

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 a non-profit charitable organization registered with the State of Washington pursuant to the Charitable Solicitations Act, RCW 19.09: UBI # 602-646-900, Registration # 23157 Federal Tax ID: 41-2213255

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Special Hajj Edition
Zul Hijjah 1428

In the name of Allah, Most Beneficent, Most Merciful

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THE LAST SERMON OF THE PROPHET

Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) gave this sermon in front of a large gathering of people during Hajj.

We pray that Allah the Most High will guide us to follow the basic points mentioned in this sermon:

O People

Lend me an attentive ear, for I know not whether after this year, I shall ever be amongst you again. Therefore listen to what I am saying to you very carefully and take these words to those who could not be present here today.

O People

Just as you regard this month, this day, this city as sacred, so regard the life and property of every Muslim as a sacred trust. Return the goods

entrusted to you to their rightful owners. Hurt no one so that no one may hurt you. Remember that you will indeed meet your Lord, and that He will indeed reckon your deeds. Allah has forbidden you to take usury (interest); therefore all interest obligation shall henceforth be waived. Your capital, however, is yours to keep. You will neither inflict nor suffer any inequity. Allah has Judged that there shall be no interest and that all interest due to Abbas Ibn 'Abd al Muttalib (the Prophet's uncle) shall henceforth be waived.

Beware of Satan for the safety of your religion. He has lost all hope that he will ever be able to lead you astray in big things, so beware of following him in small things.

O People

It is true that you have certain rights in regard to your women, but they also have rights over you. Remember that you have taken them as your wives, only under Allah's trust and with His permission. If they abide by your right then to them belongs the right to be fed and clothed in kindness. Do treat you women well and be kind to them, for they are your partners and committed helpers. And it is your right that they do not make friends with anyone of whom you do not approve, as well as never to be unchaste.

O People

Listen to me in earnest, worship Allah, say your five daily prayers (Salat), fast during the month of Ramadan, and give your wealth in Zakat. Perform Hajj if you can afford to.

All mankind is from Adam and Eve, an Arab has no superiority over a non-Arab nor a non-Arab has any superiority over an Arab; also a white has no superiority over a black, nor a black has any superiority over a white—except by piety and good action. Learn that every Muslim is a brother to every Muslim and that the Muslims constitute one brotherhood. Nothing shall be legitimate to a Muslim, which belongs to a fellow Muslim unless it was given freely and willingly. Do not therefore, do injustice to yourselves.

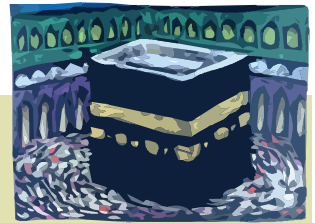
Remember one day you will appear before Allah and answer for your deeds. So beware, do not stray from the path of righteousness after I am gone. People, no prophet or apostle will come after me and no new faith will be born. Reason well therefore, O people, and understand words which I convey to you. I leave behind me two things, the Qur'an and my example (the Sunnah); and if you follow these you will never go astray. All those who listen to me shall pass on my words to others and those to others again; and may the last ones understand my words better than those who listened to me directly. Be my witness, O Allah, that I have conveyed your message to your people."

Hajj MUBARAK !

May Allah swt accept all our prayers and duas for those who are embarking on their journey for Hajj.

May Allah guide and bless us with a greater understanding of unity and faith in action.

Ameen



"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

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Advisory Committee (Imams)

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**GENERAL ASSEMBLY
MEETING
ANNOUNCEMENT**

January 19, 2008 10:00am

Bait ul Mal Conference Room

576 Industry Drive Tukwila, WA 98188

**GOOD
NEWS
TO
SHARE!**

On November 12, 2007, the *Imam Fatwa* Committee of Washington State agreed to follow **Local Moon Sighting of North America and Canada to start the Fasting of Ramadan, Eid-ul Fitr, and Eid-ul Adha!**

This is great and welcome news to many in the community who desire unity in action, prayer, and celebration.

After carefully studying the *Dalil* (proofs) and holding consultation with other scholars, the committee shared the news with our greater community.

Members of this Committee include Imam Mohamad Joban (President), Sheikh Fazal Hassan (Vice President), Ahmad Abdul Mujeeb, Amin Mohammad Hossam Abdel-Azim, and Muhammed Bulbulia. May Allah reward and guide them.

IMAM'S CORNER with COMMENTS FROM IMAM POLOVINA

This is the first time that I am going to perform Hajj, Alhamdulillah! I am really thankful to Almighty Allah for giving me a chance and opportunity to perform this very important pillar of Islam, and I ask Allah to reward in the best way everybody who is a reason that I am going this year to perform Hajj. Allah knows them best. I have no words to describe how happy and glad I am that I have the chance to go to Hajj, insha-Allah. This is a lifetime journey for every muslim in this world. It is a spiritual experience and the ultimate submission to Almighty Allah. For me, this is a true journey to search for the Mercy of Allah (Subhanahu wa ta'ala) and His forgiveness, to the first house of Allah (Subhanahu wa ta'ala) on earth, to Hajj. Hajj is a symbol of submission to Allah and Muslim Unity: Every year more than two million Muslims, from more than 70 different countries, travel to Makkah and Medina with the purpose of undertaking the great obligation of Hajj. It is an exemplary example of equality and unity when the pilgrims gather together for Hajj. Muslims who belong to different nations, cultures, social and economical status are all dressed in two pieces of unsewn cloth. All perform the same rites. There is no difference of rich and poor, all stand in front of their Lord in submission and humility. I am happy to be a part of this muslim congress and gathering in peace and submission to Almighty Allah. May Allah accept this my journey and may Allah accept Hajj of all muslims who will be there this year. Ameen!

Best salam and blessings,
Abdullah Polovina

"...May Allah accept my journey and may Allah accept Hajj of all muslims who will be there..."

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

**MICROSOFT VOLUNTEER
MATCHING PROGRAM
—WE'RE IN IT!**

NOW YOU CAN VOLUNTEER!

Thanks to our friends from Microsoft for helping us complete the application process.

Bait ul Mal PNW is now in the list of 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations under Microsoft's Volunteer Matching Program. Volunteer a minimum of 10 hours a month to Bait ul Mal PNW, and Microsoft will match your efforts at \$17 an hour. It's a fantastic way to give sadaqa!

May Allah bless and reward you.

**HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT
BAIT UL MAL AND THUS
OUR UMMAH**

1. Visit our Web site and learn about us at www.baitulmal.org
2. Contribute via the internet or postal mail and encourage others to do so
3. Join our committees as a volunteer to help serve our community
4. Ask questions to ensure honesty, integrity and transparency
5. Identify the homeless, orphans, elderly, and the single muslimahs
6. Team up with existing committee members to visit, meet and help the recipients
7. Help make Bait ul Mal a successful organization to be a model for the rest of the world
8. Make dua for Allah to send us dedicated helpers

**SUPPORT
LOCAL MUSLIM COMMUNITY
BUSINESSES & ORGANIZATIONS**

The 2008 Edition of our *Muslim Community Directory* is now available at your local Masjid. It's your guide to Muslim-owned and operated schools, restaurants, businesses, goods & services provided in the Puget Sound Region. Bait ul Mal produces the Directory as a community service in keeping with our vision of a unified community.



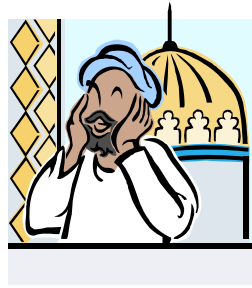
If you'd like your business or services listed in our next edition, please email us at info@baitulmal.org by July 31.

Be sure to state "Directory 2009" in the subject line.

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Assalam Alaikum Brothers & Sisters,

Each year at the time of the annual pilgrimage of Hajj, we are given the opportunity to reflect on the fifth pillar of Islam and spirit of sacrifice following the example of Prophet Ibrahim and his son Ismail who built the Kaaba and the prayers they offered. May Allah accept our good intentions and forgive our trespasses. Ameen.



"And remember Abraham and Ismail raised the foundations of the House (With this prayer): "Our Lord! Accept (this service) from us: For Thou art the All-Hearing, the All-knowing. Our Lord! Make of us Muslims, bowing to Thy (Will), and of our progeny a people Muslim, bowing to Thy (Will); and show us our place for the celebration of (due) rites; and turn unto us (in Mercy); for Thou art the Oft-Returning, Most Merciful."

Qurán 2:127-128

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

• "Assalam Alaikum,
On behalf of the Washington Islamic Chaplains Organization & the Muslims who recently converted to Al-Islam in the jails and prisons of Washington state, we would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation for your generous contribution in support of our prison dawa program... Many of the Muslims who contact us for assistance are the indigenous poor who have no resources and who are often abandoned by family and friends. We also try to provide emergency assistance for poor and indigenous Muslims who have been recently released from prison and purchase halal meat for the two Eid Feasts. This Ummah is "One Ummah" and the best of us in the sight of our Lord is he who is most conscious of his duty to Allah! ...we humbly request that you continue to support this noble effort. May Allah Tá ala grant you good in this life and the life hereafter! JazakAllahuKhair,
Your Br in Al-Islam" — Faheem Siddiq, *Prison Dawa Coordinator*

"...Many of the Muslims who contact us are the indigenous poor who have no resources..."

- "Dear Bait ul Mal Staff,
What an enormous mercy you are to our community. Alhamdulillah! Your help with our bad situation totally changed our lives, and so swiftly. I love that you have scholars on board so I know in my heart that our aid was fair and just. You're truly a first class organization. Jazakullahu Khair! Forever Grateful
—Anonymous
- "Our family needed monetary assistance and we were very limited on time to arrange details. Assistance was provided discreetly and timely with terms that would help future financial obligations. Our family greatly appreciates the assistance you provided." —Sister Aisheh
- "My experience with Bait ul Mal I will not forget. The volunteers were very supportive in helping a new muslimah. Once they knew I needed the assistance they were helpful right away. Having four children and being recently divorced has been an adjustment. The love and support Bait ul Mal extended to me, has made things easier. They assisted in ways without which, I do not know what I would have done. I am thankful to Allah for blessing me with these volunteers. You see, Bait ul Mal provides not only financial assistance, but people who really care about you and your circumstances and want to help in many ways. On the longest seeming days, I get a call or an email from one of the volunteers with encouragement, and love. Thank you Bait ul Mal for all you've done for me and my children."
— Rebecca

BAIT UL MAL — BUILDING BRIDGES

MUSLIM HOUSING SERVICES

Bait ul Mal is working on "Sheltering Homeless Muslims" by coordinating with MHS. Muslim Housing Services was founded in 1999 as a non-profit organization to help homeless families with transitional housing. With the blessings of Allah the Most High, and support from the local community, MHS has grown over the last few years and currently supports about 40 homeless families. However, the list of homeless people waiting to be helped tops 200 in number. In addition to providing economical housing units and subsidized rents, MHA mentors the needy families to find better ways of living and becoming self-sufficient.

The reality is right now, because of a lack of state/federal dollars funding available for low income housing, the wait for singles or adult couples is up to 5 years. If a person states that they have a physical handicap and a mental disability, only then are they likely to receive assistance from state or federal sources. There is a great need for Muslims to have housing facilities to offer shelter during transition time in the lives of those who become homeless. It takes more than just financial support when confronted with desperate situations. The homeless need emotional and religious support from their community. At present, almost all shelters are run by Churches and Synagogues. Most Masajids offer short-term solutions, which help the homeless for a couple of days. In order for Bait ul Mal to partner with MHS, we need contributions of at least \$1,000 a month to lease a house for one family.

"...we need contributions of at least \$1,000 a month to lease a house for one family..."

IMAN Center Food Storage Room A Community Resource for Those in Need

Recently, in an effort to build bridges within our local community, Bait ul Mal members met with the Community Services Committee of the Ithna-asheri Muslim Association of the Northwest (IMAN) in Kirkland, WA.

Their mission and vision is all about "building a sharing and caring community." They have a Food Store Room and all who may need food are welcome to make use of their facility. IMAN Community Services Committee members cook at homeless shelters once a month. Invariably, they find many Muslims at these shelters. They also shared their interest in collaborating with neighboring mosques and organizations in the Puget Sound area to offer any items which they may have in surplus, and become a resource for Muslims who are in need. They keep a perpetual inventory of non-perishable foods (canned fruits and vegetables, rice, lentils, oil, pasta and other miscellaneous items). The room is open to anyone during regular program hours on Thursdays, Fridays, and Sunday mornings and afternoons. You can also refer to their website directly: <http://iman-wa.com/default.aspx>.



BAIT UL MAL — MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN OUR COMMUNITY

In the Name of Allah,
Most Beneficent, Most Merciful:

HOW YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS ARE HELPING!

Through the grace of Allah and your contributions, Bait ul Mal is able to currently help the following local organizations, families, and individuals on a monthly basis:

- Women's shelter for homeless muslimahs with children
- Single mother with 4 children who needs help with her medical and car expenses as the need arises. (She has no medical coverage.)
- Single senior muslimahs who need help with their medical supplements
- Family of 5 needing help with half their rent until they qualify for low income housing - there is a 2-year wait list. (The following is given as needed)
- Rent and Utility bills
- Tuition assistance
- Transportation — bus pass, taxi scrips
- Food certificates

Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him said,
"None of you can be a believer, unless you love for another what you love for yourself"

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.
Jazakallah Khair.*

(May Allah grant you what is good..)

SINGAPORE DELEGATION FROM WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL MEETS WITH BAIT UL MAL—THANK YOU from the WAC!

The World Affairs Council facilitates the U.S. State Department's International Visitor Leadership Program in Seattle. This program brings over 4,500 high-level delegates from over 120 countries to the U.S. to meet with their professional U.S. Embassies abroad as future leaders in their counterparts. The delegates are chosen by their area of expertise and they invited Bait ul Mal to meet with the Youth and Family Issues Program Leaders from Singapore to share best practices about how our organization provides support for the Muslim population in our region.

"I did some research to learn about what types of social service resources are available for the Muslim community in Seattle. I used the 2007 Muslim Community Directory as first reference and researched organizations that seemed like they might be beneficial for this delegation to meet. Bait ul Mal seemed to be the best fit for this delegation.



Thank you for taking the time to meet the Youth and Family Social Issues delegation from Singapore! They truly enjoyed the experience and only wished that they had more time to continue the informative and engaging discussions! There were very honored that Imam Joban was able to join them for lunch yesterday. They felt that the meeting was a great learning opportunity! Please pass my gratitude on to them."

—Meaghan Daly, Program Officer
International Visitor Program

**DONATE, APPLY, SUBSCRIBE,
OR JOIN**
We welcome your
comments and suggestions!
Email info@baitulmal.org

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

Issue No. 3

EMERGENCY RESOURCE GUIDE FOR MUSLIMS IN THE PUGET SOUND AREA

Contact

OUR COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER

Bait ul Mal Pacific Northwest

www.baitulmal.org

info@baitulmal.org

206-315-4809 phone/fax

or

Your nearest Masjid/Mosque

Muslim Housing Services

www.MHS-Home.org

206-723-1712

CAIR-Seattle

<http://www.cair-seattle.org>

206-367-4081

info@cair-seattle.org

Emergency Assistance 2-1-1

www.211.org

dial 211 from a land line

(does not work with cell phones)

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