



Fiysabiylillah

Compassionate Aid Organization

Newsletter

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السلام عليكم

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Message from the Founder

Assalamu alaikum wa rahmatullah to each and every one of you. As we celebrate yet another Eid-ul-Adha, let us reflect on the blessings bestowed upon us by Almighty Allah-Our Creator. For those of you who will be performing Hajj- may Allah grant you the patience, tolerance, and good health needed and may He accept your Hajj. For those of us remaining behind, let us ponder upon the sacrifice made by Prophet Abraham (pbuh).



Looking back to the day, five years ago, when I mailed out letters to several masjids inviting sisters to discuss our role in the community, the response was very disheartening to say the least. However, this did not deter us and we have continued defining our organization's role within today's society. Fiysabiylillah is defined as an organization committed to enriching the lives of the less fortunate through the initiation and support of sustainable projects and through the development of our imaan as the ultimate source of strength. As I pen my thoughts, I am grateful to Almighty Allah for guiding us to where we are today; blessed with opportunities to serve the community and thankful for His support in achieving our goals.

In five years, Alhamdulillah, Fiysabiylillah has moved from an organization helping those in need in the local community to one which extends its charitable aid to include international communities abroad. May Allah strengthen and unite our efforts to serve Him in helping those in need.

Fozia Alim-Hooseinny

If you like what Fiysabiylillah is doing and would like to join our organization or propose a project that will aid needy persons in your homeland, we would love to hear from you.—Just send us an email at fiysabiylillah@hotmail.com

A Volunteer's Story

-Zaida Khan



Volunteering and assisting needy people is indeed a rewarding experience. There are women and children in our community from all over the world who are fleeing dire circumstances. Most of them come from a completely different world and are overwhelmed with the difficulties they face here. Difficulties they must face alone, without the help of families and friends to assist them. Some of these women are victims of abuse and ill treatment. This, in addition to the hardships that go along with raising large families in a foreign country where even the

language is something they must struggle with, makes them appreciative for even the smallest acts of kindness. For many of them the simple opportunity of talking to someone, sharing their problems and receiving emotional support is truly a great blessing.

I try to meet the women of families in need in my region whenever possible to make sure they are doing well and to inquire if they need anything. Fiysabiylillah provides them with halal meat, food, and clothing when necessary. It is indeed a fulfilling experience to reach out a helping hand to those in need and to share with others what Almighty Allah has bestowed upon us .

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2007 Upcoming Projects

- Child Sponsorship
- Nigeria: School Construction
- Eid Hamper Project
- Islamic Education Outreach : for low income families
- Fiysabiylillah Website

2007 Fundraising Events

- Gala Event: Fundraising Fashion Show and Auction (women only)
- Family Summer BBQ and Bazaar

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Coordinator: Nafeeza Hooseinny



Al Nur

Poem by Asia Maktabi

You are the Nur
 You are the Nur of the Nur
 Who created the Nur.
 Without your Nur,
 There is no Nur in the world.
 You are the Nur,
 Before every Nur
 and after every Nur.

You are the Lord of fire and paradise.
 You are the Lord of earth and heaven.
 You are the Lord of clouds and mountains.
 You are the Lord of seas and rivers.
 You are the Lord of trees and fruits.
 You are the Lord of angels and mankind.
 Everything in the world glorifies you.
 Everything prostrates to you.
 And, after all that You have created,
 Do we really know You?
 Do we really love You?
 Do we really appreciate You?
 You are the Nur.
 You are the Nur of the Nur.
 You are the Nur of the hearts.
 You are the Nur of the minds.
 All Praise be to you.
 Who is close and far.
 Who is here and there.
 Who is everywhere.
 For our sake,
 You created everything.
 Always you are waiting for us.
 Waiting our return to you.
 Waiting our repentance to you.
 Oh Mankind!
 Did you meditate for one second?
 Did you think for one moment?
 He, Who is Alone,
 Who listens to our Duas,
 Who sees all our movements.
 Who watches us breathe.
 Never be miserable.
 You, who is with Allah.
 Bless you, bless you.
 Thousands of blessings
 For the one who knows Allah.
 And His Nur which covers this world.
 Blessings, Blessings
 To the one who knows this Nur,
 And who lives
 With the Nur of the Nur.

Kenya: A Drink of Hope

-Asifa Yakub



Over the past year, two rainy seasons of April to May and September to October have both failed. People of north east Kenya are suffering the effects. It has been declared the worst natural disaster to hit Kenya since the drought of 1971 where the communities in the north-east lost close to 70% of their livestock. Almost five million Kenyans are feeling the effects of food shortage. Drought affects pasture, watering holes and ultimately food availability. The drought has had a devastating impact on livestock. Ninety percent of the people in these drought affected areas depend on their livestock for survival.

Concerned for the victims of this disaster, Muslim brothers from 22 Masjids in the capital city of Nairobi decided to help. They traveled four hours by road to deliver food and water. Upon their arrival they realized that the scarce water that was supplied by the government was dumped in a small, dirty, pond-like area which was shared by humans and animals alike.



They decided to raise funds to build good hygienic water storage tanks. In support of this project, Fiysabiylillah has managed to raise enough money to, Alhamdulillah, build nine water tanks in various villages. Let us all continue to support projects like these and help those who are suffering abroad.

"Acquire knowledge. It enables its possessor to distinguish right from wrong; it lights the way to Heaven; it is our friend in the desert, our society in solitude, our companion when friendless, it guides us to happiness; it sustains us in misery; it is an ornament amongst friends; and an armour against enemies."

--Prophet Muhammad (pbuh)

From the Ground Up ↑

-Fadeelah Hooseinny

A few brothers in Islam have volunteered their time on weekends to teach and encourage the Muslim youths of White Oaks Apartment Complex, in Whitby. These brothers have been exposing the youth to a variety of topics such as cleanliness, how to perform the five daily prayers, Muslim etiquette and the recitation of the Qu'ran. The classes have been in progress since the beginning of 2006 and are currently being taught on the weekends from 11am-1pm. Insha-Allah, Fiysabiylillah hopes to expand and to provide free Islamic education and Dawah to other low income apartments. If you are interested in teaching basic Islamic education to needy Muslim youths in our community, we would gladly accept your assistance and commitment to building a stronger Ummah from the ground up.



Eid Hamper: A True Gift

-Nafeeza Hooseinny



Faysabiylillah also sponsored Eid Hampers abroad in Nigeria, Guyana, and Kenya during the month of Ramadan. Faysabiylillah would like to thank all our international partners, Jazakallahul Khair .

As we scrambled to collect banana boxes during Ramadan from a variety of grocery stores across Whitby and wrap them with gift paper for this year's Eid Hampers; many onlookers would question the sanity of taking so much care for a few needy fasting families. However, a hadith came to mind of Lady Aisha (RA). When she would give coins to the poor, she would place them in a perfumed handkerchief so they would smell sweet....not because the needy would appreciate it, but she understood that her deed would first go to Almighty Allah. It is with this thought that we continued gift wrapping the boxes and putting forth a great effort to fill the Eid Hampers with items even we would envy.

Many hours were spent in preparation and volunteers were generous with their time and spirit. From collecting and wrapping boxes, fundraising, purchasing items, budgeting, coordinating deliveries, organizing volunteers, finding a

2006 Eid Hamper: Distributed to Needy Fasting Families



location for storage, packing, and eventually distributing the food hampers to fasting needy families. Alhamdulillah, this was truly a community effort. In the end, Faysabiylillah provided over 200 Eid hampers to needy families from as far as New-Market in the West, Barry's Bay in the North, and Oshawa in the East. During this Ramadan, with God's help our organization was able to touch many people, not only the Eid hamper recipients, but the donors and volunteers as well.

Starting with 14 Eid hampers in 2000, Faysabiylillah's Eid Hamper Project has grown significantly over the years and has become an annual event with many volunteers and donors supporting this worthy cause. Faysabiylillah has received many heartfelt thank yous and dua'as from fasting families who have received an Eid Hamper. One recipient expressed her thanks with a humble smile and remarked on how beautiful a gift it truly was. She said, "It was presented so nicely it must have been given by people that truly cared". Another recipient wrote "Asalam alykum. Thank you very much for the Eid gifts you brought me and my family. Inshallah, Allah will build you a palace in Jantil Firdaus. Alhamdulillah me and my 5 boys were very blessed. Asalam alykum". Truly this makes all the hard work by Faysabiylillah members and volunteers worth while. Faysabiylillah would like to once again thank all the brothers and sisters involved. May Allah give us the strength and imaan to continue working together to help those in need.



**Watch your thoughts, they become words.
Watch your words, they become actions.
Watch your actions, they become habits.
Watch your habits, they become character.
Watch your character, it becomes you.**

Raising Hope & Having Fun

-Farzeen Patel

On July 16th, one of the hottest and most humid days of the summer, Faysabiylillah had its first fundraising event – an outdoor bazaar and bake sale open to women, children, and boys under 12.

The event was held in Ajax using an enormous tent that was pitched at the Jaamia Al Uloom. There were tables of enough baked goods to satiate everyone's sweet tooth. . Alongside the baked items, were tables of samosas, other fried finger foods, and freshly made snow cones. There were also booths offering beautiful henna designs and fun face painting. Directly opposite all of this was another row of tables boasting the bazaar which included a plethora of different items at bargain prices including books, plates, wall hangings, shoes, handbags, and much more. The



smaller tent outside offered even more food choices including barbecued burgers and generous servings of biryani. While the women shopped and enjoyed their food purchases at the 'lounging area' of the tent, the children played outside.



Despite the oppressive heat and the impact that it had on the turnout, the hard work of determined volunteers paid off. With the help of God the event served to help those in need, and was also a day of fun for the community.

Faysabiylillah bazaar and bake sale raised over \$2,000.00 to help fund a project in Burundi, Africa to help restore several masjids.
Special thanks to Jamiah Al Uloom Al Islamiyyah for the generous use of their facilities.



Fiyasbiylillah hosting Eid Party for Durham community

A Garment of Compassion

-Farzeen Patel

Sitting beside Masjid Ayesha in Whitby is a 45-foot trailer. After receiving a fresh coat of paint, a floor of vinyl tiles, lined shelves, clothing racks, plenty of hangers, and a can of air freshener, it is now home to an abundance of new and gently used clothing and household items for the needy.



'The trailer,' as it is fondly known, has been in operation for the last four years. Many clothes are donated, so it never takes long to fill the trailer. Committed sisters volunteer their time and energy weekly toward emptying the bags of donated clothing, but sadly find that the quality of clothing is not always suitable to give to anyone. Thus, the difficult task of sorting clothing into three piles is diligently carried out. The good clothes are kept for the trailer, the less suitable clothes are sent to other organizations that collect used clothing, and the final pile is disposed of. Because of this exhaustive process, Fiyasbiylillah now only accepts new or almost new clothing.

Since its existence, the clothes have gone to many people in both the local and international community including orphans in Guyana and families in Pakistan following the horrendous earthquake. It is a true blessing that this effort can continue since it has benefited so many. If you know of anyone who can benefit from this service, please contact Fiyasbiylillah and join us in helping those who are in need, Insha'Allah!



Walnuts and Pumpkins
 One hot day, Mulla Nasruddin was taking it easy in the shade of a walnut tree. After a time, he started eyeing speculatively, the huge pumpkins growing on vines and the small walnuts growing on a majestic tree.
 Sometimes I just can't understand the ways of God! he mused. Just fancy letting tiny walnuts grow on so majestic a tree and huge pumpkins on the delicate vines!
 Just then a walnut snapped off and fell smack on Mulla Nasruddin's bald head. He got up at once and lifting up his hands and face to heavens in supplication, said:
 Oh, my God! Forgive my questioning your ways! You are all-wise. Where would I have been now, if pumpkins grew on trees!
 http://www.ezsoftech.com/stories

In the Name of Allah Most Gracious, Most Merciful

By Time

Verily Man is in a state of loss
 Except those who believe and do
 righteous deeds and enjoin each other
 to the truth and to patience and
 constancy.

Holy Quran s103

2007 Elected Board Members

Founder/President	-Fozia Hooseinny
Vice President	-Nafeeza Hooseinny
Treasurer	-Asifa Yakub
Secretary	-Hawa Sardar

Regional Coordinators:

Whitby/Oshawa Area	- Najma Ghauri
Ajax	- Asifa Yakub
Pickering/Toronto	- Zaida Khan



FIYSABIYLLILLAH

COMPASSIONATE AID ORGANIZATION

*We Encourage
 Highschool Students
 who need Volunteer
 hours to come out
 and assist
 Fiyasbiylillah in
 community projects
 throughout the year.
 We always welcome
 new faces!*

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Helping Those in Need!

For any questions/suggestions regarding this newsletter please email fiyasbiylillah@hotmail.com