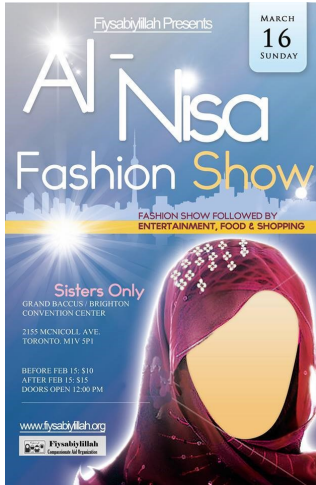


In the Pursuit of Modesty

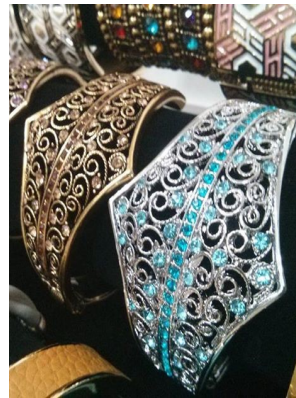
By Rawdeyah Hooseinny



As Muslim women living in the West, we all know fashion can be a difficult problem to solve. Modesty through dress is one of the defining factors in being a Muslim. However, when you live in a society that does not share those same values, dressing can be a little tricky. Many times we have a great deal of

difficulty finding Islamic solutions in our local shopping malls to solve our wardrobe woes. So what better way to help our fellow Muslim sisters than to have a fashion show highlighting some of the small businesses that deal mainly in the buying and selling of Islamic-friendly clothing.

Fiysabiylillah Compassionate Aid Organization decided to do just that by organizing the Al-Nisa Fashion Show. Held at the Grand Baccus Banquet Hall on the 16th of March 2014, we were delighted to showcase the styles from five different small online businesses: Victorious Me, Peplum Shop, Glamorous Modesty, Noorul Haya Couture and Andacheria. As a great addition to the ready-made lines that appeared on the catwalk, Fiysabiylillah also included a sewing line of evening dresses sewn by a

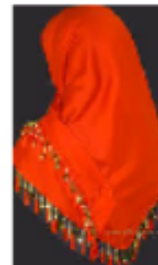


number of local women from our community in order to inspire others to learn the timeless art of dressmaking. Fiysabiylillah was in the process of launching sewing classes and decided to showcase the importance of sewing by displaying the incredible end-products that are produced when you couple creativity with a useful skill. The showcase was a great success and sparked a lot of interest in our sewing classes. Alhamdulillah!

All in all the afternoon was enjoyed by everyone who attended. We at Fiysabiylillah would like to wholeheartedly congratulate all of the volunteers who came out and did such an amazing job modelling for us, especially knowing that most of you had never walked a catwalk before! The task was daunting at times but by the Grace and Mercy of Allah, the Almighty, you all did a fantastic job. We'd also like to thank all of the volunteers who worked behind-the-scenes to ensure that everything ran smoothly. JazakAllah khair! Last but not least, Fiysabiylillah would like to thank everyone who attended. You were a great audience, lighting up the hall with your energy and enthusiasm. May Allah subhanahu wa ta'ala make it easy for all of us to increase our understanding of this beautiful faith and to live a life that will bring us even closer to Almighty Allah. Ameen!

Fiysabiylillah Sewing Classes

After a successful launch in 2014, Fiysabiylillah will once again be teaching a new set of students the timeless craft of sewing in 2015. Fiysabiylillah Sewing Classes are expected to begin in February 2015 until March 2015. There are a total of 8 classes and the cost of 8 classes is \$150. All materials (fabric, patterns, thread, needles, scissors and sewing machines) are provided for the use of the students.



Fiysabiylillah Compassionate Aid Organization

LEARN TO SEW



If you are interested please call Sister Fozia
at 905-571-0539 or
e-mail info@fiysabiylillah.org

Founding an Organization

(Continued from cover page)

...and have added such programs as the Ramadhan/Eid Food Hampers, Children's Eid Parties, Gently Used Clothing Program and the Durham Muslim Students Bursary Program. Our organization would like to add a new program in the upcoming year - "Children's Day Camp"- to benefit the less fortunate children in the Durham Region and Greater Toronto Area InshaAllah.

As the years passed, my vision expanded to encourage women in the community to help the less fortunate in their homeland by coming forward with projects that will benefit the poor and destitute in their country of origin. Alhamdulillah, by Allah's Will, the members

and volunteers of the organization have worked hard to successfully complete these international projects. This year, we have three women who volunteered to be project leaders for our international projects in Syria, Tanzania and Guyana. Another sister will head an upcoming local project. I would like to encourage more women to come forward and be project leaders.

"Verily Allah will admit those who believe and work righteous deeds, to Gardens beneath which rivers flow: for Allah carries out all that He plans." [The Noble Quran: Surah 22, verse 14]

May Allah help us to strive for the Hereafter with our Health, Wealth and Children InshaAllah.

~ Fozia Hooseinny

A Community Comes Together

By Ruwaidah Khan



The trailer, which sits in the parking lot of Masjid E Ayesha, is an excellent example of a community coming together to help the less fortunate. The trailer houses donations of new or gently used clothing donated by the local Muslim community. Thanks to these donations, those in need are able to access a variety of items for their specific needs. Whether it is a winter coat for a new immigrant to our country or a parcel of clothing for a new born baby whose family is struggling financially, these donations are a simple but effective way of sharing the bounties we receive from Allah subhanahu wa ta'ala. May Allah reward those who have donated to the trailer over the years.



In the fall of 2014, by the Grace and Mercy of Allah, a large supply of trailer items was shipped to Kashmir to aid the victims of the recent

devastating flood. Over 600 boxes filled with clothing, linens and footwear was shipped in a 40 foot shipping container to the New Delhi port, where they were then taken to Kashmir. A shipment of this size had never before been attempted by Fiyasbiylillah and we are grateful to Allah as well as to the many volunteers. None of this would have been possible without the hardworking volunteers who sorted the donations, packed and labeled the boxes and loaded the shipping container. In particular, we would like to acknowledge the contribution of items made by Sister Samiya and the organizational assistance provided by Brother Wajahat of CHINAR. Special thanks to Sister Sousan, Sister Zamin, Sister Nazeema and Sister Yasmeen for their tireless work and generous contributions of time. May Allah bless all those who volunteered to make the trailer a place of hope and assistance for those who need it.



Durham Eid Party 2014

By *Rawdeyah Hooseinny*



The Durham Eid Party is an event that does more than celebrate a blessed time of the year. It is an event that helps to bring families out, to have them meet others, to have their children play safely and in a good environment and to share in an event that allows them to escape, may it be for a short while, from all of the hardships that Allah, the Almighty has chosen for them to face.

On November 10th 2014, Fiysabiylillah Compassionate Aid Organization held their annual Eid Party in Whitby for local low-income families. It was an exciting afternoon for all of the mothers and children who attended. Games were played, friends were made and delicious treats were enjoyed by all!

May Allah, the Most Giving, bless all of the families that came out and may He, with His Great Mercy and Compassion, bring peace to their hearts and ease to their hardships. Jazakallahu khair to all of the volunteers and the organizers who gave their time and their effort in putting together such a wonderful event. May Allah reward you for all of your hard work and dedication to this great cause!

Many of these families are facing very difficult times. Whether fathers have gone back home and mothers must raise their children as single moms, or finances are at an all-time low or sickness has become a reality, a party such as this helps lighten the heart for those



who need a break from the burden that only Allah can give and take away. It is no wonder Fiysabiylillah was approached by members of the community expressing the need for an Eid Party.



Fiysabiylillah's First Ever Published Children's Book

Reviewed by *Faria Khan (working mom and mother of two)*



The book, "Imran Thanks Allah", written by Rafia Hooseinny, is a very well written and very informative book for parents with younger children. I strongly recommend this book for any Muslim parent because it teaches kids the etiquettes of eating and what they should do before, during and after eating. Also, the illustrations for this book, which were done by Rawdeyah Hooseinny, are very captivating and illustrates Rafia's points very well. I have two kids and they loved it when the book was read to them. They even made it part of their night time routine before bed.

The book also shows that if one sibling forgets to do something, the other one will step in and remind them. A page that parents who read this book will especially like is the page on "Etiquettes of Eating". It lists, step by step, what everyone should be doing when they are eating. I give this book 2 thumbs up!

THE LAST DECADE

~Ongoing Local Projects~



Within the Durham Region and the Greater Toronto Area of Ontario, Canada, Fiysabiylillah Compassionate Aid Organization strives to be a source of hope and support for Muslims who need assistance. The type of assistance Fiysabiylillah has provided includes helping new immigrants adjust to life in Canada, awarding bursaries to post-secondary students who are experiencing financial difficulties and providing low-income families with a Ramadan/Eid Food Hamper.

The following are some examples of ongoing local projects coordinated by Fiysabiylillah.

1. The Trailer
2. Ramadhan/Eid Food Hampers
3. Children's Eid Parties
4. Fundraising Events, such as Fiysabiylillah's Al-Nisa Fashion Show
5. Trips for local low-income Muslim families
6. The Durham Muslims Student Bursary
7. Local Islamic Classes
8. Fiysabiylillah Sewing Classes



The trailer for gently used and new clothing, located outside Masjid-E-Ayesha in Whitby ON. (see pg.3)



Children's Eid Parties (see pg.4)



Ramadhan/Eid Food Hampers (see pg. 2)



Trips for the local Muslim community

For more information about these projects and new upcoming projects please visit Fiysabiylillah's website at www.fiysabiylillah.org. JazakAllahu khair!