

# REFLECTIONS

Those who remember Allah standing and sitting and lying on their sides and reflect on the creation of the heavens and the earth: "Our Lord! Thou hast not created this in vain! Glory be to Thee!"

[The Noble Quran - Chapter 3, verse 191]

## A Charitable Woman

Zainab bint Jahsh (may Allah be pleased with her) was a righteous, God-fearing and pious woman, sincere in faith and modest in speech. She spoke only good, as confirmed by 'Aishah (may Allah be pleased with her), who said: "I have never seen anyone better in religion, more God-fearing, more honest in speech, nor better in maintaining the ties of kinship, nor more generous in giving charity, nor more self-sacrificing in the performance of charitable deeds and those deeds which bring one closer to Allah the Almighty, the All-Powerful than Zainab."

She was – according to 'Aishah's description – God-fearing, generous and kind, giving in Allah's Cause every costly and precious thing she possessed, hoping for the great recompense which is with Allah and the generous reward. She used to make things with her hands and then sell them and give the proceeds in Allah's Cause to the needy.

'Aishah also said, "The Messenger of Allah salallahu alayhi wasalaam said, "She among you who will be first to meet me is she with the longest hand." So whenever we met in the house of one of us after the death of The Prophet salallahu alayhi wasalaam we used to measure our hands to see which of us had the longest hands...It was Zainab...because she used to work with her hands and give the proceeds in charity."

Excerpt from "*The Honorable Wives of the Prophet (peace be upon him)*"

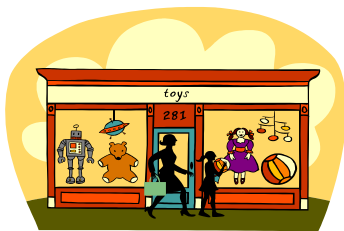


## Local Islamic Classes For Kids

Fiysabiylillah Compassionate Aid Organization conducts Islamic classes for new immigrants every week at the White Oaks Apartments in Whitby. The classes give every child a well rounded Islamic education. For example, the Quranic Reflections class helps each child reflect upon Allah's Message while reading their Qurans in English. Recently, we looked at the first 5 of Allah's 99 Names. The students then wrote a short story about Ar-Rahman, The Compassionate. The following stories were written by Roqia (aged 12), Marwa (10), Abdul and Aria (7).

### Help!

(By Roqia, Marwa and Abdul)



Once upon a time, Mustaffah's mom said, "Let's go to the shop!" At the shop he turned to look at the toys. When he turned back his mom was gone! He was scared. He said to Allah, "Help me, I'm so scared."

Allah sent a big boy named Abdullah. "I will help you find your mom," he said. Together they looked for Mustaffah's mom. Soon they found his mom. Mustaffah was so happy. "Thank you Allah for helping me! You are the Most Compassionate."

### The Boy and the Tiger

(By Aria Momand)



The story is about the boy and the tiger. One day there was a boy who saw a tiger that was in danger. So that boy helped the tiger run away and then one day the tiger came to the boy and everyone was shocked that the tiger was going to bite the boy. But the tiger did not bite the boy the tiger licked the boy's arm and everyone was not shocked. **Allah gave compassion to the tiger and sent the boy to help the tiger.**



# Newsletter

## THE LAST DECADE

2014

AS-SALAMU'ALAYKUM

VOLUME 8, ISSUE 1

### Message From The Founder: Fiysabiylillah From Its Inception



Fozia Hooseinny,  
Founder of Fiysabiylillah  
Compassionate Aid  
Organization

Bismillah hir Rahman nir Raheem

**“Closer and closer to mankind comes their Reckoning, yet they do not heed and they turn away.” [The Noble Quran: Surah 21, Verse 1]**

May the Peace, Mercy and Blessings of Almighty God be upon you. As another year draws to a close, I would like to thank all the new volunteers, young and old, who have joined us by helping out in the various activities during the past year. Also, to those members and volunteers who have been with us for more than one year, I can only say *“Thank You”* for your commitment and may Allah the Generous reward all of you kindly in this world and the Hereafter.

I would like to reflect on what my vision was for this organization at its inception. I remembered my helplessness as I viewed the senseless killings of men, women and children in Afghanistan. I am a strong advocate of fighting according to the rules of war as set out by Prophet Muhammad (may the Peace and Blessings of Almighty Allah be upon him). What I witnessed on the television screen was not fairness and justice but unfairness, injustice, aggression and devastation. I decided that with Allah’s help, I needed to work with other women to help the helpless. My vision at that time was to start with those in my community who needed help, especially new immigrants to Canada who found it very difficult to adjust to this Western way of life. The biggest hurdle was the language barrier which, Alhamdulillah, can be overcome quite easily as the Canadian Government has a very good support system to help the integration process.

After a decade, our organization is still involved with new immigrants ...

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#### Message From The Editor

When I was asked to design this newsletter, “The Last Decade”, I was very grateful to be able to use my creativity in a format that would, InshaAllah, serve to inform the Muslim community about this amazing organization and to inspire others to get involved in charitable causes. May Allah make it easy for us all. Ameen! ~Rafia Hooseinny

## Sharing the Joy of Eid-Ul-Fitr

By Rafia Hooseinny

All praise is due to Allah subhanahu wa ta'ala Who has blessed Fiysabiylillah Compassionate Aid Organization with another successful year in regards to the Ramadan/Eid Food Hampers. This year, 300 Food Hampers were packed and distributed to fasting, needy Muslim families two weeks into Ramadan. The Food Hampers included necessities such as rice, sugar, flour, beef, chicken, honey, and oil. Balloons, books, perfume and scarves were also included to help families celebrate Eid-ul-Fitr.



### NO HANDS LEFT TO IDLE

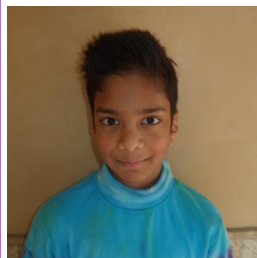
Thanks to the many dedicated volunteers, Fiysabiylillah once again accomplished the enormous task of packing the Food Hampers. On the 12th of July the volunteers assembled at The Islamic Foundation's High School. No hands were left to idle. At one table, a group of volunteers busily



filled plastic bags with raisins and almonds to be included in the Hampers. In an adjacent classroom, 200 Food Hampers lined the walls as volunteers tackled the tricky job of neatly

packing food into each box. In another room, another 100 Hampers were packed by different helping hands. The Hampers were then delivered on July 13th, 2014 throughout the Greater Toronto Area and the Durham Region up to Kawartha Lakes to deserving low income families.

The Food Hampers were a reminder of Allah's Bounties and Mercy. We may not know who we are helping or what they look like but people live in our communities and pray in our mosques who need our help. So, the next time you see someone in need, make your intention to please Allah subhanahu wa ta'ala and extend a helping hand towards them because you never know when you may one day need the same courtesy extended to you.



Jawaad Khan

## The Gift of Giving

By Jawaad Khan (10 years of age)

I begin in the Name of Allah subhanahu wa ta'ala, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful. To most people, a charitable organization is just a group of individuals who are collecting money for the less fortunate. To Fiysabiylillah Compassionate Aid Organization it is completely different. Not only do we understand the wants and needs of the poor. We also make our fundraisers beneficial to both the less fortunate and the fortunate people. I have run some of these fundraisers. For example, I have run lemonade stands at masjids. The lemonade goes to the fortunate and then the money earned goes to the less fortunate. It's a perfect balance! Giving charity also means something else to me. When you donate to a non-profit fundraiser, you are not only helping people. It also gives you a chance to have that warm feeling in your heart. The feeling that says, "I may have just helped a fellow Muslim that I don't know, but it's also for me in the Hereafter." I hope this has deeply changed the way you feel about donating to a fundraiser. May Allah subhanahu wa ta'ala reward us all.

## Supporting Our Students

~Durham Muslims Student Bursary



The Durham Muslims Student Bursary has been providing financial support for Muslim students for four years now. Although many students have applied, only a select few have been granted bursaries. To be granted a bursary, students must show that they need financial support and that they are serious about succeeding in their chosen field of study.

Here is one example. One female student wanted to become a doctor in a profession dominated by males. She also wanted to provide Muslim women with the option of seeing a female doctor. After graduating from the University of Toronto, she was accepted to a good medical school, which cost \$30,000 a year. She received OSAP and family support, but she still needed an additional \$8,000.



If you are interested in making a donation to this program or if you would like more information, please contact us at [info@fiysabiylillah.org](mailto:info@fiysabiylillah.org) or check out our website.

## 1st Annual Donors Appreciation Dinner

By Rafia Hooseinny



Fiysabiylillah Compassionate Aid Organization hosted its first ever Donors Appreciation Dinner at Affy's Premium Grill Restaurant on May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2014. The Appreciation Dinner was sponsored by a board member of the organization to show appreciation for the donors and volunteers who helped Fiysabiylillah achieve its many charitable goals.

In addition to saying 'thank you', the organizers' other aim was to make their job of raising funds easier by bringing together major and potential donors. Unfortunately, that purpose was not achieved because they did not receive much in the way of new donors. As one organizer put it, "We made our mistakes. Our aim was not to pressure people into giving. However, our aim was also not to have an event to simply eat, have fun and rub shoulders with the rich."

The evening began with a dua and the recitation from the Holy Quran. Soon thereafter, volunteers and coordinators spoke to the audience about the different projects they were involved in during 2013. The Ramadan/Eid Food Hampers and the Durham Muslim Student Bursary were presented to demonstrate Fiysabiylillah's ongoing local projects. Fiysabiylillah's Sewing Classes and the Al-Nisa Fashion Show were also mentioned to explain how board members paid for administrative fees.

During the second half of the evening, the coordinators for Fiysabiylillah's 2014 International Projects spoke about the needs of Muslims in different parts of the world. From the continent of Africa to war ravaged Syria, the speakers assured us that there was something we could do to help. See brochure "*Fiysabiylillah's 2014 International Projects*" for more details and a way for you to help.



The evening served as time to remember Allah and reflect upon His Bounties. All goodness is from Allah and to benefit from His bounties we should lend Him the most beautiful loan by giving in charity from the worldly things we sometimes get attached to. May Allah purify our intentions and always make it easy for us to give in charity. Ameen!