



Address:

2045 Brown Ave.
Evanston, IL 60201
Phone: 847-859-9606

Executive Council Members:

- Abdullah Mahmud Shibly (Imam)
- Muhammad Saiduzzaman (President)
- Zafar Ahmed (Vice President)
- Enamul Karim (Treasurer)
- Mohiuddin Ahamed
- Shariful Islam
- Mosaddeque Hossain
- Osman Ahmed

Resident Scholar:

- Abul Fatah Muniruzzaman

Inside this issue:

OUTDOOR PROGRAM 2

THE TWO SIDES OF THE
INTERNET REALM 3

Dar-us-Sunnah (DUS) Masjid and Community Center Newsletter

HIGHLIGHTS: WELCOME RAMADAN PROGRAM - JUNE 15, 2013 @ DUS

In an effort to get the community ready for the holy month of Ramadan, DUS hosted a "Welcome Ramadan" event on the 15th of June 2013. The first phase of the program consisted of various competitions for children of all ages. This segment was moderated by Moshfeq Hossain. The event was begun with recitation from the Holy Quran by Qari Adnan. The competition for the children was started with the Qirat contest. Children in grades 1st through 5th got a chance to recite from memory the first four verses of Surah Bakarah. The top three finishers in this category were Fahim Hussain, Aiman Iqbal, and Sameeha Haider. This event was followed by a speech competition for children in 2nd and 3rd grades. Their topic was "Benefits of One of the Acts of Worship During Ramadan." The top three finishers in this category were Fahim Hussain, Ezazul Haque, and Aiham Mahmud. The topic for the 4th and 5th grade children was "Examples and Lessons of Patience in Lives of Prophet." The top two finishers in this category were Azeem Nawaz and Rifat Haq. The final speech contest was for children between 6th and 8th grades.

The topic was "Service to the humanity and masjid." The top finisher in this event was Wasiqah Myesha. The speech contests were followed by a written Quiz competition for children between 6th and 8th grades. They had 90 seconds to answer as many questions as possible from a previously printed study sheet. The topic was Ramadan and the top three finishers were Aamir Waudiwala, Amina Islam, and Wasiqah Myesha. For those in high school (9th-12th grades), there was an essay writing contest. The topic was "Internet - A Blessing or a Curse?" The top three finishers in this event were Sajid Ahmed, Abriana Ahmen, and Daanish Waudiwala. While the results were being tabulated, a children's chorus program welcoming Ramadan was presented to the audience. A hearty congratulations to all the participants

and their parents. This concluded the first phase of the event.

Brother Saiduzzaman took the opportunity to welcome everyone in attendance and reminded all to not judge the success of the evening by the numbers because Allah (SWT) alone knows about the value of the effort that was put forth by the various participants and their families. At this point in the evening, Brother Mohiuddin Ahamed graciously introduced our key note speaker of the program—Dr. Sabeel Ahmed, the Director of the Gain Peace Project, an outreach project of Islamic Circle of North America (ICNA). Dr Ahmed talked about the merits of fasting and how it has been a tradition for people of other faiths as well. *[Continued on page 3]*





DUS Outdoor Program 2013

To watch a video of the children's program at the event use this link -> <http://youtu.be/gl4SRV3FbVk>

The Internet is a big place. It contains information on every possible aspect of human life within its digital boundaries, from food to politics to instructions for various things and so on and so forth, and is continually expanding its already vast borders. People from all corners of the globe can provide their input into the medley of information and knowledge which forms the Internet. In a remarkably minute period of time, the Internet has been integrated into nearly all the nooks and crannies of human existence and continues to revolutionize how we interact with the world around us and beyond. But past our initial amazement and infatuation with the wonders of the product of modern technology, the debate arises as to whether this development was truly an epitome of accomplishment or an epitome of failure and a bane of human morality.

The establishment of a cyber world has had quite a few positive effects on society. First of all, it has formed lines of communication throughout the globe, connecting billions of people on Earth. People in the US can stay in touch with family wherever they are or keep up with news from all corners of the Earth. It also stores a massive amount of easily accessible information anywhere on the planet, creating a valuable asset for mankind. Countless services and methods of making life easier emerged from the Internet. For example, many businesses came about as a result of the Internet, a term known as e-commerce. Entertainment services also became a lot easier to use and more available as well. You are probably familiar with Netflix or Youtube or other multimedia websites. In general, the Internet makes life much easier than before and provides a variety of new ways to contribute to society.

On the flip side, while the Internet can make life easier and more

productive, the ease and accessibility of- tentimes goes into excess. Being in the habit of having such a vast quantity of information at one's immediate disposal can cause people to develop a lazy or ungrateful attitude. Having everything within reach limits the necessity to strive to improve one's state in knowledge or other fields, and also fosters an ungrateful attitude as people fail to recognize the depth of what they have but only look to obtaining more. A small example is how now people tend to complain excessively about slow Internet speeds, not remembering times when it took days or weeks to send a small message. In modern society, a new culture has been forged based on the Internet. Along with the aforementioned laziness and ungratefulness, people are overexposed to things that generally should not be publicly available and thus are desensitized to the dangers posed by such things. How many times have you experienced a pop-up or advertisement featuring lewd, indecent content meant to capture your attention? The repetition such incidents cause a great deal of mental damage as people turn to accept them and find nothing wrong with them. Finally, a host of new tangible problems arise from the Internet, such as the loss of individual privacy, viruses and other computer problems, and the opportunity for a great deal of criminal activity.

Mankind has had the presence of the Internet for over three decades. It has caused a great deal of benefit as well as harm. Being such an integral part of society today, it is difficult to fully identify

whether the Internet as a whole is a blessing or a curse. However, based on the thoughts mentioned above, the conclusion can be reached that the Internet nowadays is merely an exemplification of mankind today. The good parts are there in the form of business and knowledge and other useful and beneficial parts of the Internet, and the bad parts are also present, ranging from the creation of a new, self-centered mode of thinking and pornography to countless other outlets for vice. However, I would say that the Internet is a blessing as a whole because it gives us an opportunity to examine our state as a society and understand ourselves, our good side and our bad side.

[Editor's Note: This essay placed first at "Welcome Ramadan Program held on 06/15/2013 at DUS.]

[Continued from cover page]

He reminded us of our duty to spread the message of Islam to those around us and encouraged us to participate in water cooler discussions at our places of work and use secular opportunities to answer from the Quran and Sunnah. At the conclusion of his talk, Imam Shibli was invited to hand out the trophies to all the winners of the evening. The evening was concluded with Dua followed by dinner.

COMMUNITY APPEAL!!!

**PLEASE CONSIDER HOSTING
IFTAR AND DINNER ONE NIGHT
DURING THE UPCOMMING
HOLY MONTH OF RAMADAN**

Dar-us-Sunnah Masjid & Community Center

Upcoming events:

2013/07/06: Tafseer ul Quran and Dars e Hadith Program (Bangla) @ 06:00 PM

2013/07/09: 1st of Ramadan 1434 A.H. [subject to moon sighting]

2013/08/08: Eid-ul-Fitr Prayer @ 09:00 AM and 10:30 AM [subject to moon sighting]

2013/08/17: History of Islam Program and Story Time for Children (English) @ 06:00 PM

2013/09/07: Tafseer ul Quran and Dars e Hadith Program (Bangla) @ 06:00 PM

2013/09/21: History of Islam Program and Story Time for Children (English) @ 06:00 PM

To donate, please visit:

<http://www.darussunnah.org/>

Start Date	Fajr	Zuhr	Jummah	Asr	Maghrib	Isha
7/1/2013	4:45 AM	1:30 PM	1:15 PM	6:30 PM	Sunset	10:25 PM
7/9/2013	TBA	1:30 PM	1:15 PM	6:30 PM	Sunset	TBA
7/21/2013	TBA	1:30 PM	1:15 PM	6:15 PM	Sunset	TBA
8/1/2013	TBA	1:30 PM	1:15 PM	6:15 PM	Sunset	TBA
8/9/2013	5:15 AM	1:30 PM	1:15 PM	6:00 PM	Sunset	9:45 PM
8/18/2013	5:15 AM	1:30 PM	1:15 PM	6:00 PM	Sunset	9:30 PM
8/25/2013	5:30 AM	1:30 PM	1:15 PM	5:45 PM	Sunset	9:15 PM
9/1/2013	5:30 AM	1:30 PM	1:15 PM	5:45 PM	Sunset	9:15 PM
9/9/2013	5:45 AM	1:30 PM	1:15 PM	5:30 PM	Sunset	8:45 PM
9/16/2013	6:00 AM	1:30 PM	1:15 PM	5:30 PM	Sunset	8:30 PM
9/23/2013	6:00 AM	1:30 PM	1:15 PM	5:15 PM	Sunset	8:15 PM

Disclaimer:

Barta (News) is a quarterly publication of Dar-us-Sunnah Masjid and Community Center in Evanston, Illinois, USA. The views and opinions expressed by the contents of this publication or its commercial sponsors do not necessarily reflect the policies and principles of Dar-us-Sunnah Masjid and Community Center. Furthermore, Dar-us-Sunnah Masjid and Community Center reserves all publishing rights of the material and may choose to terminate all agreements or part thereof at any time without any notification to anyone. Unauthorized use and/or duplication of any material in this publication by anyone is strictly prohibited without the written and official consent of Dar-us-Sunnah Masjid and Community Center.

Editorial staff: Javed Iqbal / Ishtiaq Ahmed / Ashik Rahman

Please write to us to provide feedback or to submit articles for possible inclusion in future issues of Barta.

The email address is ashikr@hotmail.com.