

BAIT UL MAL PACIFIC NORTHWEST

Reviving the Tradition of Prophet Muhammad, Peace and Blessings of Allah Be Upon Him (PBUH)

HOPE

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Bait ul Mal Pacific Northwest is registered in the State of Washington as a non-profit charitable organization pursuant to the Charitable Solicitations Act, RCW 19.09:

UBI # 602-646-900, Registration # 23157. 501(c)(3) status pending

Issue No. 2
Fall 2007
Sha'ban 18, 1428

In the name of Allah, Most Beneficent, Most Merciful

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info@baitulmal.org
206.315.4809

BAIT UL MAL—A central place to give your zakat & sadaqah!

Inside this Issue:

	PAGE	
INTENTION, MISSION, VISION & GOALS	1	INTENTION, MISSION, VISION, & GOALS
ADVISORY COMMITTEE EXPANSION		Intention The Bait ul Mal Pacific Northwest is organized exclusively for charitable, social services, religious, and educational purposes. Our fundamental intention is to be accountable to Allah in serving the best interest of our community members as a non-profit central financial organization based on Qur'anic guidelines and the example of Prophet Muhammad (pbuh).
OUR RAMADAN DUA		Mission Strengthen and unify our community by supporting all eligible persons and organizations.
7 GUIDING PRINCIPLES		Vision A flourishing, self-sustaining environment with coordinated community services and resources (zakat and sadaqah contributions)!
BAIT UL MAL PNW COMMITTEES & CONTACTS	2	Goals
IMAM'S CORNER FEATURING IMAM BULBULIA		◆ Centralize and coordinate the 'giving' pillar of our faith by reviving the Bait ul Mal
QUESTIONS & ANSWERS WITH IMAM JOBAN		◆ Provide assistance to community members in need based on Qur'anic guidelines
FROM THE DESK OF THE EDITOR	3	◆ Offer referrals to other available resources
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR		◆ Establish a virtual community network for the Metropolitan Seattle Puget Sound region
OUR NEWSLETTER GETS A NAME!		Visit our web-site www.baitulmal.org to find out how you can help us to achieve our goals.
ACCOMPLISHMENTS, PROJECTS, & EVENTS		
RIGHTS & DUTIES OF NEIGHBORS IN ISLAM	4	
BAIT UL MAL—MAKING A DIFFERENCE		
DONATE, APPLY, SUBSCRIBE, ADVERTISE OR JOIN!		
SPECIAL NOTE OF APPRECIATION		
EMERGENCY RESOURCE GUIDE		

RAMADAN MUBARAK !

May Allah SWT accept all our prayers and fasting, and reward us with the blessings of greater understanding, and unity in action.

Ameen



GOOD NEWS TO SHARE!

Advisory Committee Expansion

In alignment with our mission to unify our community with our Masajids and Islamic Centers, we invited all the Imams of the local Masajids to join our Advisory Committee.

We arranged a special meeting for this purpose on July 25 at the Bellevue Main Library. While all were unable to attend, we received positive responses and are pleased to announce the following Imams as new Advisory Committee members joining Imam Joban:
 Mohammad Bulbulia of Kent,
 Fazal Hassan of Bellevue,
 Benjamin Shabazz of Seattle,
 Abdullah Polovina of Shoreline.

We are contacting the other 10 or so masajids in the area to extend an open invitation to join us in unifying our community.

Welcome brothers, and may Allah SWT continue to guide us aright.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

These 7 guiding principles form the structural and administrative foundation of our operations:

1. All actions are governed by our intentions
2. Foster open communication
3. Work toward a shared vision
4. Empower team and community members
5. Establish clear accountability and shared responsibility
6. Focus on our commitments
7. Learn from experiences

"The believers, men and women are protectors, one of another: they enjoin what is just, and forbid what is evil. They observe regular prayers, practice regular charity, and obey Allah and His Apostle. On them will Allah pour His mercy, for Allah is exalted in Power, Wise"

Qur'an 9:71

Bait ul Mal Pacific Northwest

OUR COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER

OUR COMMITTEES

Advisory (Imams)

Mohammed Joban
 Mohammad Bulbulia
 Fazal Hassan
 Benjamin Shabazz
 Abdullah Polovina
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 Mehdi Syed
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Join our online newsletter for updates regarding upcoming projects.

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**IMAM'S CORNER
 COMMENTS FROM IMAM BULBULIA**

Imam Muhammad Bulbulia is the Imam of the Islamic Center of Kent. He moved with his family from South Africa to share his extensive knowledge and wisdom. In a recent interview he shared the following views...

Why do we need Bait ul Mal?

Bismillah ir Rahman ir Raheem,
 We are living in a world where a small kindness can give birth to great hope and courage. It is for this reason that Islam has laid great emphasis on the tiniest of deeds. A smile to a fellow brother is sadaqah/charity, remove a thorn from the path and it is a sadaqah, a morsel of food put into your wife's mouth is sadaqah! So imagine when a Muslim/Muslimah comes to us with a genuine need, how much reward we can accumulate by fulfilling their needs. Of course it is not always possible to help every person that comes to us.

It is due to this need that Bait ul Mal, a central financial treasury has been established. It is not a new principle to Islam; in fact Bait ul Mal played a significant part in the lives of Muslims, from the time of the messenger of Allah (pbuh). It is true that the concept of Bait ul Mal is normally adopted in an Islamic country, but what happens when the number of Muslims in a non-Islamic country is on the rise?

How do we address the needs of those Muslims who would have received assistance, had they been in Islamic country?

With the establishment of Bait ul Mal we hope that the new revert, students, seniors and single mothers of the Muslim community, will have a helping hand in facing their challenges.

We request all our brothers and sisters to support the Bait ul Mal in any way possible.

Quran 2: 96

"By no means shall you attain piety, unless you spend of that which you love..."

Bait ul Mal Pacific Northwest

Our Community Service Center

A central place to give your zakat and sadaqah!

Join Us! Help us to serve our community.

We thank Ali, Salman, Aisha and Kiran for volunteering their time and ideas to help create the contents for this newsletter!

Who is he that will lend to Allah a goodly loan so that He may multiply it to him many times? And it is Allah that decreases or increases (your provisions), and unto Him you shall return.

Qurán 2:245

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS WITH IMAM JOBAN

Q I send all my zakat/sadaqa to my relatives in Pakistan, Libya, Egypt, India, Iraq, Iran, etc. Is the order of priority to give zakat/sadaqa first to relatives?

A Yes, if there are no relatives living where you are then send it to where your relatives live in any part of the world. You could also divide your zakat, some you give to the recipient of Zakat where you live, and the rest you give to your relatives in your country of origin, or elsewhere.

Q My \$100 in Pakistan, India, Libya, etc. is worth more and helps more people than the same money I spend where I live. Who has more obligation on my zakat/sadaqa? The local community where I live or abroad in other countries?

A You are obligated to spend first on the local community who is in need and eligible to receive zakat/sadaqa. You can divide the \$100 as you choose spending both on the local community and the ones abroad.

Q I give my zakat/sadaqa to the local Masjid where I go to pray. Why should I give to Bait ul Mal?

A Give a portion of your sadaqa/zakat to Bait ul Mal with the intention of reviving the tradition of Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him. He had established a central organization to collect zakat/sadaqa and distribute it to all eligible persons and institutions. Inshallah, our goal is to encourage all the Masajids to align with Bait ul Mal to have one central place for collection and distribution of zakat/sadaqa.

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Assalam alaikum Brothers & Sisters,

Inshallah Ramadan will be here September 13. We are blessed with another chance to reevaluate our lives in the light of Islamic guidance. Let's not let this chance get away. Most of us make big plans every Ramadan but somehow fall short of the mark.

Might I suggest, that this time, we each start from our own circle of family and friends. Guide them by your example to give and really emphasize the importance of this pillar of our faith. Encourage them and every Muslim you know to give their zakat and sadaqa (or some portion of it) to the Bait ul Mal starting this year.

Do what you can to help us grow.

Our community needs all of your help and Bait ul Mal can serve as a unifying central source of aid. It's the right time to calculate your zakat and donate it to Bait ul Mal so we can help our neighbors. May Allah SWT reward your efforts with grace and hope when you need it most.

I pray for us all, to have a very blessed Ramadan. Ameen.

OUR NEWSLETTER GETS A NAME!

Our thanks to all of you who sent in your suggestions and cast your votes. As you can see, we've selected the name **HOPE** and we think it suits us!

We welcome your comments and suggestions and invite you to join our committees to help us with this very important work for the sake of Allah SWT!



Issue No. 2

Special Note of Appreciation to Our Contributors

*To all who encourage our efforts, give
their ideas, time, talents, prayers, and
financial support, may Allah
reward you with his choicest blessings.*

Ameen.

*We thank you ever so much for
helping us help our neighbors.*

*Jazakallah Khair.
(May Allah grant you what is good..)*

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Newsletter named with the help of our community
- Invited all local area Imams to join our Advisory Committee
- Increased our donor and assistance bases
- We are committed to complete transparency and accountability as to how much money is collected and how it is spent.
Our quarterly financial statement is posted on our Web site for the period ending June 30, 2007.

ONGOING PROJECTS

Small Kindness Program

Over 30 boxes are distributed so far and families with children really like the idea of having a visual aid to encourage the children to give sadaqa each day— \$.25, \$.50, or a dollar. No amount is too small to give. When the boxes are full, the money is given to Bait ul Mal and the donors begin the process again. It is reported that our beloved Prophet Muhammad PBUH gave sadaqa before going for Fajr prayers every morning.

Supporting Our Muslim Organizations

- Providing quarterly assistance to the Sisters of the Sunnah Islamic Services

Community Presentations

- Sharing the benefits of Bait ul Mal PNW at local community events

UPCOMING PROJECTS & EVENTS

- **September 8, 9am—9pm**
Bait ul Mal PNW will have a vendor table at the **2007 2nd Annual Seerah Conference at UW's HUB.**
Stop by and meet the founding members and other volunteers. We look forward to meeting you, hearing your suggestions and comments on how we can make this a success! It'll be a great time to volunteer as well, Inshallah.
- Join us for our bi-monthly meetings at the Bellevue Main Library
September 9, Noon—2pm
November 11, Noon—2pm
- **Eid Tables**
Another chance to support us and meet our Committee members and volunteers.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

First of all I want to congratulate you on designing such a simple and easy to follow Web site. Secondly, I strongly believe that this is an immensely good deed you are carrying out. I definitely want to direct my donations through your website to the deserving. I think even in this modern world no donation system can succeed or parallel the Bait ul Mal system set up by the Prophet Muhammad PBUH himself. Best wishes for your future endeavors.

—Zaieeb

Collecting our resources in a central place so that they can be used in an efficient and effective way will make it easier to help our community members, ultimately making Puget Sound Muslims more effective and visible in the community at large. Once established, we will be creating unity among the Masajids and Muslims in the community. Churches and other religious organizations do a lot for the greater communities because they work together and effectively pool all their resources (monetary and non-monetary). We can focus on coming together as one body to identify areas that need our help, and we can figure out how to best serve them by volunteering our time and interests. Members who make donations to their Bait ul Mal will have direct influence on where the money should go.

—Nazeema

I personally think it is a great effort to provide our support to Bait ul Mal since it is meant to be a channel of money flowing in from sadaqa and zakat, and money flowing out to the qualified individuals and organizations.

—Mufiz

I perused the Bait ul Mal Web site and find it most impressive! It is friendly, insightful, and clear; a real gift to the community. It is obvious that much thought, devotion and time has gone into initiating this organization. May Allah bless it and all of us to flourish for the benefit of all.

—Munira

RIGHTS & DUTIES OF NEIGHBORS IN ISLAM

In the Name of Allah, Most Beneficent, Most Merciful Allah, the Exalted says in the Quran 4:36 "Worship Allah and join none with Him (in worship); do good to parents, kinsfolk, orphans, the poor, the neighbor who is near, the neighbor who is a stranger, the companion by your side, the wayfarer you meet."

Prophet Muhammad, Peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, said:

"The best of companions with Allah is the one who is best to his companions, and the best of neighbors to Allah is the one who is best of them to his neighbor". He also said:

"He who believes in Allah and the Last Day must do good to his neighbor and must not harm him; and he who believes in Allah and the Last Day must show hospitality to his neighbor and speak good or remain silent".

"By Him in whose hand is my soul, a man does not believe till he likes for his neighbor what he likes for himself".

The rights of the neighbor are:

1. He should be comforted if a calamity befalls him.
2. He should be congratulated if there is occasion for that.
3. He should be fed and clothed if he has none.
4. He should be visited if he falls ill.
5. His bier should be followed when he dies.
6. He should be given a loan if he needs it.
7. He should be safe from your tongue and Hand.

The duties of the neighbor are:

1. Support your neighbor with your means. (Money, food or other necessities)
2. Extend your greetings of peace.
3. Protect your neighbor from any calamity.
4. Cook a meal for them.
5. Visit your neighbors when they are sick.
6. Comfort them when a calamity befalls them.
7. Congratulate them on a good occasion.
8. Do not trouble your neighbors by the smoke of your kitchen.
9. Do not harm them by your tongue or hand.

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) said: " He will not enter Paradise whose neighbor is not secure from his wrongful conduct".

Sahih Muslim Hadith 15

"...the best of neighbors to Allah is the one who is best of them to his neighbor."

BAIT UL MAL — MAKING A DIFFERENCE!



On behalf of Sisters of Sunnah Islamic Services, I would like to thank BAIT UL MAL for their support of Muslims in the Puget Sound Region.

Sisters of Sunnah Islamic Services is a non-profit agency whose Executive Director and Founder created SOS House. SOS House is a shelter, which is run for Muslim women by Muslim women. We strive to provide a foundation of support to any sister that may reside in our transitional housing program. We provide a safe and supportive environment for Muslimahs who may find themselves homeless for any reason. We are very grateful to Allah SWT that BAIT UL MAL is available in this area. The financial assistance we receive from BAIT UL MAL will allow us to continue to serve sisters in need while advocating to keep the family structure together. SOS House is run by volunteers and funded by the Directors and donations from the Islamic Community.

—Jannah Abdul-Qadir

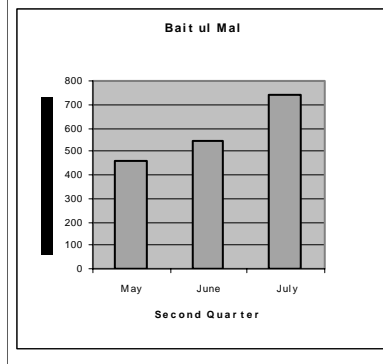
DONATE, APPLY, SUBSCRIBE, ADVERTISE, OR JOIN!

- **Make Donations**
By check:
BAIT UL MAL PNW
800 Fifth Avenue, Suite 101-345
Seattle, Washington 98104
By PayPal:
<http://www.baitulmal.org/donations.html>
- **Apply for Assistance**
<http://www.baitulmal.org/assistance.html>
- **Subscribe to Our Newsletter**
<http://www.baitulmal.org>
- **Advertise Your Business:**
Online/ Newsletter/ Community Directory
<http://www.baitulmal.org/shop.html#ADVERTISE>
- **Join our Committees**
<http://www.baitulmal.org/contact>



DONATIONS ON THE RISE

Alhamdulillah! Our donor base is increasing steadily (see chart below).



EMERGENCY RESOURCE GUIDE FOR MUSLIMS IN THE PUGET SOUND AREA

King County Info Lines
800-621-4636

Snohomish County Info line
800-223-8145

King County Crisis Clinic
866-427-4747

Snohomish County Crisis Line
800-584-3578

Muslim Housing Services
www.MHS-Home.org
206-723-1712

Emergency Assistance 2-1-1
www.211.org
dial 211 from a land line
(does not work with cell phones)

Muslim Family and Children's Services
206-527-3579 / 206-940-5587

Muslim's Women's Group N Seattle Family Center
206-364-8059

CAIR-Seattle
<http://www.cair-seattle.org>
206-367-4081
info@cair-seattle.org