、巴基斯坦、孟加拉、中國、印度尼西亞、菲律賓、臺灣地區、泰國和義大利。

在伊聯會的全力支持下，本次活動在伊斯蘭中心八樓平臺舉行。



柴灣清真寺燒烤活動 空前成功

那是一個和暖又陽光燦爛的早晨，穆斯林兄弟姐妹扶老攜幼，約200人參加了由伊聯會體育及康樂委員會在柴灣清真寺舉辦的燒烤一日遊。

主辦單位亦為小童及家長安排了集體遊戲，好讓孩子的身心得以舒展。

Tufail教長在活動中向一眾穆斯林分享了「為什麼穆斯林不慶祝聖誕節？」的演講，為一直縈繞香港穆斯林心頭的問題給出最佳答案。

午飯除了燒烤肉食外，還有特色的印度飯及咖喱食品。在此，亦要感謝柴灣清真寺及墳場的職員及活動義工一大清早為大家準備的香滑奶茶。

活動在王孟揚助理教長誦讀祈禱詞後圓滿結束。



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歡迎你，兄弟姐妹！

感讚真主！又有一批兄弟姐妹加入到我們的穆斯林社群。

2013年9月22日，在愛群清真寺暨林士德伊斯蘭中心，為29名女士和2位男士舉行了一場盛大的儀式以見證他們皈依伊斯蘭。31名新教友中有一名來自尼泊爾，一名來自加拿大，兩名來自印度尼西亞，二十一名來自菲律賓，以及六位華人。

本次儀式由香港伊斯蘭聯會宣教委員會主辦，伊斯蘭傭工團體和Halaqah協辦。儀式在Hafiz Atiq-ur-Rahman Surah Al-Fatihah的《古蘭經》誦讀聲中拉開帷幕。緊接著Mohamed Salah博士做了一次伊斯蘭演講。

演講之後，Salah博士主持了入教儀式，用英文帶領大家讀了《作證言》。由於入教者來自不同國家，因此由伊聯會宣教主任穆海明兄弟用印尼文帶領兩位印度尼西亞入教者誦讀《作證言》。

之後，伊聯會宣教委員會主席

，馬蓬偉哈智則帶領六名華人教者用廣東話誦讀《作證言》。

馬蓬偉哈智和愛群清真寺楊興本教長一同為入教者頒發了紀念品，其中包括一本《古蘭經》，一張禮拜氈，一串念珠，以及為男士準備的禮拜帽和為女士準備的頭巾。

頒發完紀念品後是一個簡短的提問環節，整個儀式在王孟揚助理教長的祈禱詞中進入尾聲。會後教胞們享用了伊聯會準備的點心。

Salah博士在埃及開羅艾資哈爾大學取得他的伊斯蘭教法與伊斯蘭法律學學士學位。他同時取得了美國印第安納州神學基金會旗下，克洛弗代爾學院的工商管理碩士學位。與此同時，他還擁有一個比較教法學的博士學位。

Salah博士是伊斯蘭網絡頻道“Huda TV”著名主持人，他的多個節目，如《問Huda》、《糾正你的誦讀》和《虔誠的花園》在埃及都廣受好評。

他同時還是艾資哈爾大學、北美伊斯蘭大學和倫敦學院的講師。如今，他以宗教專家的身份任職於Huda衛視。該電視臺自2005年開播，如今已成為世界領先的英文伊斯蘭頻道之一。

由於反響熱烈，活動在昏禮後本將繼續進行，但由於“天兔”颱風的臨近和八號風球信號，活動不得不在下午四時中斷，近兩百名與會者在公共交通停止運行前打道回府。

31名入教者中，有21名是伊斯蘭傭工團體主席哈佳馬丁娜的學生。哈佳馬丁娜每週日都在愛群清真寺為那些對學習伊斯蘭知識感興趣的姊妹上課。

尊敬的著名學者Salah博士是在伊聯會的邀請下訪問香港的。此次訪港是在“服務伊斯蘭團隊”Wael Ibrahim兄弟的協助下最終成行。Salah博士在訪問期間還為本地教胞進行了一次宣教培訓。



新入教的31名教胞、伊聯會代表及著名學者Mohamed Salah博士

“人權與家庭” 公開論壇



五大宗教代表齊聚一堂



楊興本教長於演講中

由聯合國教科文組織及浸會大學宗教及哲學系聯合舉辦的第三屆《生命倫理、多元文化及宗教國際研討會》已圓滿閉幕。楊興本教長代表香港伊斯蘭團體出席了是次公開論壇，並在會上發表了專題演講。

為期三天的討論會雲集了來自伊斯蘭、佛教、基督教、孔教、道教、印度教及猶太教的生命倫理學專家；各自根據「聯合國教科文組織」在2005年通過的《世界生命倫理與人權宣言》第十二條，就人權和多元文化生命科學的複雜關係進行深入探討。

楊興本教長是次演講以人權及家庭的關係為主軸，從七個方面闡釋了伊斯蘭對人權及家庭的主張及觀點，包括：生命的權利、平等的權利、自由的權利、受教育的權利、享有財產的權利、私隱和名譽受保護的權利及建立家庭的權利。當中援引了不少古蘭經及聖訓的語句。

演講全文可參見本刊第18頁。



出席會議的全體嘉賓

土耳其代表團 訪問伊聯會

一個來自土耳其共和國總理辦公室下設機構“土耳其獎學金委員會”的三人代表團，於近日禮節性拜會了香港伊斯蘭聯會。

代表團一行受到伊聯會主席石輝兄弟，副主席沙意哈智，榮譽秘書長馬超奇兄弟和其他幾位執委會成員的熱烈歡迎。

代表團團長Kemal Yurtnaç先生在Ebubekir Kadri Bişkinler, Aden Günaydın先生和Sibel Ipekkın女士的

陪同下，來到伊聯會聽取關於“伊聯會日常工作及在香港穆斯林教育領域所扮演的重要角色”的報告。Yurtnaç先生向伊聯會致謝，並表示對於伊聯會在香港穆斯林事務中所扮演的角色留下了深刻的印象。

他還希望香港方面能派出一位學生赴土耳其深造。代表團此次來到香港進行為期一日的訪問之前，參加了於北京、哈爾濱和上海舉行的國際研究生獎學金博覽會。



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65TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Islamic Union of Hong Kong 香港伊斯蘭聯會第65屆周年大會

15 December 2013
11 Safar 1435 Hijri



主席	石輝兄弟
副主席	沙意哈智
名譽秘書	馬超奇哈智
名譽財政	馬德民兄弟
大廈管理委員會	簡漢佳哈智
食堂監察委員會	梅智傑兄弟
宣教委員會	馬蓬偉哈智
教育委員會	馬蓬偉哈智
資訊及科技委員會	夏萬盧兄弟
投資委員會	沙意哈智
法律及稅務委員會	杜俐琛姊妹
圖書館委員會	馬雅歷兄弟
醫務委員會	田志立哈智
會籍委員會	夏萬盧兄弟
宣傳及出版委員會	納德賢哈智
體育及康樂委員會	簡漢佳哈智
福利委員會	簡文賢哈智
澳門伊斯蘭會聯絡人	馬超奇兄弟
幹事成員	Najcem Khan 哈智
幹事成員	花順達兄弟
員工督導召集人	簡漢佳哈智
伊聯會駐基金會理事	沙意哈智
伊聯會駐基金會理事	馬德民兄弟

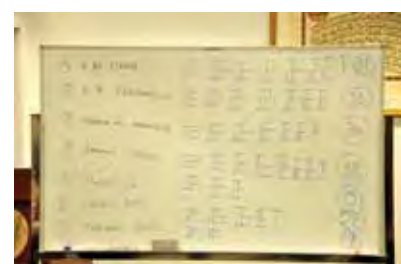


伊聯會主席石輝兄弟主持周年大會

伊聯會於2013年12月15日，在灣仔愛群清真寺舉行了聯會的周年大會。

超過44名兄弟姊妹出席了當天的會議。會議由主席石輝兄弟主持，本屆執委田志立哈智、馬超奇哈智、納德賢哈智、花順達兄弟和夏萬盧兄弟成功連任。

周年大會之後，第一次執委會會議決定了各個委員會的主席人選。



左圖：教胞們投票選舉新一屆執委；右圖：最終投票結果新鮮出爐

特首到訪九龍清真寺



伊聯會代表出席歡迎儀式

香港伊斯蘭社群向香港特別行政區長官梁振英先生提出請求，希望其考慮讓在港完成學業的年輕穆斯林能夠加入政府部門，為公眾服務。

香港回教信託基金總會（基金總會）主席沙意兄弟呼籲，近來到訪九龍清真寺暨伊斯蘭中心的梁先生考慮人數不斷增加的，希望入職政府部門的年輕穆斯林群體，不可因為他們不會寫中文就剝奪他們像一般公民一樣，為這座城市的發展作出貢獻的權利。

沙意兄弟說，少數族裔和他們的孩子面臨著學習中文和獲准進入主流中文學校的問題。他希望特首能考慮讓這些已在香港完成學業的年輕人加入政府部門，他們說著一口流利的英文和廣東話，也十分有才能。

“這些人才不應該被浪費。懂

得書寫中文不能成為政府部門工作的一項要求。”沙意兄弟說。

梁先生是史上第一位到訪九龍清真寺暨伊斯蘭中心的香港特首。2013年11月15日，沙意兄弟在清真寺入口處迎接他的到來，並帶他參觀了內部設施，並向其介紹了隸屬於基金總會的其他幾位代表和教長。

沙意兄弟在他的歡迎陳詞中提到，他十分感謝特首在繁忙中抽空拜訪清真寺，並向其簡要介紹了基金總會的工作。

他說，基金總會管理著五間清真寺和兩間穆斯林墳場，在經學班提供宗教教育及伊斯蘭入門課程。他們同時還是香港地區清真牌照的頒發機構，截至目前，全港已有56家餐廳獲頒清真牌照，其中包括迪斯尼和海洋公園各一家。

在介紹中，沙意兄弟還提到，在香港穆斯林聯會的要求下，基金總會正在著手一個十分重要的項目，即在上水興建一間清真寺暨伊斯蘭中心，其中包括一間擁有200個床位的敬老院，不論種族、宗教服務社群。該項目由沙特阿拉伯政府慷慨捐資。

特首說他十分高興能夠與在場人士會面，並對基金總會管理九龍清真寺暨伊斯蘭中心所作的出色工作表示感謝。香港穆斯林社群生活在一個和平、和諧的環境中，並與包括本地中國人在內的其他社群保持親切友好的關係，對此他表示十分讚賞。

九龍清真寺暨伊斯蘭中心坐落在九龍尖沙咀。梁振英先生是自1997年香港回歸以來，第一位到訪這座清真寺的香港特首。

經學班兒童野餐活動

風和日麗的一天，在愛群清真寺暨林士德伊斯蘭中心學習《古蘭經》的50多名小男孩停課一日，去西貢郊遊。

在義工和老師的陪同下，學生

們在伊斯蘭中心集合，一名特別教練帶領他們來到位於西貢半島一端的龍蝦灣。

待大家在一塊地方安頓好，孩子們排好隊領取義工們特別準備的

午餐。之後他們到一片開闊場地打板球。

孩子們雖有點疲憊，卻十分開心地回到伊斯蘭中心。此次活動由伊聯會體育與康樂委員會組織。

香港伊斯蘭聯會會訊



編輯團隊：納德賢 哈智
馬超奇 哈智
于舒納 女士
簡漢佳 哈智
楊興本 教長

此刊物含有古蘭經經文，切勿亂
扔，如需丟棄，請先將其撕碎。

地址：愛群清真寺暨林士德伊斯蘭中心，
香港灣仔愛群道40號
電郵：roxanne@iuhk.org
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伊聯會救災物資

菲律賓當地合作機構向災民派發物資

捐助颱風受災者

香港伊斯蘭聯會(下簡稱伊聯會)福利委員會近日為飽受颱風蹂躪的菲律賓災民，向會員發出緊急募捐呼籲，為當地受災者提供適時及適切的人道援助。

2013年11月，超強颱風海燕橫掃菲律賓中部，其巨大威力重創該區，造成近萬人死亡，傷者逾十萬，數百萬人流離失所；另有眾多至今仍然下落不明的人士被宣布死亡。

為儘早向災民紓困，聯會於11月13日將首筆五萬元款項直接匯到當地的伊斯蘭機構

Abdur Rahman中心，該中心一直在人道援助等事務上與伊聯會緊密合作。此外，伊聯會亦向災區派送應急的藥物、沙丁魚罐頭、午餐肉罐頭及茄汁黃豆罐頭。

與此同時，伊聯會亦發起衣物募捐活動，將籌集得來的衣物連同藥物及罐頭等物資，經「香港菲律賓人協會」免費送往受災地區。

截至11月底，伊聯會籌得近十一萬善款，並將七大箱滿載藥物，衣物及罐頭等物資寄送災區。

Islamic Union of Hong Kong

香港伊斯蘭聯會

