

FEDERATION *Samachar*

HERITAGE

THE FOUNDATIONS
THAT SET THE
FEDERATION
AFED ARCHIVES

FUTURISTIC DAR

THREE TRANSFORMATIVE
PROJECTS
FEATURE ARTICLE

LIFESTYLE

CURATED COMMUNITY
ARTICLES
AMAZING READS

OUR HUBS

JAMAAT CENTRES
FROM AROUND
AFRICA
WINNER INSIDE

BATTLING NEW FRONTIERS

AN EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH
AYATOLLAH SAYED ALI AL-HUSSAINI AL-SISTANI



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Stronger Together

Continuing the Journey with the New Federation Samachar

Dear Members of the Khoja Community in Africa and Around the World,
With heartfelt joy, we welcome you to the second edition of the newly revitalized Federation Samachar. Your warm reception of the first issue reaffirmed what we've always known—that this magazine is more than just a publication; it's a shared space that brings our global Khoja family closer together.

This journey of renewal is still unfolding, and with each edition, we strive to reflect the heart and soul of our community more clearly. We continue to build on a rich legacy, guided by faith, culture, and the unique bonds that tie us as one.

Our aim is to keep evolving with you—shaping Federation Samachar into a magazine that not only informs but also inspires. From community highlights and lifestyle features to engaging content for the youth and delicious recipes from our kitchens, this is a celebration of our everyday lives and extraordinary heritage.

As your editorial team, we remain deeply committed to this mission. Each page you turn is crafted with care, reflecting your stories, your achievements, and your aspirations.

We are honored to continue this journey with you—united in purpose, enriched by diversity, and inspired by our collective spirit.

With sincere appreciation,
The Federation Samachar Team

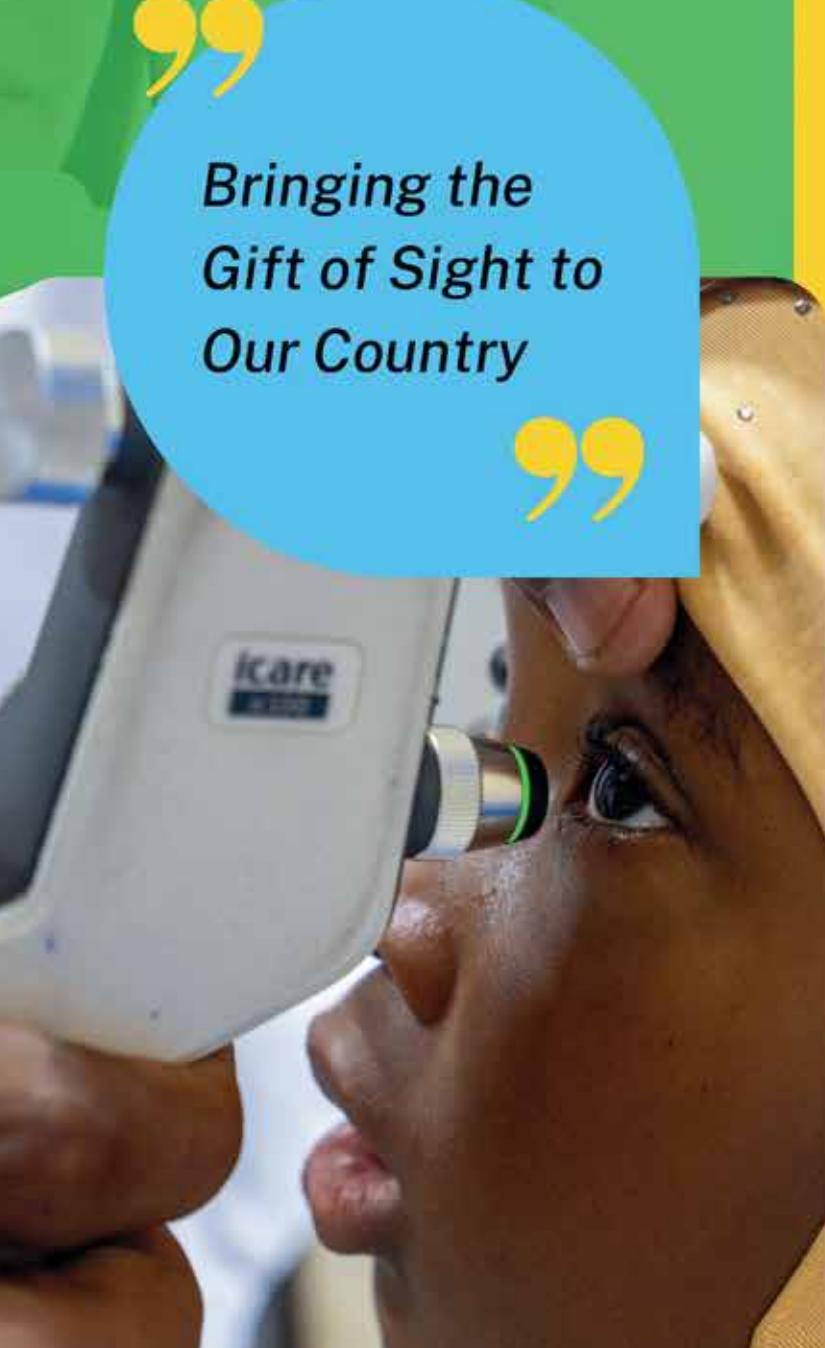


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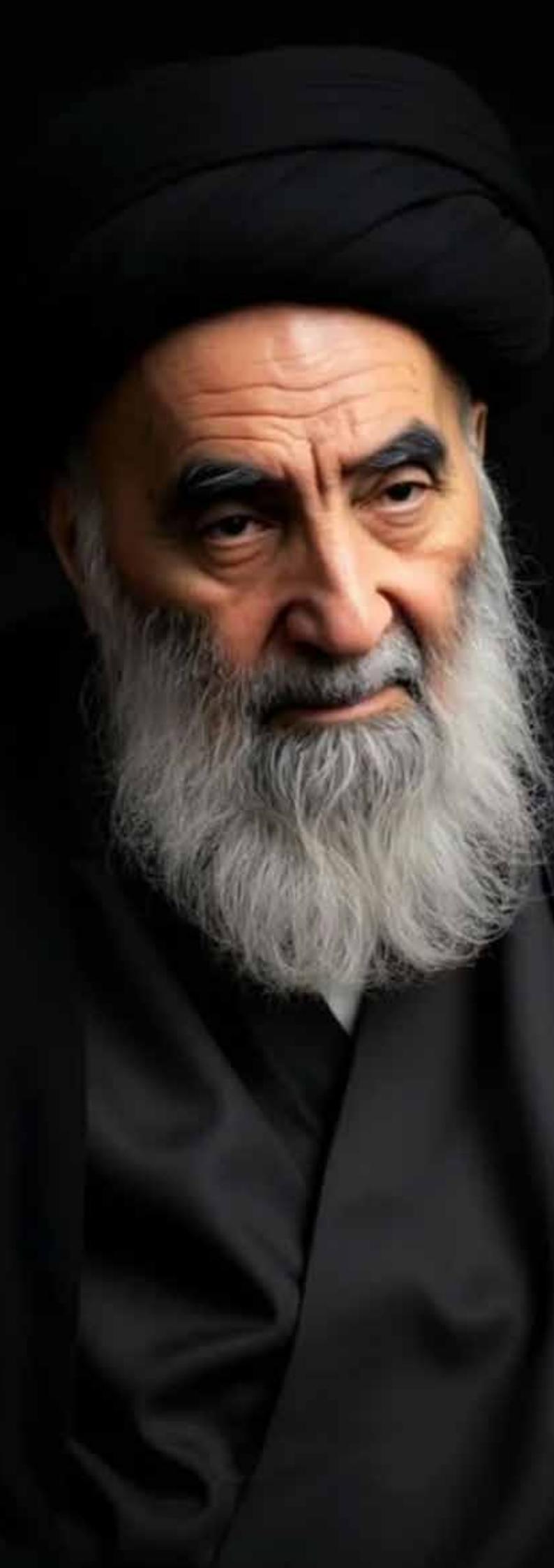
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His Eminence Al-Sayyid Ali Al-Husseini Al-Sistani

Concern for the Youth's Future and Social Trends

The older generation has always cared about the future of the youth. However, we must also remember the movement of history and the social traditions (sunan) that are evident in the stories of the Qur'an, the lives of the Prophets, and the righteous. These offer reassurance and plant hope. This, in addition to the firm belief and the Qur'anic promise that the earth and its inheritance will belong to the believers, is referenced in numerous texts. These texts also indicate that most of these inheritors will be youth, including the elite companions of the Imam (may Allah hasten his reappearance) - the 313.

Based on this, we observe examples of these social traditions today. A keen observer will note that around one or two decades ago, mosques and Islamic centers in the West were nearly devoid of youth. Yet, in the past two or three years, we have seen a rising trend in their participation in Friday prayers and various religious programs, as reported from different Western countries. During the nights of Qadr this year, the attendance of youth was unprecedented. Large mosques and centers could not accommodate the crowds, with overflow into halls and side rooms - may this presence continue and grow.

Take also the example of the Arbaeen pilgrimage to Imam Husayn (a). Iraq was once ruled by an oppressive regime that forbade the pilgrimage for decades, punishing those who tried, even with death. Some believed this tradition had died out, as a generation or two had passed without witnessing it. Yet, after the fall of that regime, the first Arbaeen commemoration saw about two million visitors in Karbala, most of them youth raised under that very oppressive rule. The number of pilgrims has continued to grow, surpassing 20 million this year. If not the majority, at least half are youth — as confirmed by widely available footage and documentation. Additionally, a growing phenomenon is the pilgrimage of Western youth during their winter break in late December, with their presence visibly noticeable in Karbala and Najaf.

Role of the Religious Authority

The religious leadership (marja'iyya) has played a role for the entire community, particularly for the youth. This is sometimes done through general and direct guidance, other times by welcoming youth individually or in groups, listening and speaking with them. Sometimes their matters are entrusted to prominent scholars associated with the marja'iyya. At times, qualified representatives are dispatched to them, and the leadership may also support and sponsor

educational, scientific, or cultural projects — via books, videos, lectures, or discussions. The marja'iyya has never abandoned the youth, and the youth, in turn, continue to approach the religious scholars, seek their guidance, and consult them throughout the year. While some may appear distant, the majority remain engaged.

A significant part of alleviating concerns about youth lies with parents - starting at home, and extending to their friends, schools, workplaces, teachers, mentors, and religious educators (e.g., Islamic schools or weekend madrasas), as well as mosque leaders and local scholars. These individuals must be informed, aware, and competent in teaching and giving sound, logical, and wise guidance that connects daily life to faith and belief. This approach strengthens conviction and follows the Divine words:

"We will show them Our signs in the horizons and in themselves until it becomes clear to them that it is the truth..." [Fussilat 41:53]

"O man, you are laboring toward your Lord with great exertion and will meet Him." [Inshiqaq 84:6]

This implies development and progression - and indeed, we see the world evolving, and Muslims evolving with it in all aspects of life. Those mentioned earlier - from parents to scholars — must keep pace in this upward movement, dedicating all thought, action, and contribution for the sake of Allah alone, as in:

"Say: Indeed, my prayer, my rites of sacrifice, my living and my dying are for Allah, Lord of the worlds." [An'am 6:162]

When a person fulfills their duty in the best way, nothing remains but to pray and seek success through intercession. Otherwise, Allah's will prevails. If we've done our part for our children, the rest is entrusted to Allah. As narrated in a hadith:

"...If you are satisfied with his character up to twenty-one [years old], or else leave him, for you have done your duty before Allah."



On Seeking a Second Religious Opinion

On issues requiring a second opinion or deeper understanding of religious rulings, who are the most trustworthy scholars besides the marja'iyya?

Answer: It is not the practice of the marja'iyya to name specific individuals due to various considerations. However, one may refer to reliable experts in the hawza — senior trusted scholars who are familiar with juristic methodology and the scholarly output of jurists. Their words carry weight.

On Supporting Muslim Causes from Afar

Shi'a in Africa sometimes feel distant from the suffering of Muslims in Gaza or Lebanon. How can they support these communities spiritually and practically despite the geographic distance?

Answer: Allah says: *"Indeed, this nation of yours is one nation, and I am your Lord, so worship Me."* [Anbiya 21:92]

And the Prophet (S) said: *"The believers in their mutual love, mercy, and compassion are like one body — if one part suffers, the rest responds with sleeplessness and fever."*

Thus, believers are one undivided nation. Distance should not prevent connection and solidarity. Support can be offered practically — with financial and material help - as the hadith says: *"Whoever hears a cry for help and does not respond is not a Muslim."* If material help is not possible, then persistent, heartfelt prayer is the least one can do. As Allah says:

"Call upon Me; I will respond to you..." [Ghafir 40:60] And the Prophet (S) said: *"The quickest answered prayer is the prayer of one absent for another absent."*

At the same time, believers must strive to improve their economic and social status, and guide their youth to acquire advanced sciences and leadership in global fields. This empowers the Muslim nation and helps to eventually relieve the oppressed, wherever they may be.

On Leadership Models in the Community

In some communities, harsh or exclusionary leadership has driven away those seeking understanding or expressing doubt. How do we promote a compassionate, humble, and engaging leadership style instead of judgment and exclusion?

Answer: Reflecting on sacred texts about leadership - such as Allah's words to the Prophet (S):

"By mercy from Allah, you were lenient with them. If you had been harsh or hard-hearted, they would have dispersed from around you..." [Aal Imran 3:159]

Also, Imam Ali (a) said: *"He whose words are gentle, his love becomes obligatory,"* and described the believer as "soft-natured."

Those in leadership must embody fatherly care and compassion. One of the most basic rights of truth-seekers who have doubts is to be treated with respect and given accurate information - with wisdom and good counsel. As the hadith says: "Knowledge is a treasure, and its key is questioning." If their questions go unanswered, who will guide them?

Leaders must be patient and open-hearted to hear people's concerns and respond rationally and faithfully in accordance with the Qur'an and the teachings of the Prophet and his household (A). The Prophet also said: *"People are the dependents of Allah, and the most beloved to Him is the most beneficial to His dependents."*



On Social Media and Youth

Social media is a powerful source of information for youth but also exposes them to misinformation and distorted religious ideas. What is the role of religious leadership and institutions in addressing this?

Answer: The issue is not as grim as it might seem. Even social media platforms themselves disclaim responsibility by warning that "most information cannot be verified." Therefore, youth should not blindly chase likes or views, as these are governed by algorithms aimed at profit or ideological bias, not truth.

Religious institutions, parents, and responsible leaders must act in two ways:

Continued awareness: Repeatedly warn about the dangers of these platforms - part of enjoining good and forbidding evil.

Positive engagement: Use these platforms to spread Islam, virtue, knowledge, and inherited wisdom. Our heritage is rich and valuable - let us use every modern means to share it.

The duty is shared by all. The Prophet (S) said: "Whoever wakes up without caring for the affairs of Muslims is not one of them," and Allah says:

"Stop them — indeed, they are to be questioned." [Saffat 37:24]

On Ethical Conduct in Elections

Leadership elections in African and other communities sometimes involve division, public criticism, and personal attacks. How can we encourage ethical conduct to preserve unity?

Answer: Islam prohibits personal attacks and slander - these are major sins. Noble character does not permit such behavior. Competition can be positive if candidates present their qualifications and plans for better service.

One of the most effective remedies is to form a council of trusted experts — wise, insightful individuals known for their judgment and understanding of the community. Their role mirrors the description of Allah's prophets as "men of power and vision." [Sad 38:45] Such a council earns the community's trust, and its influence curbs disorder.

On the Doctrine of Intercession (Shafa'a)

Intercession is a core belief in Shi'a thought but faces increasing challenges from external ideologies and internal doubts. How can we address these concerns through education and dialogue?

Answer: Doctrinal matters - especially those not considered fundamental tenets like Tawhid or prayer - have long been debated. As a believer deepens their understanding of religion's foundations, their confidence in other beliefs also strengthens.

Increased sensitivity around doctrine may stem from various influences. It's best to welcome sincere discussion to gradually approach the truth, provided it occurs in a respectful and scholarly environment, guided by experts in Islamic theology.

Even if a discussion doesn't lead to full conviction, it should never result in hostility or exclusion. Good manners, gentle speech, and consideration of circumstances yield better outcomes. As Allah says:

"So remind, [O Muhammad]; you are only a reminder. You are not over them a controller." [Ghashiyah 88:21-22]



Secretariat News

COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS PROFESSOR KARIM MANJI OF DAR ES SALAAM AWARDED BY HARVARD UNIVERSITY



Professor Karim Manji of Dar-es-Salaam was honoured with the prestigious Alumni Award of Merit from the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. This distinguished award recognizes alumni who have shown exceptional commitment to improving public health and marks Professor Karim as the first Tanzanian recipient. The award ceremony is scheduled for Friday, 27th September 2024, in Boston, USA.

Professor Manji is a leading pediatric researcher and Professor of Pediatrics and Child Health at Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS). His extensive research covers Infectious Diseases, Medical Ethics, Nutrition & Dietetics, and Pediatrics. Throughout his career, he has published over 260 research papers, delivered multiple inaugural lectures, and spearheaded numerous significant research projects, particularly aimed at reducing neonatal mortality in Tanzania.

His numerous accolades include:

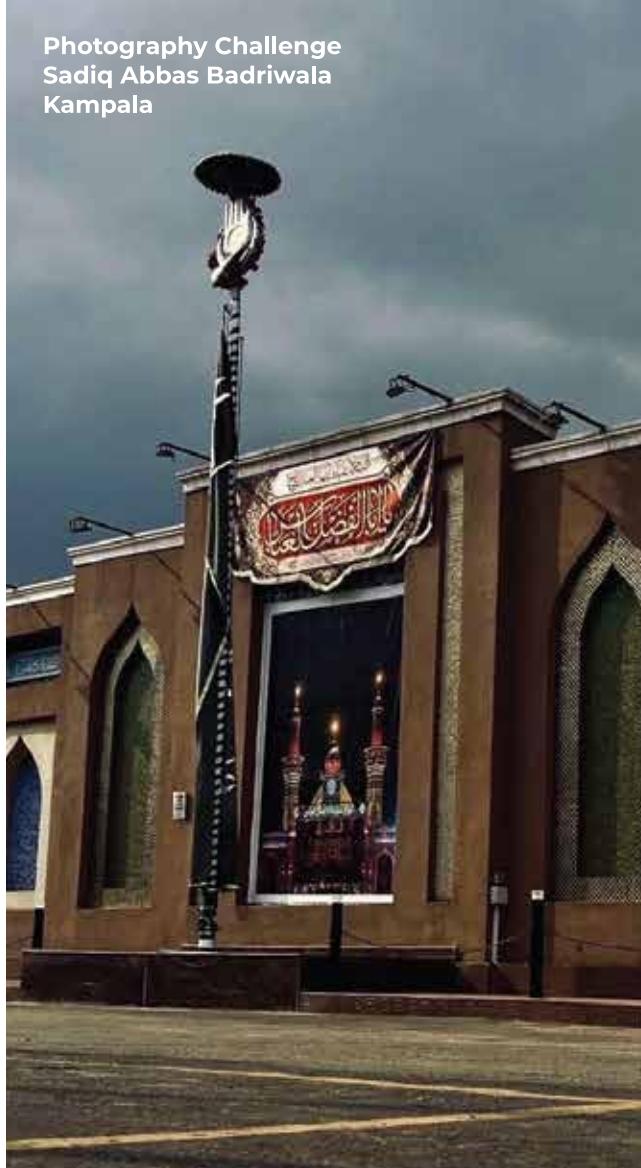
- Award for Professorial Inaugural Lecture, MUHAS (2011)
- Fellowship, Tanzania Academy of Sciences (2012)
- Best Academic Staff Employee, MUHAS (2013/2014)
- Best Health Research Scientist, NIMR Tanzania (2016)
- Fellowships with the Royal College of Physicians and Royal College of Pediatrics and Child Health, London
- International Excellence in Patient Care Award,

- RCP London (2019)
- Recognition as Architect of Newborn Care in Tanzania by The Lancet (2021)
- Professor Emeritus, MUHAS (2024)

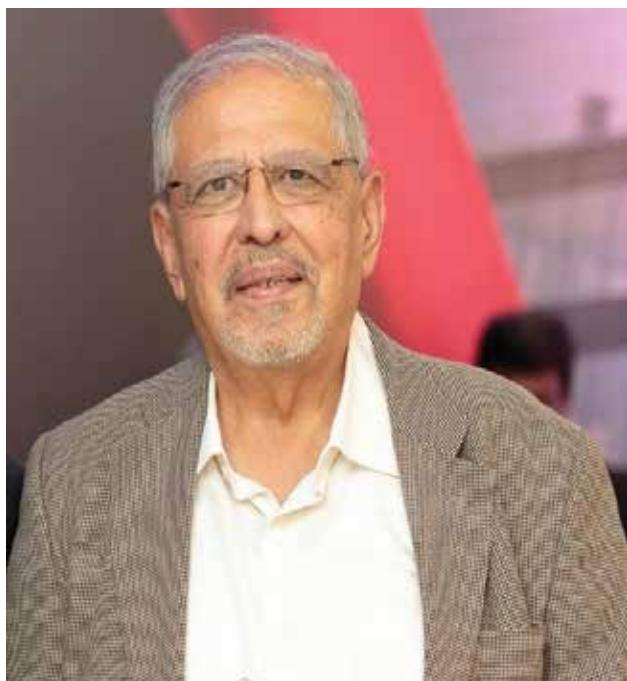
In 2013, Professor Karim was also honoured with the Abbasi Medal by Africa Federation for his exemplary service to society.

On behalf of Chairman Alhaj Amine Nassor, the office bearers, and members of the Africa Federation, we extend our heartfelt congratulations to Professor Karim Manji, his wife Mrs. Sidika Karim, and their family on this remarkable achievement. This honour is a testament to his dedication and lasting impact on public health, the community, and humanity at large.

Photography Challenge
Sadiq Abbas Badriwala
Kampala



ALHAJ DR. MOHAMED HUSSEIN JAFFER HONORED FOR EXCEPTIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS IN KENYA



In a moment of national pride, the Khoja Shia Ithna-Asheri Community celebrates the distinguished recognition of one of its eminent members, Alhaj Dr. Mohamed Hussein Abdulla Jaffer.

On 20th October 2023, the President of the Republic of Kenya, H.E. Dr. William Samoei Ruto, C.G.H., conferred upon Dr. Jaffer the National Heroes Citation of Honour and Certificate of Declaration of Hero — one of the country's most prestigious accolades. This historic achievement has filled the community with immense joy and pride.

This award acknowledges his outstanding contributions in the fields of entrepreneurship and industry, firmly establishing him as a National Hero of Kenya. His unwavering dedication and service to both community and country have cemented his status as a visionary leader and a source of inspiration.

Dr. Jaffer's honors extend far beyond this latest recognition. On 12th January 2019, the United Graduate College & Seminary International awarded him an Honorary Doctorate of Philosophy in Humanities (PhD) and the Peace Award, recognizing his efforts in fostering peace and harmony. He has also been the recipient of the World Civility Leadership Award from iChange Nations (ICN), honoring his leadership in promoting civility and cooperation.

His deep commitment to service is reflected in his extensive work with the Mombasa Jamaat and the

Africa Federation. He currently serves as Chairman and Trustee of the Jaffer Foundation Charitable Trust, a philanthropic organization dedicated to improving access to water, healthcare, and education in the Coast region. He is also a founder, trustee, and active member of numerous clubs and organizations in Kenya.

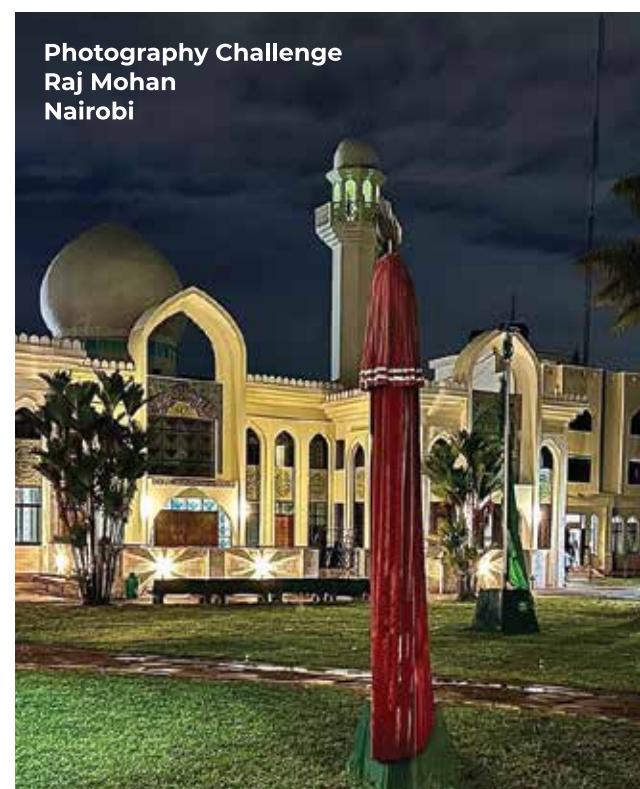
As Chairman of the Khoja Shia Ithna-Asheri Jamaat of Mombasa, Dr. Jaffer's leadership drove growth, unity, and progress within the community.

Over the years, he has received numerous national honors, including:

- Order of the Burning Spear (MBS) – 2000
- Elder of the Burning Spear (EBS) – 2012

In April 2019, during the Africa Federation Ordinary Conference held in Mombasa, he was awarded the Haidery Medal by the then Chairman, Alhaj Shabir Najafi, in recognition of his long-standing and exemplary service to the community and the Africa Federation.

On behalf of Chairman Alhaj Amine Nassor, the Office Bearers of the Africa Federation, and members of its constituent Jamaats, we extend our heartiest congratulations to Dr. Mohamed Hussein Jaffer for this well-deserved honor. His achievements are a shining example of selfless dedication, and his life's work continues to uplift and inspire countless individuals.



RECOGNITIONS BY AFED



Alhaj Safdar Rehemanji and Alhaj Hussein Merchant conferred with Husseini Medals

The Chairman of Africa Federation at the 86th Supreme Council Session of the Federation of KSI Jamaats of Africa held in Kampala from Friday 29th September to Sunday 1st October 2023 bequeathed the two prominent members of Kampala Jamaat with Husseini Medals in recognition of their dedication and honorary selfless services to the community.

Extract from the Citation presented to Alhaj Safdar Rehemanji of Kampala

Your services as a teacher at the Kampala Jamaat Madrassah pre the Exodus era is remembered by most of your students for your unique way of imparting Islamic knowledge, you continued your services to the Jamaat on your return to Kampala and served the Jamaat as its Mukhi from 1992 to 2022 and headed the Ghusl and Kafan Committee until 2018. You were nominated as a Senior Mukhi by the Jamaat in recognition of your dedication. Over the years, you have maintained cordial approach and associated yourself with various committees, also being easily accessible to the young and old to reach out to you and gain from your vast experience.

Your soothing soft voice has made you one of the leading reciters of Qasidas, Duas and Nauhas in Kampala Jamaat. Your passion and initiatives to train the youth of our Community in recitations of Duas, Qasidas etc. over the years are all greatly valued.

Brief Extract from the Citation of Alhaj Hussein Merchant of Kampala

You were also one of the founding members of the Lubumbashi Jamaat in Democratic Republic of

Congo and served as its President for two years, in the years 1988 – 1990. In Kampala you served as the President from 2010 to 2014, and earlier as a Mukhi for 10 years and currently you are a Trustee of the Jamaat. You were in the forefront in the various renovations' projects of the Jamaat's properties and the most recent one is a residential complex.

Your humble and matured disposition while in the role of leadership has touched the lives of many people who look upon you and take you as an inspiration and a mentor.

Besides, your love for the Ahlulbayt (A) and being conscious of the sentiments of the Community at large have always resulted in the Jamaat benefitting in the form of availing of the services of the prominent religious scholars and other reciters through years.



Alhaj Muslim Ebrahim Sheriff Dewji honored with Abbasi Medal



The Chairman of Africa Federation, Alhaj Amine Nassor at the 88th Supreme Council Session of the Federation of KSI Jamaats of Africa, held in Arusha, Tanzania, on Friday, 22nd November 2024 bestowed the Abbasi Medal to Alhaj Muslim Ebrahim Sheriff Dewji of Arusha in recognition of his outstanding and selfless service to the community.



The Abbasi Medal is awarded by the Africa Federation to individuals whose lifelong dedication embodies the ideals of leadership, humility, commitment, and compassion. Alhaj Muslim's decades of service reflect a legacy of devotion to education, spiritual upliftment, and community development which are values that were also deeply rooted in his late father, Alhaj Ebrahim Sheriff Dewji, a visionary leader and former AFED Chairman, who passed away on 9th January 1964 while serving in office.

Muslim bhai's dedicated service to the community, carried out with humility, stands out among his many admirable qualities. Since 1979, he taught Islamic History, Gujarati, Fiqh, and Qur'an recitation at Yaadgare Murtazawi Madrassah in Arusha, helping formalise the curriculum and introduce extra-curricular activities.

He inspired students through outdoor activities, supported the Africa Federation Annual Qur'an Competition, and enriched the spiritual life of the Arusha Jamaat through Gujarati Majlis. In the absence of the Resident Aalim, he led prayers and encouraged youth in reciting duas, marthiyas, munajaat, and ziyarats, leaving a lasting impact on the next generation.

Medals presented at the 29th AFED Conference

The Africa Federation Chairman Alhaj Amine Nassor at the 29th Ordinary Conference of the Africa Federation held in Mombasa from 13th to 15th June 2025 honoured the Vice Chairman of Africa Federation, Alhaj Aunali Khalfan, Alhaj Gulamabbas Dewji, Alhaj MohamedSaleh Jacksi and Syed Hassan Al-Hakeem of The Mainstay Foundation.

Alhaj Aunali Khalfan bestowed Haydary Medal Murabbi Alhaj Aunali Kassamali Khalfan honoured with the Haydary Medal an accolade awarded by Africa Federation for long-standing voluntary service to the community.

During the Conference, AFED Chairman Alhaj Amine Nassor presented the medal, recognizing Aunali bhai's over six decades of dedicated and transformative service. The citation, read by Br. Kumail Mohamed Manji, highlighted Alhaj Aunali Khalfan's leadership, vision, and unwavering commitment.

His voluntary journey began in 1965 in Zanzibar and extended to Dar es Salaam, where he served in various Jamaat committees and institutions. Notably, he contributed twelve years to the Central Health Board, served as Africa Federation Hon. Secretary (2010–2016), and was elected Vice Chairman in 2016 and 2019. His tenure was marked by pioneering administrative reforms, strategic initiatives, and the revival of Solidarity Day to mobilize support for the less fortunate.

Alhaj Aunali Khalfan actively engaged in conferences across Africa and globally, fostering collaboration, sharing insights, and strengthening community ties. His exceptional organizational skills, calm problem-solving approach, and visionary leadership ensured efficiency, clarity, and trust in every initiative he undertook.



AFED Chairman Alhaj Amine Nassor praised him as a "man of solutions," while former Hon. Treasurer Alhaj Zainul Chandoo highlighted his mentorship of many youth leaders now active in the Federation and Jamaats.

In his brief remarks, Alhaj Aunali Khalfan expressed gratitude to past and present Chairmen for their support and dedicated the award to his wife and sons — Hasnain, Khalil, and Mohsin — for their steadfast support throughout his service.

Husseini Medal – Alhaj Gulamabbas bhai Dewji (GD)

Alhaj Gulamabbas bhai Dewji, was presented with the Husseini Medal in recognition of his philanthropic contributions and support. A key pillar of his philanthropy has always been education, benefiting countless students. He donated a major property in Ubungo, Dar-es-Salaam, in memory of his late parents (now known as the Mzee Hassanali na Mama Fatemabai Dewji Islamic Centre) entrusted to Bilal Muslim Mission of Tanzania for the education of Shia indigenous girls. He also donated a plot on Libya Street that enabled the development of Al Asghary Residency under AFED's pioneering "Rent to Own" housing scheme, advancing affordable home ownership.



In recognition of his selfless services to the community which started from the year 1968, Alhaj MohamedSaleh Jacksi was presented the Abbasi Medal. He chaired the Union Sports Club in 1975 and 1983 and played a key role in relocating the Union Nursery School from the old location near the Mosque to the Boarding House along United Nations Road. Known for his unwavering commitment, he has regularly attended the AFED meetings and helped mediate issues, notably Kuwwatul Islam Jamaat in Zanzibar in 2018. His dedication and love to the community continues to echo in Dar es Salaam.

A Citation was presented to Seyed Hassan Ali MohammedMahdi Al Hakeem, Executive Trustee of the Mainstay Foundation, U.K. from Africa Federation and Bilal Muslim Mission in recognition towards his unwavering support and numerous contributions to the Bilal Muslim Mission in several countries in Africa



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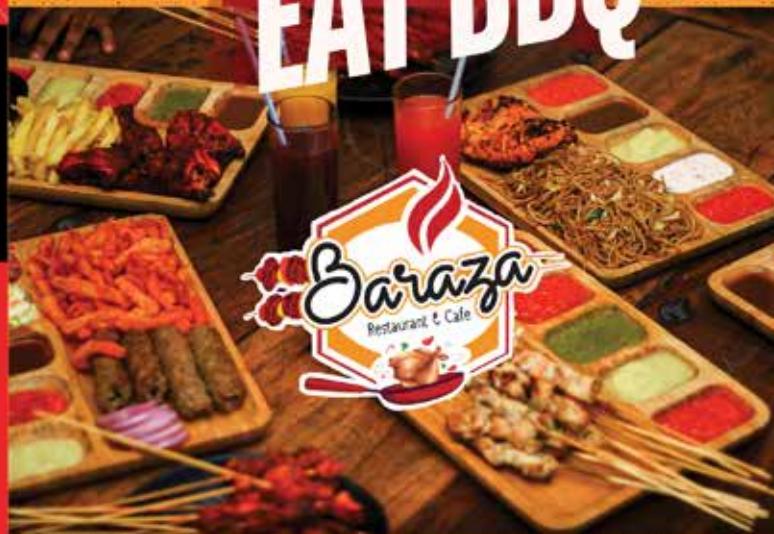
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I AFED UPDATES



A Digital Leap Forward: Launch of the Refurbished Website of the Africa Federation

The Africa Federation launched a refurbished website a significant milestone in its journey of service and connectivity.

This reimagined digital platform has been designed to enhance the way community members interact, access resources, and stay informed. With cutting-edge features and a modern aesthetic, the website is set to become the central hub for all Federation-related activities.

Why the Refurbishment?

In today's fast-evolving digital landscape, staying connected and informed has never been more critical. Recognizing the need for a more dynamic and user-friendly experience, the Federation has undertaken a comprehensive revamp of its website.

This update not only modernizes the platform but also ensures that it serves as a highly functional and accessible resource for all members of our community.

This launch marks a new chapter in the Federation's digital journey, aligning with its vision of transparency, efficiency, and unity. The platform is a testament to the Federation's dedication to serving the community and adapting to modern needs. The website is designed to reflect our values, culture, and vision for the future.

What This Means for You

As a member of the Khoja Shia Ithna-Asheri community, this revamped website is tailored to enhance your experience. Whether you are a youth looking for engagement opportunities, a Jamaat official seeking key resources, or a community elder wanting to stay updated on the latest initiatives, this platform caters to you.

We understand that a thriving community is built on effective communication, collaboration, and easy access to information. The Federation remains dedicated to providing the necessary tools to ensure that all members remain connected, informed, and engaged.

Trampoline | Outdoor Play Equipment | Water Parks Special Learning Play Equipment | Outdoor Gym Equipment



NATIONAL INVESTMENTS LTD



The Africa Federation Secretariat is pleased to update the Community on the progress made by the Directors of National Investments Ltd (NI Ltd), particularly in regularizing the Company's registration and tracing shareholders and their rightful inheritors.

The Company Formed in February 1962 initially invested in five prime properties in Dar es Salaam:

Plot No. 21 Sea View
Plot No. 2111/5 Sea View
Plot No. 2051/5 Sea View
Plot No. 77 Upanga Road
Plot No. 572 Mindu Street in Upanga

Following the nationalization policy in Tanzania in 1971 resulted in the loss of most of the properties. Only Plot No. 572 (Mindu Street) was eventually recovered. After evicting non-paying tenants and carrying out renovations, the property was leased out once again.

In 1990, NI Ltd partnered with the Africa Federation (AFED) to raise funds through a share offering for urgent repairs. AFED's financial support helped sustain the Company during a difficult period and affirmed its role as a guardian shareholder.

In 2008, the Mindu Street property was exchanged for a property in Masaki, resulting in improved rental income. AFED's continued involvement guided the Company through this transition and supported its shift towards more profitable assets.

To ensure proper governance, AFED facilitated new leadership in 2009. Since then, efforts have focused on updating the Company's legal registration, which had been inactive for 35 years. Through consultations and community support, the necessary documentation has now been registered with the relevant authorities.

The current Board has also made significant progress in preparing accounts and updating

shareholder records. So far, 189 shareholders — representing approximately 6,500 shares (excluding AFED/Bilal Tanzania) — have been identified. Payments have begun to verified shareholders or their inheritors, with ongoing communication with those overseas.

The Board is now exploring the future direction of the Company, including options to continue pursuing restitution for nationalized properties or to shift towards new ventures in consultation with shareholders. Additionally, shareholders may opt to donate their funds to local community institutions, reflecting NI Ltd's legacy of service.

A small function was held on Monday, 23rd September 2024 at the AFED Training Centre, AFED Tower in Dar es Salaam to mark this milestone. Payments have been made to 90 shareholders, to-date.

The AFED

Office Bearers commend the progress made and extend heartfelt appreciation to the following Directors for their dedication:

Alhaj Muslim Hassanali – Chairman
Alhaj Mushtak Fazal
Alhaj Alijawad Manji
Alhaj Ali Dharamsi
Alhaj Mohamedraza Bharwani





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TERMS & CONDITIONS APPLY



MAURITIUS JAMAAT BECOMES 44TH MEMBER OF AFRICA FEDERATION



The Khoja Shia Ithna-Asheri Jamaat of Mauritius was formally admitted as the 44th member of the Federation of Khoja Shia Ithna-Asheri Jamaats of Africa during the 29th Ordinary Conference held in Mombasa from 13th to 15th June 2025. The approval by delegates was contingent upon necessary procedural alignments.

The direct membership request was made due to government regulations in Madagascar and Reunion, which restrict membership to institutions within their respective islands. Being an independent island in the Indian Ocean, Mauritius sought direct affiliation with Africa Federation.

The Mauritius Jamaat, established on 17th June 1960, was represented at the Conference by its newly elected Chairman Br. Yusuf Ali Gulamhussein, Hon.

Assistant Secretary Noor Abdoola Cassim, and former Chairman Shabbir Bhai Rajani, a key figure in the membership application process.

The Jamaat's infrastructure includes a Mosque, Imambargha, Madrassah, Alim flat, Musafarkhana, and a Kabrastan, all located in Port Louis. The current membership comprises approximately 250 individuals, with a growing number of students from East Africa and beyond pursuing higher education in Mauritius.

The AFED Secretariat extends its warmest congratulations to the Mauritius Jamaat and look forward to collaborative efforts for the growth and development of the Khoja Shia Ithna-Asheri community across Africa.

I APPOINTMENTS



Alhaj Zoulfikar Vasram of Madagascar Joins the AFED Archives Team

Zoulfikar bhai Born in 1974 in Mahajanga, Madagascar, Zoulfikar bhai is a businessman with a Bachelor's degree in Accounting and comes from a family with a distinguished record of service in Madagascar. His late grandfather, Alhaj Asgaraly Vasram, served as Treasurer of the Council of Khoja Communities of Madagascar (1967–1970), and his late father, Alhaj Bakar Vasram, as Secretary General (1994–2000).

A passionate historian, he has authored notable works including two French biographies (Sayyid al-Khoei and Sayyed Khomeini, 2006), four books on Imam al-Mahdi (a.t.f.s.) (2015), and Les Khojas de Madagascar – Photos ancientness (1900–1960) (2022), a collection of 150 historical photographs identifying over 700 individuals. He also contributed to MARC's Khoja documentary projects in 2013 and 2016.



Alhaj Aasif Karim, FCIArb, Appointed Chairman of the Africa Federation Alternate Dispute Committee (ADRC).

A Fellow Arbitrator and Accredited Mediator with the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (UK & Kenya), Aasif bhai is an alumnus of Howard University and served as Chairman of Nairobi Jamaat for the term 2009–2013 and is a recipient of the Abbasi Medal of the Africa Federation which he was awarded in 2013.

A celebrated sportsman, he represented Kenya in tennis and cricket for 23 years, including three Cricket World Cups and the Davis Cup, and was named AFED Sportsman of the Year in 1994. He continues to promote sports through Sports Monthly magazine and the Kenya International Sports Film Festival.

Currently CEO/Chairman of the Safinaz Group of Companies, Aasif bhai also serves on arbitration and mediation panels in Kenya, the UK, Rwanda, and Iran.

Constitution Review Committee

At the 86th Supreme Council Session held in Kampala in September 2023, the following members were approved for the AFED Constitution Review Committee (CRC) under the chairmanship of Alhaj

Mohsin Kanji, who was elected at the preceding 85th Supreme Council Session in Dar-es-Salaam (May 2023):

Amirali bhai (Bapu) Somji – Arusha
Mustafa bhai G Kanji – Kampala
Ikbal bhai Akbarali (Socomo) – Madagascar
Alihassan Kassam – Dar-es-Salaam (Stepped down following his appointment as AFED Hon Secretary for the term 2025 – 2028 in June 2025)

The CRC is tasked with reviewing the Federation's constitution and will submit its recommendations and proposed draft amendments to an ordinary or extraordinary AFED conference within two years from the date of appointment. The mandate will expire thereafter, subject to any extension or modification by the Conference or Supreme Council.



Alhaj Kausar Jeraj appointed as AFED Representative to The World Federation Conduct Task Force

The World Federation Conduct Task Force, led by Dr. Akber Mithani is mandated to draft comprehensive safeguarding measures and policies with a clear strategy for implementation across the community.

Born in Songea, Tanzania, Kausar bhai completed his education in Dar es Salaam, earning a Diploma in Business Administration, which laid the foundation for his career in real estate and wealth management. Married with three children, he has also successfully managed his own business ventures.

For over 40 years, Kausar bhai has been actively involved in community service with the Khoja Shia Ithna-Asheri Jamaat of Dar es Salaam, holding key positions including Joint Secretary, and leading the Mayit, Marriage Support, and Arbitration Committees. He currently serves as Chair of the Disputes and Mediation Committee and is an elected Councilor for AFED.

A passionate sports enthusiast, Kausar bhai has actively participated in cricket, squash, swimming, and is now a regular golfer. His professional, social, and recreational pursuits reflect a well-rounded life committed to personal growth and community development.

APPOINTMENTS



AFED Appoints Mohammed Kazim Sheriff as Chief Operating Officer

Br. Mohammed Kazim Sheriff was appointed as the Chief Operating Officer (COO), effective from 1st February 2025.

Born in Arusha, Mohammed Kazim completed his primary and secondary education in Bangalore, India, and earned his Bachelor of Pharmacy (BPharm) and Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) degrees from Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences and Manipal University respectively. His career spans academia, research, medical marketing, and hospital administration. He has served as Chairperson of the AFED Education Board (October 2023 – January 2025), is part of the

Marriage Conciliatory Board research team of KSIJ Dar-es-Salaam, and was a winner of the Voice of the Community 2023 competition. Inspired by his late father, Marhum Alhaj Gulamraza bhai Ebrahim Sheriff, he has been actively engaged in social work, particularly in education and tabligh.

During his time in Manipal, he served as AFED's coordinator for East African students, playing a key role in facilitating a dedicated centre for religious and community activities.

In his role as COO, Mohammed Kazim will support AFED's operations, administration, and coordination with its Boards, contributing to the Secretariat's mission of expanding its reach and impact.



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I AFED VISITS JAMAATS

AFED Delegation Joins Azadari of Shab-e-Arbaeen at Morogoro Jamaat



On 24th August 2024 (19th Safar 1446), a delegation led by Africa Federation Chairman Alhaj Amine bhai Nassor, accompanied by the-Vice Chairman Alhaj Aunali bhai Khalfan and Bilal Muslim Mission of Tanzania Chairman Alhaj Hussein bhai Karim, visited Morogoro Jamaat to participate in the Shab-e-Arbaeen commemoration.

The visit had three main objectives: to join in the Azadari of Seyyedush Shohadah Aba Abdillahil Hussain (A), meet Jamaat officials and community members, and inspect Jamaat and Bilal Muslim Mission centres.

Despite a reduced community population of 67 households, Morogoro Jamaat remains active. The Jamaat's 4-acre Kabrastan is well maintained, and plans were discussed to better utilize this land for religious and educational purposes, such as establishing a Madressah.

The delegation toured the Bilal Muslim Mission centres, witnessed ongoing activities, and participated in the Shab-e-Arbaeen Majlis led by Maulana Sheikh Muhammad Shariff. The event brought the community together in remembrance of Imam Hussain (A) and the martyrs of the Prophet's household.



In his address, Alhaj Amine Nassor stressed the importance of unity and active community involvement for growth and overcoming challenges. The delegation held a fruitful meeting with the Jamaat Managing Committee, chaired by Alhaj Abdulrazak Fidahussein Kermally, to discuss governance, record-keeping compliance, constitution review, and active participation in Africa Federation Supreme Council sessions.

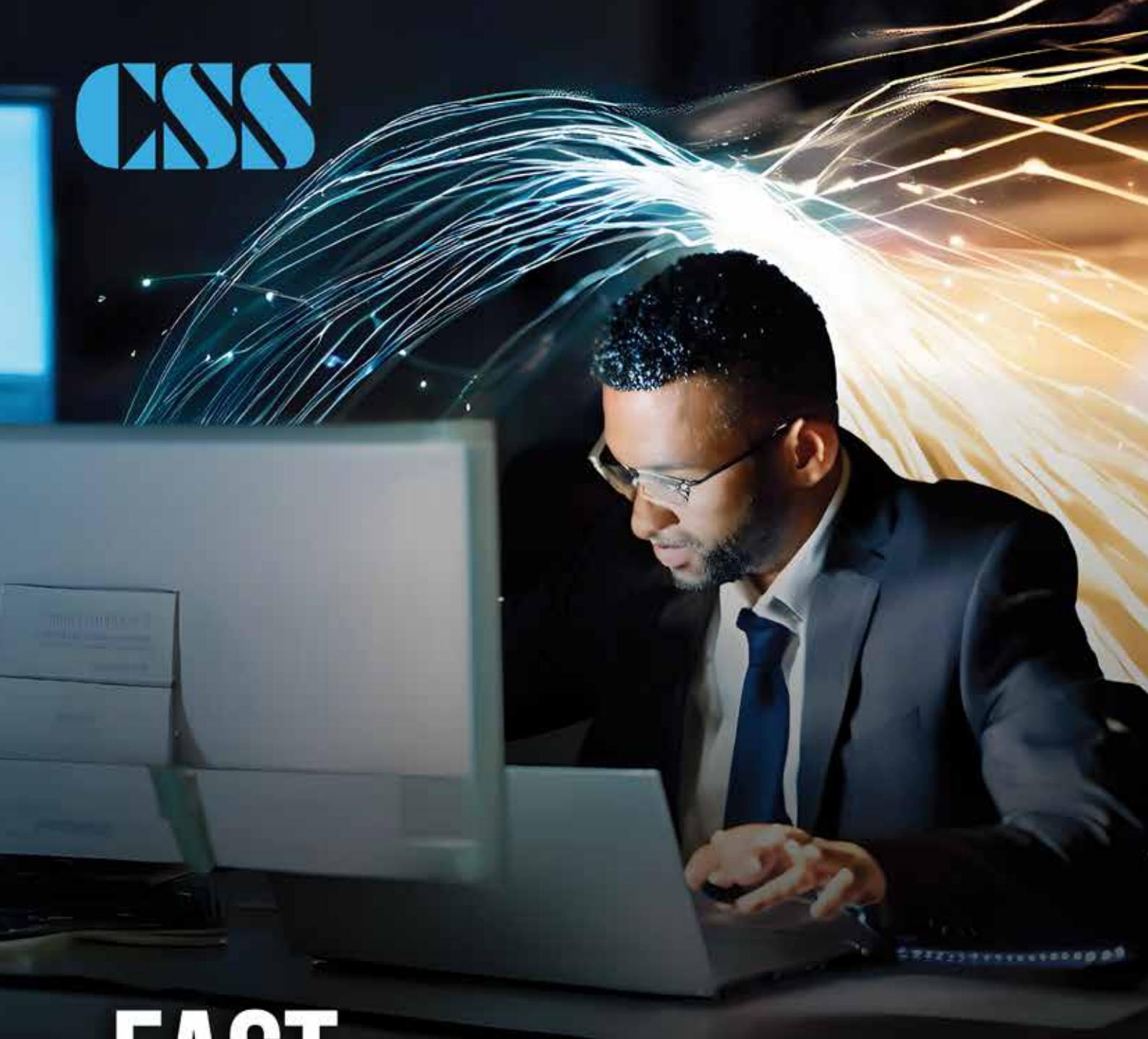


The importance of maintaining updated registration documents and holding Annual General Meetings on time was emphasized to ensure transparency and accountability. The delegation also updated the Jamaat on upcoming renovation works for the Mosque, Imambargha, Madressah, and compound led by the Housing Board.



Lastly, with Morogoro's growing economy fueled by logistics and new business opportunities, community members were encouraged to explore these avenues for sustainable development.

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I AFED VISITS JAMAATS

AFED Chairman and Delegation Join Arbaeen Day Commemoration in Zanzibar



A delegation from the Africa Federation led by AFED Chairman Alhaj Amine Nassor, included the Vice Chairman Alhaj Aunali Khalfan and Chairman of Bilal Muslim Mission of Tanzania Alhaj Hussein Karim travelled to Zanzibar on Sunday 25th August 2024 (20th Safar 1446) to join mourners in the commemoration of Arbaeen Day - marking the culmination of the 40 days of mourning for the great martyrdom of Imam Hussain (A) and his loyal companions in Karbala (61 A.H.).



Upon arrival, the delegation met with the leadership of the Zanzibar KSI Kuwwatul Islam Jamaat at the Kiponda offices before Zohrain Salaah. This was followed by a Majlis at Mehfil-e-Ali Makam, recited by visiting scholar Maulana Seyed Wajeeh Akbar, followed by Matam, Ziyarat, a heartfelt address by the AFED Chairman, and Nyaz.

A Juloos took place at 4.00 p.m. from the mosque to the Kabrastan, followed by the evening program - Namaz-e-Maghribayn, Matam at Kiponda outside the Imambargha (a tradition over a century old), and Nyaz at Mehfil-e-Ali Makam.

In his address, Alhaj Amine Nassor expressed deep gratitude for the opportunity to attend the Arbaeen gathering, which united community members from across the globe. He commended the Zanzibar Jamaat's Managing Committee and organizers for their unwavering dedication to Azadari, noting that its vibrant spirit in Zanzibar is a testament to the

community's resilience over generations. He said the banner of Azadari flies high in Zanzibar, emphasizing that this tradition strengthens the community's spiritual foundation and unity.



The Chairman reiterated that Azadari is central to the Khoja Shia Ithna-Asheri community's identity, and preserving it is vital for future generations as it is not just a tradition but rather our very existence.

A central message shared by Alhaj Amine bhai was the importance of unity among Khoja Jamaats under the Africa Federation. He urged all AFED Jamaats to remain united, fostering a collaborative spirit that would uplift the community in all dimensions. He stressed that it is through collective strength that the Khoja community can advance spiritually, academically, and economically.

During the visit, the delegation also met Brother Sadique Mustafa Jaffer of the Jaffer Family Foundation (JFF) of New York, who was in Zanzibar for the occasion.

The Zanzibar Jamaat also brought to the delegation's attention the urgent need for support in the renovation and repair of the Imambargha's upper floor, which requires the complete replacement of its roof structure. This project has been identified as critical to preserving the historical building.

The Federation remains committed to supporting its constituent Jamaats and continuing the vital work of strengthening the Khoja community across the continent.

AFED HOSTS SEHRI GET-TOGETHER PROGRAM IN DAR ES SALAAM



On Sunday, 15th March 2025 (15th Mahe Ramadhan), the Africa Federation marked the birth anniversary of Imam Hassan al-Mujtaba ('A), the first grandson of the Holy Prophet (SAWW), by hosting a Sehri Get-Together at Delhi Darbar Restaurant in Dar es Salaam.

The program commenced with the beautiful recitation of Surah Yasin by Br. Husseinali NooralAin Shariff, followed by a welcome address from the Master of Ceremonies, Br. Alihassan Kassam, on behalf of the AFED Chairman and Office Bearers.

AFED Chairman, Alhaj Amine Nassor, in his address, expressed his delight to be in Dar es Salaam during the holy month of Ramadhan and on this blessed occasion. He explained that the Sehri Get-Together aimed to strengthen bonds, foster unity, and share in the joy of the celebration.

Reflecting on AFED's history, Amine bhai acknowledged the invaluable contributions of past

leaders since the Federation's formation in 1946 under Murrabbi Alhaj A. H. Nurmohamed. He noted that their wisdom, vision, and perseverance laid the foundation for the Federation's growth. He highlighted the foresight of leaders like Alhaj Anwarali Dharamsi for initiating income-generating projects, and Alhaj Shabir Najafi for further expanding these initiatives raising the Federation to greater heights. With continued community support, he expressed confidence in AFED's ability to thrive and uplift its member Jamaats.

He also emphasized the importance of Aqeedah and Marja'iyyat, and spoke about the ongoing global injustices against innocent men, women, and children. He urged the gathering to pray for peace, an end to oppression, and relief for those living under harsh conditions, especially during the forthcoming Laylatul Qadr nights.

The program was further uplifted by moving Qasida recitations from Amine bhai Nassor and Mulla Sadiq Dewji, marking the joyous celebration of the Wiladat. The evening concluded with the closing Du'a and Du'a of Imam al-Hujjah (ATFS) recited by Maulana Seyed Arif Naqvi.

Br. Alihassan Kassam also paid tribute to Marhum Sheikh Abdillahi Nasser for his lifelong dedication to the Tabligh of the Madh'ab of Ahlulbayt ('A) in East Africa and beyond.



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AFED CHAIRMAN ATTENDS THE INAUGURATION OF MEHFILE ZAHRA IN COMOROS ISLAND

The Khoja Shia Ithna Asheri community of Comoros celebrated the inauguration of Mehfile Zahra, marking its first-ever Mehfil in Comoros. The Mehfil was generously donated by the family of Rajabali Alimamod of Antananarivo, Madagascar. The event, held on 21st December 2024 coinciding with the eve of the Wiladat of Sayyedah Fatima Zahra (SA), was graced by Africa Federation Chairman Alhaj Amine Nassor, World Federation President Alhaj Safdar Jaffer, AFED Nominated Councillor Alhaj Navazaly Molou, and members of the Alimamod family, along with the Comoros community members.



In his address, AFED Chairman Amine Nassor congratulated the Comoros Khoja Association Chairman, Alhaj Zahir Mamod Nassir Houssen, and his office bearers for their efforts in strengthening religious and community bonds. He reaffirmed AFED's commitment to supporting initiatives that promote the spiritual and social wellbeing of Khoja communities across Africa and the Indian Ocean Islands.



The inauguration marked a significant milestone for the Khoja community in Comoros, providing a strong foundation for future generations.



VISITS TO AFED HEAD QUARTERS AT AFED TOWER DAR ES SALAAM

January 2025 - Dr. Hasnain Walji

The Vice Chairman of the Africa Federation, Alhaj Aunali Khalfan, together with members of the Archives Team, warmly welcomed Dr. Hasnain Walji Head of the Khoja Heritage Project to the AFED Office and Archives Gallery at AFED Tower.

The visit focused on reviewing the progress of the Africa Federation History Book, a major initiative led by Dr. Walji in collaboration with the AFED Archives Team. This landmark publication will chronicle the Federation's journey from its establishment in 1946 to the present, highlighting key milestones, challenges, and achievements that have shaped the community.



Dr. Walji commended the Archives Team for their dedication and meticulous approach in curating this important record of the Federation's legacy. He underscored the importance of engaging the youth with the community's history and encouraged the adoption of creative methods to make historical narratives more accessible and impactful. He also offered practical guidance on the book's final stages, including structural improvements and production timelines, to ensure the project meets the highest standards of quality and presentation.

Alhaj Aunali Khalfan expressed his appreciation for Dr. Walji's unwavering support and leadership in steering this significant undertaking. He acknowledged the enduring value of the History Book in preserving the community's heritage and thanked Dr. Walji for his tireless commitment to this monumental task.

The Archives Team extended their gratitude to Dr. Walji for his invaluable support, noting that his passion for heritage preservation has been a motivating force behind the project. The Archives Office reaffirmed its commitment to safeguarding the achievements and milestones of the Africa Federation for future generations.

The AFED History Book Dows to Diaspora was launched at the 29th Ordinary Conference and is available for sale at the AFED Offices at US\$ 5 per copy.

I AFED VISITS JAMAATS

November 2024 - Madagascar Delegation

The Africa Federation Secretariat welcomed a delegation of AFED Councillors from Madagascar led by Nominated Councillor Alhaj Navazaly Molou, they were warmly received by AFED Vice Chairman Alhaj Aunali Khalfan, Central Health Board (CHB) Chairman Alhaj Aliraza Bandali, and other Secretariat members. the delegation had earlier attended the 88th Supreme Council in Arusha from 22nd to 24th November 2024.

The delegation discussed CHB initiatives including Life Insurance, Health Insurance, and the Health Screening Program at Shifaa Pan African Hospital in Dar es Salaam. CHB's facilities in Karachi, Pakistan, were also explained. They requested similar medical screening programs in Madagascar focusing on Gynecology, Oncology, and Cardiac assessment. Alhaj Navazaly Molou invited CHB Chairman Alhaj Aliraza Bandali to visit Tananarive to explore local medical facilities for future health programs.

Alhaj Gulam Punjani of Punjani Charitable Trust (PCT) participated in the discussions, highlighting PCT's collaboration with AFED and the Khoja Leadership Forum in training programs for Cyber Security, Artificial Intelligence, and other courses, hosted at the PCT training center on the mezzanine floor of AFED Tower.

Alhaj Aunali Khalfan briefed the delegation on AFED's various initiatives across housing development, tabligh (internal and external), capacity building, media and marketing, education, youth development, sports, women's engagement, and archives & history.

The delegation toured the Archives Section, guided by Sisters Zaheera Alishan and Ismat Khimji, exploring historical photographs, books, antique artifacts, and portraits of founding fathers and former AFED chairmen, appreciating the rich heritage of the community.



The visit concluded with a lunch attended by Alhaj Hussein Karim, Chairman of Bilal Muslim Mission of Tanzania.

October 2024 - Dar es Salaam Jamaat President and New Team

The Africa Federation Chairman Alhaj Amine Nassor hosted a get-together and dinner in honour of the President of Dar es Salaam Jamaat, Alhaj Mohamedraza Dewji, and his newly elected Managing Committee members and Trustees for the 2024 – 2026 term.



The gathering provided an opportunity for the Africa Federation Office Bearers and Trustees to formally convey their heartfelt congratulations to Mohamedraza bhai on his unopposed re-election as President, and to acknowledge his long-standing, selfless service to the community. The evening was marked by a warm spirit of camaraderie, fostering the exchange of ideas and the strengthening of bonds of unity and cooperation.

In his welcoming remarks, Chairman Amine bhai Nassor underscored the enduring partnership between Africa Federation and Dar es Salaam Jamaat, commending the Jamaat's significant contributions to social welfare, education, and religious development. He praised Mohamedraza bhai's tireless efforts in leading impactful initiatives and extended best wishes to the newly elected Committee Members and Trustees for success in their upcoming term.

Amine bhai expressed optimism for the future, noting the importance of building upon the achievements inherited from the dedicated efforts of past generations. He encouraged embracing innovation, exploring new opportunities, and addressing the challenges of an ever-changing global environment.

In his address, Mohamedraza bhai conveyed his gratitude for the warm welcome and recognition, reaffirming his team's commitment to serving the community with renewed energy and purpose. He emphasized the critical role of Africa Federation in supporting Jamaats across the region and outlined areas for future collaboration.

The evening concluded on a positive and hopeful note, with both institutions pledging to work together in the service of the Khoja Shia Ithna-Asheri community, setting a constructive tone for the years ahead.

I AFED VISITS JAMAATS

May 2024 - Alhaj Raza Aly Hiridjee



The Africa Federation (AFED) had the honour of welcoming Murrabbi Alhaj Raza Aly Hiridjee, a renowned entrepreneur from Madagascar, for a luncheon meeting at the AFED Head Office. The Hiridjee family is widely recognized for their generous philanthropic contributions to education, religious activities, and various social services within the community and beyond.

Alhaj Raza Aly bhai was received by Alhaj Zainul Chandoo, then AFED Hon. Treasurer, and joined by Alhaj Muntazir bhai Walji (AFED Assistant Hon. Treasurer), Br. Mohammed Kazim Sheriff (AFED Education Board Chairman), Dr. Abbasaley Abbas (Sectional Secretary, Archives Section), and the Secretariat and Board administrative staff.



The visit provided an excellent platform for discussions on topics of shared interest, including global economic trends, the challenges faced in Africa and other regions, and the opportunities emerging in developed countries particularly in the areas of higher education scholarships and professional career development.

With his strong passion for promoting education, Alhaj Raza Aly bhai has supplemented AFED's Higher Education Loan Programme (HELP) through the Hiridjee Loan Scheme, which provides financial support to two males and two female students

annually for up to four years, starting from the academic year 2023 – 2024.

Mohammed Kazim briefed him on the scheme's progress since inception, outlining the application, vetting, approval, and disbursement processes. Sajida Bai Master, Education Board Admin Secretary, further elaborated on other AFED loan schemes, the approval systems, and the introduction of new software enabling students to submit online applications significantly reducing processing times.

Zainul bhai Chandoo highlighted the growing demand for educational financial assistance each year and expressed gratitude for the timely support provided by the Hiridjee Loan. Alhaj Raza Aly bhai, in turn, praised the efficiency and quality of the Education Board's reporting, and shared his vision of establishing a college in Africa similar to the one he operates in Madagascar. He also encouraged further applications to the Hiridjee Loan Scheme.

He spoke passionately about the importance of preserving the mother tongue, stressing its central role in maintaining cultural heritage and identity especially among youth. He noted that language is a vital bridge to traditions, values, and history, and commended community initiatives aimed at promoting language education, encouraging their expansion and sustained support.

Alhaj Raza Aly bhai toured the Archives Gallery, expressing admiration for its role in preserving and showcasing the community's rich history and linguistic heritage for future generations.

He also interacted with participants of the Start and Improve Your Business (SIYB) training organized by the AFED Economic Development Board at the AFED Tower Training Centre. He applauded the initiative and urged participants to fully utilize the training to build economic empowerment within the community.

Alhaj Raza Aly bhai has served in various leadership roles, including as Chairman of Conseil Régional of Madagascar (1986–1989), AFED Nominated Councillor from Madagascar, and AFED Nominated Councillor to the World Federation. His contributions to Supreme Council Sessions, AFED Conferences, WF Executive Council meetings, and WF Conferences have been remarkable.

Recently, he was honoured with the Kaukabe Khidmat Award – The Star of Service Award, the highest recognition by the World Federation, during the WF Conference in London, UK, in acknowledgement of his exemplary service to the community and humanity.

I AFED VISITS JAMAATS

July 2024 - Sheikh Shahnawaz Mahdavi

The Secretariat had the pleasure of welcoming Sheikh Shahnawaz Mahdavi of the United Kingdom, a visiting scholar for Muharram 1446 A.H. in Dar es Salaam Jamaat, to the AFED Head Office. He was accompanied by Alhaj Mohammed bhai Walji, Vice Chairman of DSM Tabligh Board, and Alhaj Zishan bhai Somji, CEO of the DSM Tabligh Board, and was received by the AFED Vice Chairman Alhaj Aunali Khalfan.



Also present were the AFED Assistant Hon. Secretary Br. Mohamedamir Hamza, Bilal Muslim Mission of Tanzania Chairman Alhaj Hussein Karim, Capacity Building Group Chairman Alhaj Shabbirhussein Khalfan, Education Board Chairman Alhaj Mohamedkazim Sheriff, Housing Development Board Chairman Alhaj Akil Hirji, AFED Sports Council Chairman Alhaj Fazel Kassam, and members of the Secretariat staff.

In his remarks, Aunali bhai Khalfan outlined AFED's ongoing activities and major projects, including external Tabligh through the Bilal Muslim Missions in Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda, Malawi, and Rwanda, with planned expansion into Burundi and Mozambique in the coming year, Insha'Allah.

He also spoke on the significant potential for Tabligh among indigenous populations, highlighting outreach to smaller towns and villages, as well as efforts in Madagascar by BILAL, INISMA, and FCRA.

AFED Board Chairmen present shared updates on their respective Boards' work, future plans, and alignment with AFED's 2022–2025 vision.

Sheikh Shahnawaz, who previously lived in Tanzania and Kenya, commended AFED's progress and praised the performance of its various Boards in housing, education, health, women's and youth development, sports, and Tabligh. He emphasized the importance of focusing on children and youth through strong Madressah programs to instill the teachings of the Madh'hab of Ahlulbayt ('A) and offered prayers for AFED's success.

Aunali bhai assured the Sheikh of AFED's continued commitment to religious education and propagation, both internally via AFTAB and externally through the Bilal Missions.

July 2024 - Sheikh Nuru Mohammed

Sheikh Nuru Mohammed, at the invitation of the Africa Federation (AFED), paid a brief visit to AFED Tower to meet the Federation's officials and Secretariat staff.

The AFED Vice Chairman, Alhaj Aunali Khalfan, warmly welcomed Sheikh Nuru Mohammed and Alhaj Mohammed Walji. Also present were AFED Board Chairmen and members of the Secretariat staff.



In his remarks, Sheikh Nuru expressed his deep satisfaction with the outstanding work carried out by the Africa Federation over the past 14 years. He commended the leadership for their dedication and the progress achieved, noting that the Institution's efforts have brought lasting benefits to community members worldwide.

Chairmen of the Housing, Education, and Sports Boards, together with Secretariat staff, shared updates on their respective areas of work and recent achievements.

Alhaj Aunali Khalfan provided an overview of AFED's activities across the region, including operations in Madagascar, Réunion, and Mauritius. He outlined key initiatives in internal Tabligh through AFTAB, external Tabligh via the Bilal Muslim Missions, as well as in education, health, sports, and heritage preservation highlighting the upcoming publication of the AFED History Book in collaboration with Dr. Hasnain Walji and the AFED Archives Section.

AFED VISITS JAMAATS

March 2025 - Sheikh Anwer Jaffer

The Africa Federation hosted renowned U.K.-based scholar Sheikh Anwer Jaffer for a Sehri program during his visit to Dar-es-Salaam in the Holy Month of Ramadhan at the invitation of the KSI Jamaat of Dar es Salaam to deliver lectures during the first 15 days of the holy month.



Also present at the Program were the President of Dsm Jamaat Alhaj Mohamedraza bhai Dewji; AFED Trustee Alhaj Anwarali Dharamsi; Vice Chairman Alhaj Aunali Khalfan and Chairman of the Dar Jamaat Tabligh Board, Alhaj Dr. Kazim Dhallal, Vice Chairman Alhaj Mohammed Walji and CEO Alhaj Zishan Somji, AFED office bearers and Board Chairs, including Alhaj Hussein Karim (Bilal Muslim Mission of Tanzania), Alhaj Shabbirhussein Khalfan (Capacity Building Board), Alhaj Akil Hirji (Housing Development Board), Alhaj Fazal Ali Kassam (Sports

Council), Dr. Abbasaley Abbas (Archives Section), and Mohammed Kazim Sheriff (Chief Operating Officer).

Hussein bhai Karim highlighted ongoing initiatives of the Bilal Muslim Mission in Tanzania, focusing on tabligh, education, and economic empowerment. Dr. Abbasaley Abbas presented AFED's efforts in preserving the rich heritage of the Khoja Shia Ithna-Asheri community through the Archives Section, emphasizing the importance of historical awareness. Sheikh Anwer was given a tour of the Archives Gallery, which houses artifacts, photographs, and historical records. Chairmen of the Capacity Building Board, Housing Development Board, and Sports Council also briefed Sheikh Anwer on the scope and progress of their respective initiatives.

Sheikh Anwer commended AFED's comprehensive efforts, recognizing it as a model for other regional federations and encouraging the continuation of its valuable work.

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I COMMUNITY MILESTONES

Grand Opening of Bilal Secondary School in Kampala, Uganda

On Saturday, 12th April 2025, the Khoja Shia Ithnasherī Jamaat of Kampala celebrated a landmark occasion with the grand opening of the Bilal Secondary School. The ceremony was attended by dignitaries including His Excellency the Republic of Iran Ambassador Dr. Majid Saffar, Mayor of Kampala Mr. Salim Uhuru, representatives from the Ministry of Education and Sports, Africa Federation Chairman Alhaj Amine Nassor, AFED Vice Chairman Alhaj Aunali Khalfan, and other community leaders.



The school building was generously funded by the Punjani Charitable Trust of Toronto, Canada, and the event was graced by the presence of its 94-year-old founder, Alhaj Murabbi Mohammed Hussain bhai Punjani, alongside Trust members. Leaders from other communities, including the Aga Khan Ismaili and Dawoodi Bohora communities, also attended, highlighting the occasion's significance.



The program began with the recitation of the Holy Quran, followed by the Ugandan national anthem, tree planting, ribbon cutting, and a tour of the newly constructed classrooms. Speeches by the Jamaat Chairman Alhaj Shabbar Virani, Mayor Salim Uhuru, and Africa Federation Chairman Alhaj Amine Nassor emphasized the transformative power of education and expressed gratitude to the Punjani Charitable Trust for its generous support.

Recognition awards were presented to contractors, architects, and key contributors, while Alhaj Murabbi Mohammed Hussain bhai Punjani received the highest community honor, the Imam Ali ('A) Award, for his lifelong dedication to community service. The ceremony concluded with the symbolic cutting of the cake by Alhaj Murabbi Punjani and Alhaj Shabbar Virani, marking the official opening of the new secondary school building.



The Bilal Primary and Nursery Schools, and now the Secondary School are committed in providing high-quality comprehensive education to our community and non-community students across Kampala city. Primary going students are aligned to the Uganda National Curriculum. Students in Secondary Grades 1 to 4 follow the Uganda Secondary Education curriculum, which leads to the Uganda Certificate of Education (UCE).

Songea Jamaat Embarks on Commercial Project to Generate Income



For the first time, Songea Jamaat has launched an ambitious commercial project aimed at generating income to support Jamaat activities and assist its members' development.

The project is located on a prime plot adjacent to the Mosque that had remained vacant for years. The site is ideal for retail and wholesale businesses, offering attractive rental potential.

Phase one includes the ground and first floors designated for commercial use, with phase two planned for residential units on the upper two floors. Construction has begun, with the foundation nearly complete, funded initially by the Jamaat's own resources. The plan includes 27 shops available for rent, serving as a valuable capital investment for the Jamaat's future.

A delegation led by Africa Federation Chairman Alhaj Amine bhai Nassor, accompanied by Vice Chairman Alhaj Aunali bhai Khalfan and Bilal Muslim Mission of Tanzania Chairman Alhaj Hussein bhai Karim, visited Songea from 21st to 23rd August 2024 (16th to 18th Safar 1446). This marked the current Chairman's first visit to Songea Jamaat. During meetings with the Jamaat, it was noted that the local economy is gradually improving, particularly in coal mining, transportation, and warehouse investments. Community members were encouraged to explore these emerging business opportunities, which are already benefiting other communities. The Songea Jamaat currently comprises 26 members but remains vibrant and active. A Resident Aalim leads daily prayers, recites majlis, and performs other religious duties.



The Delegation visited the site during their visit and reviewed the architectural plans and progress, commending the commitment of Songea Jamaat's leadership towards the Project.

The Jamaat also runs a Nursery School with 90 students, providing morning breakfast. The school maintains high standards with well-trained teachers and charges a nominal fee of Shs. 75,000/- per month to cover some operational costs.



The Songea Jamaat Kabrastan is well maintained, featuring a large open space enclosed by a concrete fence. A caretaker's house is on site to ensure cleanliness and upkeep. Plans are underway to establish a small Madressah to serve the local Muslim children, and the open grounds are used for religious activities.

We pray that this project achieves great success and yields fruitful results. Aameen.



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A GRAND CENTENARY CELEBRATION OF KAMPALA JAMAAT

On 30th September 2023, the Khoja Shia Ithna-Asheri Kampala Jamaat celebrated 100 years since its official registration coinciding with the 86th AFED Supreme Council Session hosted by the Jamaat. The centenary marked a significant milestone, reflecting the strength, resilience, and unity of the Kampala community, and inspiring future generations to uphold its rich traditions and values.



Marhum Khimji Bhanji served as the first Chairman in 1920 and purchased Plot 6 on Wilson Road, the Jamaat's first Imambargha. The Jamaat was first registered in 1923, with its constitution drafted in 1925 and officially registered in 1927. Membership grew steadily, peaking between the 1940s and early 1970s, supported by community businessmen who contributed to Uganda's economy. The first Mosque was built in 1959, fully donated by Marhum Alhaj Mohamedali Alibhai Ramji, and inaugurated in 1960. The housing complex at 84/90 Nakivubo Road followed in 1967, reflecting the Jamaat's vision for growth.

The expulsion of Asians by Idi Amin in 1972 was a dark chapter, yet the community returned stronger, showcasing resilience, unity, and dedication to preserving cultural and religious identity. Today, the Kampala Jamaat thrives, a testament to collective perseverance.

The Centenary Celebration at the Jamaat Complex was attended by dignitaries including Ayatollah Ramazani (Iran), Uganda's Minister of Justice Hon. Norbert Mao, ex-MP Hon. Sanjay Tanna, Iranian Ambassador Majid Saffar, Aga Khan Ambassador Amin Mawji, and officials from Africa Federation, World Federation, COEJ and Councillors and Invitees from across Africa.

The ceremony commenced with Qur'anic recitation by Agha Mohammed Lotfi (Iran), followed by a welcome address by Kampala Jamaat Chairman and Master of Ceremony, Alhaj Sibtain bhai Merchant. Guests shared reflections: Alhaj Barkat bhai Ali, an ex-Ugandan, reminisced on childhood memories and expressed gratitude for the opportunity to return after nearly 50 years. Ambassador Amin Mawji

highlighted strong ties between Khoja Shia Ismaili and Ithna-Asheri communities and the importance of passing values to the next generation.

Mr. Sanjay Tanna spoke on the challenges faced by Asians who remained in Uganda and encouraged investment in the country. Murabbi Dr. Mohamed Jaffer praised Kampala Jamaat philanthropists for their contributions to both local and international community projects. AFED Chairman Alhaj Amine Nassor congratulated Kampala Jamaat and expressed interest in joint development initiatives. World Federation President Alhaj Safder Jaffer highlighted the community's global contributions, particularly in education, and lauded its resilience post-expulsion.

Minister Norbert Mao congratulated the Jamaat on behalf of the Government, acknowledging historical challenges while reaffirming support for visitors and investors.



In formal presentations, the World Federation, AFED, and family members of Marhum Alhaj Mohamed Rehmatullah honored Kampala Jamaat with citations and recognition awards.

KAMPALA JAMAAT INAUGURATES “THE MALL” – A LANDMARK COMMERCIAL PROJECT BOOSTING LONG-TERM COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY



The Khoja Shia Ithna-Asheri Jamaat of Kampala inaugurated its commercial project, The Mall, on Thursday, 28th September 2023, coinciding with the visit of former Ugandan community members and participants of the 86th Supreme Council Session of the Africa Federation (AFED).

The ceremony was attended by the Mayor of Kampala, Mr. Salim Saad Uhuru, alongside global dignitaries including AFED Chairman Alhaj Amine Nassor, World Federation President Alhaj Safdar Jaffer, AFED Vice Chairmen Alhaj Aunali Khalfan and Alhaj Feride Ismael, AFED Trustee Alhaj Shabir Najafi, World Federation Secretary General Arifali Hirji, COEJ Chairman Alhaj Salim Remtullah, and leaders of various Jamaats.

Proceedings began with Qur'an recitation by resident Aalim Maulana Syed Ali Abbas Rizvi, followed by unveiling the plaque by AFED Chairman and the Mayor.

Kampala Jamaat Chairman Alhaj Sibtain Merchant outlined the history of the plot on Wilson Road, purchased in 1919 by Marhum Khimji Bhanji, which initially served as the first Imambargha. Over the decades, the site evolved serving as a commercial property post-1972 nationalization, undergoing renovations in 1996 and after a fire in 1998, and now redeveloped into a seven-story mall with shops,

parking, and a terrace. The new structure is expected to boost the Jamaat's income tenfold.



Mayor Uhuru praised the project's quality and pledged his support. AFED Chairman Amine Nassor commended Kampala Jamaat's foresight, unity, and resilience, calling it “the golden Jamaat in Africa” and urging others to emulate such initiatives. Housing Board Chairman Alhaj Akil Hirji lauded the project as a role model for sustainable Jamaat financing, noting Kampala's pioneering “rent-to-own” scheme.

Awards were presented to contractors, suppliers, and key contributors, with special recognition to Chairman Alhaj Sibtain Merchant and Hon. Secretary Mr. Riyaz Mithani.

The Mall stands as a landmark on Wilson Road, symbolizing financial self-sufficiency and visionary leadership.

INAUGURATION OF THE BILAL MWANZA MOSQUE AND IMAM HUSSEIN CENTRE – MWANZA, TANZANIA

On 2nd March 2024 (20th Shab'an 1445 AH), the Bilal Mwanza Mosque and Imam Hussein Centre one of the largest Bilal centres in Tanzania was inaugurated. The ceremony was graced by Alhaj Mohamedraza Badami and Syed Mohammad Ansar Hussein Naqvi, representing "Spirit of Hussein," the project's esteemed donors. Also present were Syed Ali Raza Naqvi and the sons of late Syed Hassan Abbas Naqvi, Syed Maitham and Syed Zainulabideen.



AFED Chairman Alhaj Amine Nassor, Vice Chairman Alhaj Aunali Khalfan and Hon. Assistant Secretary Alhaj Mohamedamir Hamza, travelled to Mwanza accompanied by AFED Housing Board Chairman Alhaj Akil Hirji, Central Bilal Board Chairman Alhaj Mohamed Hemani, AFTAB Chairman Alhaj Sajjad Walji, Bilal Tanzania Chairman Alhaj Hussein Karim. Also present were Bilal Lake Zone Region Chairman, Alhaj Sibtain Meghjee, Bilal Bukoba Branch Chairman Alhaj Mohamed Manji, Mwanza Jamaat Chairman Alhaj Arshad Jetha, AFED Project Coordinator Br. Mohamed Moledina, Imams and Sheikhs from various Bilal Centres in Tanzania and guests from various institutions and organizations as well as community members from Mwanza.



The plot measuring 2.3 acres at Nyamhogoro area in Mwanza was kindly donated by Alhaj Murtaza Alloo of Mwanza to Bilal Muslim Mission of Tanzania. The ground breaking and foundation stone laying was performed by the Chairman of Africa Federation, Alhaj Amine Nassor in October 2022 after which the

construction commenced under the supervision of the Chairman of Bilal Lake Zone Region, Alhaj Sibtain Meghjee before being handed over to the AFED Housing Development Board in October 2023 to carry on with the construction and finishing works of the project which has been sponsored by "Spirit of Hussein" in loving memory of Marhum Syed Hassan Abbas Naqvi and Marhum Masumali Mohamedali Bandali.

The program began with Qur'an recitations for the Isale Thawab of the late President Ali Hassan Mwinyi. Speeches by Bilal Lake Zone Region Chairman Alhaj Sibtain Meghjee and Bilal Tanzania Chairman Alhaj Hussein Karim highlighted the project's history, the importance of mosque upkeep, and future plans — including offices, housing, fencing, and a health clinic. The Deputy Chief Kadhi of BAKWATA urged the community to maximize use of the facilities for worship, education, and social services.



AFED Chairman Alhaj Amine Nassor praised the late Marhum Syed Hassan Naqvi's vision, the sponsors' generosity, and the Housing Development Board's dedication. Guest of Honour Syed Muhammad Naqvi described Spirit of Hussein's mission, noting their contributions to water projects in Tanzania and announcing plans for a maternity clinic and continued sponsorship of Iftar and Nyaz for five years. Syed Ali Raza Naqvi commended the project for fostering unity and serving the community.

A memento plaque was presented to Spirit of Hussein representatives in appreciation of their generous contributions. The Centre was officially inaugurated by Syed Muhammad Naqvi, joined by donors, AFED leaders, and BAKWATA officials. The event concluded with Maghribain prayers and dinner, skillfully coordinated by MC Sheikh Hashim Maulid.

I JINJA MOSQUE GETS A FACELIFT

The Jinja Mosque, historically a center for community activities including the Ashura procession to Kampala, underwent a complete renovation. After its re-acquisition in the early 1990s, only minor repairs had been carried out, and the property had deteriorated over time. In September and October 2023, under the leadership of Africa Federation Housing Board Chairman Alhaj Akil Bhai Hirji, in collaboration with Riyaz Bhai Mithani and Afzal Bhai Bhimani, the mosque was fully renovated, with major funding provided by AFED.

The Centre managed by the Bilal Muslim Mission (BMM) of Uganda, serves as a hub for community activities and tabligh programs led by well-trained scholars. Renovations were carried out in two phases: Phase One addressed the mosque's interior and exterior, electrical systems, and bathrooms, while Phase Two included expansion of the ladies' wing, rehabilitation of the library, flooring, and the addition of a shop whose income will support the property's upkeep.

Visiting ex-Ugandan community members were impressed with the renovations during their visit on 1st October 2023. Following the 86th Supreme Council Session, an AFED delegation comprising of the Vice Chairman Alhaj Aunali Khalfan and CBB Chairman Alhaj Mohamed Hemani, BMM Tanzania

Chairman Alhaj Hussein Karim visited Jinja on 2nd October to inaugurate the renovated mosque on the occasion of the Birth Anniversary of the Holy Prophet (SAWW).

The Bilal community expressed appreciation for the upgraded facilities, particularly the library, which will attract more students and scholars.

The Secretariat records its gratitude to Housing Board Chairman Alhaj Akil Hirji, Project Coordinator Mohamed Bhai Moledina, Kampala Jamaat leadership and all involved in the renovation of this Centre.



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AFED PARTNERS WITH JAFFER FAMILY FOUNDATION TO OFFER KHOJA STUDENTS ACCESS TO KARACHI UNIVERSITY'S NEW DATA SCIENCES & AI CENTER

In December 2023, the landscape of education and technology advanced significantly with the commencement of construction on the 30,000 sq. ft. JFF-UGI-sponsored Data Sciences and AI Center of Excellence at Karachi University's main campus. The groundbreaking ceremony was attended by JFF Trustees Mohamed Taki and Sadique Jaffer, UGI Executive Director Dr. Hasnain Walji, IBA Executive Director Dr. Akber Zaidi, and AFED Chairman Alhaj Amine Nassor.

Scheduled for completion in 2026, this state-of-the-art facility will function under the IBA Computer Science School, offering cutting-edge programs and resources in data science and artificial intelligence.



At the Supreme Council meeting in November 2024, JFF Chairman Mohamed Taki Jaffer invited AFED to send students from Africa to benefit from this initiative. This collaboration will equip African students with advanced skills in one of the most sought-after fields, setting a new benchmark for global partnerships in education and technology.

Alhaj Zuhair Jaffer, the Hon. Secretary of AFED, will lead this initiative on AFED's side, working with the Education and Economic Boards to ensure its success.

AFED expresses its deep gratitude to the Jaffer Family Foundation of New York for their unwavering support and commitment to its mission. JFF has been a cornerstone of AFED's progress, generously sponsoring numerous initiatives. We look forward to strengthening this partnership and exploring further collaborations to advance our shared goals.

TUKUTANE FESTIVAL – MOMBASA JAMAAT

The Mombasa Jamaat community marked its 160-year history with the grand "Tukutane" Festival, held from 20th to 21st October 2023. The celebrations brought together members from around the world, including Africa Federation Chairman Alhaj Amine Nassor, Vice Chairman Alhaj Aunali Khalfan, AFED Trustees, and other dignitaries. The Celebration commenced with the inauguration of the new modern Jaffery Sports Club, generously donated by the Jaffer Foundation of Mombasa and Mrs. Zarin Naushad Merali in memory of her late husband, Dr. Naushad Merali.



The gala dinner celebrated key milestones including 160 years of Mombasa Jamaat, 100 years of the Jaffery Sports Club, 75 years of Faize Husseini (now Jaffery Welfare), and 75 years of Jaffery Schools (now Jaffery Academy). Alhaj Mohamedraza Rashid highlighted the Jamaat Development Committee's (JDC) achievements, including security, healthcare, economic empowerment, housing, and ongoing projects such as Jaffery Hospital and commercial ventures. Presentations were made by section heads on education, welfare, sports, and funeral services.

The Mombasa Jamaat Chairman, Alhaj Dr. Mohamed Jaffer, reflected on the journey of the community, expressed gratitude to donors, and announced his retirement while assuring continued support for the Jamaat.

The Africa Federation recognized the contributions of donors, well-wishers, and presented a posthumous citation to Marhuma Saidabai Sajjad Rashid for her selfless service, as well as a plaque to the Jamaat commemorating its 160-year legacy.

The Tukutane Festival celebrated the Jamaat's rich history, resilience, and unity, while fostering community spirit and inspiring future generations to uphold their heritage and values.

AFED SUPREME COUNCIL SESSIONS AND CONFERENCE 86TH SUPREME COUNCIL SESSION - KAMPALA

The 86th Supreme Council Session of the Federation of KSI Jamaats of Africa was hosted by KSI Kampala after 22 years from 29th September to 1st October 2023, coinciding with the Centenary Celebrations of the Jamaat. Over 140 councilors, invitees, and observers from Burundi, Canada, Comoros, India, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Reunion, Rwanda, Tanzania, U.A.E., U.K., U.S.A., and host Uganda attended the Session.



The event began with a live talk show, Panjo Uganda, revisiting the 1972 expulsion of Asians in Uganda and celebrating the community's progress. The formal session opened with Qur'an recitation, welcome addresses by Kampala Jamaat President Alhaj Sibtain Merchant, World Federation President Alhaj Safdar Jaffer, and Africa Federation Chairman Alhaj Amine Nassor.

Deliberations:

Reports and updates were presented by AFED Secretariat, Boards and the Archive Sub Section. Some Agenda items, including Central Health, Housing, and certain resolutions, were deferred to the next session. Amongst other issues discussed were the membership application of Mauritius Jamaat and the formation of the Constitution Review Committee.

Elections for AFED Trustees in Madagascar and Reunion were held following resignations from the elected at the 2022 Conference due to them assuming offices in their respective Territorial Councils. Alhaj Goulzar Barday (Madagascar) and Alhaj Mohamed Premjee (Reunion) were elected for the remainder of the term 2022 – 2025.

Recognitions:

During the Opening Night, AFED Chairman Alhaj Amine Nassor honoured Alhaj Safdar Rehemani and Alhaj Hussein Merchant of Kampala with the Husseini Medals for their selfless contributions. An Appreciation Award was also presented to Kampala Jamaat for hosting the Session and Special Awards were presented to the former First Ladies Mrs. Zainab bai Anwarali Dharamsi and Mrs. Shaheen bai Shabir Najafi for their support to the former Chairmen during their tenure of office.

The Central Health Board also presented an Appreciation Award to Jaffer Foundation of Newyork for their support to the Board and for providing Ambulances to G1 Security Company.

87TH SUPREME COUNCIL SESSION – DAR-ES-SALAAM

The 87th Supreme Council Session of the Federation of KSI Jamaats of Africa was hosted by KSI Jamaat Dar es Salaam from 2nd to 4th August 2024. The session focused on the review of the AFED Constitution by the Constitution Review Committee (CRC) led by Alhaj Mohsin Kanji.



AFED Office Bearers, Trustees, and Councillors from Arusha, Dar es Salaam, Lindi, Kampala, Kigali, Mombasa, Mwanza, Songea, and Zanzibar Kuwwat attended. The session opened with Qur'an recitation, followed by a welcome address from Dar es Salaam Jamaat President Alhaj Mohamedraza Dewji and remarks from AFED Chairman Alhaj Amine Nassor. The Chairman emphasized the importance of the constitutional review, safeguarding the Aqeedah of Shia Ithna-Asheri, and strengthening youth engagement.

Reports from the Housing Development Board and Central Health Board, deferred from the 86th Session, were presented, highlighting initiatives in housing, community health insurance, and health checkups.



The CRC led an in-depth review of the proposed constitutional changes, providing explanations and addressing councillor queries. The team will come up with the reviewed version for presentation at the next conference.

88TH SUPREME COUNCIL SESSION - ARUSHA

The 88th Supreme Council Session of the Africa Federation hosted by KSI Jamaat Arusha from 22nd to 24th November 2024 had participation of councillors, dignitaries, and invitees from across Africa, North America, and Europe.



The opening session featured Qur'an recitation by Br. Azhar Lalji, a Qasida by Alhaj Achikhoussen Nassor (Madagascar), and addresses by the Organizing Committee Chairman Br. Mohamedali Saleh, Arusha Jamaat Chairman Alhaj Fayyaz Dhirani, World Federation President Alhaj Safdar Jaffer, and Africa Federation Chairman Alhaj Amine Nassor.

Amine Bhai highlighted unity, collaboration, spiritual growth, and the importance of safeguarding the Aqeedah of Shia Ithna-Asheri. He shared updates on key projects including housing schemes, schools, mosques, and income-generating initiatives to sustain the Federation's institutions.

Alhaj Muslim bhai Sheriff was awarded the Abbasi Medal for his selfless services to the Community and an Appreciation Award was presented to Arusha Jamaat for the hosting the Session.

The Session included the presentation and adoption of Accounts, Budgets, Minutes, and reports from AFED Boards and Territorial Councils. Reports were presented by the Secretariat, Archive Section, Tabligh Board, Central Health Board, Media & Editorial Board, Women's Board, Economic Development Board, Bilal Muslim Missions, Education Board, Youth and Capacity Building Boards, Sports Council, and Accounts & Trust Board. The Housing Development Board report was deferred to the next session, with materials shared in advance for councillor review.



Time management was optimized through designated booths for discussions, minimizing interruptions during presentations. Youth engagement was emphasized to ensure future initiatives remain inclusive and progressive.

AFED Hon. Secretary Zuhair Jaffer highlighted the Jaffer Family Foundation's AI and Data Science project in Karachi, noting its collaboration potential with AFED's Education and Economic Boards to benefit African community members.

The dedication of volunteers was honored with significant contributions from the Jaffer Family Foundation of New York (JFF), Lady Fatema Trust, Alhaj Dr. Mohamed Jaffer, and Alhaj Shabir Najafi. They collectively pledged ten Ziyarat tickets for volunteers and a \$5,000 educational grant for a boy or girl nominated by the Arusha Jamaat.



JFF also committed to supporting the KSI Kuwwatul Islam Jamaat of Zanzibar by covering the full cost of restoring School Faize, matching AFED's monthly welfare assistance, sponsoring Nyaz for a year, and presenting the Jamaat with a flag from the Shrine of Imam Hussain ('A) in Karbala as a symbol of honor and unity.

29TH ORDINARY CONFERENCE & 89TH SUPREME COUNCIL SESSION -MOMBASA

The 29th Ordinary Conference and 89th Supreme Council Session of the Africa Federation were hosted by the KSI Jamaat of Mombasa at the Jaffery Islamic Centre from Friday, 13th to Sunday, 15th June 2025. Over 150 delegates, councillors, dignitaries, and observers from Africa, Europe, North America, and Asia attended, reflecting the Federation's global outreach.

The Conference opened with the recitation of verses of the Holy Qur'an and Dua Tawassul. Br. Aliraza Sumar, Chairman of the Organizing Committee, welcomed participants, followed by housekeeping guidelines presented by Sr. Mumtaz Ladak and Sr. Neelam Jiwa of the AFED Capacity Building Group.

Induction, Elections & Appointments

Alhaj Gulamabbas Khaku, AFED Electoral Commissioner, formally inducted Alhaj Amine bhai Nassor as Chairman for the 2025–2028 term. Office Bearers, Trustees, and the Electoral Commissioner were elected and appointed as follows:

Vice Chairman: Murtaza Somji

Hon. Treasurer: Muntazir Walji

Trustees: Anwarali Dharamsi (Tanzania),
Mehboob Versi (Tanzania),
Sajjad Rashid (Kenya),
Mohamed Bandali (Kenya),
Shabir Najafi (Uganda),
Navazaly Molou (Madagascar),
Mohamed Premjee (Reunion)

Electoral Commissioner: Jameel Kassam

Hon. Secretary: Alihassan Kassam

Hon. Asst Secretary: Murtaza Kara

Nominated Councillors: Akil Hirji, Amiral Somji, Ashik Nassor, Aunali Khalfan, Bashir Bandali, Mohamed H. Jaffer, Mumtaz Ladak



In his keynote address, the incoming Africa Federation Chairman, Amine bhai expressed heartfelt appreciation to the community members for re-electing him for the 2025–2028 term. He emphasized that spiritual steadfastness and communal unity form the foundation of the community's strength.

He acknowledged the invaluable contributions of leaders, volunteers, philanthropists, and well-wishers

who have consistently supported and assisted the Federation. Highlighting key priorities, he noted housing as a critical socioeconomic need and recognized madrassahs as foundational pillars for the future enrichment of the community.

He also applauded his team of Office Bearers, Trustees, Board Chairmen, and their teams for their diligence and for making significant strides aligned with the vision of the preceding term.

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Special Events & Launches

Book Launch: Dhows to Diaspora: The Khoja Journey and the Legacy of the Africa Federation, led by Dr. Abbasaley Abbas, was unveiled by Amine bhai Nassor and Aunali bhai Khalfan



Mauritius Jamaat Membership: was presented to the Jamaat Chairman Yusuf Ali Gulamhusen on its attention of the full membership of Africa Federation.

SHINE Endowment Fund: A shariah-compliant \$5 million fund supporting AFED activities globally through five regional contributions.

Appreciation Award to Mombasa Jamaat for hosting the Conference and Session; Awards were also presented by the Chairman to his Office Bearers for the term 2022 – 2025.

Medals and Citations were presented to Alhaj Aunali Khalfan, Alhaj Gulamabbas Dewji, Alhaj Mohamed Saleh Jacki and Seyed Hassan Al Hakeem of Mainstay Foundation for their services and support to the Community.

Deliberations & Reports

The Conference reviewed, discussed, and adopted Accounts, Minutes, and Board Reports for the period July 2022 – April 2025. Interactive sessions ensured clarifications, questions, and active participation from delegates and councillors.

The Conference also acknowledged and appreciated the presence of distinguished guests, including Habib Meghjee - Vice President of the World Federation; Mukhtar Karim - Trustee of Lady Fatima Trust (UK), Mohamedtaki Jaffer and Sadique Jaffer - Trustees of the Jaffer Family Foundation (USA), Seyed Hassan Al-Hakeem - Executive Trustee of the Mainstay Foundation (UK), Sayed Muhammad Naqvi - Director of Spirit of Hussain, Sajjad Shroff - Secretary of KSI Jamaat Mumbai and Sajjad Dinani of New York



AKSIAM EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY – ANTANANARIVO - APRIL 2025

The KSI Jamaat of Antananarivo had the honour of hosting the AKSIAM Extraordinary General Assembly on 18th and 19th April 2025 at the KSIJ Imambargha in Antananarivo, Madagascar. The Africa Federation Chairman, Amine Nassor, Vice Chairman Aunali Khalfan, Chairman of the AFED Economic Development Board Murtaza Somji, and AFED Sports Council Chairman Fazle Ali Kassam attended the Assembly.



The Annual General Assembly brought together Presidents and delegates from thirteen Jamaats across Madagascar, providing a platform for the AKSIAM Executive Committee and its boards to present their reports and accounts for discussion and adoption. Consultations on Tabligh, community developments, and other strategic matters were also held.

The first day focused primarily on the AKSIAM constitution. Deliberations included questions regarding office bearers, with Moorage Abdoulrassoul, a constitutional expert, providing clarifications. The Secretariat report for the term was presented by Shaik Alimamod, and the Treasurer, Zahir Askaraly Dinmamod, delivered a detailed financial report for the year ending 2024. Reports from the Education, Health, Welfare, Tabligh, Construction Development, Musafirkhana, and Women's Boards were also presented, with active participation from the delegates.



During his address, AKSIAM Chairman Feride Ismael expressed gratitude to the dignitaries for attending and shared his concern about the ongoing economic and geopolitical challenges globally. He

prayed for peace, safety, and prosperity for all, particularly the people of Madagascar. Africa Federation Chairman Amine Nassor highlighted the importance of unity and interfaith engagement, as well as the development of youth through skills training, talent management, and leadership programs. He also emphasized the vital role of women in community development and social services.



Amine Nassor discussed the impact of global economic and political changes on the region, urging the community to focus on education for all children and encouraging higher education to enhance future opportunities. He applauded AKSIAM for initiating the school project in Antananarivo, with the foundation stone laid on Sunday, and reaffirmed AFED's financial support. He further underscored the significance of Marjai'yyat and Aqidah as pillars of the community.



The Assembly also remembered two recently deceased community leaders, Richad Abdirassoul, General Secretary of Antsohihy Jamaat, and Mohamedraza Ismael Jina, Vice President of UAKSIR, for their invaluable services.

GLOBAL KHOJA PHILANTHROPISTS LAUNCH THE SHINE ENDOWMENT AT AFED CONFERENCE TO REVOLUTIONIZE FAITH-BASED



In a world where financial innovation often chases profit, a bold initiative emerging from the Indian Ocean coastline in East Africa is reimagining capital through the lens of compassion, equity, and faith. At the 29th Conference of the Africa Federation (AFED) in Mombasa, Kenya, a visionary coalition of like-minded global philanthropists and community leaders announced the launch of the **SHINE Endowment Fund** — a \$5 million shariah-compliant endowment with the potential to redefine how Muslim philanthropy is structured, sustained, and scaled on the night of Eid e Ghadeer.

SHINE, which stands for Supporting Hope, Innovation, and Nurturing Empowerment, captures an ethos. It is a call to shift from temporary relief to permanent solutions, from charitable dependency to community-driven capacity building. It is rooted in the deep moral obligations of Islam — but designed with the modern strategic rigor of ethical finance.

A Different Kind of Capital

The SHINE Fund emerges as a partnership between the Africa Federation and the Global Ambassador Endowment Fund (GAEF) — a collective of philanthropic trusts who have a long track record of working together from North America, Europe, Africa, Australia, and the Middle East, each contributing \$1 million. But this is no one-time donation, these investments enable access to a four-year, sharia-compliant revolving financing facility managed by AFED — a mechanism that blends financial sustainability with ethical responsibility.

"This initiative transcends traditional charity by melding faith-based values with strategic investments for social justice," commented Sadique

Jaffer, a founding trustee of the Jaffer Family Foundation from North America in launching the strategy for this groundbreaking initiative. "The SHINE Endowment Fund embodies our commitment to fostering measurable, spiritually grounded change for future generations."

By maintaining the principal corpus of financial growth designed to finance high-impact projects through structured returns, SHINE is engineered to fund, replenish, and grow the community. The model itself is a response to a long-standing problem in faith-based giving: too often, funds are disbursed with goodwill but little strategy, evaporating once the first round of enthusiasm wanes and no impact measurement after the intervention or vision before.

Faith in Action

What makes this fund exceptional is its deep moral orientation. The SHINE Fund is explicitly rooted in Qur'anic injunctions on excellence (ihsaan), justice ('adl), and trust (amāna). It seeks to operationalize these principles through investments in education, vocational training, entrepreneurship, good nutrition and strengthening community infrastructure.

These sectors have been selected as they are levers of transformation. Investing in education doesn't just teach — it liberates. Supporting entrepreneurship doesn't just create income — it restores dignity. Strengthening healthcare isn't limited to more equipment for doctors — it's about improving the quality of life for humanity from childbirth to the chronic diseases. Each dollar invested is anchored in a belief: that our communities have the talent, the resilience, and the potential — they simply need the tools and mentoring to perfect the use of them.

"This is how we future-proof our community," said Amine Nassor, Chairman of AFED.

"We're designing solutions that reflect who we are — spiritually, culturally, and economically."

In many ways, SHINE reflects a post-charity philosophy into social entrepreneurship. It refuses to see the needy as passive recipients. It sees them as rights holders who can be partners in transformation. And in doing so, it flips the traditional donor-beneficiary dynamic on its head.

A Global Model in the Making

This isn't just an African story — it's a global Muslim finance case study in the making.

The SHINE Endowment Agreement was negotiated and signed in June 2025 during the conference's plenary session. Trustees emphasized not just unity across continents, but across philosophies — merging the spiritual aspirations of zakat and waqf with the operational clarity of financial engineering.

Dr. Mohamed Jaffer, CEO of the Jaffer Foundation applauded SHINE's ability to walk the tightrope between ambition and accountability. "We've long known that giving without strategy is just sentiment," he said. "SHINE shows that we can scale compassion. We can deliver results. And we can do it with integrity."

Adding to this, Mohamed Taki Jaffer, Chairman of the Jaffer Family Foundation of NY, reflected on the deeper vision behind the commitment:

"As stewards of the blessings we've been given by the Almighty, we have a duty not just to give — but to build ecosystems of opportunity. SHINE does exactly that. It's not charity for today, it's equity for generations."

Mukhtar Karim, CEO of the Lady Fatemah Trust, articulated the collective vision of the ambassadors: "Utilizing proven and sustainable development models enables us to enhance access to quality education, entrepreneurship, and healthcare, achieving far more collectively than any entity could alone."

Why It Matters Now

At a time when donor fatigue, economic uncertainty, and social polarization challenge even the best-funded NGOs, SHINE offers something refreshingly durable: a value-driven investment in human potential. It's not reactive aid. It's proactive architecture — for a future where no one is left behind simply because they were born into struggle.

It also fills a critical gap in Islamic philanthropy: a bridge between faith and financial literacy, between theological obligation and impact measurement.

As conversations around ESG (Environmental, Social, Governance) and ethical investing dominate boardrooms and conferences worldwide, SHINE stands as a Khoja response to these global movements — proudly rooted in divine principles, yet fluent in the language of modern finance.

About the Institutions

Africa Federation (AFED), established in 1946, is the regional umbrella organization for Khoja Shia Ithna-Asheri Jamaats across the African continent. AFED has long been a leader in community development, faith-based service, and intergenerational empowerment.

Jaffer Family Foundation (NY) is a global philanthropic force focused on long-term investments in education, health, and social equity. Under the leadership of Mohammed Taki Jaffer, the Foundation is committed to responsible giving that cultivates dignity, impact, and institutional legacy.

Lady Fatemah Charitable Trust (LFT) is a UK-based humanitarian organization operating in more than 15 countries. With a reputation for innovation, transparency, and measurable outcomes, LFT empowers vulnerable families through education, maternal care, and sustainable livelihood development.

The Jaffer Foundation, founded by Dr. Mohamed H. Jaffer, to enshrine philanthropic and business endeavors originating in East Africa in the 1860s is dedicated to serving humanity through a wide range of charitable activities. Their activities encompass the provision of safe drinking water, strengthen access to nutrition, build on healthcare and educational facilities to drive excellent care giving and the empowerment of youth and women in the community through scaling the entrepreneurial activities they can be trained and mentored to access.

AFRICA SPORTS FESTIVAL 2025 IN MADAGASCAR DRAWS JAMAATS ACROSS THREE CONTINENTS IN A THRILLING DISPLAY OF UNITY AND COMPETITION



The Easter weekend of 2025 witnessed a spectacular celebration of athleticism, unity, and community spirit as the Africa Sports Festival 2025 lit up Antananarivo, Madagascar with energy and passion. Organized by The Association Khoja Shia Ithna-Asheri of Madagascar (AKSIAM), the highly anticipated event brought together 486 participants from 15 Jamaats across Africa, the Middle East, and Europe, creating a vibrant platform for international sportsmanship.

Over the course of the weekend, athletes competed in six exciting sports, with one of the festival's standout moments being the introduction of pétanque - a French-born precision game that captivated both seasoned competitors and curious spectators. The new addition met with enthusiasm, quickly becoming a crowd favorite and highlighting the festival's commitment to innovation in sport.

Futsal Glory for Tanzania

Flying the flag for Tanzania, KSIJ Dar es Salaam fielded a formidable squad of 22 players, making their mark in style. With skill, grit, and teamwork, the team powered through the competition to claim the championship title in the Futsal tournament, cementing their status as a regional dazzling in the fast-paced indoor game.

The Festival's seamless execution was a result of months of meticulous planning and tireless dedication from the organizing committee of AKSIAM. The coordination, hospitality, and structure of the event were universally praised by participants and spectators alike. Special recognition is owed to the leadership of the Africa Federation - Alhaj Amine Nassor, AFED Chairman, Alhaj Aunali Khalfan, AFED Vice Chairman, Alhaj Fazle Ali Kassam, Chairman of

the Africa Federation Sports Council and Br. Mohammed Kazim Sheriff, AFED Chief Operating Officer. Their collective vision and unwavering support played a pivotal role in delivering a sports festival that was not only professionally run but also emotionally resonant for the global Jamaat community.

While medals and trophies were earned, the true victory lay in the camaraderie fostered among participants. The festival served as a reminder of the power of sports to transcend borders, forge lifelong friendships, and strengthen ties across continents. As the curtain fell on this landmark event, the legacy of the Africa Sports Festival 2025 is clear: a unified community, a celebration of athletic excellence, and memories that will endure long after the final whistle.

An appreciation is due to the 22-players' strong contingent from Dar-es-Salaam, well-coordinated by Br. Minhaal Dewji from the Dar-es- Salaam Jamaat and led by Br. Shaheed Rizwan Ratansi accompanied by the Sports Council, committee member, Alhaj Ali Abid Mamdani who travelled with the contingent to Madagascar.



GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY OF HAYDERY PLAZA – A NEW MILESTONE FOR KSI JAMAAT OF BUKOBA

The Khoja Shia Ithnasherji Jamaat (KSIJ) of Bukoba marked a significant milestone with the groundbreaking ceremony of its second commercial project – Haydery Plaza on 20th May 2025. This modern G+2 commercial complex will house two residential apartments along with several shops and office spaces on the ground and first floors. Once complete, the project is expected to provide sustainable income for the smooth operation and development of the Jamaat.



The ceremony was graced by the Africa Federation (AFED) Chairman and Chief Guest, Alhaj Amine bhai Nassor, along with Trustee of AFED, Alhaj Shabir bhai Najafi, AFED Housing Board Chairman, Alhaj Akil bhai Hirji, and Alhaj Murtaza bhai Bhimani, the Representative of Comfort Aid International (CAI) to Africa. Also present were Trustees and Managing Committee members of Bukoba Jamaat, Elders of the community and invited guests.

The program commenced with recitation of verses from the Holy Quran by Shaykh Ali, followed by a welcome speech by the Bukoba Jamaat Hon. Secretary, Br. Imranali Muraj. Alhaj Murtaza bhai Visram, Trustee of Bukoba Jamaat, extended his appreciation for the presence of the AFED delegation and thanked AFED and CAI for their continued support towards the Education and Commercial projects of the Jamaat.

Amine bhai Nassor, in his keynote address, praised the vision and determination of the Bukoba Jamaat leadership. He highlighted the significance of building robust infrastructure as a foundation for nurturing the younger generation and ensuring the Jamaat's long-term growth. He reiterated the Africa Federation's vision of fostering well-developed, united communities and lauded the AFED Housing Board's role in supporting such projects across the region.

The ceremony concluded with heartfelt Qasidas recited by the children of the Bukoba Jamaat, after which the dignitaries placed the foundation stone of Haydery Plaza, symbolizing a new chapter of growth

for self-sufficiency for Bukoba Jamaat for the future development.

The day was a testament to the Bukoba Jamaat's determination to build a resilient and forward-looking community through education and sustainable development initiatives.



AFED delegation also visited the Jaffery School Bukoba, a project jointly developed by the Bukoba Jamaat and CAI. The school, which currently serves 780 students, features a modern computer lab equipped with 20 latest computers, TV, and air conditioning for pleasant learning environment. The delegation also toured the new science lab and library built to further enhance student's learning.



Amine bhai expressed great satisfaction with the progress made by the Bukoba Jamaat, especially in the field of education. He commended the commitment to providing quality learning facilities, including the availability of clean, filtered drinking water across the school premises. The delegation also visited a classroom donated in 2004 by KSI Jamaat of Kampala.



RESTORATION OF HERITAGE PROPERTIES

- ZANZIBAR. FAIZE ITHNA-ASHERI: A LEGACY OF SERVICE, EDUCATION, AND RESILIENCE

In 1926, a group of forward-thinking leaders from the Khoja Shia Ithna-Asheri community in Zanzibar laid the foundation of an institution that would become an icon for education and welfare. These pioneers, including Haji Hussein Sheriff Dewji, Mulla Esmail Gulamhussein, Haji Abdulhussein Rashid Nathani, Haji Abdulrasul Nasser Bhalloo, Haji Abdulrasul Alidina Saleh, Haji Mohamedtaki Gulamhussein Versi, Haji M.D. Kermalli, and Haji Hussein A. Rahim, recognized the pressing need to provide structured religious education and social support for widows, orphans, and the underprivileged. It was with that vision they established the Zanzibar Faize Ithna-Asheri, an institution that would leave an indelible mark on generations to come.

Located adjacent to the KSI Kuwwat Jamaat Mosque, popularly known as 'School Faiz' operated there until 1960. This school has been the alma mater for many accomplished Zanzibaris now spread around the globe. The school quickly became an essential hub for the community. Beyond providing traditional religious education, it instilled values of service, discipline, and intellectual pursuit. Boys from diverse backgrounds gathered within its walls, learning not only about their faith but also about the broader responsibilities they held within society.

During its early years, resources were scarce, yet the community's commitment ensured that the institution survived. Teachers, many of whom were volunteers, dedicated their time and expertise to nurture young minds. Parents, despite financial hardships, prioritized their children's education, reflecting the deep-rooted emphasis on learning within the Khoja tradition. Many of Zanzibar's most distinguished Khoja professionals, entrepreneurs, and leaders passed through these halls, carrying the values instilled within them to various corners of the world.

In 1958, the Dharamsi Gangji family funded the construction of a new building on Kiponda Street. In 1960, the School Faiz religious classes moved into this new facility, known as the Dharamsi Gangji Ithnaasheri School. However, following the revolution in 1964, the government took over the institution, ending its tenure under private administration.

Like many institutions with a long history, the Zanzibar Faize Ithna-Asheri faced its share of challenges. Political and economic shifts in Zanzibar affected the community, leading to waves of migration. Many Khojas left Zanzibar for East Africa, the Middle East, Europe, and North America, seeking better opportunities. Despite these upheavals, the

school's legacy endured, remembered fondly by those who had once sat in its classrooms. Alumni and well-wishers, spread across the globe, continued to hold deep-seated memories of their time at School Faiz as it was fondly referred to. They carried its teachings into their lives, whether through professional achievements, community service, or personal endeavours. Over time, as circumstances changed, the original building fell into disrepair. However, the spirit of the institution never waned.

A Timely Restoration: By The Jaffer Family Foundation of New York

In 2025, nearly a century after its establishment, the Zanzibar Faize Ithna-Asheri has witnessed a revival. The Jaffer Family Foundation of New York, deeply moved by the school's historical significance, has spearheaded a comprehensive restoration project. Facilitated by the Africa Federation in conjunction with the Khoja Shia Ithna-Asheri Kuwwatul Islam Jamaat, this endeavour has been undertaken in memory of Marhum Mustafa G.R. Jaffer, a proud alumnus whose life and work exemplified the values imparted by the school.

The restoration is not just about refurbishing an old structure; it is about preserving a heritage. The rejuvenated building will stand as a living testament to the community's resilience, a bridge connecting the past with the future. To ensure its sustainability, the renovated building has three shops for rental, which will fund its maintenance. Additionally, it will offer a computer training facility, further enriching the educational opportunities available to the community.

In the words of Dr Hasnain Walji – Head of the WF Khoja Heritage Project "In terms of Khoja history, School Faiz is no less impactful than, the famous Madrassa of Mulla Qader in Mumbai. Both institutions provided much-needed religious guidance to the nascent Khoja Shia Ithna-Asheri community, shaping generations of scholars and leaders. Their contributions to the preservation and transmission of religious education remain invaluable."

The Significance of Preservation

Why does the restoration of an old school matter? Because heritage is more than just bricks and mortar—it is the soul of a community. The Zanzibar Faize Ithna-Asheri represents the sacrifices, aspirations, and unity of generations of Khojas who have strived to uphold their faith and values despite adversity. Visitors, researchers, and community members can now witness firsthand the legacy of service that began in 1926. The site serves as an

an inspiration, especially for younger generations, urging them to appreciate and contribute to the ongoing narrative of their people.

Alhaj MohamedTaki Jaffer, Chairman of the Jaffer Family Foundation, a passionate Zanzibarian, said “We are blessed to have the opportunity to save this legacy structure. However, its legacy does not end with the restoration of its building. The challenge now lies in ensuring that the values it stood for—education, service, and above all unity—continue to thrive.”

This responsibility rests on the shoulders of the Khoja diaspora. Whether through scholarship programs, community engagement, or storytelling, each individual has a role to play in sustaining this rich heritage. The lessons imparted at Faiz should not be confined to history books; they should be lived and carried forward into the future.

Taziakhana Reborn: A Sacred Space Breathes Again in Zanzibar

In the heart of Zanzibar’s Stone Town, the Husseini Taziakhana has stood as a sacred echo chamber of grief, resistance, and memory. For decades, this hall was more than a space—it was a sanctuary where devotion was not performed but lived. Then it fell silent. Shuttered, forgotten by some, but never by those whose hearts once beat in sync with their solemn rhythms.

It began in 1912. Alhaj Kassamali Dharsee, famously known as Bha Kassamali - a man of remarkable vision and spiritual commitment - acquired a block of buildings in bustling Stone Town. With foresight beyond his time, he designated the upper floor for Mehfile Abbas (AS), a space for majalis and mourning. The ground floor was leased to an Ivory trader whose rent helped fund religious activities.

As Zanzibar’s commercial landscape shifted and ivory trade declined, the godowns lost their luster. But one space found new purpose—it became the Husseini Taziakhana of Zanzibar. A place where Karbala was not merely remembered—it was relieved, line by line, tear by tear.

When Bha Kassamali passed on with no children to inherit his trust the responsibility fell to his nephew, Hussein Mohammed Valli Dharsee, fondly known across the island as Hussein Tazia. The name itself became a symbol of unwavering association.

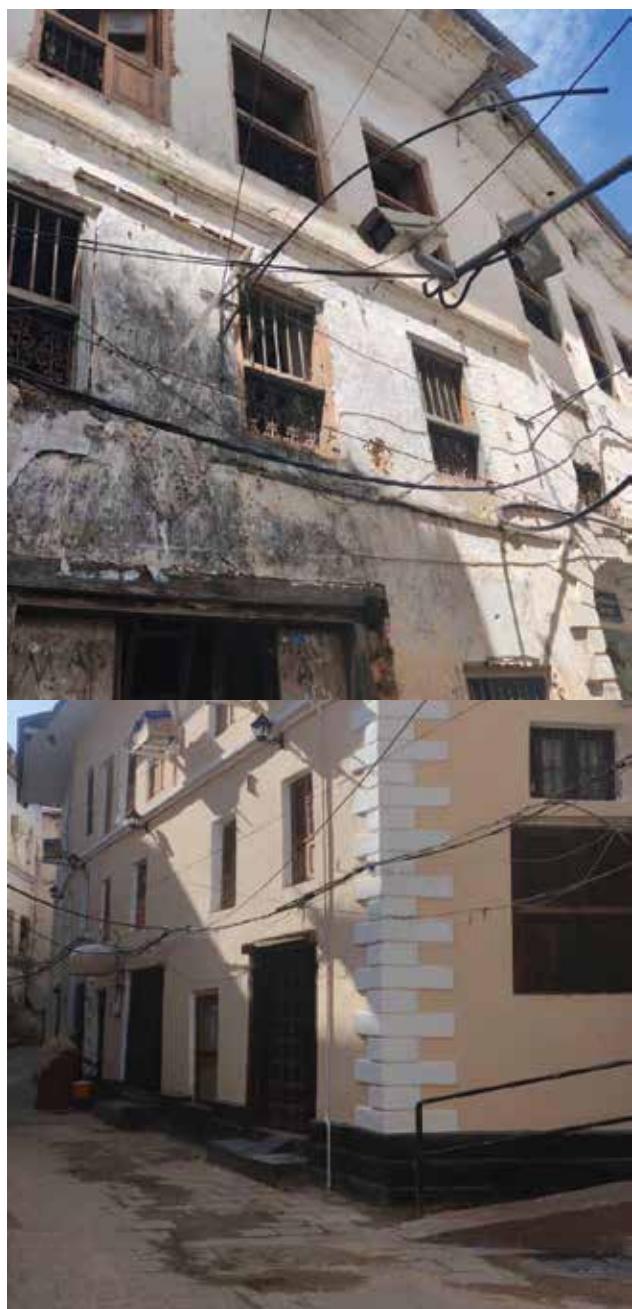
For over 50 years, Hussein Tazia tended the space with great devotion. He opened its doors every single day—whether the hall was filled with fifty mourners or only two. In every majlis, he led the recitation of nohas and marsiyyas, keeping alive the sacred pulse of Azadari.

To the Khoja Shia Ithna-Asheri community of Zanzibar, Azadari was not just ritual—it was identity. From narrow alleys echoing with lamentations to courtyards lit with flickering lamps and verses, generations were shaped in the shadows of the

Taziakhana. Children became mourners. Youth became reciters. Women held majalis with unflinching resolve. Elders became symbols of memory, reciting verses passed down like sacred heirlooms.

And from this sacred soil, a diaspora bloomed zakirs, organizers, and spiritual leaders who would carry the flame of Zanzibar’s Azadari to Toronto, Dar es Salaam, Leicester, and Orlando.

Then came a night forever etched in pain. On the eve of the 13th of Jumada al-Awwal in 1964—a night that marked the wafat of Bibi Fatema (SA) tragedy struck. The Tazia Hall was alive with the sound of masaebs, tears flowing in remembrance of the beloved daughter of the Prophet (SAWW). As the majlis reached its emotional crescendo, a member of Zanzibar’s Revolutionary Council, Mohammed Abdulla, alias Kajijore, burst into the hall with armed men.



Chaos erupted. And in an act of unthinkable violence, five innocent lives were taken:

- Sayed Abdullah Mutualib Sayed Hashem
- Sayed Ali Asgher Sayed Hussein
- Haji Abdul Hussein Remtullah
- Gulamabbas Kassamali
- Haji Mohamad Asar

Hussein Tazia himself was shot once in the leg, once in the forehead. Miraculously, he survived. Sadly, the sacred space was sealed overnight. The Taziakhana later continued its routine with small attendance as the population of the community dwindled after the Zanzibar revolution in 1964.

Yet sacred spaces, like sacred memories, do not die. They wait. In December 2024, the Jaffer Family Foundation stepped forward not as mere benefactors, but as children of this legacy.

Mohamed Taki Jaffer, the Chairman of the foundation took painstaking care to restore the Taziakhana to its former glory. The goal was not modern aesthetics but ancestral authenticity. Every creak in the wood was honored. Every whisper in the walls preserved.

"This was never about just renovation," Taki Jaffer explained. "It was about reviving a sacred pulse. About giving future generations, a bridge to walk across time."

The opening ceremony of the renovated School Faiz and Tazia Khana was held on Saturday 26th April 2025 and attended by the AFED Vice Chairman Alhaj Aunali Khalfan, AFED Trustee Alhaj Shabir Najafi,

Alhaj Mohamedtaki Jaffer and Alhaj Sadique Jaffer of Jaffer Foundation of NY; AFED Nominated Councillors, Alhaj Amir Merali and Alhaj Mohamed Jaffer; Alhaj Akil Hirji - Chairman Housing Board, Alhaj Aliraza Bandali - Chairman – Central Health Board, Alhaj Mukhtar Karim of Lady Fatema Trust and other invitees and members of the Community.

Today, the Husseini Taziakhana is once again open. As a house of mourning of Shohada of Karbala and the Masumeen (AS), but also as a memorial, and a movement. It holds relics of faith, records of pain, and a reverence that transcends generations. The voice of Husain (AS) resounds again beneath its rafters—steady and eternal.

As Sadique Jaffer Vice President of JFF reflected: "As a family, we feel blessed to have been of service in restoring this sacred legacy—not just for our community today, but for generations yet to come."



ELECTIONS OF THE AFRICA FEDERATION CHAIRMAN 2025 – 2028

Following the elections held in all the constituent Jamaats and Territorial Councils under the Africa Federation on Friday 25th April 2025, Alhaj Amine Nassor was elected as the Chairman of Africa Federation for the term 2025 – 2028 as per the below results.

NO.	JAMAAT	DELEGATE COUNT	VOTES CASTED		PERCENTAGE VOTE COUNT		
			AMINE NASSOR	MOHSIN LALJI	AMINE NASSOR	MOHSIN LALJI	TOTAL
1	Arusha	8	74	44	5.016949153	2.983050847	8
2	Bujumbura	3	23	3	2.653846154	0.346153846	3
3	Bukoba	2	45	5	1.8	0.2	2
4	Dar es Salaam	28	249	264	13.59064327	14.40935673	28
5	Dodoma	1	4	2	0.666666667	0.333333333	1
6	Kampala	2	30	5	1.714285714	0.285714286	2
7	Kigali	2	14	0	2	0	2
8	Kigoma	1	0	5	0	1	1
9	Kinshasa	3	20	36	1.071428571	1.928571429	3
10	Lilongwe	2	5	23	0.357142857	1.642857143	2
11	Lindi	1	0	7	0	1	1
12	Lubumbashi	2	11	51	0.35483871	1.64516129	2
13	Madagascar	18	439	302	10.66396761	7.336032389	18
26	Maputo	1	9	9	0.5	0.5	1
27	Mombasa	12	69	26	8.715789474	3.284210526	12
28	Morogoro	1	17	1	0.944444444	0.055555556	1
29	Moshi	1	8	4	0.666666667	0.333333333	1
30	Mtwara	1	10	0	1	0	1
31	Mwanza	3	34	11	2.266666667	0.733333333	3
32	Nairobi	9	85	12	7.886597938	1.113402062	9
33	Nampula	5	75	109	2.038043478	2.961956522	5
34	Reunion	12	356	81	9.775743707	2.224256293	12
38	Singida	1	0	1	0	1	1
39	Songea	1	6	0	1	0	1
40	Tanga	1	23	1	0.958333333	0.041666667	1
41	Tunduru	1	0	0	0	0	0
42	Zanzibar Hujjat	1	11	2	0.846153846	0.153846154	1
43	Zanzibar Kuwwa	1	48	12	0.8	0.2	1
Total		124	1665	1016	77.28820827	45.71179173	123



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INAUGURATION OF AL-MAHDI TOWER – A NEW CHAPTER FOR ARUSHA JAMAAT

On 17th May 2025, Arusha Jamaat proudly inaugurated the Al-Mahdi Tower, a modern 13-storey multipurpose building designed to cater to both commercial and residential needs. The structure includes:

- Basement level dedicated to secure parking and amenities like Generators etc.
- Ground floor, mezzanine, and the first three floors comprising of well-planned commercial office spaces.
- Floors four to ten, each having two and three-bedroom residential apartments for rental purposes, priority to the Arusha Jamaat members.
- The eleventh floor features a four-bedroom apartment, for rental purpose.
- The twelfth floor is home to a state-of-the-art Ladies Gym, a generous donation by the Jaffer Family Foundation of New York, USA which will serve the health and well-being of the community's female members.
- The thirteenth floor has been fitted with dedicated personal hygiene amenities exclusively for users of the Ladies Gym

This landmark project was launched by the Arusha Jamaat for its members who needed a good and reasonable accommodation near our centre in Arusha, the project was undertaken by the Africa Federation Housing Development Board in collaboration with Arusha Jamaat.



Alhaj Fayyaz Dhirani, Chairman of Arusha Jamaat, welcomed guests and expressed gratitude to Allah (SWT), the Africa Federation, and all donors. He highlighted that Al-Mahdi Tower named after the 12th Imam (a) represents the community's strength, unity, and faith, and serves as a gift to future generations. In his keynote address.

Alhaj Amine Nassor, Chairman of Africa Federation, praised the Khoja community for its organization, accountability, and unity. He described the tower as a landmark of faith, sacrifice, and foresight, and reaffirmed Africa Federation's commitment to supporting visionary projects that strengthen member Jamaats.



Alhaj Shabir Najafi, Trustee and Past Chairman of Africa Federation, recounted the history of the project, noting its evolution from a commercial venture to a rent-to-own model, and finally to an income-generating community asset. Despite challenges, strong leadership, unity, and volunteer dedication ensured its success.

Alhaj Mustafa Virji, Vice Chairman of Arusha Jamaat, reflected on the long journey since the groundbreaking in 2013, highlighting local fundraising efforts and securing religious legitimacy for the revised financial model.



Appreciation Awards were presented to Alhaj Anwarali Dharamsi whose unwavering support and contributions towards this Project played a pivotal role in its accomplishment; the Jaffer Family

Foundation of New York for their generous sponsorship of the women's wellness gym, a space devoted to community health and empowerment; the family of Marhum Hussein Sajan Ladak, who were among the first to re-pledge support during the project's revival.

The construction and engineering teams, especially Super Construction Ltd., were recognized for their dedication, patience, and professionalism over more than a decade. These acknowledgements reflected the community's deep appreciation for the shared sacrifices, vision, and resilience that brought the Al-Mahdi Tower to life.



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INTERFAITH DIALOGUES

AFED DELEGATION PAYS A COURTESY VISIT TO HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS AT THE VATICAN



Holiness Pope Francis passed away on Monday 21st April 2025 at his residence, the Domus Sanctae

The Africa Federation Chairman, Alhaj Amine Nassor with a delegation paid a courtesy visit to His Holiness Pope Francis at the Vatican in Rome on 9th November 2023. He was accompanied by the AFED First Lady Nazia bai Amine Nassor, Alhaj Sheikh Haniphe Akbaraly, Chairman of FCRA in Madagascar and former Chairman of Conseil Regional of Madagascar (CROL; now AKSIAM), Alhaj Feride Ismael, Chairman of Association Khoja Shia Ithna Asheri de Madagascar (AKSIAM), Sheikh Abdoul Hadi, President of Association of Malagasy Muslims (Fikambanan'ny Silamo Malagasy) and Sheikh Mortada Mohamed Ali from Paris, France.

The visit of the delegation was facilitated by Sheikh Haniphe Akbaraly through Mgr. Tomasz Gryzsa, the apostolic nuncio to Madagascar. The prelate's endorsement of such endeavours highlights the importance of the initiatives that encourage collaboration between different religious groups and faiths. This further emphasizes the significance of unity in addressing societal challenges that we face globally.

The AFED Chairman during the meeting with His Holiness, Pope Francis mentioned about his visit to Najaf in March 2021, to this, the Pope with utmost humility and respect said that it was a privilege for him to have met the Grand Ayatullah al Uzma al Sayyid Ali Hussaini al Sistani, whom he referred to as a very knowledgeable personality.

The delegation explained the efforts made by the Muslim community to promote tranquillity, unity and interfaith dialogues as it contributes to fostering peace and understanding in the society. Also, they emphasized on the importance of building bridges and good understanding among diverse groups to make this world a better place for all people.

The delegation presented briefly on the Khoja Shia Ithna-Asheri community's humanitarian support through various projects, shedding light on their ardent efforts supporting the underprivileged. These initiatives underscore their dedication to tackling tangible issues through collaborative endeavours, aimed at addressing shared challenges like poverty and the lack of access to fundamental necessities, like clean drinking water, education, health etc. these services illustrate a comprehensive approach to enhancing community's well-being.

These perspectives resonate with the conviction that collective action, transcending religious distinctions, plays a pivotal role in addressing and alleviating broader social issues.

Alhaj Amine bhai Nassor presented Pope Francis with an appreciation plaque from AFED expressing gratitude for giving the delegation an audience underscoring mutual respect and goodwill. Additionally, Sheikh Haniphe Akbaraly, along with Alhaj Feride Ismael, jointly presented a symbolic token of appreciation to the Pope.



Martha in Vatican City. A letter of condolence from the Chairman Amine bhai was sent to His Eminence Cardinal Pietro Parolin.

AFED CHAIRMAN MEETS DAWOODI BOHRA LEADER – SAINT DENNIS

The Chairman of the Africa Federation, Alhaj Amine bhai Nassor and the Chairman of Saint Denis Jamaat of Reunion Alhaj Zamir Bhai Jaffar Bandjee, had the honor to be invited by the Dawoodi Bohra Community, to participate in the official inauguration of the Mosque at Duparc, Saint Denis on Friday 30th May 2025 in the presence of Syedna Mufaddal Saifuddin.

AFED Chairman Amine Bhai Nassor held fruitful discussions with Syedna Mufaddal, who is well-acquainted with our community in Africa and the Indian Ocean Islands. Syedna conveyed his sincere pleasure at the opportunity to meet with the Chairman of AFED. This visit provided an opportunity to promote inter faith relations with our Dawoodi Bohras Brethren.



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ELECTIONS OF THE AFRICA FEDERATION CHAIRMAN 2025 – 2028

Following the elections held in all the constituent Jamaats and Territorial Councils under the Africa Federation on Friday 25th April 2025, Alhaj Amine Nassor was elected as the Chairman of Africa Federation for the term 2025 – 2028 as per the below results.

NO.	JAMAAT	DELEGATE COUNT	VOTES CASTED		PERCENTAGE VOTE COUNT		
			AMINE NASSOR	MOHSIN LALJI	AMINE NASSOR	MOHSIN LALJI	TOTAL
1	Arusha	8	74	44	5.016949153	2.983050847	8
2	Bujumbura	3	23	3	2.653846154	0.346153846	3
3	Bukoba	2	45	5	1.8	0.2	2
4	Dar es Salaam	28	249	264	13.59064327	14.40935673	28
5	Dodoma	1	4	2	0.6666666667	0.3333333333	1
6	Kampala	2	30	5	1.714285714	0.285714286	2
7	Kigali	2	14	0	2	0	2
8	Kigoma	1	0	5	0	1	1
9	Kinshasa	3	20	36	1.071428571	1.928571429	3
10	Lilongwe	2	5	23	0.357142857	1.642857143	2
11	Lindi	1	0	7	0	1	1
12	Lubumbashi	2	11	51	0.35483871	1.64516129	2
13	Madagascar	18	439	302	10.66396761	7.336032389	18
26	Maputo	1	9	9	0.5	0.5	1
27	Mombasa	12	69	26	8.715789474	3.284210526	12
28	Morogoro	1	17	1	0.944444444	0.055555556	1
29	Moshi	1	8	4	0.6666666667	0.3333333333	1
30	Mtwara	1	10	0	1	0	1
31	Mwanza	3	34	11	2.2666666667	0.7333333333	3
32	Nairobi	9	85	12	7.886597938	1.113402062	9
33	Nampula	5	75	109	2.038043478	2.961956522	5
34	Reunion	12	356	81	9.775743707	2.224256293	12
38	Singida	1	0	1	0	1	1
39	Songea	1	6	0	1	0	1
40	Tanga	1	23	1	0.9583333333	0.041666667	1
41	Tunduru	1	0	0	0	0	0
42	Zanzibar Hujjat	1	11	2	0.846153846	0.153846154	1
43	Zanzibar Kuwwa	1	48	12	0.8	0.2	1
Total		124	1665	1016	77.28820827	45.71179173	123

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Alhaj Mohamedraza Abdulrasul Virjee - Community Loses a Sports Legend



The Africa Federation Secretariat received with deep sorrow the sad news of the passing away of Alhaj Mohamedraza Abdulrasul Virjee (well known as Raza Virjee), which occurred in Dar-es-Salaam on Thursday 7th September 2023 and was buried the same night.

Born on 17th July 1935 in Dar-es-Salaam, he was the second child to his parents Abdulrasul Gulamhussein Virjee and Shirin bai Suleman Daya Walji who were blessed with four sons and two daughters.

Raza bhai completed his high school education in the year 1953 in Dar es Salaam and joined the British Bank (formerly known as National & Grindlays Bank Ltd.) in the year 1955 and continued to work with the Bank after nationalisation by the Government in 1967 which then became National Bank of Commerce (NBC), where he provided his services till 1978.

He then joined Design Partnership Ltd, one of the engineering firms in Dar es Salaam and worked there from 1978 to 2001, after which he joined Tanzania Sign Writers & Engravers Ltd. as an accountant for some time.

Raza bhai was an active volunteer in the community and was elected as a Committee Member of the KSI Jamaat of Dar es Salaam for two terms during the tenure of Alhaj Asgher Bharwani's Presidentship.

He had a glorious career in sports, having been playing a number of sports which include Cricket, Badminton, Lawn Tennis and Golf.

In the years 1957 to 1959, Raza bhai played badminton and won many community tournaments along with becoming Tanzania's top finalist badminton player. He dominated in a number of Bank tournaments and won many regional and club tournaments. He also trained a number of community members who took interest in the game.

In the game of Cricket, he scored 1000 runs and 2 centuries in one season and he had an average score of 62 runs in a match. In 1961 he won the title of the highest average score in the Southern Region. His desire to learn more about this sport, led him to take up a TCA Cricket Umpiring Course in 1965, where he was certified to umpire officially which led him to umpire many cricket games against Kenya, Uganda, Zambia, Nigeria, India, West Indies, MCC, PIA and other visiting teams.

He was then introduced to the game of Lawn Tennis which he learnt with his tennis partner, late Abdulhussein Damji and soon became a master and a top player of the game in the Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club. He represented Tanzania in 1973 at the 2nd All African Games in Nigeria.

He had to cut short his passion for the game after he became seriously ill in 1974. Following his medical treatment in 1979, he took up golf which he dedicatedly practised the game until he achieved a handicap of 24 in order to participate in the tournaments. He won over a dozen of achievements in this game in addition to the many monthly mugs that were played every month in the Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club (DGC). He has also won the Senior Golf Competition.

Raza bhai was also selected to be the Secretary of the Tanzanian Golf Union (TGU) for 8 years. In 1994, he was elected as Chairman of the Tanzanian Golf Union for a period of two terms.

Raza bhai credited his achievements in the field of sports to the Almighty Allah (SWT), his parents, wife and family members for the support extended to him.

He was nominated the Sportsman of the Year by the Africa Federation in 1980 and awarded the Special Sportsman Award during the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of the Africa Federation in 1995.



Raza Virjee awarded special Sportsman trophy by Alhaj Habib Mulji during the Golden Jubilee celebrations of Africa Federation at Diamond Jubilee Hall in the year 1995.

We convey our heartfelt condolences to his wife Batul bai, his daughters, siblings and all family members on this bereavement.

We pray to Allah (SWT) to grant Marhum Raza Bhai maghferat and place his soul amongst the blessed ones in the vicinity of Chaharada Masumeen (AS) and who continuously receive mercy and grace of Allah (SWT). Sura-Al-Fateha is requested for Alhaj Raza bhai Virjee and all the Marhumeen.

Seyed Asad Mohammed Jafri - An Inspirational Islamic Scholar whose life touched so many lives around the Shia Global Community



It is with deep sadness that the Africa Federation Secretariat and the Tabligh Board (AFTAB) received the news of the sudden demise of Seyed Asad Jafri in Toronto Canada, on Sunday 29th October 2023 (13th Rabi-ul-Aakhar 1445). Marhum was buried at the Wadi-us-Salaam Cemetery in Toronto on Monday 30th October 2023.

Seyed Asad Jafri was born and raised in Toronto and held a bachelor in IT and pursued his Hawza Studies in Qum in 2004 which earned him a bachelor's degree in the field of Quranic Sciences and then obtained a Master's degree in Islamic Theology from the Islamic College in London.

He was the Director of the religious affairs of the As Sadiq Islamic School in Toronto until the time of his death and had also undertaken "live projects" in promoting the Qur'an and RSE curriculum for the MCE program of the Islamic Department of the World Federation.

Seyed Asad inspired the Shia youth and adult alike around the world including many of our member Jamaats in Africa with his humility, friendly demeanor, witty humor and relatable discussions gently advising the community through the teachings from the Holy Qur'an and the Ahlulbayt ('A) to better ourselves and gain proximity to our Creator.

A righteous and popular Islamic scholar is an irreplaceable treasure for a community. Seyed Asad left us too soon but he taught us much good in his short time on earth. Imam Sadiq ('A) tells us: "The creatures on land and fish in the sea and every small and big creature in the skies and ground seek forgiveness for he who teaches the good."

Marhum Seyed Asad was the son in law of the well-known scholar Sayed Zaki Baqri. He leaves

behind his mother, wife, two daughters and a son.

Message of Condolences from the Chairman of the Africa Federation Alhaj Amine Nassor.

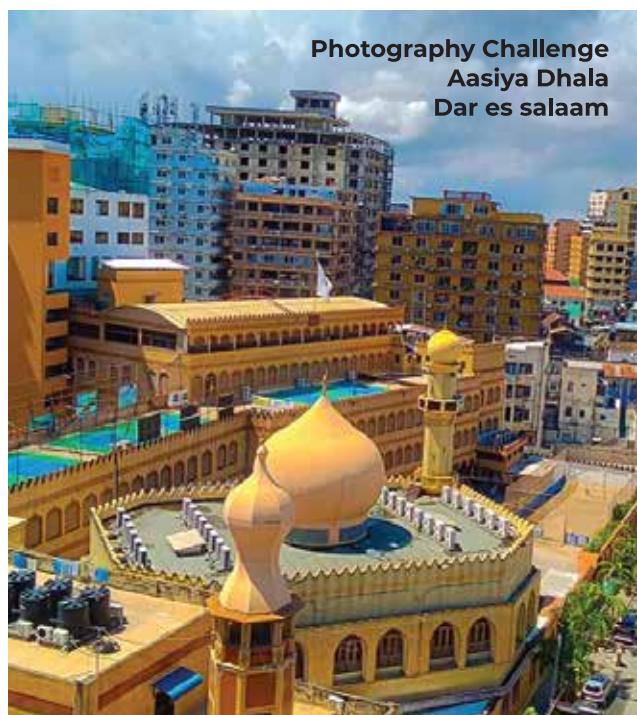
The news of the sad demise of Seyed Asad Mohammed Jafri on Sunday evening (Eastern Africa Time) was received with shock and disbelief by many members.

The large turnout of people for his funeral on Monday 30th October 2023 in Toronto and the outpour of messages of condolences and remembrance posted on different social media platforms over the past two days following the news of his death is a testimony of how he had touched a number of lives around the globe during his lifetime through his lectures, wisdom and humble personality. His death is a big loss not only to his family but to the entire Community.

On behalf of AFED Office Bearers, Trustees and the Community in Africa, I extend our deepest condolences and heartfelt sympathies to his mother, wife, children, siblings and all the family members for this great loss, and may Allah (SWT) grant the family courage and patience to bear this bereavement. We extend our heartfelt condolences to Marhum's family, the KSIJ Community in Toronto and the global Shia Community on this loss and strive that we as a Community can keep his legacy alive by putting into action what he taught us.

We pray to Allah (SWT) to grant Marhum maghferat and place his soul amongst the blessed ones in the vicinity of the Ahlulbayt ('A) whom he humbly and diligently served and grant his family solace and patience during these difficult times, Ameen.

We request for a Sura-Al-Fateha for Marhum Seyed Asad Jafri and all the Marhumeen.



Ayatullah Sheikh Mohsin Ali Najafi - An Esteemed Scholar, A Renowned Author and An Inspirational Teacher bids farewell



The Africa Federation Secretariat received with deep sadness the news of the demise of Ayatullah Sheikh Mohsin Ali Najafi who passed away on Tuesday 9th January 2024 (26th Jamadi-ul-Aakhar 1445 A.H.) in Islamabad and was buried at Jamiatul Kausar, Islamabad on Wednesday 10th January 2024.

Ayatullah Sheikh Mohsin Ali Najafi hailed from the Gilgit Baltistan region where he began his educational journey which laid the foundation of his illustrious career.

He travelled to the holy city of Najaf, Iraq in the 1960s to pursue religious studies and was a student of eminent scholars such as Ayatullah Sayyid Abul Qassim al-Khoei and Ayatullah Sayyid Baqir al-Sadr. After a decade of rigorous studies, he returned to Pakistan and dedicated himself to teaching and authored several books from his mastery in the interpretation of the Holy Quran, Islamic philosophy, and Ethics which includes the renowned "Al Kauthar fi Tafsir Al Quran" - a profound Urdu exegesis of the Quran that stands as one of the finest in the Shi'a tradition.

Ayatollah Sheikh Najafi spent most of his honorable life propagating the religion and serving the Mo'mineen in different spheres of life. His enduring efforts in promoting Islamic unity and spreading religious values shall always remain cherished.

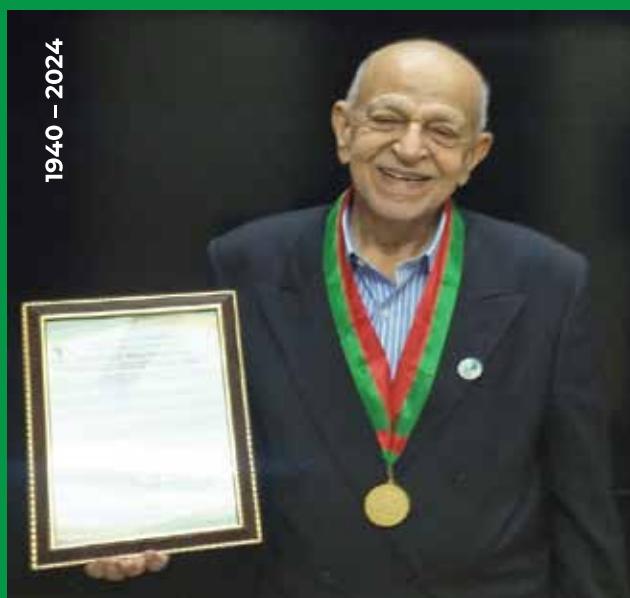
He was the revered Head of several seminaries in Pakistan and served as a special representative of late Ayatullah Sayyid Abul Qassim al-Khoei and later Ayatullah Sayyid Ali al-Hussaini al-Sistani in Pakistan.

The death of an eminent Ayatollah of such a high caliber is a big loss to the Shia Community around the globe. We pray to Allah (SWT) to raise his rank and place him in the closest proximity of Ahlulbayt ('a) where he continuously receives the Mercy and Grace of Allah (SWT).

Africa Federation on behalf of all its member Jamaats extends heartfelt condolences to our Living Imam, Al-Mahdi (ATFS), the Marja-e-Taqleed, Ulama-e-Deen, Marhum's family, his students and the Shia Community globally on this sad and irreplaceable loss of an eminent Aalim.

We request Momineen to remember Ayatullah Sheikh Mohsin Ali Najafi and all the Marhumeen with a Sura Al-Fateha for their maghferat.

Alhaj Pyarali Mohamedali Shivji - Bidding farewell to a Humble and Selfless Leader who served the Community in Silence and Dedication



The Africa Federation (AFED) Secretariat received with deep sorrow and sadness the news of the death of Alhaj Pyarali Mohamedali Shivji (known by many as Pyarali Anuzu) which occurred in Dar-es-Salaam on Tuesday 19th March 2024 (8th Ramadhan 1445 A.H.), and was buried at night on the same day.

Alhaj Pyarali bhai was born in Maevatanana, Madagascar in 1940 and moved with his mother and sisters to Newala in Lindi in 1947 after the passing away of his father.

He pursued his primary and secondary education in Lindi after which he returned to Newala and joined in business with his maternal uncle Mohammedalibhai Gulamhussein Murji and this began his community services where he served as the Hon. Secretary of the Jamaat.

In 1965 Pyarali bhai married Masumabai Pyarali Virani and were blessed with two sons and one daughter.

Pyarali bhai made a breakthrough and shifted to Dar es Salaam from Lindi in 1970 and started his own business called Anuzu Gunny Bags Supplies Ltd. His business flourished because at that time all the grains produced were packed and transported in gunny bags (jute bags). In 1988, he ventured into the hotel business and built the Safari Inn Hotel along Libya Street in Dar es Salaam.

His community services in Dar-es-Salaam began in 1995 where he was appointed as the Hon. Secretary of the Marriage Reconciliation Board of Dar es Salaam Jamaat and later as the Hon. Joint Secretary of the Jamaat. In 2001- 2003 he served as the President of Khoja Shia Ithna-Asheri Jamaat of Dar es Salaam. He was later appointed as the Chairman of the Arbitration Committee of the Dar-es-Salaam Jamaat from the year 2003 to 2009 and continued up to the year 2014 and was also a patron of the Senior Citizen Group.

During his tenure as the President of the Jamaat, the first website of the Jamaat was launched, the senior citizen group was formed and a housing development project for the needy was initiated whereby 15 flats were built with funds from a generous donor in the year 2003.

Pyarali bhai also made remarkable contributions in the Bilal Muslim Mission of Tanzania (BMMT). He was one of its senior members and served the Mission in various positions over a period of twenty-five years. He held the position of Trustee (2011 to 2015), Chairman (1995 to 2000 and 2003-2007) and Hon Secretary (1990-1995). He also held the position of the Chairman of Central Bilal Board (CBB) of the Africa Federation for the period 2008 - 2010.

During his tenure as Chairman of BMMT, Pyarali bhai was instrumental in obtaining official registration of the Bilal Comprehensive School (BCS) in April 2001. Also, he was keen to see that BCS maintained its high standard of education through regular visits, inspections etc. Marhum was a good supporter of BCS until his last days.



Above: Students and teachers of Bilal Comprehensive School in Temeke, Dar es Salaam visit Pyarali bhai Shivji on the Occasion of Father's Day (13th Rajab 1441 – March 2020)

At the 79th Supreme Council Session of Africa Federation held in Nairobi in July 2019, the then Chairman of Africa Federation, Alhaj Shabir Najafi bestowed the prestigious Husseini Medal upon Alhaj Pyarali Shivji for his long honorary and dedicated services to the community including his illustrious services to Bilal Muslim Mission of Tanzania. Due to his inability to travel to Nairobi, the Medal was handed over to Dar-es-Salaam Jamaat and was later presented to Pyarali bhai at a Khushali Function in Dar-es-Salaam.



Above: Maulana Syed Adeel Raza, Resident Aalim of Dar es Salaam Jamaat, bestowing the Husseini Medal to Alhaj Pyarali bhai Shivji in Dar es Salaam Imambarha on behalf of Africa Federation Chairman.

We convey our heartfelt condolences to his two sons Shabbir and Rizwan and daughter Sukaina, his grandchildren and all the family members.

We pray to Allah (SWT) to grant Marhum maghferat and place his soul amongst the blessed ones in the vicinity of the Chahardah Ma'sumeen ('A) where he is continuously blessed with the mercy and grace of Allah (SWT), Ameen.

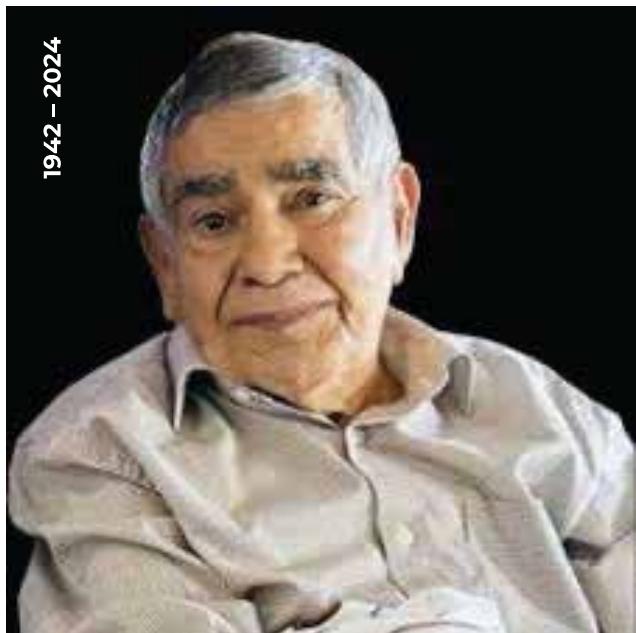
Sura-Al-Fateha is requested for Marhum Pyarali bhai and all the Marhumeen.

A message from Alhaj Aunali Khalfan, Vice Chairman of Africa Federation.

"I had the opportunity to work with Marhum Pyarali bhai Shivji during his tenure as President of Dar es Salaam Jamaat and also while he was in Bilal Muslim Mission of Tanzania for several years. Pyarali bhai had deep empathy for our community, especially for the widows, orphans and the underprivileged. He inspired many, including myself for his humble and gentle approach to problem solving during tense situations. Notably, his success was embedded by his humbleness, courage and sincerity. He was passionate about his work and was always looking for ways to make a positive difference for the betterment of our community, that he loved so much. Sadly, we have lost one of the great and inspiring leaders of our community, May Allah (SWT) by His grace and mercy grant him maghferat, Aameen"



Mustafa Rajabali Jaffer (Sabodo) - A legacy of Benevolence, Social Services and Dedication towards Communities Welfare



The Africa Federation (AFED) Secretariat received with deep sorrow and sadness the news of the death of Mustafa bhai Rajabali Jaffer (famously known as Sabodo) which occurred at his home in Masaki, Dar-es-Salaam on Saturday 23rd March 2024 (12th Ramadhan 1445 A.H.), and was buried at night on the same day.

Mustafa bhai was born in Lindi on 14th May 1942 and was amongst the six siblings blessed to his parents Rajabali bhai and Sugra bai.

Marhum Mustafa bhai was a well-known philanthropist who contributed generously within the community and also to the wider society in Tanzania. He funded various projects in different sectors towards development of social services which include schools, hospitals, mosques, orphanages and water wells around Tanzania.

On the community front he contributed funds towards the AFED Al Qaeem Housing Project in Arusha which was developed during the tenure of the then Chairman of Africa Federation Alhaj Anwarali Dharamsi, who had a pleasant and long standing rapport with Mustafa Bhai – a keen supporter of the Africa Federation Higher Education Program and contributed funds towards this program.

Late Mustafa Bhai also contributed in the upgrading of the KSI Jamaat Mosque and Imambargha complex in Arusha, Renovation of the KSI Jamaat Lindi Musafarkhana, extension of the KSI Jamaat of Dar es Salaam Ladies Imambargha, Musafarkhana and construction of Sabodo Car Park block adjacent to the Mosque which also comprises of shops, warehouses and office space.

Mustafa bhai Sabodo in his firm belief of the

importance of media, gifted a cash amount to the Africa Federation Editorial Board in April 2013 and called upon the Board to continue maintaining high standard of journalism, and of the magazine – The Federation Samachar.

During his interview with the then Editor of the Federation Samachar Munir bhai Daya, Mustafa bhai stressed that what we do for ourselves alone dies with us; what we do and have done for others and the world remains and is immortal.

Late Mustafa Bhai played an instrumental role during the early 1980s when Tanzania and other countries in the world faced a shortage of fuel wherein, he appealed to Iran's Supreme leader, Ayatollah Khomeini to rescue the country from the crisis, which he successfully achieved. This is a clear manifestation of his patriotism towards his country, Tanzania.

His philanthropic efforts include his contributions towards the Mwalimu Nyerere Foundation, the Mtwara College of Education and the Shree Hindu Mandal Hospital. He also contributed to the government towards the relocation of its capital to Dodoma. A project close to his heart was water wells for which he contributed substantially so that Tanzanians had easy access to clean water for their daily lives.

Mustafa bhai was bestowed the Husseini Medal in 2007 by the then Africa Federation Chairman Alhaj Ramzan Nanji at the 23rd Conference of Africa Federation held in Arusha, Tanzania for his philanthropic endeavours, generous contributions, and unwavering commitment towards the well-being of the community and the society at large.

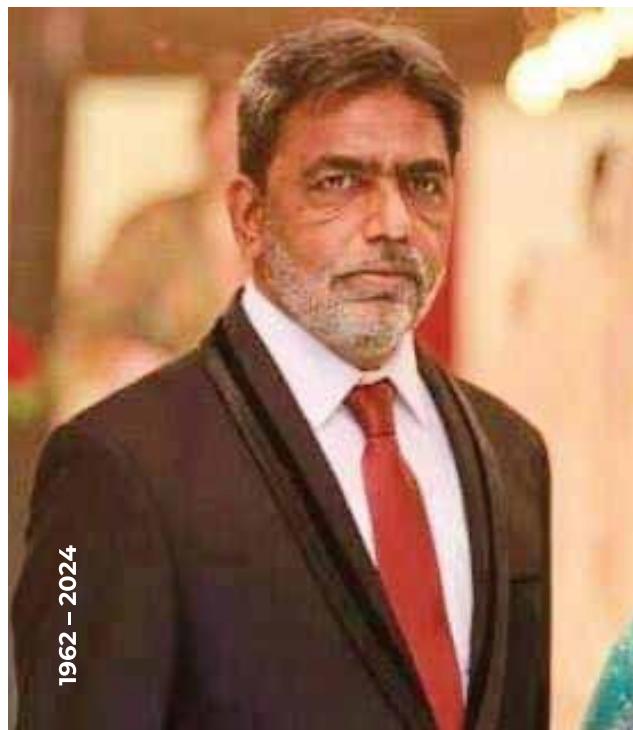


His death leaves a void in the hearts of not only in the family but also in Tanzania. We convey our heartfelt condolences to Marhum's children, his siblings and all the family members. May Allah (SWT) give his family solace and strength to bear this great loss, Aameen.

We pray to Allah (SWT) to grant Marhum maghferat and place his soul amongst the blessed ones who continuously receive Allah's (SWT) grace and mercy, Aameen

Sura-e-Fatiha is requested for Marhum Mustafa bhai and all the Marhumeen.

Alhaj Haider Ali Hussein Ali Rahim of Kampala - Farewell to a Dedicated and Selfless Community Member



The Africa Federation (AFED) Secretariat received with deep sorrow and sadness the news of the death of Alhaj Haider Ali Hussein Ali Rahim of Kampala who passed away in Mombasa on Tuesday 26th March 2024 (15th Ramadhan 1445 A.H.), and was buried at night on the same day.

Marhum Haider Ali bhai who was originally from Pakistan was a dedicated Community servant known for his commitment, dynamism and humbleness, he was an individual who was approachable and respected by all those who knew him.

At the Africa Federation level, he served as the Chairman of Bilal Muslim Mission of Uganda from January 2020 until November 2023. He played a vital role in organizing the food distribution across various centres and local communities in Uganda.

Marhum Haider Ali bhai began his community services with Kampala Jamaat as a volunteer in 1997 and was then elected as an Executive Committee member of the Jamaat in 2006, he was the Captain of Hussaini Volunteer Corps in 2012 and served as the Vice Chairman of the Jamaat for two terms, thereafter he was elected as the Trustee in 2020, the position he held until his death.

He was deeply involved in the construction of the first phase of the new Bilal Secondary School in Kampala.

Marhum was one of the team members who were involved in the major renovation of the Kampala Jamaat Imambargha and the redevelopment of the Jamaat's impressive Commercial Project "The Mall"

which was inaugurated during the Centenary Celebrations of Kampala Jamaat in September 2023.

We convey our heartfelt condolences to his wife Noor Zehra bai, sons Hasnain and Mohamed Hadi, daughters Hina and Huma, and all the family members. We also extend our condolences to the leadership of KSI Jamaat of Kampala and Bilal Muslim Mission of Uganda on the loss of a volunteer who contributed immensely in the development of the Jamaat.



We pray to Allah (SWT) to grant Marhum maghferat and place his soul amongst the blessed ones in the vicinity of the Chahardah Ma'sumeen ('A) where he is continuously blessed with the mercy and grace of Allah (SWT), Ameen.

Sura-Al-Fateha is requested for Marhum Haider Ali Bhai and all the Marhumeen.

Marhum Alhaj Sherli Mohammedali Ladak Kanji



It is with deep sadness that the Africa Federation Secretariat received the news of the demise of Alhaj Sherli bhai Mohammedali Ladak who passed away in Dar es Salaam on Friday 26th July 2024 and was buried in Moshi, Tanzania, his home town.

Sherli bhai was the son of Marhum Mohamed Ali Ladak Kanji and Marhuma Zainab bai Nanji Karim, and lived in Moshi.

Marhum Sherli bhai Ladak's services to the community in Moshi have been diverse and vast. He served with dedication as a Madressah teacher for about 10 years. He was a Mu'adhin for the daily Fajr prayers for 50 years and a member of the Kafan Dafan committee for about 40 years. He also served as the Chairman of Jamaat Matrimonial Committee for several years.

He served as the Chairman of Moshi Jamaat for more than 10 years and during his tenure, the Jamaat dispensary in Moshi was established. This dispensary, now known as Jaffery Charitable Medical Services Clinic, has since grown into a full-fledged well-equipped Clinic with some modern equipment serving the residents of Moshi.

His concern towards humanity and fellow community members was evident in his personal efforts to take sick patients arriving from different regions for treatment at Machame Hospital which was a renowned hospital at that time.

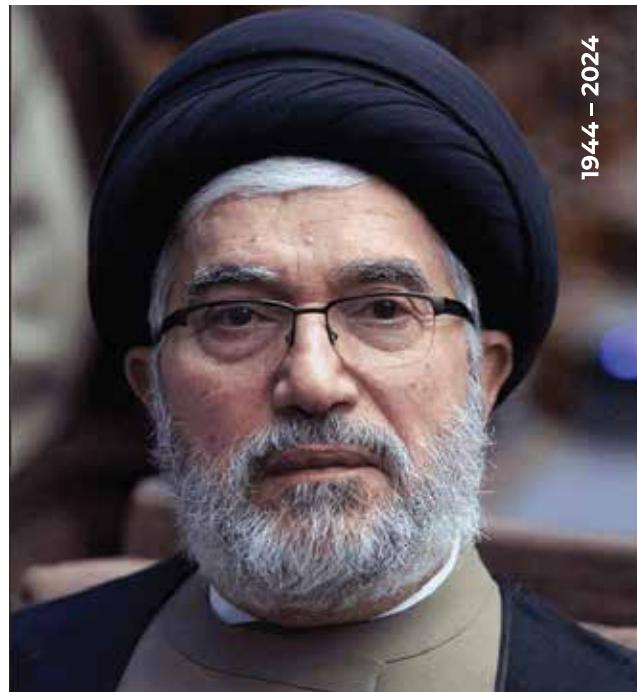
Marhum Sherli Ladak was an active sportsman who not only participated in various sports himself but also consistently encouraged and supported the youth to engage in sporting activities.

We convey our heartfelt condolences to Marhum's son, Alhaj Muhammad bhai Sherli Ladak, who is the Vice Chairman of Moshi Jamaat, and all the family members during this difficult time. We pray that they find comfort in the cherished memories and carry forward Marhum's profound legacy which he leaves behind.

We pray to Allah (SWT) to grant Marhum maghferat and place his soul amongst the blessed ones in the vicinity of the Chahardah Ma'sumeen (AS), and who continuously receive the mercy and grace of Allah (SWT), and give his family solace and strength to bear this irreplaceable loss in the family, Ameen.

Sura-Al-Fateha is requested for Marhum Sherli bhai Ladak and all the past leaders and volunteers of our community who have served our community in various capacities and who are no longer with us in this transient world and for all the Marhumeen.

Ayatollah Dr. Sayyid Fadhel Hosseini Al-Milani



The Africa Federation Secretariat received with profound sadness the news of the demise of Ayatollah Dr. Sayyid Fadhel Hosseini Al-Milani who passed away on Monday 2nd September 2024 (28th Safar 1446 A.H.) in London.

Ayatollah Dr. Sayyid Fadhel Al-Milani was born to a prominent religious family in Karbala, Iraq. He studied religious studies at the Hawza of the Holy City of Najaf – from 1962 to 1970 under late Grand Ayatollah Sayyid Abul Qasim Al-Khoei and from 1968 to 1970, under the late Grand Ayatollah Sayyid Mohsin Al-Hakim.

Dr. Sayyid Fadhel also attained a BA in Law from School of Law, Beirut, Lebanon in 1967. He then went on to achieve an MA in Arabic Literature from the University of Baghdad in 1970.

He migrated to Mashhad in 1971 where he attended advanced Fatwa Assemblies and completed his studies under the guidance of his grandfather, Grand Ayatollah Sayyid Muhammad Hadi Al-Milani. He was awarded Ijtihad at the age of 30. His work on Ijtihad, lectures on Imamiyah Jurisprudence, published in six volumes, is still currently used in the Hawzas of Mashhad and Qum. He has authored seven books in Arabic, seven in English and one in Persian. Some of his well-known books are:

1. Frequently Asked Questions on Islam
2. Commentary on the Qur'anic Chapter of Night Journey
3. Islamic Family Law
4. Islamic Theology
5. Fatimah Al-Zahra Ummu Abiha: Mother to her Father

He remained in Mashhad for just under 13 years, organising the seminary of Mashhad, which had 3,500 students at the time, under the supervision of his grandfather. He briefly visited Damascus in 1983 and taught in the Zainabiyah Seminary until 1986.

In the year 1986, Ayatollah Sayyid Dr. Fadhl Al-Milani migrated to the United Kingdom to pursue further education. He graduated from Oxford University with a PhD in Islamic Philosophy in 1994.

Whilst in London, he noticed that the community were in dire need of religious guidance. He wrote to Ayatollah Sayyid Abul Qasim Al-Khoei, informing him of his observations, to which Ayatollah Al-Khoei responded positively and informed him of his plans to establish an institution, later becoming the Imam of Al-Khoei Foundation.

In addition to being an Imam at Imam Al-Khoei Islamic Centre, Ayatollah Al-Milani was the Dean of International Colleges for Islamic Studies, London and Islamic studies Ph.D. candidate supervisor. He was an academic researcher, teacher and mujtahid, as well as a distinguished author.

He was appointed UK representative of the late Ayatollah Sayyid Abul Qasim Al-Khoei and is accredited on behalf of Grand Ayatollah Sayyid Ali Al-Hussaini Al-Sistani.

Ayatollah Sayyid Dr. Fadhel Al-Milani dedicated much of his time to helping restore marital relationships and addressing many other social challenges faced by the Shia community in the West. His enduring efforts in promoting Islamic unity and spreading religious values, his legacy shall always remain cherished.

The death of an eminent Ayatollah of such a high calibre is a big loss to the Shia community around the globe. We pray to Allah (SWT) to raise his rank and place him in the closest proximity of Ahlulbayt ('A) where he continuously receives the mercy and grace of Allah (SWT).

On behalf of all constituent members of the Federation of Khoja Shia Ithna-Asheri Jamaats of Africa, we extend heartfelt condolences to our Living Imam, Al-Mahdi (ATFS), the Marjae-Taqleed,

Ulama-e-Deen, Marhum's family, his students and the Shia Ithna-Asheri community globally on this sad and irreplaceable loss of an eminent Scholar.

We request Momineen to remember Ayatollah Sayyid Dr. Fadhel Al-Milani and all the Marhumeen with a Sura Al-Fateha for their maghferat.

Message of Condolence from the Africa Federation Chairman

Dear Alhaj Sayyid Haider Fadhel Al-Milani,

Salaamun Alaykoum Wa Rahmatullah

Inna Lillahi Wa Inna Ilayhi Raji'un

It is with profound grief that we at the Federation of Khoja Shia Ithna-Asheri Jamaats of Africa received the news of the passing of your beloved father, Dr. Sayyid Fadhel Hosseini Al-Milani in London on 2nd September, 2024. We convey our heartfelt condolences to the Imam of our Time (ATFS), the Al-Milani family members and the Shia Ithna-Asheri community globally on this sad occasion.

Your late father was an eminent Scholar and a Researcher of high caliber having served the wider Shia community for over five decades in different fields. He had been an active supporter of Interfaith relations and participated in numerous functions, seminars etc. promoting good understanding between different communities, faiths and sects. His Islamic religious and social services, especially in the west, will be cherished for many decades to come. It is with great sadness that the community will be devoid of his selfless services and guidance.

May Allah (SWT) grant your late father Thawabe-Jariyyah for his noble and selfless services to Islam and to the wider community, May Allah (SWT) place him in the proximity of Ahlulbayt (AS), Aameen.

A request for Surah-e-Fateha for your Marhum father and for all the Marhumeen.

Yours sincerely,

With Duas,

**Amine Nassor Goulamaly
Chairman**

4th September 2024

Marhuma Zohra Anverali Rajpar



It is with deep sadness that the Africa Federation Secretariat received the news of the demise of the luminous lady, Zohra bai Anverali Rajpar who passed away in Dubai on Sunday 5th January 2025 and was buried in Dubai, U.A.E on Tuesday 7th January 2025.

Zohra bai was the daughter of Alhaj Anverali Rajpar and Marhuma Marzia bai Rajpar. Alhaj Anverali bhai has served the community in various capacities in Karachi, Pakistan and also in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. His community, philanthropic and social services span to several decades. Currently, inspite of his advance age, he continues keenly spearheading the KSIJ Eye Centre in Temeke as well as other social services.

Zohra bai was a beacon of philanthropy and community social services like her father. She was the founder of Who is Hussain in Pakistan, where she transformed compassion into action, touching many lives in ways words cannot fully capture. She was an elected World Federation Councillor from Pakistan for the term 2017-2020, where she played a pivotal role in women's participation in the community services.

A beacon of hope for those who felt forgotten, a voice for the voiceless; Zohra bai championed initiatives that fostered inclusivity, unity and empowerment within the community. Zohra bai's passion for giving back and her enduring belief in creating a better world made her a role model for many. Countless individuals were inspired to engage in acts of kindness and to honor the legacy of Imam Hussein ('A).

Her unwavering commitment and dedication were a testament to spreading the values of compassion and her service to humanity will remain an inspiration for many.

We convey our heartfelt condolences to Marhuma's father, to all the family members and to her colleagues. We pray that they find solace in the cherished memories and carry forward Marhuma's profound legacy which she leaves behind.

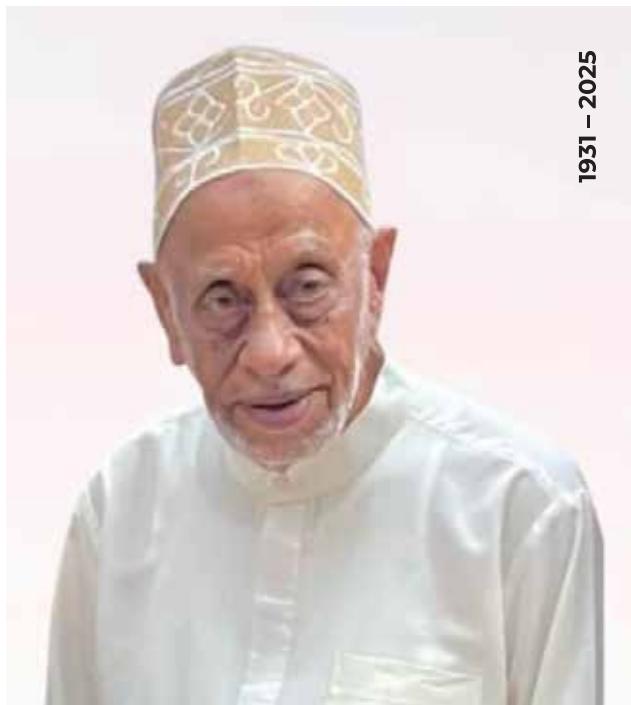
We pray to Allah (SWT) to grant Marhuma maghferat and place her soul amongst the blessed ones in the vicinity of the Chahardah Ma'sumeen ('A), and who continuously receive the mercy and grace of Allah (SWT), Ameen.

Sura-Al-Fateha is requested for Marhuma Zohra bai and all the volunteers of our community who have served our community in various capacities and who are no longer with us; and for all the Marhumeen.

Photography Challenge Saif Hussain Kampala



Marhum Mohamedraza Hussein Haji Bhai Muraj



The Africa Federation Secretariat received with deep sorrow the news of the passing of Alhaj Mohamedraza Bhai Hussain Muraj, who left this transient world for prominent abode on 1st February 2025 in Toronto, Canada.

Marhum Mohamedraza Bhai was a dedicated community leader, a man with farsighted vision who devoted his life in the service of Islam and the Ahlul Bayt ('A). He was a respected leader of the Khoja Shia Ithna-Asheri Community of Mogadishu.

Hailing from a lineage devoted to community service, Marhum's grandfather, Marhum Haji Bhai Muraj, was among the pioneers of the Khoja Shia Ithna-Asheri community in Mogadishu and Merca. Following the demise of his father, Marhum Hussain Haji Bhai Muraj in 1979, this legacy of dedication and leadership was carried forward by Marhum Mohamedraza Bhai, as he took over the presidency of the Khoja Shia Ithna-Asheri Jamaat of Mogadishu. He remained steadfast in his mission to strengthen the community and uphold its values.

For nearly eleven years, he served the Jamaat with humility and a commitment to uplifting the community economically and socially. Under his leadership, the Jamaat made significant strides in the field of education, including the establishment of the first purpose-built school for the community. This initiative was realized in collaboration with the Embassy of Pakistan, which facilitated the use of the Pakistan Exam Board.

Unfortunately, the Khoja Shia Ithna-Asheri community were forced to evacuate in 1991 due to the outbreak of civil war in Somalia. With the help of Africa Federation and the determined courage and bravery of Murrabi Alhaj Sajjad Rashid and his devoted team from Mombasa rescued over one

thousand community members - males, females and children from the dangerous war zone in Somalia.

Marhum Mohamedraza Bhai also played a vital role in providing essential services to the community. Just before the onset of the civil unrest, he facilitated the drilling of a water well within the premises of the community mosque. This well proved to be a lifeline during the crisis, supplying water to community members who sought refuge in the mosque, and, it continues to serve the local neighborhood to this day.

During the Somalia crisis, he remained in Mogadishu throughout the period of evacuation process, which lasted four to five weeks, ensuring that every community member was safely evacuated before he himself left. After leaving Somalia, he resided in Nairobi, Kenya, for several years before eventually migrating to Canada. Even there, his commitment to community service never wavered. He was an active and cherished member of the Jaffari Community Centre in Toronto, where he was affectionately known as "Chacha Muraj." His wisdom, piety, and warm presence will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

Marhum leaves behind his wife, Raziya Bai Mohsin, his daughter, Marzia Bai Suleiman, and his three sons, Mehboob, Murtaza, and Muslim.

We pray to Allah (SWT) to grant him maghferah, and a chosen place in the proximity of Ahlulbayt ('A) and bestow Sabr-e-Jameel upon his family over this huge loss in the family.

We request Momineen to remember Alhaj Mohamedraza Bhai Muraj and all the Marhumeen with a Sura e Fateha for their maghferat.

Photography Challenge Syed Himayat Hussain Kampala



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NEWLY ELECTED JAMAAT LEADERS

Arusha

Chairman
Vice Chairman
Hon. Secretary
Hon. Treasurer
Dept. Treasurer
Committee Members

Trustees

Fayyaz Dhirani
Mustafa Virjee
Mohamedarif Bhimani
Hussein Sajan
Mazharabbas Fazal
Muhammadjawaad Versi
Aliasgher Kanani
Jabir Manji
Gulamhussein Mukhtar
Musadiq Gulamhussein
Shabbir Virjee
Mohamedjabir Bhimani

Bujumbura

President:
Vice President:
Secretary:
Treasurer:
Assistant Treasurer & Secretary:
Committee member:
Committee member:
Committee member:
Trustee:

Mohamed Abbas Habib
Irshad Manji
Hur Ali Fazal
Gulam Raza Khoja
Ahmad Agha
Azad Ali Fazal
Mohamed Abbas Roshanali
Nadeem Somji
Roshanali Bhai Sherali.

Dar es Salaam

President
Vice President
Hon General Secretary
Hon Joint Secretary
Hon Treasurer
Committee Members

Trustees

Mohamedraza Dewji
Sajjad Jusab
Hasnain Sherally
Mohamedraza Bharwani
Mohamed Rawji
Dr. Kazim Dhalla
Alihassan Kassam
Shaneabbas Jessa
Asger Dhanji
Noorul Ain Sheriff
Shakeel Nazarali
Minhaal Dewji
Dr. Shabbir Mohamedali
Mustafa Dhanani
Gulam Kermalli Premji
Gulam Kermalli Jagani

Kampala

Chairman
Vice Chairman
Hon. Secretary
Hon-Treasurer
Assistant Secretary
Assistant Treasurer
Hon-Mukhi
Asst-Mukhi
Committee Members:

Trustees:

Shabbar Virani
Sibtain Merchant
Riyaz Mithani
Mohamedraza G. Manji
Sohail Abbas Manji
Shabbir Kassamali
Raza BandeAli
Adeel Ameer
Afzal Bhimani
Ahmed Adat
Ali Asgher Jesani
Imran Vakil
Mujtaba Sayani
Raza Jivani
Shamir Hussein Manji
Hussain Merchant
Murtaza Kassam
Mustafa Kanji

Tanga

Chairman
Vice Chairman
Hon Secretary
Hon Treasurer
Committee Member

Trustees:

Sameer Bandali
Ally Shivji
Mohamed Rajabali
Shaen Fazal and Hussein
Sachedina
Shaneabbas Fazal
Shabbir Sachedina
Aziz Gangji.
Aunali Fazal.
Aziz Fazal.
Mohammed Fazal

NEWLY ELECTED JAMAAT LEADERS

Mauritius

President
Vice President
Secretary
Assistant Secretary
Treasurer
Assistant Treasurer
Committee Member:

Yusuf Ali Gulamhussein
Zeeshan H. Rajani
Muhammad Abbas Peera
Noor Abdoola Cassim
Sajjadhusain Rajani
Hornali A. H. Pirbhai
Mamode Haji Djivan

Mombasa

Chairman
Vice Chairman
Secretary General
Assistant Secretary General
Head of Treasury
Head of Jaffery Islamic Religion Board
Head of Jaffery Education Board
Head of Jaffery Youth Board
Head of Jaffery Sports Board
Head of Jaffery Zainabiyya Board
Trustees

Mohamedraza Sajjad Rashid
Sibtain Hassan Mohamed Sadak
Mohamed Hussein G. Khaku
Aliraza Mohamedhussein Sumar
Gulamali Salim Fidahussein Alibhai
Riyaz Habib G Virjee
Mujtaba Mohammed Taki A Walji
Roshanali Gazamferali Hasham
Murtaza Raza Husein Merali
Mrs. Mubina Shabbir Merali
Mohamedraza Sajjad Rashid
Sajjad Mohamedali Rashid
Amirali Kassamali
Asgharali A. Molu
Gulamabbas M. G. Daya
Fazleabbas Mohamedtaqi B. Bhanji
Yusuf Jeraj Jiwa

Maputo

President
Vice Chairman
Hon Treasurer
Hon. Secretary
Committee Advisor
Accountant

Syed Iftikhar Ali Taha Naqvi
Syed Imran Hussain Naqvi
Syed Kamran Abbas Rizvi
Mohamed Akil Abdulcarim
Dr. Asgar Moledina
Syed Muhammad Zuhair Abidi

Kinshasa

President
Hon Treasurer
Hon. Secretary
Committee Members:

Aarif Rajshi
Riyaz Badami
Naushad Minsaria
Abid Asaria
Amir Muni
Mazahir Dalwala
Misam Rajshi
Waris Kanani

Rwanda

President
Vice Chairman
Hon Treasurer
Hon. Secretary
Committee Member

Ali M. R. Manji
Saqlain Raza
Ali M. Somji
Muhammad Kazim
Mazahir Merali

NEWLY ELECTED JAMAAT LEADERS

Lubumbashi

President
Vice President
Hon. Treasurer
Hon. Secretary
Hon. Asst Secretary
Hon. Asst Treasurer
Hon. Mukhi Mohammad
Committee Members

Ali Raza Meghani
Sajjad Hussain Rahmatullah
Mohamed Raza Rajani
Shahzad Raza Devjiani
Sarfaraz Hussain Rahmatullah
Mohammad Owais Bhurani
Raza Bachiani
Naveed Kanji
Hassan Abbas Rajshi
Abbas Bhojani
Sanad Ali Khoja
Sameer Dosani

Nairobi

Chairman
Vice Chairman
Hon. Secretary
Hon. Asst Secretary
Hon. Treasurer
Hon. Asst Treasurer
Committee Member
Committee Member
Committee Member
Committee Member
Committee Member
Committee Member
Trustee
Trustee
Trustee
Education Board Chairman
Education Board Vice Chairman
Education Board Hon. Treasurer

Dr. Mazaher Jaffer
Mohamedali Khimji
Muhammed Jaffer
Alisalmaan Khimji
Mujahid Kalyan
Muhammad Jawad Habib
Irfanreza Moledina
Hasnain Jagani
Ahmed Abbas Jaffer (Agha)
Muntazir Meghjee
Mohsin Haji
Hassnain Mohamedraza Jagani
Jawad Jaffer Mawji
Riaz Gulamabbas Kanji
Sajjad Karmasi
Zishan Chagpar
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NEWLY ELECTED JAMAAT LEADERS

Saint Dennis Jamaat (Reunion) Managing Committee

Jaffar Bandjee Zamir-Hassan	Chairman
Asakaly Mohamed Anil	Vice-Chairman
Vasram Abass	Vice-Chairman
Mamodaly Jivan Moise Aly	General Secretary
Rossanaly Vasram Reza	Assistant Secretary
Goulamabasse Tessine	Treasurer
Tofik Raza Ikbalhoussen	Assistant Treasurer
Razavhoussen Mohamed Moustafa Member	
Anvaraly Mamodraza	Member
Kassim Bandjee Dindar	Member
Asgaraly Amine Abasse Patrice	Member
Jivan Shane Abasse	Member
Laljy Shaane Raza	Member
Massomaly Camil Mohamed	Member

Antananarivo (Madagascar) Managing Committee

Arzou Raza Piaraly	President
Riaz Dandjee	Vice President
Rafik Amarsy	Vice President – Health
Michael K. Daya	Vice President – Youth
Riaz Issoufaly Dinmamod	Vice President – Social Affairs
Razaly Nourmahamad	Secretary General
Komail Khamis	Assistant Secretary
Yassine Vasram	Treasurer
Chabbir Khamis	Joint Treasurer
Chenaz Sivdjy	Chairlady
Sanemahomed Alimamod	Councillor
Riaz Soujataly Dinmamod	Councillor
Mounisse Abdourassoul	Councillor
Zakir Nandjee	Councillor

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Mombasa

Embakasi

Storage

Grain

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Mombasa

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Embakasi

20,000 MT

Jinja

Clinker

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Fertilizer

65,000 MT



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AFTAB

Introduction

AFTAB has had an inspiring and productive year, marked by a series of impactful programs and events aimed at nurturing faith, knowledge, and community spirit across member regions. AFTAB Samachar reflects a year of steadfast commitment to spiritual, educational, and communal development, showcasing a blend of activities that brought together participants of all ages. From the annual Qur'an Competition to the Pre-University Prep Course and various workshops, AFTAB has provided platforms for individuals to deepen their understanding of Islam, build essential life skills, and strengthen community bonds. These initiatives underscore AFTAB's dedication to empowering individuals with both spiritual and practical tools, preparing them to contribute meaningfully to their communities and uphold the values of Islam in all aspects of life, while fostering leadership and faith-based growth throughout the continent.

Qur'an Competition 2024 (QC17)

"This is a blessed Book which We revealed to you, so that they reflect upon its verses, and those with understanding may take heed" (Qur'an 38:29)."

The Africa Federation's 17th Annual Qur'an Competition (QC17) took place from April 12th to 15th, 2024, at the Jaffery Islamic Centre in Mombasa. This event, organized by the Tabligh Board (AFTAB), was a remarkable gathering of 240 participants from Mombasa, Nairobi, Dar es Salaam, Arusha, Mwanza, Moshi, Kampala, Kinshasa, Dubai, and Madagascar.



Event Overview: QC17 was a platform for spiritual growth, showcasing participants' dedication through categories such as Open Recitation, Memorisation (Hifdh), Quiz, and Ma'arifah. The competition highlighted the unity and commitment of participants, their families, and community supporters.

Opening Ceremony: The event began on April 12th with a welcoming address by AFTAB Chairman, Mulla Sajjad Walji, who emphasized the importance of the Qur'an as a guide and noted that attending was a victory in itself.

Participating Jamaats, Trophies and Achievements:
Dar es Salaam: 75 participants, 40 trophies
Mombasa: 48 participants, 26 trophies
Arusha: 41 participants, 21 trophies
Nairobi: 29 participants, 6 trophies
Dubai: 14 participants, 8 trophies
Others: Madagascar, Kampala, Kinshasa, Moshi, Mwanza

Judging Panel: Esteemed scholars, including Sheikh Nuru and Sheikh Ali Rajani, and an all-female panel for ladies' categories, underscored the event's commitment to inclusivity.

Workshops and Community Engagement: Workshops led by Br. Imranali Khaki and Sr. Ismat Khimji provided parents, teachers, and students with engaging methods to deepen Qur'anic learning and foster a "Qur'anic family" atmosphere.



Closing Ceremony: Held on April 15th, the ceremony was attended by AFED Office Bearers, including President Alhajj Amine Nassor, and local leaders. President Nassor lauded QC17 as a premier spiritual initiative, commending participants for their enthusiasm and resilience.

The competition concluded with strengthened bonds and an inspired community committed to exploring the teachings of the Qur'an.

Teachers Skills Program (TSP) in Antananarivo, Madagascar

On April 30th and May 1st, 2024, the Teachers Skills Program (TSP) took place in Antananarivo, Madagascar, led by Br. Hameed Sheriff and co-facilitated by Sis Zishan-e-Fatema Karim. This impactful training brought together 31 Madaris teachers from across Madagascar for a two-day event held in the conference hall of the mosque premises.

Day 1 focused on introspective activities that encouraged teachers to reflect deeply on their teaching roles, fostering a stronger sense of purpose and understanding of their responsibilities. This self-exploration aimed to enrich their connection to their teaching practice.

Day 2 emphasized the importance of strategic lesson planning, guided by TSP's principle, "Scene Guided by the Side for Processes to Unfold." Through engaging discussions and activities, teachers learned to create captivating and effective lesson plans.

Feedback from participants for the program

"This program helped me be more retrospective about myself. It made me look back at my way of teaching and how I could improve my methods."

"Have attended many programs, but none like this one."



On May 12th, 2024, teachers participated in their first online micro-teach session, marking the beginning of an 18-month journey aimed at unlocking their potential to better meet the needs of madrasah students. Participants expressed gratitude to Seyed Aliraza Naqvi and the TSP team, committing to continuous development and thanking Allah (SWT) for this valuable opportunity.

MuslimMarriageGoals Workshop Empowers Youth in Dar es Salaam and Arusha

On July 7, 2024, AFTAB, in collaboration with the Dar es Salaam Jamaat Marriage Committee, hosted a workshop titled "#MuslimMarriageGoals – Finding Your Perfect Islamic Partner" at AFED Towers. The event, facilitated by Sheikh Ali Rajani, attracted over 70 youth and covered key topics: the essence of marriage, qualities to seek in a spouse, and practical steps for selecting a partner.

On August 18, a similar session was held in Arusha, with 30 participants at the Madrasah Hall. Special thanks were given to Alhaj Ali Asgher Kanani for his support.

Participants praised the workshop's interactive format and practical insights:
"A big thank you... May Allah reward you all."

"Very relevant and easy to understand."

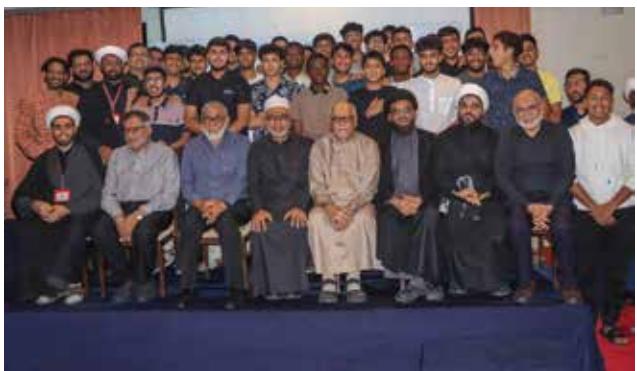
"Interactive and engaging presentation.
The workshop concluded with renewed optimism, encouraging participants to approach marriage grounded in faith and thoughtful decision-making."

Pre-University Prep Course 2024: A Transformative Experience

The Pre-University Prep Course 2024, held from August 3 to August 12 at SeaScape Hotel, Dar es Salaam, marked the third successful year of this transformative initiative by AFTAB, in collaboration with CBG, the Education Board, and AYN. Building on the success of previous years, this year's course brought together 49 students from diverse regions such as Kenya, Tanzania, Dubai, Kampala, and Madagascar, all supported by 19 dedicated mentors. The course continued its mission to equip students with essential academic, spiritual, and life skills, empowering them as they prepare for the transition to university life.

Educational and Spiritual Enrichment: The course featured thought-provoking sessions on topics such as "Understanding the Modern World," "Challenges Faced at University," and "Building a Connection with the Qur'an and Ahlul Bayt." Group discussions were held each night, covering themes like identity, friendships, and Qur'anic perspectives on hijab. The program emphasized balanced living and addressed doubts, fostering a deeper understanding of personal and communal responsibilities.

Skill Development: Practical workshops by the CBG Board on public speaking and personality types enhanced communication skills. The Education Board's career counseling sessions provided clarity on future pathways. Hands-on activities like cooking, stitching, and budgeting helped participants develop essential self-reliance skills for university life.



Spiritual Connection: Jamaat prayers, Dua e Kumail, and special commemorative events, including a majlis for the Shahadat of Imam Hassan (AS), enriched participants' spiritual journeys. Attendees visited the Dar es Salaam Imambargah, deepening their connection to their faith and community.



Recreational Activities: The program balanced learning with fun through activities such as a boys' football tournament, a girls' visit to Hayat Gym, a treasure hunt, and outings to a water park and Pande Game Reserve. The bonfire and BBQ night at Beachcomber Hotel encouraged bonding and teamwork.

Community Engagement: A highlight was the visit by AFED leaders, Chairman Alhajj Amine Nassor and Vice Chairman Alhajj Aunali Khalfan, who inspired participants to maintain their identity and contribute positively to their communities.

The 2024 Pre-University Prep Course left participants with strengthened skills, spiritual growth, and a renewed sense of purpose as future leaders.

AFTAB Scholars and Tabligh Officials Retreat

In January 2025, the Africa Federation Tabligh Board (AFTAB) hosted a meaningful Scholars and Tabligh Officials Retreat at Seaside Hotel in Dar es Salaam. This enriching gathering brought together 23 scholars and Tabligh officials from 11 Jamaats across Africa, creating a space for deep reflection, strategic discussion, and collaborative growth in the field of Tabligh.



The two-day retreat was attended by scholars and representatives from cities such as Arusha, Bujumbura, Dar es Salaam, Kampala, Mombasa, Nairobi, and Zanzibar. The sessions were led by distinguished scholars including Shaykh Muhammad Khalfan, Shaykh Ali Rajani, Shaykh Yassir Rajabali Alidina, and Shaykh Dr. Murtadha Alidina, Head of Islamic Education at The World Federation.

Day 1 featured inspiring conversations on leadership in Tabligh and the evolving nature of religious propagation. Scholars emphasized the spiritual responsibility that comes with the role and the need to remain connected to the community's realities.

Day 2 explored practical strategies for enhancing the reach and effectiveness of Tabligh, including interactive workshops on community engagement, contemporary challenges, and leadership development.

The event concluded with a heartfelt closing ceremony attended by senior leadership such as Alhaj Amine Nassor – Chairman, Africa Federation (AFED), Alhaj Safdar Jaffer – President, The World Federation, Alhaj Aunali Khalfan – Vice Chairman,

Africa Federation (AFED), Alhaji Zuhair Jaffer – Secretary, Africa Federation (AFED), Alhaj Habib Meghjee – Vice President, The World Federation (WF), Alhaj Dr. Kazim Dhalla – Tabligh Board Chair, KSIJ DSM Jamaat & Alhaj Arifali Hirji – COEJ President.



Madrasah Leadership Summit

From January 24th to 26th, 2025, AFTAB hosted the Madrasah Leadership Summit—a transformative three-day program that brought together 33 madrasah leaders and educators from across Africa. Held at Seaside Hotel, the summit created a vibrant space for strategic thinking, visionary leadership, and hands-on learning in Islamic education.



Participants travelled from cities including Antananarivo, Arusha, Dar es Salaam, Kampala, Mauritius, Mombasa, Mwanza, and Nairobi to engage in a series of interactive sessions led by Shaykh Ali Rajani, Br. Hameed Sheriff, Fatema bai Kermalli, Zaheera bai Raza, Zahida bai Chagani, and Shaykh Dr. Murtadha Alidina.

Day 1 encouraged leaders to reflect on their own roles within madrasah institutions, with introspective exercises that challenged them to align their leadership with both purpose and principle.

Day 2 and 3 delved into strategic curriculum planning, innovative teaching methodologies, and collaborative learning models, with a strong focus on activity-based education.

A key highlight of the summit was the Collaborative Challenge Mapping activity, where participants collectively explored real-time issues facing madaris and proposed grounded, actionable solutions.

Participants left with renewed energy, strategic goals, and a deepened commitment to uplifting Islamic education in their communities. The summit was widely regarded as a pivotal step in developing visionary, spiritually connected madrasah leadership across the continent.



Conclusion

AFTAB reflects a year of dedication to education, spirituality, and active engagement, showcasing our commitment to nurturing holistic growth within the community. From enhancing teachers' capabilities in Madagascar to preparing youth for marriage and university life, AFTAB's initiatives have equipped individuals with essential skills while fostering unity and a shared purpose. These programs have inspired introspection, built lifelong connections, and empowered participants to step confidently into roles of leadership and service. By blending tradition with innovation, AFTAB has reinforced the values that guide our mission and vision, creating a stronger, more resilient community. As we look ahead, this year's achievements remind us that with unity and purpose, we are on course to meet our goals and ensure future generations grow with a solid foundation of faith and knowledge.

Africa Federation Launches As-Sirat Scheme for Higher Religious Education - Grant

The Africa Federation Secretariat is pleased to inform of the Launch of The As Sirat Scheme under the AFED Tabligh Board (AFTAB).

This Scheme is primarily to support our youth (boys and girls) from the constituent Jamaats of the Federation of KSI Jamaats of Africa (AFED) who consciously and sincerely desire to pursue Islamic Higher Education in order to acquire knowledge and better understanding of the Religion of Islam and the Madh'ab of Ahlulbayt ('A).

We encourage youths who possess the required basic secular education, preferably 'A' levels education to seek Higher Islamic Education by means of full-time studies in recognized and reputable institutions as recommended by AFTAB.

The grant shall be provided to the deserving candidates who meet the criteria set by AFTAB and will be for a maximum period of 7 years. The amount of grant shall not exceed US\$2,500 per annum.

The successful candidates on completion of their studies will be expected to provide services to their constituent Jamaat of origin or in another Jamaat under AFED, as shall be determined by AFTAB where there exists a need.

Interested candidates are required to contact the AFTAB Secretariat through their Email aftab@africafederation.org for more details.

APPLICATION LINK: africafederation.org/as-sirat-scheme

EASY REGISTRATION: Sign up effortlessly through our link.

PERSONALIZED GUIDANCE: Get expert help with your application process.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT: Explore sponsorship opportunities with the As-Sirat Scheme

REQUIREMENTS:

- “A” Levels or equivalent education qualifications
- High level of intelligence and attention to detail
- Genuine passion towards the field of studies
- Resilience to self-learning and development
- Strong commitment to the program

The Appointment of Africa Federation Tabligh Board (AFTAB) Madrasah Core Team

The Africa Federation Tabligh Board (AFTAB) is pleased to announce the appointment of the Madrasah Core Team, a dedicated group of individuals committed to strengthening and advancing Islamic education within our community. This dynamic team brings together a wealth of knowledge, experience, and passion for nurturing the next generation through excellence in Madrasah education.

Meet the AFTAB Madrasah Core Team:

Hameed Yusuf Sheriff (Arusha, Tanzania)



An experienced educator and administrator, Hameed Yusuf Sheriff serves as the Head of Madrasah under AFTAB and has been a Facilitator for the Teachers Skills Program (TSP) under The World Federation (WF) since 2016, and was appointed Lead Facilitator in 2021. With extensive experience in teacher training and madrasah leadership, he remains committed to enhancing Islamic education standards.

Maulana Syed Sikandar Kazim Taqvi (Mombasa, Kenya)



With a PhD in Islamic Family Jurisprudence from MIU, Qom, Maulana Syed Sikandar Kazim Taqvi serves as the Resident Alim of KSIJ Mombasa and the Principal of Husayni Madrasah, Mombasa. He has extensive experience in teaching, counseling, and Islamic research, having held leadership roles in various educational and community institutions. Fluent in multiple languages, he has been instrumental in bridging Islamic scholarship with practical community engagement.

Shaykh Muhammad Kamran (Dar es Salaam, Tanzania)



Shaykh Muhammad Kamran is the Principal of Husayni Madrasah in Dar es Salaam and a lecturer at the ladies' hawzah, Madrasatuz Zahra (MAZ). A dedicated scholar since 2012, he studied at the Islamic Seminary in Qum, specializing in Fiqh and Usool. His unique combination of religious expertise and professional accounting expertise allows him to approach modern challenges with balance and practicality. He is also actively involved in community outreach and student mentorship.

FazleAbbas Chandoo (Nairobi, Kenya)



A long-serving educator, FazleAbbas Chandoo began his Madrasah teaching journey in Tanga in 1983. He has taught in Mombasa and Nairobi and currently leads Haydari Madrasah in Nairobi. A Curriculum Trainer for MCE, he has also served as Hon. Secretary of Africa Federation, Vice Chairman of Nairobi Jamaat, and Vice Chairman of Nairobi Jaffery Education Board. With an MBA from the University of Sunderland, he runs an ICT solutions company, merging technology with education and community service.

Dr. Ghazi Ali Raza (Kampala, Uganda)



A medical doctor currently pursuing a Master's in Public Health, Dr. Ghazi Ali Raza is deeply passionate about education and community development. He has been a Madrasah teacher and administrator for over a decade, guiding the boys' section above age 12 in Kampala. His leadership roles include serving as Youth Chairman and leading the digital transformation of Bilal School. Beyond education, he plays an active role in sports and community well-being.

Objectives of the AFTAB Madrasah Core Team:

Strengthen Madrasah structures across Jamaats in Africa Mainland and Territorial Councils

Support Madaris in curriculum development, teacher training, and student engagement.

Foster collaboration among Madaris to create a unified approach to Islamic learning.

Encourage innovation by integrating technology and modern methodologies into Islamic education.

Ensure a holistic approach to nurturing students, focusing on spiritual, intellectual, and moral development.

Message from the Chairman of AFTAB, Alhaj Mulla Sajjad Walji

"At AFTAB, one of our core objectives is to elevate the standards of Madrasah education across Africa. Our children are the future, and they deserve to be nurtured through the most effective teaching methodologies that foster both spiritual and intellectual growth."

With the appointment of this dedicated and dynamic team—rich in knowledge, expertise, and experience—we are confident in our ability to strengthen madaris and enhance the quality of Islamic education. Together, we will work towards shaping a future where our children receive the highest standards of learning and guidance."

AFTAB is confident that this team's expertise and dedication will bring a positive impact to Madaris across Africa, fostering a generation of well-educated and spiritually enriched individuals.

We extend our heartfelt congratulations to the newly appointed team and look forward to their contributions in shaping the future of Islamic education in our communities.

Appointment of Africa Federation Tabligh Board (AFTAB) Guidance Council

The Africa Federation Tabligh Board (AFTAB) is a Board under the Federation of KSI Jamaats of Africa (AFED) whose main responsibility is for "Internal Tabligh" to work within the Khoja Shia Ithna-Asheri community; for monitoring and encouraging the promotion of the doctrines of the Shia Ithna Asheri faith tending to the improvement and spiritual upliftment of its members, providing guidance on matters concerning religion, promoting awareness in all the constituent Jamaats under AFED in a conducive environment. To facilitate this process, AFTAB has appointed an esteemed "Guidance Council".

The Panel is made up of scholars who are based in East Africa and Abroad, and have the following responsibilities:

To prepare guidance papers on relevant issues and programs, which will guide protocol and systems.

To provide guidance on certain matters raised by AFTAB for consultation.

To manage certain projects under the auspices of AFTAB, such as the As-Siraat Scheme (Higher Religious Education) and the Pre-University Course.

To supervise certain projects that fall under AFTAB, as and when required.

The panel has six esteemed scholars, namely:

1. Sheikh Muhammad Khalfan
2. Sheikh Safdar Razi
3. Sheikh Muhammad Kamran
4. Sheikh Mustafa Mukhtar
5. Sheikh Ali Rajani
6. Sheikh Yassir Rajabali

Sheikh Muhammad Khalfan



Sheikh Muhammad Khalfan, born in Mombasa, Kenya, has dedicated his life to the study, teaching, and dissemination of Islamic knowledge. His academic journey began after completing his secondary education, when he moved to Qum to pursue a Bachelor's degree in Islamic Studies. This foundational education set the stage for a distinguished career in both academic and community service.

Following his undergraduate studies, Sheikh Khalfan engaged in extensive tabligh activities for over a

decade, contributing to various Islamic outreach and educational efforts. His commitment to furthering his knowledge led him back to Qum, where he pursued a Master's degree and is currently working towards a Ph.D. in Islamic Mysticism at the University of Religions and Denominations.

Sheikh Khalfan's professional career spans a range of significant roles in Islamic education and community service. He has served as a tutor at Al-Muntazir Islamic Seminary in Dar-es-Salam, Tanzania, and as the Director of Hawzat al-Muntazar (aj) in Antananarivo, Madagascar. In Mombasa, he was the Head of Islamic Religious Education at Jaffery Academy and later led the Middle Eastern Section at the Islamic Institute for Post Graduate Studies in Damascus. Presently, he manages the al-Imam al-Sajjad (a) Foundation in Qum, continuing his commitment to Islamic scholarship and community engagement.

His scholarly contributions are notable, with several published works that reflect his deep engagement with Islamic thought. These include: *Soaring to the Only Beloved* (2001), *Manifestations of the All-Merciful* (vol. 1: 2002; vol. 2: 2004), *The Divine Invitation* (2004), *The Sacred Effusion* (vol. 1: 2009; vol. 2: 2013), *Seeking Light* (2014), *Seeking Elevation* (2015), *Prescriptions for Physicians* (2017), and *The Tablet of Fatima ('a)* (2018).

Sheikh Muhammad Khalfan's extensive experience in Islamic scholarship and his dedication to serving the community highlight his significant contributions to the field of Islamic studies and education.

Sheikh Safdar Razi



Sheikh Safdar Razi, born on November 14, 1964, in Karachi, Pakistan, is a distinguished scholar in advanced Islamic studies with a comprehensive background in both religious and secular education.

His academic journey began with a B.Sc. in Zoology and Chemistry from the University of Qatar in 1988, followed by various certifications in respiratory therapy. His diverse educational path reflects a commitment to both scientific and religious disciplines.

In 2005, Sheikh Safdar completed his B.A. in Islamic Law from the International College for Islamic Studies (ICIS) in London, UK. He furthered his studies with a Post Graduate Diploma in Advanced Islamic Studies from the Islamic College for Advanced Studies (ICAS) in London in 2006. Currently, he is pursuing a Ph.D. in Advanced Islamic Studies at Al Qaeem Institute.

Sheikh Safdar has held numerous significant roles in Islamic education and community service. Since 2003, he has been the Founder, Director, Instructor, and Academic Advisor at Al Qaeem Institute, where he leads advanced Islamic education both online and on-campus. His extensive experience includes serving as an Imam and religious guide in various international communities, including the Tabligh Committee of Khoja Shia Ithna-Asheri Jamaat in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania; the IILM Center in Dallas, Texas; and the Imam Mahdi Association of Marjaeya (IMAM) in Dearborn, Michigan.

His previous roles also include being a resident scholar and religious guide in Doha, Qatar, where he served multiple mosques and educational centers, and a lecturer at The Awaited One Foundation in Dearborn, MI, USA. In his current role at the al-Imam al-Sajjad (a) Foundation in Qum, he continues to engage in Islamic scholarship and community activities.

His linguistic skills are exceptional, with fluency in Arabic, English, Urdu, and Gujarati. He has taught advanced Islamic and Arabic studies in multiple languages, including English and Arabic, and has developed extensive curricula for Al Qaeem Institute.

Sheikh Safdar Razi's distinguished career is marked by his dedication to advancing Islamic education, his impactful community service, and his contributions to interfaith understanding. His work continues to shape and enrich the Islamic scholarly community globally.

Sheikh Muhammad Kamran



Sheikh Muhammad Kamran is the esteemed principal of Husayni Madrasah in Dar es Salaam, where he leads with a vision to promote both academic excellence and spiritual growth. His leadership extends beyond the educational and administrative aspects of the institution, as he actively engages with students, parents, and the wider community to nurture well-rounded individuals grounded in Islamic values.

In addition to his administrative duties, Sheikh Kamran serves as a lecturer at Madrasatuz Zahra (MAZ), a ladies' Hawza in Dar es Salaam. He teaches advanced Islamic studies, including Islamic Family Laws, Mafahim al-Quran, Life After Death, and Arabic Morphology, providing his students with a deep understanding of Islamic jurisprudence, theology,

and the practical application of Islamic teachings in daily life.

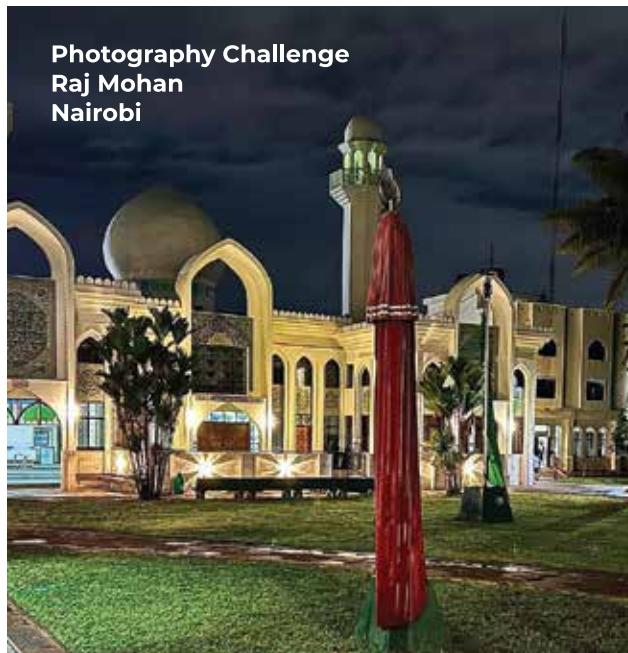
A dedicated scholar since 2012, Sheikh Kamran pursued his studies at the prestigious Islamic Seminary in Qum, Iran, earning both his Bachelor's and Master's degrees with a specialization in Fiqh (Jurisprudence) and Usool (Principles of Jurisprudence).

Complementing his religious scholarship is his professional experience as a Chief Accountant in the corporate sector. This unique combination enables Sheikh Kamran to approach modern-day issues with a balanced and practical perspective. He has also completed a professional course in Marital and Family Mediation, using his expertise to help families navigate and resolve conflicts with empathy and insight, guided by Islamic principles.

As an active Muballigh, Sheikh Kamran is a compelling voice from the Mimbar, delivering impactful lectures. He is also a respected member of the Question and Answer Panel of Ulama, providing clear and succinct responses to inquiries on Fiqh and Aqaid.

Beyond his formal roles, Sheikh Kamran is deeply committed to community service. He mentors students in the Hifdh Quran Program at ASK and regularly delivers lectures at the Al-Itrah Foundation, engaging with the youth and the broader African Muslim community on a wide range of relevant topics. Through his contributions to the Friday Community Forum, he writes articles on Islamic issues, enriching the spiritual and intellectual life of the community.

In his personal time, Sheikh Kamran enjoys playing cricket—a sport that keeps him active and connected with others. He also has a unique hobby of reading books while walking, blending his love for knowledge with a reflective and dynamic practice.



Photography Challenge

Raj Mohan

Nairobi

Sheikh Mustafa Mukhtar



Sheikh Mustafa Mukhtar is a distinguished PhD candidate specializing in Quranic Studies, Tafseer, and Ma'arif. Currently advancing his research and scholarship, Sheikh Mustafa's academic journey is built upon a solid foundation in Islamic education, beginning with his primary and secondary education at Jaffery Academy in Arusha and extending through his advanced studies at Al Muntazir Islamic Seminary in Dar es Salaam.

With extensive professional experience, Sheikh Mustafa has served as a resident scholar for both Arusha and Dar es Salaam Jamaats. In Dar es Salaam, he has made significant contributions as a teacher at Madrasah Al Zahra, where he has been instrumental in reviewing the Madrasah syllabus, training teachers, and developing various educational courses. His expertise extends beyond the classroom, having been a prominent presenter on IRIB English Radio for over a decade.

In addition to his teaching and media roles, Sheikh Mustafa is actively involved in research and publications with the Bab-al-Ridha Institute. He also plays a key role in the Khatamul Anbiyaa Institute's management committee, where he focuses on Tabligh activities aimed at enhancing Islamic outreach among indigenous communities in Tanzania.

Driven by a commitment to propagate authentic Islamic teachings, Sheikh Mustafa Mukhtar seeks to blend academic scholarship, community engagement, and media influence to further the understanding and practice of Islam.

Sheikh Ali Rajani



Sheikh Ali Rajani, born and raised in Dubai, has dedicated his life to the study and dissemination of Islamic theology and Shiatology. His educational journey began at Jumeirah College, where he completed his GCSEs in 2011. Driven by a passion for deeper religious understanding, Sheikh Ali moved to Qom in 2012 to immerse himself in Islamic studies.

In Qom, he initially focused on learning Farsi and foundational Islamic studies. He then enrolled at Imam Khomeini Specialized University, where he engaged in a rigorous curriculum covering Arabic syntax, logic, theology, and more. His academic path took a decisive turn in 2017 when he completed his bachelor's degree in Shiatology.

Following his undergraduate studies, Sheikh Ali pursued a course in Arabic speaking to enhance his linguistic proficiency. His quest for knowledge continued with a Master's degree in 'Understanding the Ahlul Bayt,' which he completed in 2023. His thesis, 'Ahlul Bayt in the Qur'an,' reflects his deep engagement with the subject matter and his commitment to scholarly excellence.

Currently, Sheikh Ali is working towards his Ph.D. in Islamic theology, with a focus on advanced topics in the field. His academic pursuits are complemented by his studies in the traditional Hawza system, where he has completed major studies up to the Dars Kharij level. Since early 2020, he has been studying Dars Kharij, delving into advanced discussions in fiqh, usul, theology, philosophy, and new theology.

Beyond his academic achievements, Sheikh Ali is deeply committed to spreading the teachings of Islam. He has actively engaged with various community groups to share and promote Islamic knowledge, fulfilling what he sees as a crucial responsibility in his life.

Sheikh Ali Rajani's blend of rigorous academic training, traditional studies, and community engagement highlights his dedication to both scholarly and practical aspects of Islamic theology.

Sheikh Yassir Rajabali



Sheikh Yassir Rajabali Alidina, is a multifaceted scholar and educator with a diverse background and a rich blend of academic and practical experiences. Originally from Burundi, he completed his schooling in the UK before pursuing higher education in neuroscience at King's College. After completing his Bachelor's degree, he moved to the Hawzah of Qum, where he has been studying Islamic sciences for the last 11 years, focusing on a broad range of disciplines including Aqaid, Akhlaq and spirituality, logic and philosophy, Fiqh and Usul, Tafsir, family life, and life skills. His time at the Hawzah also includes teaching practical logic and training Hawzah students in various tabligh skills.

Sheikh Yassir has a robust record of teaching and community engagement. He conducts seminars and workshops on various topics in both English and French-speaking communities, as well as online. His project management skills and leadership experience are evident through his involvement in various projects, including his role in organizing and mentoring in educational courses such as Bab al-Ridha (BRisc) and QSC, as well as short courses and camps in various jamaats. Sheikh also gives time for one-on-one counseling to youths as well as married couples. Sheikh Yassir has a notable commitment to youth engagement, involving discussion circles, counseling, and recreational activities like sports and games.

His media presence includes hosting and participating in radio shows and podcasts, where he often discusses various subjects related to Islamic thought and community issues. Sheikh Yassir has gained experience in building and managing a studio, video editing, website management, photography, and videography. His creative pursuits include writing blogs, articles, and scripts, as well as designing games and stories.

Outside his professional and academic endeavours, Sheikh Yassir enjoys a range of hobbies including football, badminton, paddle, swimming, and FIFA. He has a passion for camping, hiking, nature walks, and comedy, which reflect his diverse interests and commitment to a well-rounded lifestyle.

Sheikh Yassir Rajabali Alidina's unique blend of a scientific background, Islamic scholarship, and creative talents positions him as a dynamic and influential figure in both educational and community spheres. If you wish to access his online content, you may follow him on Instagram @yassir.alidina

Message from the Chairman of Africa Federation, Alhaj Amine Nassor



"It is my pleasure to extend warm welcome the Guidance Council made up of respected learned scholars from our community to assist AFTAB in some Tabligh activities and programs; likewise, in sharing of best practices to ensure the smooth functioning, and delivery of these activities and programs. It is a strong belief of the AFED office bearers and myself that the Guidance Council will Insha'Allah provide valuable insight to the AFTAB in various sectors for developments including the

As-Siraat Scheme for higher religious studies which Africa Federation launched few years ago, this Scheme needs renewed impetus to attract the Khoja Shia Ithna-Asheri students from our member Jamaats in Africa to register and pursue higher religious education.

Considering the changing phenomenon in ethical practices, beliefs etc. the role of the Guidance Council becomes even more critical in the light of these challenges. My colleagues and I, are very grateful to the dedicated learned scholars who have kindly agreed to assist AFTAB, indeed this is a great service not only to the AFTAB but also to Islam and the Madh'ab of Ahlulbayt ('a). The rewards of good doers are with Allah (SWT) and we pray to Him to grant the esteemed scholars more Tawfeeqat, success and long healthy life to enable them to carry out the noble services effectively. Aameen".

Thanking you,
With Salaams and Duas,
Amine Goulamaly Nassor



ARCHIVES

Panjo Uganda Talk Show

The Panjo Uganda Talk Show, held on September 28th, 2023, in Kampala, Uganda, was a historical event hosted by the Africa Federation Archives Section. This event aimed to shed light on the experiences of the Ugandan Khoja community, particularly their challenges and resilience through the years, including their expulsion in 1972. Moderated by Br. Alihassan Kassam, the event featured prominent panelists including Alhaj Riaz Datoo, Shahida Bai Alibhai, Alhaj Shabir Najafi, Dr. Asgarali Moledina, Dr. Mumtaz Kassam, and Alhaj Sibtain Merchant, who shared their personal narratives and insights.

Moderated by Br. Alihassan Kassam, the talk show began with the recitation of Qur'anic verses by Dr. Abbasaley Abbas, highlighting the importance of preserving history for future generations. The Chairman of the Africa Federation, Alhaj Amine Nassor, also addressed the audience, appreciating the efforts to safeguard community history.

The panelists shared their personal stories, traversing the pre-exodus era, the expulsion, and post-exodus life. Alhaj Riaz Datoo discussed the dynamic period in Uganda before the expulsion, emphasizing how nationalization policies changed the socio-economic landscape. Shahida Bai Alibhai provided a powerful recount of the harrowing events following Idi Amin's takeover, depicting the insecurity, fear, and forced displacement of the Khoja community.

Alhaj Shabir Najafi offered insights into how the Khoja diaspora, dispersed across the world, rebuilt their lives and institutions, especially in places like Peterborough and the U.S., while adapting to new cultures. Dr. Asgarali Moledina and Dr. Mumtaz Kassam played significant roles in the repossession of Khoja properties in Uganda after the expulsion. Their efforts helped reestablish the community's presence in the country. Finally, Alhaj Sibtain Merchant, the current Kampala Jamaat chairman, discussed contemporary business opportunities in Uganda and the thriving Khoja community today.

The Panjo Uganda Talk Show served as a reflection on the resilience of the Khoja community, their unity in the face of hardship, and their ability to rebuild and thrive across the globe. The show was a valuable opportunity to preserve and share the rich history of the Ugandan Khoja community for future generations.

Storytelling Session

On November 24, 2023, a storytelling session was organized at AFED Tower, engaging boys aged 7 to 10 and girls aged 7 and above in an immersive exploration of the Khoja community's rich heritage. This event was part of the series leading up to Khoja Heritage Day and was designed to inspire younger generations to appreciate the history of their

community. Facilitated by Sr. Aamina Bhimani from the Hidayat Workshop Team, the storytelling session transported children into the adventurous journey of the Khoja Shia Ithna Asheri community, focusing on their migration from Cutch and Kathiawad in India to East Africa.

The session highlighted key historical figures such as Haji Dewji Jamal, whose leadership and transformative journey to Karbala in 1873 played a pivotal role in shaping the community's destiny. The stories of Haji Abdallah Kanji, a successful businessman who contributed to building the Alibhai Panju School in Kenya, and Haji Sachedina Pirani Mawji, whose humility and dedication made a lasting impact in Dar es Salaam, were also shared.

In addition to the storytelling, the event featured engaging hands-on activities, such as a family tree exercise where children traced their lineage, and a treasure hunt that connected them with the tangible aspects of their heritage. The session concluded with a sampling of traditional Khoja cuisine, further enriching the cultural experience and providing the young participants with a sensory connection to their roots. Events like this ensure that the values, traditions, and history of the Khoja community remain preserved and cherished by future generations.

Khoja Heritage Day

The Khoja Heritage Day, held on December 2, 2023, at AFED Tower, was a tribute to the rich legacy of the Khoja community in Africa. Organized by the AFED Archives Section, the event brought together AFED Chairman Alhaj Amine Nassor, board members, and community leaders to celebrate and preserve the community's history. The program focused on the importance of understanding heritage, connecting the younger generation to their roots, and maintaining the values passed down by ancestors.



The event featured three keynote speeches by prominent figures: Alhaj Amine Nassor spoke on the "Importance of Preserving Our Heritage and History," Dr. Hasnain Walji discussed "Early Khoja History and Migration," and Alhaj Raza Ali Hiridjee shared insights on "Early Khoja History in Madagascar and Marhum Ebrahim Sheriff's Visit." Their addresses highlighted key historical figures, migration stories, and the challenges faced by early Khoja settlers. These talks underscored the community's resilience, emphasizing the significance of preserving linguistic and cultural heritage, especially the importance of Gujarati and Kutchi.

A captivating skit brought to life the narrative of early Khoja migration, weaving together the stories of notable personalities such as Mulla Qadir, Ayatullah Mazandarani, Haji Dewji Jamal, and Haji Naji. This dramatization provided an immersive and educational experience, allowing the attendees to connect with the rich legacy of these historical figures. The storytelling, enriched by the inclusion of these prominent names, bridged generations and added depth to the cultural and historical significance of the event.

Other highlights included a documentary chronicling Khoja migration to East Africa, portraying the struggles and achievements of pioneers like Dhanji Bhai Dukawalla. The presentation of the 14 AFED Chairmen by children further added a delightful dimension, honoring the contributions of community leaders. The program concluded with qasida recitations and a closing address by Dr. Abbasaley Abbas, emphasizing the need for continuous efforts to bridge the gap between the community's history and its future.

INTERVIEW WITH ALHAJ SAJJAD RASHID - THE SOMALIA RESCUE MISSION 1991



In the interview titled *A Voyage by Sea - The Somalia Rescue Mission 1991*, organized by the AFED Archives Section and moderated by Br. Alihassan Kassam, Alhaj Sajjad Rashid shared the extraordinary narrative of this mission during the 1991 Somali civil unrest. He recounted how he led a perilous evacuation with a group of similar fearless, dauntless volunteers, saving over 1,200 individuals, primarily women and children, from the escalating violence in Somalia. This remarkable mission, which involved chartering a ship under challenging circumstances, stands as a testament to community resilience and unity.

Throughout the discussion, Alhaj Sajjad Rashid articulated his profound moral responsibility to protect his community amidst imminent threats. His determination catalyzed a meticulously coordinated rescue operation, characterized by significant fundraising and collaboration with community leaders. The interview also addressed the emotional and logistical challenges he encountered, including fuel shortages and communication barriers, all while carrying the weight of responsibility for those he sought to rescue.

The event was further enhanced by the presence of AFED Chairman Alhaj Amine Nassor and AFED Vice Chairman Alhaj Aunali Khalfan, who expressed deep appreciation for Sajjadbhai's heroic efforts. Amine bhai remarked on Sajjadbhai's consistent readiness to assist the community, emphasizing that he has always been at the forefront during crises. He also acknowledged his major contributions to the Yemen Rescue Mission, reinforcing his position as a beacon of hope in times of uncertainty.



The interview illuminated several key lessons from Sajjadbhai's experience, particularly the importance of swift decision-making and community solidarity in overcoming adversity. Sajjadbhai highlighted the necessity of meticulous planning and resource management, which were crucial for the mission's success.

This compelling interview not only vividly recounted the Somalia Rescue Mission but also offered timeless insights into crisis management and leadership, inspiring all who heard the remarkable story of courage and resilience.

LEADING WITH VISION | DR. MOHAMED HUSSEIN JAFFER

In an interview conducted by AFED Archives Section and moderated by Br. Alihassan Kassam, Dr. Muhammad Jaffer shared the entrepreneurial legacy of his family and the values that have shaped their journey. He began by discussing the historical importance of his lineage, tracing his ancestry to Dewji Jamal, a prominent figure in establishing the Khoja Shia community in East Africa. Dr. Jaffer highlighted how early pioneers like Dewji Jamal contributed to community prosperity through strategic business ventures that connected East Africa with India.

Reflecting on his own entrepreneurial journey, Dr. Jaffer discussed both successes and lessons learned from failures. A key moment in his life was his pilgrimage to Hajj, which profoundly shifted his perspective on success, humility, and the importance of maintaining integrity in business. This transformation, he explained, helped him prioritize moral values in both his personal and professional life.



The interview also focused on Dr. Jaffer's commitment to community service. He shared his leadership role in establishing local healthcare initiatives, such as the Jaffrey clinic, which plays a vital role in supporting the well-being of the community. His humanitarian efforts extended beyond local borders, as he has been involved in crisis relief efforts in countries like Yemen and Somalia, further showcasing his dedication to helping vulnerable populations.



Dr. Jaffer stressed the importance of mentorship and involving future generations in community efforts. He encouraged parents to be vigilant in guiding their children through financial and social challenges while fostering a strong connection to

their cultural heritage. He also emphasized the potential for growth within the Africa Federation and the importance of collective action to support its long-term sustainability.

The interview concluded with heartfelt acknowledgments from Amine Nassor and Aunali Khalfan, who praised Dr. Jaffer's remarkable contributions to the community. They recognized his role as the founder of the Jaffery Islamic Centres, which include a mosque, sports pavilion, and housing facilities, and expressed their gratitude for his dedication to preserving the legacy of his forefathers. They wished him continued success in his ongoing efforts to serve the community.

Khoja Heritage Program - Honoring Culture Through Art and Language

The Khoja Heritage Day 2024 highlighted the richness of Khoja culture and history through two remarkable programs held in Dar es Salaam. Organized by the Africa Federation Archives Section in collaboration with the Khoja Shia Ithna-Asheri Jamaat of Dar es Salaam, these events emphasized the importance of art and language as key pillars of heritage preservation and community identity.

Khoja Heritage Day Through Art and Creativity:

Heritage serves as a bridge connecting us to our past, shaping our identity, and enriching our future. On Saturday, 2nd November 2024, the Khoja Heritage Day Through Art program was held at Mehfil Abbas ('A), bringing cultural roots to life through an engaging art activity for children aged between 7–12 years.



Facilitated by the Hidayat Workshop Team and Strokes TZ, the program encouraged children to paint vibrant canvases that artistically depicted the origins and journey of the Khoja community. This creative endeavor not only nurtured artistic talents but also deepened their appreciation for their cultural legacy.

Adding an educational element, Sister Amena Bhimani and her team curated a captivating mini-exhibit on Khoja history. With thoughtfully designed displays and engaging explanations, the exhibit inspired curiosity and meaningful discussions among the children about the heritage.

The event also included moments of light-heartedness, such as a photobooth where participants captured joyful memories, and refreshments that fostered a sense of camaraderie. These thoughtful touches made the day both meaningful and enjoyable for all involved.



Khoja Heritage Day Through Art exemplified the dedication of the Africa Federation and the Dar es Salaam Jamaat to preserving and promoting cultural heritage. By creatively engaging the younger generation, the event highlighted the importance of instilling a sense of pride and belonging, ensuring that our heritage remains vibrant and relevant for generations to come.



Khoja Heritage Program - Illuminating the Significance of Mother Tongue and Legacy

Language, as the lifeblood of culture, weaves generations together, carrying with it the values, faith, and resilience that have defined the Khoja journey across centuries. It is through language that traditions are preserved, identities are nurtured, and legacies are passed down. With this spirit, the Khoja Heritage Program was organized on 17th November 2024 at the KSIJ Imambarga in Dar es Salaam.



The program, open to both ladies and gents, emphasized the importance of preserving the Gujarati language as a mother tongue. Br. Mohamedabbas Muhammad, as the master of ceremonies, ensured a warm and welcoming atmosphere. The event commenced with a soulful Qur'anic recitation, followed by the captivating Pratham Ali in Gujarati—a traditional recitation deeply rooted in Khoja heritage. This rendition honors the Holy Imams and reflects the intertwining of the community's faith and language over generations.

The highlight of the event was a thought-provoking panel discussion on the theme "Our Mother Tongue" moderated by Br. Alihassan Kassam. The session featured esteemed panelists, including Alhaj Mustafa Fazal, who gave the opening address, Dr. Amir Lakha (joined virtually), Br. Abbas Somji, and the LMC Chairlady Fatim Bai Somji.

Alhaj Mustafa Fazal highlighted the critical role of Gujarati in uniting the Khoja community, cautioning that its decline threatens unity and intergenerational ties. Panelists emphasized its significance in shaping identity and urged parents to nurture a love for the language in their children, fostering cultural pride, stronger generational bonds, and the survival of shared heritage.



The program also included a video documentary, Migration of the Khojas, which traced the community's journey from India to East Africa, showcasing resilience amidst challenges. The documentary stirred emotions and sparked renewed pride in the audience.

The evening concluded with heartfelt remarks from Zainul Bhai Chandoo, Treasurer of Africa Federation, stressing the need for collective efforts to preserve Khoja heritage for future generations. Alhaj Mohamedraza Dewji, President of KSIJ Dar Jamaat, delivered an inspiring message on upholding our mother tongue and cultural roots, followed by a vote of thanks from Honorary Secretary Alhaj Hasnain Sherli.

Attendees then enjoyed traditional chana batata and chai, fostering a warm and communal atmosphere that reflected the event's themes of heritage and unity.

The Khoja Heritage Programs

The Khoja Heritage Programs were a poignant reminder of the community's enduring legacy, the beauty of its language, and the resilience of its heritage. It reaffirmed a shared commitment to preserving these treasures for generations to come. One important factor which emerged repeatedly during the program was on the unity within our community has been the mainstay to steer our community through various challenges and tribulations, the emphasis shall therefore always be on unity – as the late Murrabbi Alhaj Ebrahim Sheriff Dewji, the past Chairman of the Africa Federation had a slogan, which echoes till today - "Ek Bano Nek Bano" - એક બનો નેક બનો.

The Africa Federation Archives Section extends its deep gratitude to the Khoja Shia Ithna-Asheri Jamaat of Dar es Salaam for their invaluable collaboration in hosting jointly the Khoja Heritage Day programs. We look forward for similar collaborations in the future, Insha'allah.

We sincerely appreciate the unwavering support of the Africa Federation Office Bearers and the Secretariat for their encouragement and cooperation, which were pivotal in ensuring the success of these events.

Our special thanks go to the Hidayat Workshop Team for the engaging art activity and insightful display on Khoja history. Finally, we acknowledge the dedication of the volunteers and the participants, whose collective efforts made these programs a meaningful reminder of our cherished heritage. Together, we strive to preserve and cherish the enduring heritage of our forebears for future generations.

"Gujarati and the Khojas: A Story of Identity & Survival"

The Africa Federation Archives Section, in collaboration with the Khoja Heritage Project and The Community on Friday, successfully hosted an enriching program, "Gujarati and the Khojas: A Story of Identity & Survival", on the 9th of January 2025 at AFED Tower. The event highlighted the central role of Gujarati language in preserving the cultural and heritage identity of the Khoja community, fostering unity across generations, and addressing challenges to its continuity amidst diversity and globalization.

The event commenced with a reflective Qur'anic insight delivered by Dr. Abbasaley Abbas, Sectional Secretary of the AFED Archives Section.

Drawing inspiration from Chapter 49, Verse 13 of the Holy Qur'an — "O mankind, indeed We have created you from male and female and made you peoples and tribes that you may know one another. Indeed, the most noble of you in the sight of Allah is the most righteous of you. Indeed, Allah is Knowing and Acquainted." — Dr. Abbasaley underscored the divine wisdom behind the diversity of languages and cultures. He emphasized the pivotal role of language in fostering mutual understanding, strengthening

community bonds, and preserving identity, tying it beautifully to the importance of safeguarding heritage for future generations.

Alhaj Mohamedarif Suleman, Founder and Moderator of The Community on Friday (TCOF) then engaged attendees with an interactive quiz on Gujarati terminologies. This activity not only enlightened participants about the richness of the language but also highlighted the joy of reconnecting with one's linguistic roots, emphasizing the importance of retaining fluency in Gujarati for future generations.



The centrepiece of the evening was an insightful talk by Dr. Hasnain Walji, who traced the historical journey of Gujarati within the Khoja community. Through compelling examples, he demonstrated how the language has been a vital thread weaving together; traditions, moral teachings, and liturgy. Dr. Walji also explored innovative solutions to reinvigorate the use of Gujarati, such as integrating education, technology, and community initiatives.



The program concluded with a vote of thanks from Alhaj Aunali Khalfan, Vice-Chairman of Africa Federation. He expressed heartfelt gratitude on behalf of Africa Federation to Dr. Hasnain Walji and presented him with a token of appreciation for his invaluable contributions towards the heritage and language during the evening program. Alhaj Aunali Khalfan requested Alhaj Sajjad Jusab, Vice President of Dar es Salaam Jamaat, to do the honors to present the token. The atmosphere of camaraderie and reflection continued over dinner, where attendees enjoyed the warmth of fellowship that resonated with the event's theme of heritage and unity.



Alhaj Sajjad Jusab presenting Dr. Hasnain Walji with a token of Appreciation from Africa Federation.
Onlooking is Alhaj Aunali Khalfan – Vice Chairman of AFED

The Africa Federation Archives Team extends its deepest gratitude to the Khoja Heritage Project and The Community on Friday for their collaboration. Special thanks are also due to the Africa Federation Office Bearers and Secretariat for their unwavering encouragement and support in organizing this meaningful event. Collectively, these efforts have reignited a passion for preserving Gujarati as a living heritage, inspiring the Khoja community to continue celebrating its linguistic and cultural identity.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to all the attendees whose presence and enthusiasm made this gathering truly memorable. "Your active participation and shared passion for our heritage have greatly contributed to the success of this initiative, reinforcing the importance of preserving Gujarati as a living legacy. Together, we celebrate our linguistic and cultural identity, inspiring the Khoja community to keep this rich heritage alive for generations to come", said the Vice Chairman of Africa Federation.



Photography Challenge
Zain Raza
Dar es salaam



AYN

AYN Youth Conference 2023: Empowering Tomorrow's Leaders

The Africa Federation Youth Network (AYN) successfully hosted the 2023 Youth Conference in Arusha, Tanzania, offering a dynamic platform for young leaders to engage in insightful discussions and forge collaborative relationships. The event, held from 8:30 AM to 8:00 PM daily at the Corridor Springs Hotel, brought together young participants and expert facilitators in an inspiring environment aimed at fostering leadership, self-awareness, and community development. This marked a milestone for AYN as the first youth conference under its current leadership, setting a high standard for future initiatives.

Facilitators and Topics: The conference benefitted from the expertise of distinguished facilitators, each a leader in their respective fields. The topics were wide-ranging, covering essential aspects of youth empowerment:

Religion by Sheikh Ali Rajani
Economics by Mohammad Hussein Rashid and Miqdaad Remtullah
Mental Health by Dr. Imran Versi
Sports by Alihassan Kassam
Lifestyle by Tayyiba Sheriff
Education by Sukaina Khatau

The diverse range of topics ensured that participants were exposed to holistic development approaches. The involvement of these facilitators added immense value, creating a rich learning environment focused on intellectual and personal growth.

Conference Structure: The three-day event started with Qur'an recitations and commemorations for Imam Hussain (A). Each day was filled with moderated discussions, where participants split into groups to explore critical issues affecting youth today. They worked collaboratively to develop actionable resolutions, which were later debated in group presentations. The interactive nature of these sessions encouraged critical thinking, creativity, and teamwork—essential qualities for future leaders.

The conference wasn't just about discussions; it incorporated recreational activities, allowing participants to unwind and bond through organized outings and social interactions. These moments strengthened the sense of unity and collaboration among attendees, fostering connections that will extend beyond the conference.

Advantages of a Youth Conference: Conferences like AYN's 2023 Youth Conference offer immense benefits to participants and the broader community:

1. Leadership Development: Youth conferences provide an environment where young individuals can develop leadership skills through discussions, debates, and collaborative projects. These

experiences build confidence and prepare attendees to take on future challenges.

2. Networking Opportunities: By bringing together participants and speakers from various backgrounds, youth conferences foster networks that can lead to future collaborations and initiatives, both on a local and global scale.

3. Exposure to New Ideas: Participants are exposed to a wide array of topics, from economics to mental health, providing them with a deeper understanding of global issues and empowering them to become agents of change within their communities.

4. Encouraging Social Responsibility: Discussions on community service, ethical leadership, and societal issues encourage youth to contribute positively to their communities, inspiring a sense of responsibility towards the greater good.

5. Fostering Critical Thinking: By working through real-world problems and developing resolutions, participants sharpen their problem-solving and critical thinking skills, preparing them to address future challenges with innovative solutions.

Notable Initiatives: One of the unique aspects of this year's conference was the "Capture the Moment" photography campaign, where participants captured inspiring moments and shared reflective messages under the theme "Leave Your Print." This initiative encouraged participants to reflect on the impact they wish to leave on the world, reinforcing the importance of positive action and personal responsibility.

Closing Ceremony: The conference concluded with a special ceremony at the KSIJ Arusha Imambargha. The AYN Chairman, Ali Khalfan, along with Arusha Jamaat President Alhaj Mustafa Virjee, expressed heartfelt gratitude to the facilitators, participants, and volunteers who made the event a success. Their appreciation extended to the Arusha Jamaat for their hospitality and support throughout the event. The ceremony was a fitting end to a conference that had been filled with passion, learning, and a commitment to empowering the next generation of leaders.

In his closing remarks, the AYN Chairman emphasized the importance of youth conferences in shaping future leaders and contributing to the development of the community. He urged participants to continue their journey of self-improvement and use the skills and knowledge gained to make a meaningful impact on society.

Looking Ahead: The 2023 AYN Youth Conference is more than just a landmark event—it is a launchpad for future initiatives that will continue to empower young leaders across the region. As the echoes of

this successful conference resonates, AYN is already looking forward to future gatherings that will further inspire and equip the youth to take on leadership roles within their communities.

The AYN Youth Conference 2023 has set a strong precedent for youth empowerment, offering participants valuable insights, connections, and a vision for the future. The lasting impact of the conference will undoubtedly continue to shape the community and inspire future generations.

RAAHIYANE NOOR



For the first time in its history, the Africa Youth Network (AYN) took its mission to an international level with the Raahiyane Noor – Journey of Light project, held in Iraq. This initiative sought to transform the youth's perspective on Arbaeen, moving beyond the annual pilgrimage to a deeper understanding of Imam Hussayn (AS) and the profound spiritual significance of the project. It was designed to inspire self-reflection, a closer relationship with Allah (SWT), and personal growth, both spiritually and emotionally, during their time in Iraq. The project was led by Br. Sajid Dhalla, with the support of the dedicated AYN Secretariat team on the ground.

The Raahiyane Noor project brought together 45 participants from various corners of the globe, including Tanzania, Kenya, France, Malawi, Madagascar, Zimbabwe, the United Arab Emirates, and Burundi. Registration opened a few weeks prior to Arbaeen, with the aim of hosting 50 youth as part of this inaugural international initiative.

The project was divided into three main segments:

1. The Raahiyane Noor Passport: This booklet served as the heart of the project, outlining its vision and mission. It acted as a guide, metaphorically leading participants to the ultimate treasure – Imam Hussayn (AS).

2. The Walk: The sacred Arbaeen pilgrimage, known for the 80 km walk to Karbala, was a journey filled with beauty and devotion. Along the path, the team used the pole numbers to correspond with verses from the Qur'an, reflecting the divine attributes of Allah (SWT). For example, Pole 946 reminded the participants of Surah 94, Ayah 6, "Verily, with every hardship comes ease," providing encouragement during moments of fatigue or pain. In addition, the

group collaborated with two mawkihs: Ishq e Hussain, in partnership with the Zahra Trust at Pole 470, and Hussainiya Mauqib at Pole 1086. These mawkihs offered participants the opportunity to serve the Zawaar of Imam Hussayn, engaging in acts of service such as food preparation, cleaning, and distributing meals.

3. The Karbala Treasure Hunt: Participants received a passport that featured half-images of significant landmarks in Karbala. Their task was to find the corresponding landmarks and reflect on their spiritual significance. For instance, visiting the Qatil Ghah of Imam Hussayn (AS) was an opportunity to discuss the concept of martyrdom and the promise of divine justice, linking it to the awaited return of Imam Mahdi (may Allah hasten his reappearance). At the end of their journey, participants were given a five-digit code, obtained through various tasks, which they used to unlock a treasure box in Karbala. Inside, they discovered sacred gifts – original Khaak (earth) from Imam Hussayn's Haram and a large commemorative banner.

The project also included three insightful workshops, featuring prominent speakers such as Sheikh Yassir Alidina, who discussed "Balancing Fear and Hope in Connection to Allah (SWT)", Sister Sumaiyya Muntazir, who spoke on "Manifesting Love through Imam Hussayn (AS)", and Sheikh Nadir Hirji, who shared guidance on "How to be with the Hussayn of Your Time". These workshops provided participants with interactive sessions, deepening their understanding and connection to the core message of the project: attaining closeness to Allah (SWT) through Imam Hussayn (AS).

The Raahiyane Noor experience during Arbaeen was an invaluable guide for the youth, illuminating important aspects of the pilgrimage and shaping their journey in a way that maximized both spiritual and personal growth. AYN extends its heartfelt gratitude to all those who contributed to this project, from the organizers to the guides and supporters. We eagerly anticipate welcoming everyone back for Raahiyane Noor 2.0 next year, InshaAllah.



CENTRAL BILAL BOARD

A visit to Bujumbura by Alhaj Gulamabbas Habib - The Central Bilal Board Coordinator for Burundi

The Central Bilal Board (CBB) has appointed Alhaj Gulamabbas Habib of Nairobi, an ex-Burundi resident as the Coordinator with Bilal Bujumbura Committee, he visited Bujumbura, from February 17th to February 25th, 2025. The visit involved discussions with Jamaat members on various subjects, including the current system of operations and administration of the Bilal Centres. The purpose of the formation of the new Bilal Committee, is primarily to plan for the expansion and enhancement of tabligh activities and educational programs across several centers.



The Bilal Committee of Bujumbura was officially formed; its members include; Alhaj Hurali Fazal (Chairman), Alhaj Irshad Mohammed Manji (Secretary), Alhaj Gulam Raza Shadik Ali (Treasurer), Alhaj Ahmed Hussain Agha (Committee member), Alhaj Zuher Jetha (Committee member), Alhaj Salim Somji (Committee member) and Naznin bai Jiwan Rajan (Committee member), the Committee will actively start their work to oversee and manage the ongoing works at the centres after the holy month of Ramadhan.

The Committee will provide regular updates on the various initiatives, initial focus will be on centers in Minago, Rukago, Kinama, and Bunyezi. Alhaj Zuher Jetha and Alhaj Salim Somji have kindly accepted to carry out the assessment and oversee operations at these centres.

An important highlight of the visit was the ongoing classes for ladies at the Kinama center, which currently serves 25 young girls and 30 women. These classes are currently overseen by Nazneen Bai Jiwan, there is a critical need for qualified teachers to enhance the quality of education. The suggestion has been made for the Central Bilal Board to send an Aalima to support the teaching of Fiqh Masaal and assist in teachers' training development.

A suggestion was also made for a Muallim/Sheikh to visit during the months of Muharram and Safar to conduct Tabligh work, recite Majalis, and teach at the centers. This will also provide an opportunity to assess the effectiveness of teaching and help the instructors improve their delivery.

The Bilal Committee also discussed various matters in connection with the qualifications and responsibilities of Muallims and Sheikhs and on methods of measuring performance of the centres and assistance to improve the standards of operations.

The Bilal Committee of Bujumbura expressed gratitude for the continued support from the Central Bilal Board (CBB) and assured to provide further updates on the centres and other tabligh activities. Alhaj Gulamabbas Habib thanked the Jamaat officials and the Bilal Committee of Bujumbura for the warm welcome and hospitality.



Above: From L to R: Alhaj Ahmed Hussain Agha - Committee member, Alhaj Zuher Jetha - Committee Member, Alhaj Gulam Raza Shadik Ali - Treasurer, Alhaj Salim Somji - Committee Member, Alhaj Gulam Abbas Habib - Bilal Committee Bujumbura Coordinator, Alhaj Irshad Mohammed Manji – Secretary, Alhaj Hurali Fazal – Chairman and Naznin Bai Jiwan Rajan - Committee Member

BILAL KENYA

Trees and Ecological Conservation

Several years ago, Bilal Muslim Mission of Kenya began research into how to plant and care for trees so they provide multiple ecosystem benefits. We partnered with The Lady Fatemah Charitable Trust in the UK, aiming to achieve the planting of 124,000 trees of a variety of species by the end of the project's life. Since then, we have established successful tree nurseries and mini forests and shared seedlings with churches, mosques, hospitals, schools and government offices.

Mini Forests

Members of the Jaffery Centre in Masongaleni have shown great interest in planting initiatives. Their tree nursery is flourishing and now serves as a provider of saplings to other locations in need of them. In 2023, a mini forest was planted at the centre. This eco-grove is coming up very well and has reached a stage at which the trees are able to sustain themselves without needing to be watered. This year, a mini forest was planted at Al Hujjah Centre in Chengoni where young trees and plants are doing very well.

Commemorating Special Days

All 15 Bilal Kenya Centres participated in tree planting during Dahwul Ardh, on the 3rd of June and World Environment Day on the 5th of June this year. Various tree species were planted including Orange and Pomegranate seedlings and flowers.

Seedballs

In 2024, we ventured into the use of Seedballing, with support from Seedballs Kenya. Also known as the throw and grow technique, this involves distributing small clumps comprising clay, compost and seeds in target areas, without the need to open up the soil. Trainings and group discussions were held for youth and other interested individuals, with a youth environment club established in Samburu.



Imam Ridha Educational Complex

Imam Ridha Educational Complex in Mtongwe is a modern institution established in early 2023 offering a vibrant student life with a well-rounded educational experience. Additionally, students receive food and accommodation, ensuring they have the necessary essential support to thrive academically and personally. Our holistic approach is aimed at preparing students to become skilled artisans and responsible, ethical individuals.

Vocational Training

Vocational training occurs in the mornings and we currently offer courses in masonry, plumbing, electrical installation, motor vehicle mechanics, carpentry, welding and refrigeration technology. Additionally, all students attend comprehensive computer classes three times a week, providing them essential tools to navigate an increasingly technology-driven world.

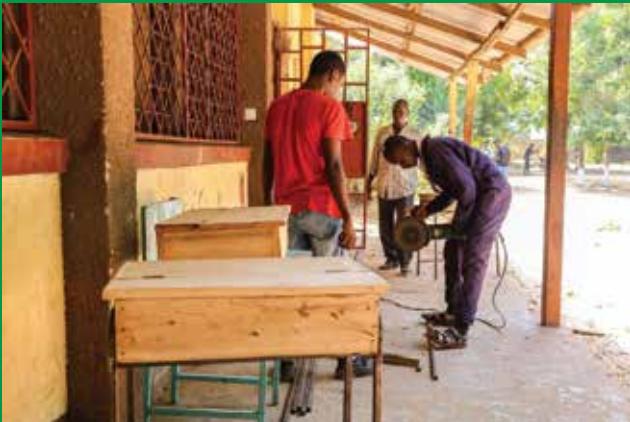
Islamic Studies

Several students initially struggled with daily Islamic practices. However, we have witnessed great improvement in recitation of the Holy Qur'an and duas such as Kumayl and Tawassul. Additionally, they are mindful of their Salaah, having learnt the correct way to perform the ablution and Salaah according to Shia tradition - some students are already leading their peers in Salat al Jama'ah. Islamic Law, Arabic Language and Islamic History are other areas of focus in the classes. Progress of the learners is especially impressive given their limited initial understanding in some areas.

Future-focused: Expanding opportunities for students

To support student growth and independent learning, we plan on expanding the library's book collection and digital resources to provide a broader range of educational materials and recreational activities. We will also be training teachers on new teaching techniques to increase student engagement as we simultaneously refine procedures to monitor and evaluate teaching, ensuring a high-quality educational experience for our learners.





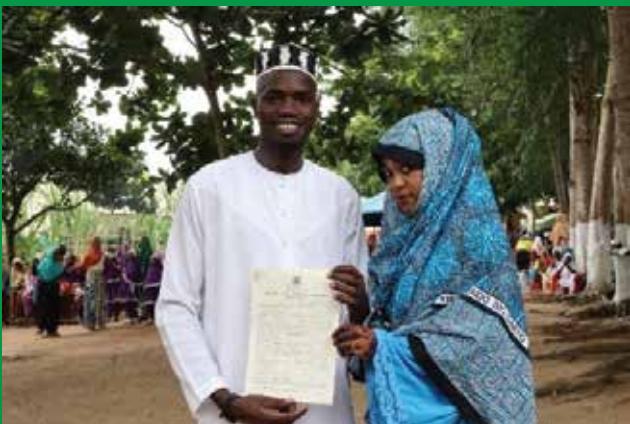
Food Aid and and Eid Gifts

In Holy Ramadhan, Iftaars were served at 15 Bilal Kenya Centres, over 23 independent centres and orphanages, 6 secondary schools and 5 prisons. 8,260 Food Parcels were distributed to families in Kwale, Taita Taveta and Makueni and Mombasa counties, Malindi, Lamu, Kizingitini, Witu, Nairobi, Nakuru and Tana River and a total of 12,863 parcels were distributed at other times of the year. At Eid Al Fitr we gifted 433 orphaned children with new shoes and clothes and cash gifts were gifted to 311 deserving individuals including widows and the disabled and zakat-al-Fitr was distributed to 426 widows.



Group Marriage Program

We offered assistance to individuals seeking to get married in rural Kenyan communities. A group marriage program was held at Al-Mahdi Centre in Burani on the 28th of January for 40 couples, preceded by a pre-marriage seminar on the 21st of January. We supported the grooms with a cash gift towards the mahr and couples received some essential household items including mattresses, pillows and bedsheets.



Economic Upliftment

This year, we provided Kshs 411,000/- in loans to women groups, all of which has been recovered, and Kshs/- 668,800 to individuals of which Kshs/- 221,100 is already recovered. Via the Live goat program, 215 beneficiaries received goats for rearing and domestic use and were trained on how best to house and care for them. A total of 747 goats were handed over.



School Feeding and Educational Assistance

The Fill My Cup program ensured up to 2831 learners received a nutritional cup of porridge every morning at Bila madaris and pre-primaries whilst our Madaris Lunch Program ran at Bilal and Independent centres and reached up to 3,723 students. We granted 35 students scholarships to pursue their tertiary studies whilst 130 children were supported in primary and secondary schools.



Infrastructure Projects

This year saw the construction of the Az-Zahra Centre in Mbararani, which now boasts a mosque, classrooms, washrooms, a borehole, and solar panels. Additionally, a two-bedroom house was constructed for a widow in Chengoni. Extensive renovations enhanced various centers, addressing classrooms, mosques, and sanitation facilities. Key achievements also include the installation of a water purification plant in Kichakamkwaju, the digging of two shallow wells in Malindi, and the establishment of new tailoring classes at both Husayni and An-Nabi centres in Bahakanda and Nzavoni respectively.



Religious Observances, Community Engagement and digital outreach

Majalis and Tabligh activities continued throughout the year, with a particular emphasis during Muharram, Safar, and Ramadhan. Programs, including majalis and dua sessions, were held at all Bilal Centres, with additional support extended to independent centres. Notably, all sessions at Bilal Hall in Mombasa were livestreamed on YouTube. We also offered interactive zoom sessions for ladies and held a Qur'an competition. In addition, we are launching a podcast that explores critical issues affecting women and children, from mental health and child abuse to education and microfinance empowerment. Featuring experts like psychologists, the podcast aims to inspire awareness and positive change.



LAUNCH OF COMPUTER TRAINING PROGRAM AT AL MAHDI CENTRE IN BURANI

Launch

On the 30th of November 2024, Bilal Muslim Mission of Kenya launched a computer training program at Al Mahdi Centre in Burani. The event was attended by the organization's CEO, Brother Murtaza Jaffer and program donors, as well as by community youth and their families. The Launch marked a significant milestone in efforts to empower the local community through digital education.

The initiative aims to equip individuals with essential digital skills while ensuring access to ICT tools and infrastructure. By engaging youth in meaningful technological activities, it fosters personal and professional development. The program also focuses on expanding online education opportunities, supporting e-learning access and creating employment pathways. Additionally, it empowers local businesses and entrepreneurs through targeted ICT training.



Testimonials

'The ICT program will transform our community. Our children can now operate computers and their understanding continues to grow.'

Sheikh Ramadhan Mlala - Centre In-Charge at Al Mahdi Centre

'I never thought I'd be able to use a computer, but now I can even teach someone else what I've learned.'

Rama Mdigo – Student

'At first, I was nervous about using computers, but now I'm eager to learn more and develop my skills.'

Niwende Chidot – Student

'I am committed to delivering quality knowledge and skills. I look forward to seeing many individuals advance in computer literacy through my efforts'

Hamad Ali - trainer



Looking ahead

Plans include expanding the program by recruiting more students through awareness campaigns. The curriculum will also grow to include Python programming, with a focus on app and games development.

Continued investment will be essential to meet the growing demand for ICT training and to ensure the program's infrastructure remains aligned with community needs.

This computer training program is a testament to Bilal Muslim Mission of Kenya's commitment to empowering individuals with the knowledge and skills needed to thrive in the digital age. It represents a long-term investment in the community's future, fostering technological proficiency and inspiring hope.

Message from the Africa Federation Secretariat

There cannot be better initiatives than training to empower the Bilal community students with digital skills and knowledge using the technology available. Along with the above, it is imperative that religious lessons and training are made part of the curriculum for the student's education, in that they learn about Islam and the Madh'ab of Ahlulbayt ('A).

We commend the initiatives by Bilal Muslim Mission of Kenya and are hopeful these investments in training will manifest better results for the future of Bilal and the Bilal Community, Insha'allah.

Photography Challenge

Alireza Surati

Arusha



BILAL TANZANIA

Launch of BMMT Shuyukh Housing Project



The Bilal Muslim Mission of Tanzania (BMMT) hosted the Inauguration and Foundation Stone Laying Ceremony for the BMMT Shuyukh Housing Project. The event took place on Sunday, January 19, 2025, at Hawzatu Ahlul-Bayt Temeke, Dar es Salaam, with notable figures attending, including the guest of honour, Alhaj Safder Jaffer - President of the World Federation (WF), accompanied by his vice, Alhaj Habib Meghjee.

Also present were Africa Federation (AFED) Office Bearers, Alhaj Amine Nassor - Chairman, Alhaj Aunali Khalfan - Vice Chairman, Alhaj Zainul Chandoo - Hon. Treasurer, Alhaj Zuhair Jaffer - Hon. Secretary and Br. Mohamedamir Hamza - Hon. Assistant Secretary. Additionally, Alhaj Arifali Hirji - President of the Council of European Jamaats, Alhaj Shabbirhussein Khalfan - Chairman of Capacity Building Board (CBG), Alhaj Mohamed Hemani - Chairman of Central Bilal Bilal (CBB) and Alhaj Anwarali Dharamsi - AFED Trustee, past President WF, past Chairman of AFED, and past President of the Khoja Shia Ithna-Asheri Jamaat of Dar es Salaam (KSIJ Dar) attended. Also present was Alhaj Suhail Bhurani - President of India Federation, Alhaj Fayyaz Dhirani - President of KSIJ Arusha, Alhaj Haji Sahib Rajani - Founder WIPAHS, Alhaj Ain Shariff - Chairman Masjid Bilal Udowe and Alhaj Mohammed Manji.

From BMMT, Alhaj Hussein Karim - Chairman, Alhaj Abdul-Wahid Mohamed - Vice Chairman, Brother Hafidhi Mansour - Chief of Operations, Sheikh Hussein Zuberi - Acting Head of Tabligh, Alhaj Aziz Hussein Rajani - Chairman Coast & South Zone and Hawzatu Ahlul-Bayt staff led by its Mudir, Sheikh Muhammad Yusuph, along with students were present at the event.



The ceremony began at 10:00 a.m. with welcoming remarks from Sheikh Muhammad Yusuph, Mudir at Hawzatu Ahlul-Bayt, followed by a recitation of the Holy Qur'an by Sheikh Ibrahim Mtima and Hadithul Kisaa by Sheikh Ahmad Masoud. Br. Hafidhi Mansour thereafter gave an introduction of the guests.

In his speech, Alhaj Hussein Karim highlighted that BMMT manages about 265 centres across Tanzania, but fewer than 20 have housing for shuyukh. The new housing project, which will provide homes for shuyukh, is expected to alleviate the financial burden on both the mission and the shuyukh. Alhaj Karim expressed gratitude to the World Federation for their support, particularly in funding the construction of 100 houses in a phased approach, with the first 20 houses to be built in Mwanza, Tabora, Tanga, Kilimanjaro and Coast and South Zone.

Alhaj Amine Nassor, whose speech was translated into Swahili by Alhaj Aunali Khalfan, expressed his satisfaction with the progress of BMMT and commended the mission for its efforts. He assured BMMT of the continued support from the Africa Federation (AFED) and emphasized the importance of collaboration to ensure the successful growth and development of Shia Ithna-Asheri Communities.

In his statement, Alhaj Safder Jaffer expressed that they are undertaking this housing project to provide shuyukh with comfortable homes, thereby enhancing their ability to serve the community. He further noted that the work of tabligh carries great blessings from Allah.



The ceremony concluded with closing remarks by Alhaj Abdul-Wahid Mohamed, who thanked all project partners and assured that the project would be carried out with the highest standards. A dua was recited by Sheikh Amri Harouna, and a ribbon-cutting ceremony officially marked the beginning of the project.

The event was conducted smoothly by the Master of Ceremony, Sheikh Hussein Zuberi who was both cheerful and mindful of time, ensuring that the proceedings were efficient and well-paced.

In recognition of their visit, the WF President, WF Vice President and AFED Chairman were presented with the traditional hand woven Zanzibari Kofia as token of appreciation.

BMMT expressed deep gratitude to donors and supporters, inviting continued contributions to help expand the project across Tanzania. The mission hopes to garner support from individuals and institutions both inside and outside Tanzania, seeking abundant rewards from Allah SWT for the success of this important initiative.



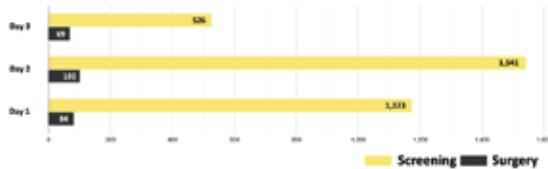
BMMT CONDUCTS FREE EYE CAMP IN TANGA

The Bilal Muslim Mission of Tanzania (BMMT), in collaboration with the Member of Parliament for Tanga Urban Constituency, Hon. Ummy Mwalimu, successfully conducted a free three-day eye camp. The camp was held at Usagara Secondary School from Saturday, April 5, 2025, to Monday, April 7, 2025, where a variety of eye care services were provided. These included eye screening, eye surgeries, distribution of spectacles, provision of prescriptions, and counseling on eye health. All services were offered free of charge.

Over the course of the three days, more than 3,240 people underwent eye screening. Of these, 255 individuals (equivalent to 7.9%) received various types of eye surgeries, including cataract surgery.



BMMT EYE CAMP IN TANGA TANGA (2025)



The graph above illustrates the number of individuals who underwent eye screening and eye surgeries during the free eye camp organized by BMMT in Tanga Region, held from April 5 to 7, 2025.



Speaking during the camp, Mama Keki, the Eye Camp Coordinator from BMMT, urged the public to prioritize eye care and to develop the habit of going for regular eye checkups. On her part, Hon. Ummy Mwalimu, MP for Tanga Urban, expressed her heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to BMMT and its partners for supporting the government's efforts under the leadership of the President of the United Republic of Tanzania, Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan, by organizing the camp and providing specialist eye care services in an accessible and convenient manner.

Tanga District Commissioner, Hon. Japhari Mghamba Kubacha, also praised Hon. Ummy Mwalimu for her advocacy and collaboration with BMMT in bringing vital eye care services to the residents of Tanga.

The residents of Tanga expressed sincere gratitude for the services received, stating that they were of great help, especially given the high cost of eye treatment, which many cannot afford.

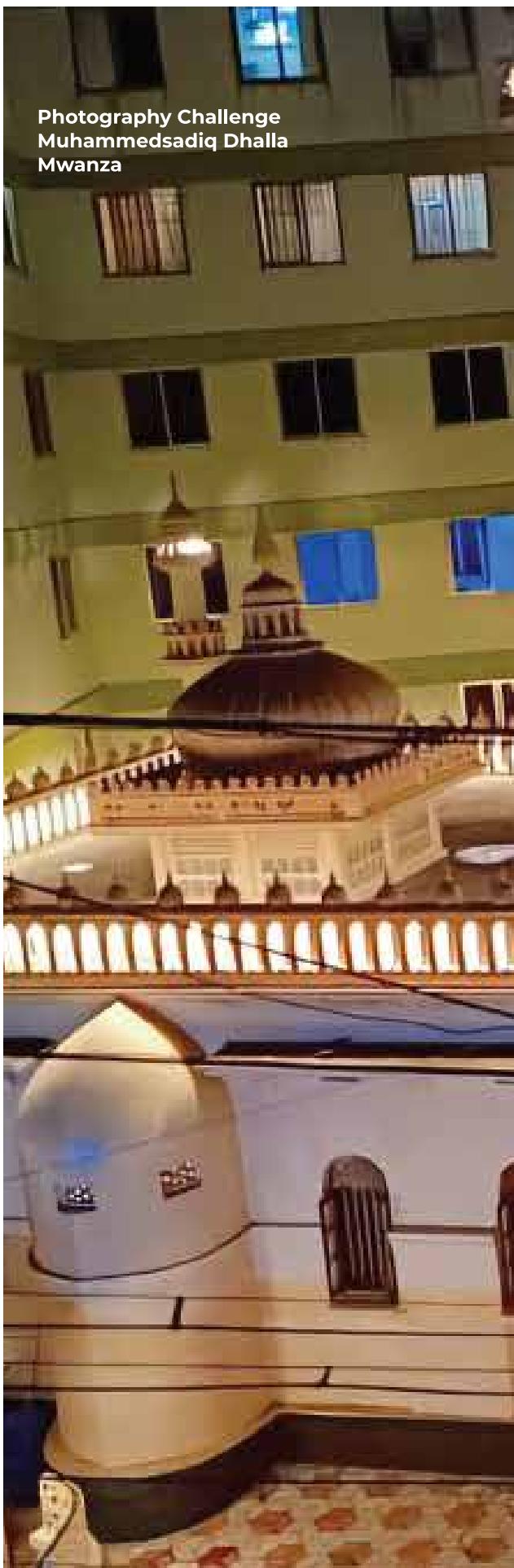
BMMT extends its appreciation to the people of Tanga for adhering to the program schedule and maintaining discipline throughout the camp. This played a key role in ensuring the smooth and successful delivery of services.

Special thanks are extended to Mixx by YAS Tanzania, the main sponsor of the camp. BMMT also appreciates its partners, BETA Charitable Trust from the United Kingdom, for generously sponsoring the eye surgeries.

Gratitude are also extended to KSIJ Charitable Eye Centre, Africa Federation, the Office of the Member of Parliament for Tanga Urban, all government authorities in Tanga Region, and the entire coordination team led by Mama Keki and specialists from Tanga Regional Referral Hospital – Bombo, along with other hospitals. Their contributions and efforts led to the great success of this camp.

Their combined efforts and unwavering dedication were instrumental in the remarkable success of the camp.

Above all, we thank Allah Almighty and pray that He rewards abundantly all those who contributed generously to this noble cause. Insha'Allah.



BILAL UGANDA

Launch of Al Zahra Tailoring Centre for Women

The Bilal Muslim Mission of Uganda (BMMU) proudly announces the opening of the Al Zahra Tailoring Center, a facility dedicated to empowering women through skill development and fostering sustainable livelihoods.

Inauguration Ceremony

The center was officially inaugurated on the blessed occasion of the Wiladat of Lady Fatima Zahra (SA) by Maulana Syed Ali Abbas Rizvi, Chairman of KSIJ Kampala Alhaj Shabbar Virani, Honorary Secretary of KSIJ Kampala Alhaj Riyaz Mithani and Chairman of BMMU Alhaj Afzalali Bhimani, marking a significant milestone in BMMU's mission to empower women.



About Al Zahra Tailoring Center

The center is designed to provide professional training in tailoring and garment design exclusively for women. Through this initiative, participants gain practical skills to help them secure employment or start their own businesses, promoting self-reliance and confidence.

Key Features of the Tailoring Program

Comprehensive Training: Focus on stitching, pattern-making, and garment customization.

Program Duration: A structured 6-month course offering in-depth learning.

Skill Development: Participants will learn to stitch shirts, skirts, dresses, trousers, jumpsuits, overalls, aprons, jackets, bags, and accessories.

Certification: Participants will receive certificates upon successful completion.

Mentorship: Expert instructors will guide and support trainees throughout the program.



Community Impact

The Al Zahra Tailoring Center is a step toward uplifting women in the community by offering them tools for financial independence. By reducing unemployment and fostering entrepreneurial spirit, this initiative will create a long-lasting, positive impact.

Gratitude to Mukwano Trust Foundation

BMMU expresses its heartfelt gratitude to the Mukwano Trust Foundation for donating all the equipment and materials necessary to establish the Al Zahra Tailoring Center. Their generous contribution has been instrumental in bringing this initiative to life.

The Al Zahra Tailoring Center is not just a training space—it's a journey toward empowerment, resilience, and opportunity for women in our community.



CAPACITY BUILDING GROUP (CBG)

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

THE 17TH LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

PROGRAMME held in Reunion

The 17th Leadership Development Program (LDP) held from 2nd to 5th November 2023 in Reunion brought 25 participants for a four-day journey of self-discovery and leadership growth, led by a distinguished team of facilitators: Br. Shabbirhussein Khalfan, Sr. Shama Dewji, Sr. Soumeya Djaffar, Sr. Sofia bai Bharwani, and Sr. Roumana Alibay. The program featured interactive workshops, discussions, and hands-on activities that provided practical leadership strategies. Beyond formal leadership roles, it emphasized the importance of leadership in personal spheres, such as family and community, highlighting integrity, empathy, and communication.



The First-Ever Swahili 18th LDP for Bilal Muballighin

The 18th Leadership Development Program (LDP) by the Africa Federation Capacity Building Group (CBG) took place from 13th – 16th December 2023, hosted by the Bilal Muslim Mission of Kenya. This transformative event brought together 25 Muballighin from Bilal Kenya, facilitated by CBG Chair and Lead Facilitator Br. Shabbirhussein Khalfan, supported by Sr. Neelam Jiwa, Br. Mohamedabbas Karim, Sr. Maryam Khalfan, and Sr. Sajida Master. What set this edition apart is that it was conducted entirely in Swahili, adding cultural resonance and fostering deeper connection and understanding among participants.



Neuro-Psychology of Learning Program (NPL) in Madagascar

The Capacity Building Board (CBG), in collaboration with the Tabligh Board (AFTAB) and the Madrasah Centre of Excellence (MCE), conducted the Neuro-Psychology of Learning (NPL) program in Antananarivo, Madagascar, on 1st and 2nd March 2024. Facilitated by Br. Shabbirhussein Khalfan and Sr. Tahera Shivji, the program engaged Madrasah teachers in self-assessments to explore psychological frameworks for enhancing learning environments. Participants explored students' diverse learning needs within the Madrasah context and tailored teaching methods. The program equipped educators with practical tools to adapt their communication and teaching styles, enabling them to support holistic student development through personalized action plans.



Building Resilient Relationships: Marriage Workshop in Antananarivo

The Antananarivo Jamaat organized a transformative marriage workshop on 2nd and 3rd March 2024, facilitated by the Capacity Building Board (CBG). Led by Br. Shabbirhussein Khalfan, Sr. Tahera Shivji, and Sr. Sidika Akil Hirji, the workshop engaged 12 couples in exploring crucial aspects of marital relationships. This workshop aligns with CBG's vision to address various facets of marital life, such as spouse selection, pre-marriage preparation, post-marriage support, parenting guidance, and marital mediation. As a significant milestone in CBG's efforts, this initiative represents the second step toward establishing a comprehensive framework for marital concepts. By offering guidance and support across all stages of marriage, CBG aims to foster stronger, more resilient families within the community, reinforcing the importance of marriage in Islamic teachings.

Enhancing Marital Support: CBG and KSI Dar Jamaat Workshop

On 3rd and 4th April 2024, CBG, in collaboration with KSI Dar Jamaat, organized a workshop for Marriage Board members. Led by Br. Shabbirhussein Khalfan and Sr. Shama Dewji, the workshop aimed to empower Marriage Board members by enhancing their support skills for couples. Participants used the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI) to foster self-awareness, enabling them to empathize with couples and provide tailored support, thereby strengthening community ties and promoting healthier marriages.



NPL Training for Dar Madrasah Teachers

The Neuropsychology of Learning (NPL) Training Program was conducted in two batches for educators from Husayni Madrasah, KSI Dar es Salaam Jamaat on 11th and 12th May and 25th and 26th May 2024. Guided by Br. Shabbirhussein Khalfan and Sr. Shama Dewji, participants explored neuropsychological strategies for effective Madrasah teaching, fostering active participation and empowering educators to adapt methods to meet students' unique learning needs.



Empowering Tomorrow's Leaders - YDP at Husayni Madrasah Girls' Section

The Youth Development Program (YDP), held for the Husayni Madrasah Girls' Section of KSIJ Dar es Salaam on 8th and 9th June 2023, engaged 33 Class 12 girls. Facilitated by Br. Shabbirhussein Khalfan, Sr. Shama Dewji, Sr. Zishan Karim, Sr. Maryam Khalfan, and Sr. Sajida Bhalloo, the program featured practical exercises, group collaborations, and discussions. This interactive approach empowered participants with essential life skills, values, and the confidence to articulate their perspectives, fostering their personal and professional growth for a meaningful impact on their future endeavors.



CBG's First-Ever Marital Mediation Training Program Marks a Milestone in Zanzibar

Capacity Building Board (CBG) successfully conducted its inaugural Marital Mediation Training Program from June 19 to June 24, 2024, in Zanzibar, followed by a Refreshers Course on June 25-26. This groundbreaking initiative is the first of its kind in Africa, marking a significant milestone in promoting conflict resolution and strengthening marital relationships within our communities.

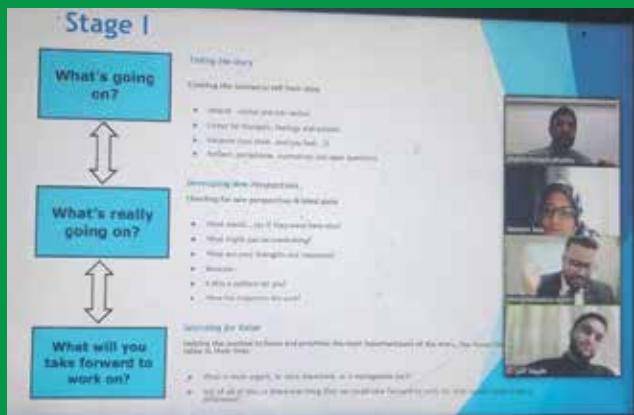
Facilitated by Dr. Lesley Allport, with support from Br. Shabbirhussein Khalfan and Br. Inayat Abbas Firdousi, the program welcomed participants from Arusha, Dar es Salaam, Madagascar, Mombasa, Nairobi, Reunion, and Zanzibar. The training encompassed three comprehensive modules designed to equip participants with essential mediation skills, focusing on resolving marital disputes while also preparing them to address a wider spectrum of conflicts.

Through interactive role-plays and practical exercises, participants refined their mediation techniques in a supportive environment. This pioneering program not only aims to empower individuals with vital skills but also establishes a robust foundation for advancing mediation practices across the region, fostering healthier relationships within the community.



Virtual Mentorship Program for AFTab Pre-University Camp Facilitators

A virtual Mentorship Training took place on 24th and 25th July 2024, for mentors participating in the upcoming Pre-University Camp organized by AFED Tabligh Board. The sessions, facilitated by Br. Shabbirhussein Khalfan, Sr. Neelam Jiwa, and Br. Mohamedabbas Karim, included practical exercises, with mentors expressing positive feedback about the training.



Self-Awareness and Confidence: CBG Workshops at the AFTab Pre-University Camp

During the 2024 Pre-University Camp, CBG delivered impactful sessions that equipped participants with essential life skills for their university journeys. The Self-Awareness sessions helped students gain deeper insights into their personality traits, enabling them to interact more meaningfully and manage both strengths and weaknesses. Public speaking workshops boosted their confidence, transforming nervousness into self-assurance and enhancing communication skills. These sessions not only provided practical tools but also fostered personal growth, preparing participants to navigate the challenges of higher education with clarity, confidence, and a stronger sense of self.



Boosting Organizational Efficiency

On August 17, 2024, the Capacity Building Group (CBG), in collaboration with the Economic Development Board (EDB), hosted a Business Improvement Course at AFED Towers. Facilitated by Gulamhusain S. Ahmed, the session introduced 16 participants to quality tools and techniques aimed at enhancing organizational efficiency. Key topics included the Customer-Supplier Model and

continuous improvement methods. Participants left the course equipped with practical skills to implement quality improvement initiatives within their organizations. The knowledge gained is expected to drive efficiency, save resources, and ultimately contribute to the overall progress of the community by fostering a culture of continuous improvement.



CBG Conducts Successful Mentor Development Programme in Reunion.

The Africa Federation Capacity Building Board (CBG) successfully conducted a transformative Mentor Development Programme (MDP) on October 8-9, 2024, in Saint Denis, Reunion, with 16 enthusiastic participants. Facilitated by Shama bai Dewji, Sr. Soumeya Djaffar, and Sr. Roumania K. Daya, the session emphasized Egan's Skilled Helper Model to equip mentors with essential skills in active listening, goal-setting, and empathetic guidance. This initiative aims to strengthen community bonds by fostering a network of empowered mentors who can address local challenges with compassion and resilience. In his closing remarks, Africa Federation Chairman Alhaj Amine Nassor reaffirmed the Federation's commitment to community empowerment, highlighting the program's role in building unity and sustainable growth.

CBG Conducts Training Programs to Empower Teachers and Youth in Kigali.

The Africa Federation Capacity Building Board (CBG), in collaboration with the Education Board (EBS), conducted two impactful training programs in Kigali, Rwanda, on November 9-10, 2024, aimed at empowering Madrasah teachers and youth. The Self-Awareness and Teaching Skills Workshop for teachers focused on enhancing classroom effectiveness through tools like the Iceberg Theory, MBTI, and the T.E.A.C.H Model, helping educators foster empathy and communication. Simultaneously, the Youth Empowerment Program provided young participants with practical strategies for self-discovery, goal setting, and mental health awareness, using interactive methods such as the Johari Window and Personal Development Plans. A special career counseling session, featuring psychometric assessments and guidance for 15 students and parents, further enriched the initiative. Facilitated by Sr. Shama Dewji and Sajida Master, the programs received overwhelmingly positive feedback and left participants inspired to grow and lead within their communities. CBG expressed

heartfelt gratitude to AFED, the Secretariat, and Kigali Jamaat for their invaluable support, underscoring the shared commitment to education, self-awareness, and sustainable development.

Capacity Building Board Leads 5 Dynamic Programs in Paris.

The Africa Federation Capacity Building Board (CBG), in partnership with Mehfile Zainab of Paris North Jamaat, successfully conducted five impactful programs in Paris from 28th November to 3rd December 2024. Led by CBG Chairman Br. Shabbirhussein Khalfan and facilitators Sr. Tahera Shiyji, Sr. Sidika Hirji, and Sr. Maryam Khalfan, the sessions focused on mental health, time management, self-awareness, team dynamics, and strengthening marital relationships. The standout event—a two-day Couples Retreat—offered practical tools to enhance emotional intimacy and communication. Other sessions equipped participants with strategies to manage stress, understand personality traits, and build effective teams. Conducted in collaboration with Fikrafa and supported by COEJ, AFED Office Bearers, and the Secretariat, the programs received high praise for their structure, relevance, and positive impact. Participants expressed deep appreciation for the engaging, empathetic learning environment that fostered personal and communal growth.



Empowering Muballigheen and Teachers: Capacity Building Board conducts Transformative Programs for Bilal.

The Africa Federation Capacity Building Board (CBG) conducted a series of transformative programs during the Annual Seminar on Personnel Development organized by Bilal Muslim Mission of Tanzania (BMMT) from 15th to 21st December 2024 in Kibaha. Targeting Muballigheen and teachers from Bilal Centres, madrasahs, and nursery schools across Tanzania, the Swahili-language sessions focused on leadership, teaching enhancement, child safeguarding, and holistic personal development. Facilitated by Br. Shabbirhussein Khalfan, Sr. Zaheera Raza, and Sr. Maryam Khalfan, the workshops equipped participants with vital skills in administration, interactive teaching, child protection, and mental health awareness. The seminar emphasized spiritual growth, effective community engagement, and practical strategies for educational impact, aligning with broader goals of community upliftment. CBG expressed its

gratitude to BMMT, the Africa Federation Office Bearers, and the Secretariat for their support in making this initiative a success.



Shaping Tomorrow: Youth Development Program held in Kampala.

The Africa Federation Capacity Building Board (CBG), in collaboration with the KSI Jamaat of Kampala, successfully hosted a transformative Youth Development Program (YDP) on 8th and 9th February 2025, bringing together 22 young participants for a weekend of self-discovery, leadership, and community engagement. Facilitated by Br. Shabbirhussein Khalfan, Br. Mohamedabbas Karim, and Sr. Ummehani Panju, the interactive sessions focused on unlocking individual potential, fostering confidence, and nurturing essential life and leadership skills through practical exercises and reflective dialogue. The program created a dynamic platform for youth to explore ideas, challenge themselves, and embrace responsibility. CBG expressed heartfelt gratitude to the Kampala Jamaat for their support and hospitality, as well as to the Africa Federation Office Bearers and Secretariat for their continued encouragement. The event culminated in a well-attended certification ceremony, marking a meaningful step in empowering the next generation of community leaders.



CBG Conducts Successful Mentor Development Programme in Arusha.

The Africa Federation Capacity Building Board (CBG) successfully conducted a Mentor Development Programme (MDP) in Arusha on 22nd and 23rd February 2025, bringing together 11 committed participants eager to strengthen their mentoring skills. Facilitated by Alhaj Shabbirhussein Khalfan, with support from Neelambai Jiwa and Mumtaz bai Ladak, the interactive sessions focused on building effective mentor-mentee relationships using Egan's Skilled Helper Model. Through discussions, hands-on

exercises, and real-life applications, participants learned to guide others with empathy, purpose, and structured support. The program emphasized the power of mentorship in fostering self-belief, personal growth, and community resilience. CBG expressed sincere appreciation to the Arusha Jamaat and Africa Federation Office Bearers and Secretariat for their support, and commended the participants for embracing the spirit of mentorship and committing to positive change within their communities.

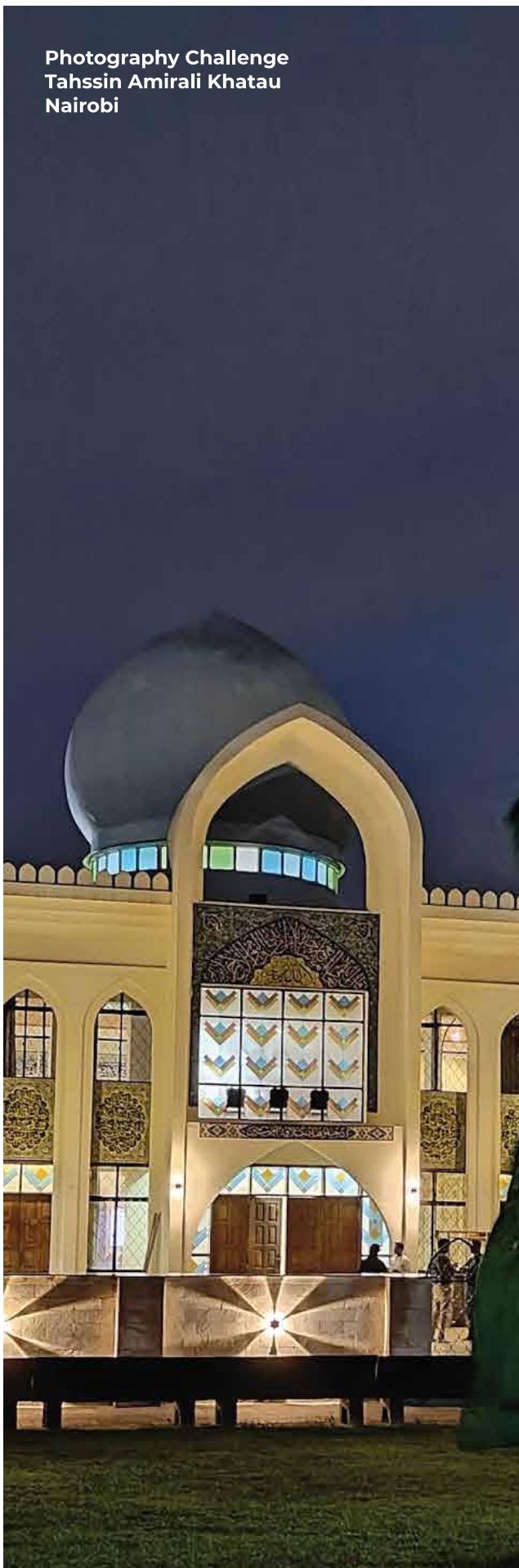


A Journey of Self-Awareness and Growth - Insights from the 19th LDP in Dar es Salaam.

The 19th Leadership Development Programme (LDP), organized by the Africa Federation Capacity Building Group (CBG) in collaboration with KSI Dar es Salaam Jamaat, was held from 1st to 4th May 2025 at Mehfil-e-Abbas, bringing together 23 participants for a transformative journey of introspection and personal growth. Facilitated by a dedicated team including Br. Shabbirhussein Khalfan, Br. Inayat Firdousi, Sr. Shama Dewji, Sr. Tahera Shivji, Sr. Shirin Jeraj, and Sr. Sajida Bhalloo, the program explored key leadership themes such as personal values, self-awareness, communication, integrity-based decision-making, and understanding diversity. Daily Qur'anic reflections set a spiritual tone for the sessions, while focused discussions on temperament and feedback enhanced participants' interpersonal skills. The program concluded with a certification ceremony graced by Alhaj Hasnain Sherally, Hon. Secretary of KSI Jamaat Dar es Salaam, who emphasized the importance of self-leadership. CBG expressed deep appreciation to the Africa Federation Office Bearers, the AFED Secretariat, and Dar es Salaam Jamaat for their support, and commended the participants for their dedication to growth, service, and leadership.



Photography Challenge **Tahssin Amirali Khatau** **Nairobi**



Economic Board

Morogoro: A Rising Gem in Tanzania's Heartland

Reverse Migration in Motion – A Land of Plenty Beckons

Nestled at the foothills of the majestic Uluguru Mountains, Morogoro is emerging as one of Tanzania's most promising urban centers. Just 190 kilometers west of Dar es Salaam, this vibrant town blends rich history with fertile opportunity—captivating both investors and settlers seeking a new beginning.

A Historical Tapestry

Morogoro's roots trace back to the indigenous Luguru people, with its name meaning "the land of plenty." Once a colonial stronghold under German East Africa and later a British agricultural hub, the town has evolved into a beacon of regional progress while retaining its cultural heritage.

Geography and Climate: A Natural Advantage

Positioned at the base of the Uluguru range, Morogoro enjoys a tropical savanna climate, with temperatures ranging from a refreshing 18°C to a balmy 30°C. The November-to May rains breathe life into the land, sustaining vibrant agriculture, while the June-to October dry season attracts tourists and adventurers alike.

Economic Growth: Rooted in Agriculture, Rising with Industry

Agriculture remains the backbone of Morogoro's economy. Its fertile soils yield bountiful harvests of maize, rice, sugarcane, and tropical fruits. It's also one of Tanzania's leading producers of sisal, an essential export crop used in making rope and textiles.

But Morogoro is no longer just an agricultural hub. Industrial growth is accelerating—particularly in agro-processing and manufacturing. The Morogoro Industrial Park has become a magnet for investors, giving rise to food processing units, textile operations, and furniture production. The region's mineral wealth—gemstones, limestone, and clay—further enhances its economic appeal.

Healthcare: Expanding to Meet Demand

Morogoro's healthcare infrastructure continues to develop in step with its growing population. The Morogoro Regional Hospital and the Aga Khan Dispensary serve as the primary medical centers, supported by numerous private clinics. A new, state-of-the-art hospital currently under construction promises to elevate the town's medical capacity significantly.

Education: A Hub of Learning and Opportunity

Education is a key pillar of Morogoro's growth. It is home to Sokoine University of Agriculture—renowned across Africa—and numerous primary and secondary schools. The town

is also seeing increased demand for vocational and technical institutions, signaling strong investment potential in the education sector.

Connectivity: Roads, Rails, and Runways

Morogoro's accessibility is a major advantage. It is well-connected to Dar es Salaam and Dodoma via modern highways and railways. The newly introduced Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) has revolutionized travel, making commuting more efficient than ever. The local airport serves domestic flights, while international travelers can access Julius Nyerere International Airport just a few hours away. Accommodation: Comfort Across All Budgets

A Promising Future

As Morogoro continues to flourish, it symbolizes the promise of sustainable growth and inclusive development. With its blend of natural beauty, economic vitality, and cultural richness, this "land of plenty" offers more than just opportunity—it offers a future.

Whether you're an investor, an entrepreneur, or a family seeking a fresh start, Morogoro welcomes you. Now is the time to rediscover its charm and be part of its story.

Empowering Entrepreneurs: A Collaborative Effort Toward Economic Upliftment

In a significant step toward fostering economic independence and entrepreneurial spirit, the Africa Federation Economic Development Board (AFED EDB) has launched two transformative initiatives aimed at empowering its community members. These initiatives, in collaboration with leading organizations such as Mohamed Enterprises Tanzania Limited (MeTL), the Ismat Kassam Women Empowerment Program (IKWEP), the KSIJ Dar Economic Empowerment Committee (EEC), and the Social Service Committee (SSC), are setting the stage for a new era of self-sufficient, entrepreneurial leadership within the community.

Entrepreneurial Upliftment Program: Empowering through Business

In August 2024, AFED EDB and MeTL initiated a groundbreaking Entrepreneurial Upliftment Program aimed at helping members transition from employment to self-employment. The pilot project, designed to promote self-sufficiency, focused on providing participants with the resources and knowledge to establish and manage their own businesses.



Held at the MeTL headquarters in Dar es Salaam, this collaboration was marked by a significant meeting between AFED officials and Alhaj Gulamabbas Dewji (GD), Founder and Chairman of MeTL, who warmly welcomed the initiative. The program aims to empower participants through a carefully structured loan system, where funds are provided for startup infrastructure and operational costs. Each applicant, after securing the initial funding, will begin their

business venture with the support of their respective Jamaats, who will assist with monitoring progress and collecting repayments.

A notable feature of this initiative is its focus on sustainable financial practices. MeTL supplies the initial inventory for businesses, while participants can replenish stock as needed. The program's flexible repayment model ensures that entrepreneurs have ample time to stabilize their ventures, with loans to be repaid within 30 months. This initiative sets the stage for future business ventures in diverse sectors such as electronics, pharmaceuticals, hardware, and more, with AFED EDB playing a pivotal role in nurturing the entrepreneurial potential across its Jamaats.

EMPOWERING ENTREPRENEURS

A Path to Economic Growth

Led by the Africa Federation Economic Development Board and MeTL, this project empowers young entrepreneurs with training, financial aid, and mentorship to build sustainable businesses and support community growth.

KEY BENEFITS

- Business Training & Mentorship
- Financial & Credit Support
- Job Placement & Business Opportunities
- Youth & Economic Empowerment

WHO CAN APPLY?

We welcome applicants who are:

- Members passionate about entrepreneurship
- Small business owners seeking growth
- Committed to training and mentorship

HOW IT WORKS

- Submit your application: afed.edb@afrafederation.org
- Assessment - Interview & evaluation
- Training - Expert business guidance
- Business Setup - Financial aid & operational support

APPLY NOW

Ismat Kassam Women Empowerment Program: Uplifting Women Entrepreneurs



In a parallel effort to boost community entrepreneurship, the Ismat Kassam Women Empowerment Program (IKWEP) partnered with AFED EDB and the KSIJ Dar EEC and SSC to conduct a 7-day intensive business workshop for women entrepreneurs. The workshop, held from 30th August to 7th September 2024 at the AFED Training Centre, Dar es Salaam, was designed to equip women with essential skills to launch and manage their own businesses.

This training program focused on two core modules: How to Generate Your Business (GYB) and How to Start Your Business (SYB), providing participants with the tools needed to navigate the business landscape with confidence. 11 enthusiastic participants benefited from the guidance of ILO-certified trainers, including Mehjabeen Khaki, Shazmeen Pirbhai, Sakina Khimani, and Killian Nango. The workshop was overseen by ILO Master Trainers Mackdonald Lanzi and Elieza Mussa, ensuring that the training adhered to the highest standards of excellence.

The event was enriched by insights from several distinguished guest speakers who shared their entrepreneurial journeys and expertise. Sr. Zainab Raza, Co-founder of Shona, discussed sustainable business practices in fashion, blending African prints and Maasai beadwork to create elegant, functional products. Sr. Fatema Juma, Founder of Bake and Scoop, shared her innovative approach to making gelato sundaes accessible for busy professionals. Additionally, Sr. Kaniz Ladha, a member of AFED EDB, led a comprehensive session on the financial management of a business, helping participants understand how to make informed financial decisions.

At the closing ceremony, Aunali Bhai Khalfan, Vice Chairman of AFED, expressed his appreciation for the Ismat Kassam Women Empowerment Program and the various committees involved in this initiative. He emphasized the transformative power of entrepreneurship, particularly for women, and its capacity to secure a prosperous future for families and communities. Each participant received a certificate of completion, marking the culmination of their intensive training and marking the beginning of their entrepreneurial journeys.

A Vision for the Future

Both initiatives demonstrate a powerful commitment to economic empowerment through entrepreneurship. The Entrepreneurial Upliftment Program, in collaboration with MeTL, paves the way for individuals to achieve self-sufficiency, while the Ismat Kassam Women Empowerment Program provides women with the necessary tools to break barriers and build successful businesses. AFED EDB continues to drive these initiatives, ensuring that its members are equipped to thrive in a competitive and dynamic global economy.

As the community looks to the future, AFED EDB and its partners are committed to further expanding these initiatives, creating opportunities for both men and women to excel in entrepreneurship and secure dignified livelihoods. The collaboration between AFED, MeTL, the IKWEP, and various community committees sets the stage for a sustainable, empowered community where economic self-sufficiency is not just a goal, but a reality.

Home-Based Business Census Initiative

As part of our broader commitment to inclusive economic development, the EDB has initiated a focused census aimed at identifying ladies within

the Community who are interested in working from home, as well as Jamaat welfare cases with the potential to benefit from structured support. The findings from this exercise will serve as a foundation for designing targeted initiatives—empowering women through home-based business opportunities and enabling sustainable upliftment for welfare families. This effort will pave the way for long-term, tailored programs that promote self-reliance, economic participation, and dignity through enterprise.

Gratitude and Future Collaborations

AFED EDB expresses its deepest gratitude to all those involved in these initiatives. Special thanks go to the Ismat Kassam Women Empowerment Program, MeTL, the ILO trainers, and the guest speakers for their invaluable contributions. The efforts of the KSIJ Dar EEC, SSC, and the Africa Federation have also been instrumental in making these programs a success.

Looking ahead, AFED EDB is excited about future collaborations that will continue to uplift and empower the community, fostering an environment where entrepreneurship leads to lasting prosperity.

Economic Board Testimonials

ALYANA HAIR & BEAUTY ZONE.

“The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.”

This is the true essence of our story behind Alyana Hair & Beauty Zone as Zahira and Abida. We are a dynamic duo of two sisters from Mombasa, Kenya who set out on their Journey to conquer the world, with a vision to be self-reliant and independent and achieve our dream of owning our own business.

Alyana Hair & Beauty Zone is a name synonymous with quality hair and body care by the ladies for the ladies!!!

Zahira, a single mother of 5 children, lost her husband at a very young age and has had to fend for her family ever since. Zahira trained as a hair technician, and has worked in various reputable salons and gained a loyal customer base.

Abida, a qualified cosmetologist and having worked in admin and finance was at a position whereby she wanted to start her own business. Abida was working as an accountant and was also training to qualify as an aesthetician for advanced skin treatments and she felt that it was the right time to start.

We have always been passionate about haircare and beauty, hence the birth of ALYANA HAIR & BEAUTY ZONE. When it came to our knowledge that the Africa Federation through its Economic Development Board was promoting businesses by extending loans, we approached them and became one of the pioneer entrepreneurs under this scheme. We got ample support from the Jamaat and we

succeeded in opening our doors to the public in 2017. Initially we had only 2 staff and a small space but as our reputation for quality services grew, we too had to grow.

Attention to detail and personalized service is our strength and within 5 years we saw the need to expand the business and add on more staff to accommodate the demand. Once again the community under the AFED – EDB scheme gave us the required financial assistance and we took over the available space which was next door to our shop to accommodate more clients as we expanded our scope of services to include Laser Hair Removal Treatment.

Our all-inclusive bouquet of services includes:

Comprehensive hair treatments- (Haircuts, Hair Colors & Transformations)

Permanent Hair Straightening & Smoothening Treatments

Full Hair & Body Spa Rituals.

Permanent Laser Hair Removal with a qualified Aesthetician.

Facial Skin treatments.

Bridal & party make-overs.

We are always on the look-out for emerging technologies and advancements in beauty and hair care and Insha'Allah will be adding more services in the near future.

Alhamdulillah for everything. We thank the Mombasa Jamaat, the Economic Development Board of AFED, our Guarantors and our loyal clients for believing in us and helping us turn our dream into a reality.



Testimonial for Support through Economic Upliftment Loan

Muntazir S. Meghjee | Nairobi Jamaat



It is with immense gratitude that I write this testimonial in appreciation of the AFED Economic Development team & SAAJ Management, whose support during the COVID-19 pandemic was instrumental in helping me navigate a challenging time for my business. When my primary business in photography came to a standstill due to pandemic restrictions, I faced difficulties in opening a new venture due to a lack of capital.

In March 2020, I applied to the AFED Economic development team for a Loan through SAAJ, with the intention of starting a butchery, as my photography business had been heavily affected by the COVID-19 restrictions. The team from AFED and SAAJ Jamaat played a crucial role in securing this loan, enabling me to open a business that sustained my family's financial needs throughout the pandemic.



The Process: The loan application process was seamless, and I received invaluable support from various members of the SAAJ Jamaat and the AFED Economic Board. They guided me through the essential aspects of the business plan, cash flow management, and other necessary documentation to ensure that the business operated efficiently.

A Humble Advice to Loanees: When we receive support from the community, it is our responsibility to honor that trust by ensuring timely repayment. I approached the loan with this mindset and would like to share a strategy that helped me manage my

payments. During months when business was thriving, I would make double payments to cover slower periods when I might struggle to meet the installments. This approach allowed me to repay the loan in full within 18 months while maintaining some flexibility during challenging times. Repaying loans promptly ensures that others in need have access to the same support that helped us.

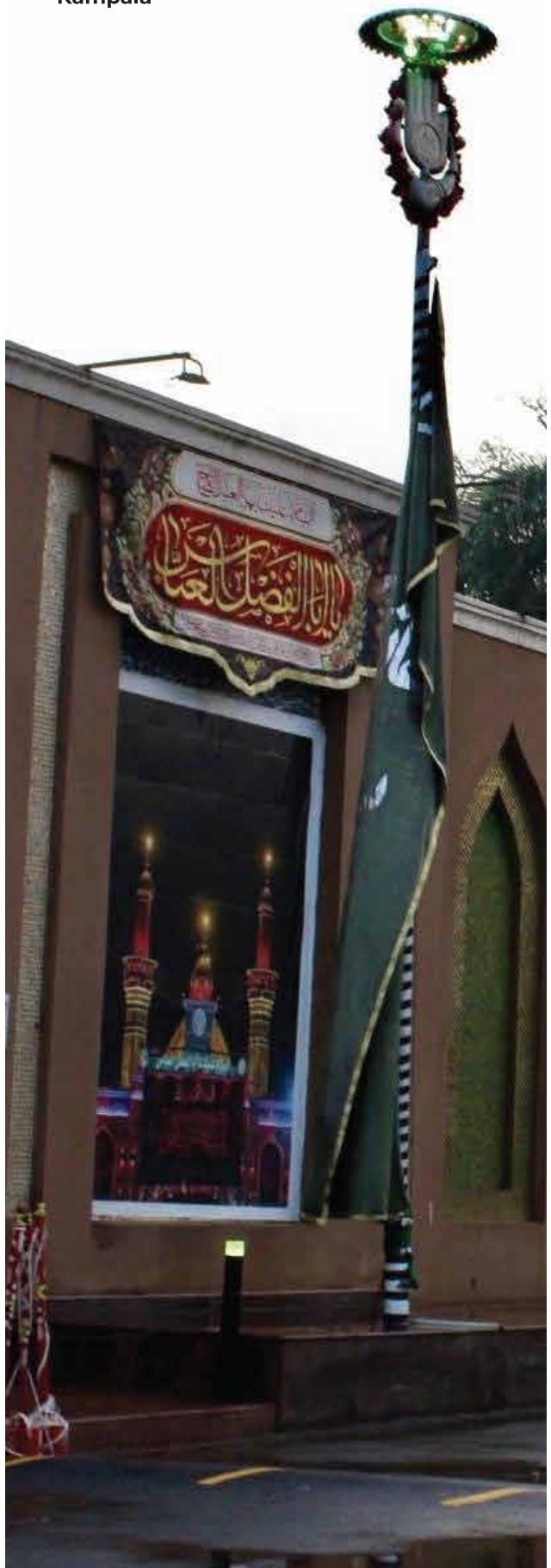


Outcome: Alhamdulillah, I successfully repaid the loan and sold the butchery in March 2024, at a profitable margin. I am deeply grateful to the Economic Development Board of Africa Federation and the SAAJ Management & Economic team for their unwavering support during this period.

Thank you for the opportunity to benefit from this initiative.



Photography Challenge
Syeda Kaniz Fatima Naqvi
Kampala



EDUCATION BOARD

Education Board Prioritizes Affordable Universities - A Sustainable Path for Higher Education

The Africa Federation Education Board has emphasised the importance of attending affordable universities, a key aspect of our educational guidance. Recently, we published articles addressing the rising costs of education and the need for students to consider financially sustainable options. As part of our commitment, the Education Board visited Mombasa from August 30th to September 1st, engaging with parents to reinforce this message.



Br. Mohamed Kazim Sheriff, Chairman of the Education Board speaking with parents at Jaffery Academy Mombasa

As we continue to support students through our Higher Education Loan programs, it is crucial to recognise that our loan fund resources are becoming increasingly limited. We are actively ensuring that students, parents, and stakeholders make informed and responsible decisions when selecting universities.

Why the Education Board Recommends Affordable Universities

1. Sustainability of Financial Resources

The rising costs of higher education globally have become a significant concern. Many prestigious institutions, particularly in Western countries, impose exorbitant fees that can heavily burden students and their families. In contrast, affordable universities in Africa and Asia offer excellent alternatives, allowing students to pursue quality education without jeopardising their financial stability.

The Education Board's loan funds have been vital for many families, enabling students to access higher education. However, as demand increases and resources dwindle, careful allocation of these funds becomes essential. By encouraging students to consider affordable universities, we can support more individuals, ensuring the sustainability of our Higher Education Loan programs.

2. Accessible, High-Quality Education

Affordable universities provide not only economic advantages but also high-quality education that rivals that of more expensive institutions. In countries such as Kenya, Uganda, South Africa, and India, universities have made significant investments in world-class research, infrastructure, and academic programs that are recognized on a global scale. These institutions are well-equipped to equip students with the skills and knowledge necessary for success in their chosen careers.

For instance, Makerere University in Uganda and the University of Cape Town in South Africa are renowned for their academic excellence. Likewise, Indian universities like Delhi University and Jawaharlal Nehru University have produced graduates who excel in various fields worldwide. Students can benefit from these high educational standards while avoiding the financial strain often associated with studying in more expensive regions like North America or Europe.

3. Reduced Financial Burden for Families

A primary reason the Education Board advocates for affordable universities is the financial relief they provide to families. The cost of living in countries such as Tanzania, Kenya, and Malaysia is significantly lower than in Western nations, allowing students and families to save on expenses beyond just tuition fees. This reduction in overall costs enables families to avoid incurring massive loans or depleting savings, thus protecting their financial futures.

In countries like India and Mauritius, students can live comfortably with minimal expenses for food, accommodation, and transportation. This not only makes education more accessible but also allows students to focus on their studies without the constant worry of financial stress.

Recommended Universities

Country	Cost	Universities recommended
 Tanzania	<p>The average cost of living in Tanzania is about \$300 to \$700 per month.</p> <p>Tuition Fees: Tuition fees range from \$2,000 to \$6,000 per year, depending on the program and institution.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. University of Dar es Salaam – DSM 2. Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences – DSM 3. Ardihi University – DSM 4. Nelson Mandela African Institution of Science and Technology – Arusha 5. Catholic University of Health and Allied Sciences – Mwanza 6. Mzumbe University – Morogoro 7. St. Joseph University in Tanzania – DSM 8. Sokoine University of Agriculture - Morogoro
 Kenya	<p>The average cost of living in Kenya is about \$400 to \$700 per month.</p> <p>Tuition Fees: Tuition fees range from \$2,000 to \$6,000 per year, depending on the program and institution.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. University of Nairobi - Nairobi 2. Kenyatta University - Nairobi 3. Strathmore University - Nairobi 4. Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology - Nairobi 5. United States International University Africa- Nairobi
 South Africa	<p>The average cost of living in South Africa is about \$400 to \$700 per month.</p> <p>Tuition Fees: Tuition fees range from \$2,000 to \$6,000 per year, depending on the program and institution.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. University of Cape Town – Cape Town 2. University of Witwatersrand – Johannesburg 3. Stellenbosch University – Stellenbosch 4. University of Kwazulu Natal – Durban 5. University of the Western Cape – Bellville 6. Rhodes University - Grahamstown
 Mauritius	<p>Cost of Living: The average cost of living in Mauritius is about \$400 to \$600 per month.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Middlesex University - Flic en Flac 2. University of Technology, Mauritius (UTM) - La Tour Koenig 3. University of Mauritius - Réduit. 4. Curtin University Mauritius - Moka
 Malaysia	<p>Cost of Living: The average cost of living in Malaysia is about \$300 to \$500 per month.</p> <p>Tuition Fees: Tuition fees range from \$1,500 to \$5,000 per year.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Taylor's University - Subang Jaya 2. Asia Pacific University of Technology & Innovation (APU)- Kuala Lumpur 3. Heriot-Watt University Malaysia Campus - Putrajaya, about 25km south of Kuala Lumpur 4. Sunway University - Subang Jaya 5. University of Wollongong - Shah Alam 6. Monash University Malaysia - Bandar Sunway, about 18km from central Kuala Lumpur. 7. University of Nottingham Malaysia Campus - Semenyih, Selangor
 India	<p>Cost of Living: The average cost of living in India ranges from \$150 to \$400 per month, depending on the city and lifestyle.</p> <p>Tuition Fees: Tuition fees vary, but on average, they range from \$1,000 to \$6,000 per year, depending on the program and institution.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Indian Institute of Technology Bombay – Mumbai 2. Indian Institute of Science – Bengaluru 3. University of Delhi – New Delhi 4. Jawaharlal Nehru University – New Delhi 5. Manipal Academy of Higher Education – Udupi 6. Panjab University – Chandigarh 7. Lovely Professional University - Phagwara

The Africa Federation Education Board is dedicated to helping students pursue higher education while promoting financially responsible choices. As our loan fund faces increasing strain, students, and families need to explore affordable universities as viable options. This strategy enables students to receive a world-class education, alleviate financial burdens, and ensure our resources remain available to support future generations.

In addition to choosing affordable universities, the Africa Federation Education Board strongly encourages students who have received loans from our fund to repay their dues promptly. These funds operate on a revolving basis, allowing new students to access the same financial support for their educational journeys. By fulfilling this obligation, students not only help sustain the fund for future generations but also uphold the ethical principles of trust and responsibility. The Holy Quran emphasises the importance of fulfilling commitments and repaying debts, as mentioned in Surah Al-Baqarah (2:282): "O you who have believed, when you contract a debt for a specified term, write it down... And let him who is indebted dictate, and let him fear Allah, his Lord, and not leave anything of it."

This Ayah serves as a reminder of our moral responsibility to settle debts and maintain the integrity of our commitments, ensuring that others can benefit from the same opportunities.

Africa Federation Education Board is committed to helping students make financially sustainable choices in higher education. Affordable universities provide an opportunity for quality education without the burden of significant debt, paving the way for a brighter future for students and their families. We encourage students and parents to explore the options we've presented and to reach out to the Board for further support. By making informed decisions and repaying financial aid on time, we can ensure that these resources remain available for future generations, helping them achieve their academic and professional goals.

Aspiring Achievers

Muhammad Abbas Rizwan Peera - Championing Place Brand Strategy



We are delighted to introduce our first achiever Muhammad Abbas Rizwan Peera. Recently awarded the prestigious "Best Place Brand Strategy" by Brand Finance, Muhammad Abbas stands as a beacon of academic excellence and innovation within our community.

Muhammad Abbas' journey to this remarkable achievement began with a choice to pursue a Master's Degree in Place Branding. Motivated by a deep-seated interest in politics, international diplomacy, public relations, marketing, and nation image building, Muhammad Abbas saw this course as a natural extension of his passions. His undergraduate studies, where he pursued Advertising, Public Relations, and Branding, solidified his resolve to explore this field further.

At the Global Soft Power Summit in London, on 28th February 2024, Muhammad Abbas was honored with the Best Place Brand Strategy award for his outstanding submission. His strategy, centered on Rodrigues Island, an autonomous region of Mauritius, was selected among 15 submissions. The proposal is ready for potential implementation, demonstrating the practical impact of Muhammad Abbas' academic efforts.

Muhammad Abbas's recognition with the "Best Place Brand Strategy" award at the Global Soft Power Summit in London represents the highest level of achievement in the field of place branding. The Soft Power Summit, known for acknowledging excellence in diplomacy, cultural influence, and global reputation, provides a platform where leaders and innovators come together to shape international dialogue. Winning such a prestigious award among global competition highlights Muhammad Abbas' exceptional talent and commitment. This esteemed recognition not only acknowledges Muhammad Abbas' expertise but also positions him as a pioneer

in developing influential strategies that enhance the reputation and perception of regions worldwide.

With a strong desire for continuous growth, Muhammad Abbas plans to pursue a Ph.D. in place branding after completing his Master's degree. At the same time, he aims to expand his marketing consultancy to encompass several African countries. He envisions a future marked by further academic achievements and professional success.

While the road ahead may be long, Muhammad Abbas remains steadfast in his aspirations. With unwavering determination, he sees himself realizing the outlined plans and making significant contributions to the field of place branding and beyond.

Muhammad Abbas emphasizes the importance of Middlesex University Mauritius for our community students. Having completed his bachelor's degree there and now pursuing his Master's, he highlights three compelling reasons for its appeal: the supportive presence of the Shia Ithna Asheri Community, the cost-effectiveness compared to studying in the UK, and the quality of education, which is on par with that of the UK campus.

Muhammad Abbas's recognition ceremony took place in Westminster, London, on the 27th and 28th of February 2024, marking a significant milestone in his academic journey. Join us in congratulating Muhammad Abbas on this remarkable achievement and wishing him continued success in his future endeavors.



Ammar Janmohamed - Representing Tanzania at LIYSF



We congratulate Ammar Janmohamed, a Year 12 student at Al-Muntazir, for being the first Tanzanian student to attend the London International Youth Science Forum (LIYSF) since 2018. Ammar was selected for a full scholarship from Young Scientists for Africa (YOSA), which enabled him to participate in the 65th edition of LIYSF.

LIYSF is a prestigious STEM education event held annually at Imperial College London. It brings together talented students from over 85 countries, providing them with a platform to engage in various scientific disciplines. Through lectures, seminars, and workshops led by renowned scientists and researchers, LIYSF promotes collaboration, innovation, and intellectual exchange.



Ammar's selection for LIYSF with a full scholarship from YOSA is a testament to his academic strength, passion for science, and commitment to excellence. His participation in LIYSF will offer him unique opportunities to explore state-of-the-art scientific discoveries, foster cross-cultural understanding, and establish connections with like-minded students from around the world.

As Ammar embarks on this remarkable journey, LIYSF is set to pave the way for his future success. The knowledge, insights, and experiences gained during his time at LIYSF will undoubtedly equip him with the skills and confidence to pursue his academic and professional aspirations in the field of science.

Ammar's representation at LIYSF not only highlights his achievement but also showcases the potential of Tanzanian students on the global stage. We applaud Ammar for his remarkable accomplishment and wish him the best as he embarks on this exciting chapter of his academic journey.

Aynebilkees H Rashid: 2nd Runner Up at WISE Talks Competition



The Education Board of Africa Federation is delighted to extend its warmest congratulations to Aynebilkees H. Rashid of Al Muntazir Islamic International School for her exceptional accomplishment in the WISE Talks competition. Aynebilkees excelled in the initial round of the competition hosted at her school. Her journey reached its pinnacle in Najaf, where she received the esteemed title of 2nd runner-up.

The World Islamic Summit on Education (WISE) is an independent, non-governmental, nonprofit, and non-partisan forum and community dedicated to advancing Islamic education globally. WISE brings together educational practitioners, activists, and institutions from schools to develop ideas, share experiences, and build cooperative partnerships that strengthen Islamic education in theory, practice, and organization.

WISE Talks is a top-notch global public speaking platform that aims to empower young students to develop essential skills like communication, critical thinking, and problem solving, while also embracing their Muslim identity. This program provides participants with the necessary skills to tackle social issues and make a positive impact in their communities.

The WISE talks competition consisted of two rounds and the finalists had the opportunity to move forward to the annual WISE Conference. In 2024, the summit was held in Najaf, Iraq, where Aynebilkees demonstrated her exceptional speaking skills and unwavering confidence on an international platform.

Aynebilkees' accomplishment not only showcases her exceptional abilities but also demonstrates the immense potential of young individuals to create a significant influence on a global scale. We applaud Aynebilkees for her impressive achievement and eagerly anticipate her ongoing triumphs in the future.

Sabah Sameer Dewji: University Gold Medalist and Accomplished Scholar



The Education Board of Africa Federation is proud to announce the outstanding achievements of Sabah Sameer Dewji from Mwanza Jamaat, a recent graduate of Lovely Professional University, India, where she completed her Bachelor of Pharmacy degree with remarkable distinction.

Sabah was honored with the University Gold Medal for achieving the highest academic standing in her Bachelor of Pharmacy program. This award is a testament to her academic excellence and unwavering dedication. It highlights her commitment to academic rigor and her outstanding performance throughout her studies.

Sabah has made significant contributions to scientific literature and research and has been honored for her work. She has obtained copyrights for three literary and dramatic works represented as graphical abstracts by the Copyright Office, Government of India. These works include "Role of Aggregated Alpha-synuclein in Dopaminergic Cell Dysfunction" (December 2023), "Proteinuria in diabetes mellitus" (September 2023), and "Types of diabetes mellitus" (November 2022). These graphical abstracts serve as valuable educational tools that simplify complex medical concepts, making them accessible to a broader audience.

Sabah's academic review paper titled "Therapeutic Potential of Various Phytochemicals in the Management of Diabetes Mellitus" was published in the esteemed International Journal of Biology, Pharmacy, and Allied Sciences. This publication highlights her research on the use of natural compounds in managing diabetes, offering innovative insights into potential therapeutic approaches.

Sabah's achievements not only display her exceptional talent but also demonstrate the

potential of our community's youth to excel in academia and contribute to scientific knowledge. Her work, especially in the field of diabetes research, shows a dedication to addressing critical health issues through innovative approaches and advancing the understanding of complex medical conditions.

We commend Sabah for her outstanding accomplishments and wish her continued success in her future endeavors.

The Dar Es Salaam Boy, Asad Ali Lilani Becomes the Youngest Global CEO at The Access Challenge

Africa Federation is proud to announce that Asad Lilani has been appointed the global CEO of The Access Challenge Organization in New York, effective June 21, 2024. The Access Challenge is a leading advocate for global health, focusing on universal health coverage, routine vaccinations, and data-driven health approaches. Asad's appointment as the youngest CEO at The Access Challenge and one of the youngest Africans in such a prestigious role is a significant milestone for young African leaders on the international stage.

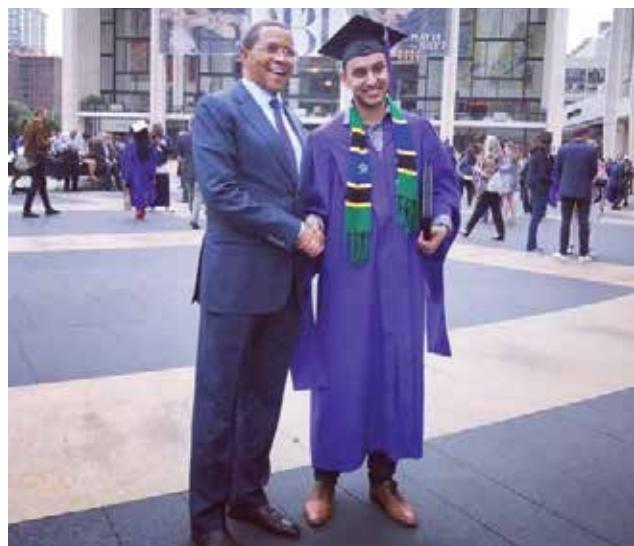
Asad has made noteworthy contributions to advancing Universal Health Coverage at the African Union and United Nations levels. He spearheaded The Access Challenge's COVID-19 response, reaching over 75 million people in Africa through the One by One vaccination campaigns in collaboration with The Africa CDC. As Director at The Access Challenge, he successfully led health campaigns across seven countries, addressing critical issues such as Universal Health Coverage, COVID-19, polio, cholera, HIV, and pandemic preparedness.



Originally from Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, Asad is a recent Master's graduate from New York University (NYU) - Gallatin School of Individualized study with a Master's in Business and Human Development in Global Emerging Markets. His Master's thesis

research was based on sustainable textile manufacturing in Tanzania and the way forward. As part of his thesis deliverables, Asad created a policy proposal for Tanzania's Textile sector and collaborated with Tanzania's Ministry of Industry Trade and Investment, Textile Development Unit, and the esteemed Prof Benno Ndulu, former Governor of Tanzania's Central Bank among other renowned economists, professors, and leaders.

During his time at NYU, Asad served as a graduate research assistant at NYU Africa House & Development Research Institute, where he had the privilege of working with former President of the United Republic of Tanzania, H.E. Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete, and ghost-writing his upcoming book, "The Journey of My Life: From Barefoot Schoolboy to President."



Above Left: Asad Ali Lilani being congratulated by the former President of the United Republic of Tanzania, H.E. Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete outside the University following the graduation ceremony.

He also holds a Bachelor's in Business and Engineering from Drexel University and gained valuable experience in business development and corporate strategy through his roles at Sunoco Inc., Exelon-Peco, and TE Connectivity.

Asad Ali Lilani is an alumnus of the Africa Federation Higher Education Loan Program, having received a loan for his undergraduate studies. We are pleased to highlight that Asad repaid his loan fully within the allotted time, demonstrating his dedication and responsibility, honoring his obligation – A good example for others to follow.

We convey heartiest congratulations to Asad for his determination, hard work and excellent accomplishments, we pray and look forward to his continued success, Aameen.

Students who have completed their higher education studies are requested to share their achievements and experiences with us; please contact us at.

Education Board Secretariat
education@africafederation.org

Sayyida Murtaza Jetha – A Shining Example of Academic Excellence



The Education Board of Africa Federation proudly celebrates Sayyida Murtaza Jetha from Arusha Jamaat for her outstanding accomplishments. A graduate of the University of Portsmouth, Sayyida has been recognised as the top student in Postgraduate Accounts and Finance. Her success reflects resilience, dedication, and the pursuit of excellence.

From an early age, Sayyida was captivated by the logical nature of accounting and finance. Her passion for the field arises from its potential to drive impactful decisions while upholding ethical financial standards. Guided by her faith in Allah and the unwavering support of her family, she has excelled in both academic and professional settings.

Sayyida's academic journey is marked by notable achievements. She graduated as the top student in her master's program and excelled in her ACCA studies, topping six papers to earn the prestigious title of top ACCA affiliate. Balancing her ACCA qualification with a full-time job was challenging, but it instilled in her a sense of perseverance. Her master's dissertation, "The Impact of Creative Accounting on the Credibility of Financial Statements," reflects her commitment to ethical practices in finance and her desire to uphold transparency in financial reporting.

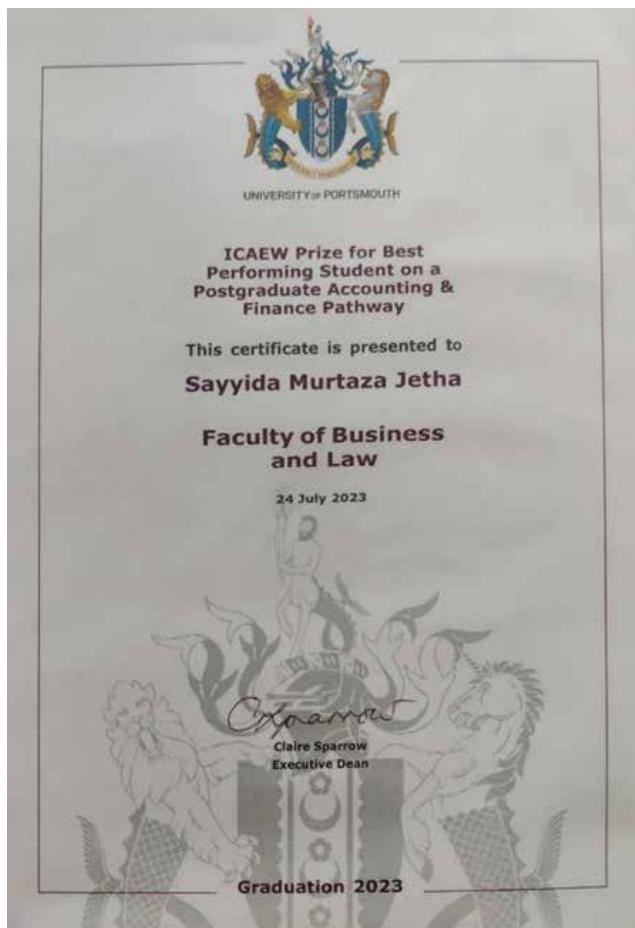
In her professional career, Sayyida works as an external auditor at a reputable firm in the UK. Her university experience equipped her with skills such as analytical thinking, problem-solving, and time management which she applies daily in her role. Her commitment to maintaining high standards of accuracy reflects her belief in the role of ethical financial practices.

Sayyida draws inspiration from her parents' sacrifices, her husband's support, and the Quranic principle: "And whoever puts their trust in Allah, He will suffice them" (Quran 65:3). This verse emphasises her belief that hard work and trust in Allah are key to achieving success.

Looking ahead, Sayyida envisions herself taking on leadership roles in external auditing, mentoring young finance professionals, particularly Muslim women, and championing education as a tool for empowerment. Her message to aspiring students is one of encouragement:

"Always give 100% and trust in Allah's plan for you. Education is one of the greatest gifts, it opens doors to endless opportunities. Surround yourself with supportive people who believe in you, and let their positivity drive you toward your dreams. And never underestimate the power of dua, turning to Allah for guidance is essential to overcoming challenges and achieving success."

Sayyida's story inspires others to work hard and stay true to their values while striving for success. Her achievements show the importance of dedication, determination, and aiming for excellence, creating a lasting example for future students in the community. The Education Board of Africa Federation extends its heartfelt congratulations to Sayyida on this remarkable achievement and wishes her continued success in all her future endeavours.



Photography Challenge Muhammad Ladak Moshi



HOUSING BOARD

Madina Residency Project: A Landmark in Community Housing Development

Alhamdulillah, with the blessings of Almighty Allah (SWT), the Madina Residency Project is moving forward with tremendous progress, transforming the housing landscape of our community. The project, a 17-storey residential building located on Plot No. 512, Mindu Street, Upanga, is an essential part of the Africa Federation's ongoing commitment to addressing the critical housing needs of its members.

Ground Breaking Ceremony



The journey for Madina Residency began with a Ground Breaking Ceremony held on 23rd June 2024, marking the start of a new era in affordable housing for our community. This significant event was attended by key community leaders, stakeholders, and members, all gathered to celebrate this momentous occasion that reflects the Africa Federation's dedication to providing sustainable housing solutions.

During the ceremony, Africa Federation Chairman Alhaj Amine Nassor emphasized the need for collaboration within the community and urged continued support for this transformative project. The Ground Breaking Ceremony symbolized the collective effort of all involved and was an essential step toward realizing the dream of providing dignified housing for deserving families.

Project Overview & Construction Update

Since the groundbreaking, the Madina Residency project has made remarkable progress, despite facing initial challenges related to excavation, mass concreting of the foundation, and coordination with the neighbors. However, thanks to the unwavering efforts of the project team and the contractor, these challenges were successfully navigated.

By 17th December 2024, the foundation and basement of the building were completed, and the ground floor slab was casted, marking a significant achievement in the project's development. As of

now, preparations are underway to begin the fifth-floor slab construction.



The substructure work completed 100% and main structure is progressing at a steady pace, with 20% of the work completed. The project team is now focused on maintaining the momentum as they continue constructing the main structure. The team is also ensuring that they meet the timeline set for the completion of this landmark project.

The project has already been visited by key stakeholders, including Alhaj Sadiqbhai Jaffer of Jaffer Family Foundation, alongside AFED Trustee & Housing Board Advisor Alhaj Shabirbhai Najafi and AFED Housing Board Chairman Alhaj Akilbhai Hirji, who expressed their satisfaction with the project's progress. The support and involvement of such key figures have been essential to the success of the project.

Madina Residency Allocation Process



In parallel with the project's physical development, the allocation process for the apartments has been underway. With 197 applications received for the Rent-to-Own Scheme, the allocation process was bound to be a challenging one, given the high number of applications and the limited number of units available. Only 57 units were available for allocation, creating a 277% demand-to-supply imbalance. Despite this, the Housing Development Board ensured that the allocation process was thorough, transparent, and fair.

After three months of interviews, the allocation committee diligently reviewed the needs of each applicant. In total, 158 applicants were deemed eligible, and after careful consideration, the apartments were allocated to the most deserving families, taking into account various factors such as financial constraints, family size, and current living conditions.



In order to accommodate more applicants, the Housing Board made a strategic decision to convert an additional floor initially designated for Outright Purchase Scheme into units for Rent-to-Own. This decision, while affecting the project's funding, was made to meet the growing demand for housing in the community.

AFED Grant Scheme for Housing Deposit Assistance
A significant development in this project was the introduction of the Grant Scheme, which aims to assist families facing financial challenges in making the down payment for their new apartments. This AFED grant scheme has been a crucial step in ensuring that housing is accessible to as many members as possible, particularly those with financial constraints but who are able to afford monthly rentals.

The grant scheme offers the following:

2 Units (3BHK): 50% of the deposit, equivalent to US\$15,000 each

2 Units (4BHK): 50% of the deposit, equivalent to US\$20,000 each

5 Units (3BHK): 100% of the deposit, equivalent to US\$30,000 each

1 Units (4BHK): 100% of the deposit, equivalent to US\$40,000 each

The scheme is designed for families who meet the criteria but need assistance with the deposit. 198 applications for the grant were received, with the Housing Board reviewing each submission carefully to ensure fair allocation of the available grants.

This initiative demonstrates the Africa Federation's commitment to supporting its community and helping those in need achieve their dreams of homeownership, regardless of their financial status.

Results of the Allocation Process

On 27th January 2025, the results of the allocation were released. A total of 197 applications were received, with 158 eligible applicants vying for the available 57 units. The process, which took longer than anticipated due to the need for fairness and

transparency, was carried out with the utmost care to ensure each applicant's unique needs were met. Unfortunately, the overwhelming demand meant that many applicants could not be allocated apartments, despite their eligibility.

As part of the allocation process, applicants who were unable to be accommodated in this project will be given priority in future housing projects in Upanga, which the Housing Board is already exploring. We understand the frustration of the families who were not allocated apartments, and the Housing Board remains committed to finding solutions that meet the increasing housing demand in our community.

Looking Ahead: Expanding Housing Solutions

The need for affordable, safe, and dignified housing in Dar es Salaam remains a pressing concern, especially as families continue to face overcrowding and substandard living conditions. For instance, some families live in two-bedroom homes with up to 8 members, while others reside in areas prone to social instability. In light of this, the Housing Development Board is calling on Jamaats, institutions, and private individuals to provide plots of land or financial support to help address the increasing demand for housing.

In recognition of the critical nature of this issue, the Housing Development Board has expressed its intent to continue with its ambitious vision to address these needs. One of the core objectives remains to ensure that no family lives in undesirable conditions, thereby safeguarding the well-being of our community members and promoting social stability.

Community Support and Gratitude

The progress and success of the Madina Residency project would not have been possible without the visionary leadership of Africa Federation Chairman Alhaj Amine Nassor and the support of the Office Bearers and Trustees. Their ongoing commitment to finding sustainable housing solutions has been an inspiration to the entire community.

Additionally, the Allocation Committee, comprising Shakerabai Dhanani, Zakiyabai Khamisa, Akilbhai Somji, Arifbhai Dhirani, Irfanbhai Mahershah, Mohamedbhai Moledina, Shahidbhai Murji, and Zulfikarbhai Alimohamed, has worked tirelessly and selflessly to ensure the allocation process was conducted with fairness and transparency. Special thanks are also extended to Alhaj Shabirbhai Najafi, whose regular guidance and advice were instrumental in optimizing the allocation process.

A Vision for the Future

As we reflect on the success of this project, it is clear that the Madina Residency project marks only the beginning of what promises to be an era of transformative community housing. With continued support from the Jamaat, donors, and community leaders, the Africa Federation Housing Development Board aims to continue expanding its housing initiatives, providing safe, secure, and affordable

housing to even more families.

We ask for prayers and support as we embark on the next stages of this journey, ensuring that no family is left behind in the pursuit of a better, more stable future. Together, with the grace of Allah (SWT), we can overcome these challenges and continue to build a community where every member can thrive.



Al Mahdi Tower: A Milestone Achievement for Arusha Jamaat

Alhamdulillah, the construction of Al Mahdi Tower, a landmark housing initiative by the Arusha Jamaat in collaboration with the Africa Federation Housing Development Board, was successfully completed. Situated on Plot No. 13, Sokoine Road/Swahili Street in Arusha Town, the project stood as a testament to the vision, unity, and dedication of the Jamaat and its leadership.



The project was initiated to provide affordable and quality housing for Arusha Jamaat members within close proximity to the community centre. With the Grace of the Almighty, this dream became a reality after months of tireless effort and collaboration.

We record our deepest appreciation to the Office Bearers, Managing Committee, and Trustees of Arusha Jamaat, and to the Africa Federation Office Bearers and Trustees for their unwavering support. Special thanks were also extended to AFED Housing Board Advisor Alhaj Shabir Najafi, Project Coordinator Br. Mohamed Moledina, members of the Housing Board, and to all donors and well-wishers who contributed to the project in various ways.

Project Overview

Al Mahdi Tower emerged as a modern 13-storey multipurpose building, carefully designed to cater to both commercial and residential needs of the community.

The basement level was dedicated to secure parking and utilities, including standby generators.

The ground floor, mezzanine, and first three floors were developed into commercial office spaces, offering a long-term income stream.

Floors four to ten each housed two three-bedroom apartments, allocated to Arusha Jamaat members for rental accommodation.

The eleventh floor featured a spacious four-bedroom apartment.

The twelfth floor was transformed into a state-of-the-art Ladies Gym, a generous endowment by the Jaffer Family Foundation of New York, USA, focused on promoting health and wellness for female members.

The thirteenth floor was fitted with exclusive hygiene amenities for the users of the gym.

Sustainability and Community Welfare

The project adopted a forward-looking model of financial sustainability. Rental income from the commercial and residential units was earmarked for the operational and administrative needs of Arusha Jamaat — including Tabligh, education, health, and welfare support for deserving members.

This initiative aligned with the Africa Federation's vision of enabling Jamaats to create income-generating capital assets to address the growing demand for affordable and dignified housing.

The ground floor was successfully leased to a reputable bank under a long-term agreement, providing a stable source of income. Furthermore, all residential units were fully allocated to members of the Arusha Jamaat, with occupation scheduled to begin from 1st June 2025, Insha'Allah.

Official Inauguration Ceremony

The official inauguration ceremony of Al Mahdi Tower took place in Arusha on Sunday, 18th May 2025. The event was attended by community leaders, project stakeholders, and Jamaat members, marking the official handover of the building and celebrating the project's success.

A Vision Fulfilled

The completion of Al Mahdi Tower marked a significant milestone in the history of Arusha Jamaat. It fulfilled the long-standing aspiration of the Jamaat to own a modern, multi-purpose community building that would serve present and future generations.

This project also stood as a shining example of Africa Federation's mission — to support Jamaats in achieving long-term community sustainability through housing development and redevelopment of assets.

We prayed that this achievement would continue to inspire similar projects across the region, and we thanked the Almighty for granting the community the strength, unity, and resources to see this vision through to completion — Ameen.

Strengthening Community Roots: AFED Housing Board Chairman's Strategic Visits to Mombasa, Lamu & Dodoma

In April and early May 2025, the Africa Federation (AFED) Housing Development Board, under the leadership of Chairman Alhaj Akil Hirji, undertook a series of strategic visits to the Jamaats of Mombasa, Lamu, and Dodoma. Accompanied by Project Coordinator Br. Mohamed Moledina, and in Mombasa and Lamu by AFED Nominated Councillor Alhaj Shabbir Najafi, the visits were aimed at assessing local infrastructure, discussing development opportunities, and strengthening partnerships between AFED and regional Jamaats for long-term community upliftment.

Revitalizing Coastal Communities: Mombasa and Lamu

From 19th to 21st April 2025, the delegation began their tour in Mombasa, where they were warmly received by the Jamaat's leadership, including Chairman Alhaj Mohamedraza Virjee, Hon. Secretary Br. Mohamed Hemani, and Trustees. A key focus of the visit was the revival of the Nyali Housing Project—an initiative envisioned to provide accessible, modern housing for community members in a high-potential coastal region.

Akil bhai, accompanied by Alhaj Husseinali Dungersi, visited Unity House in Mombasa, AFED's Trust property, to assess its current condition and determine the best way forward. During the visit, it became evident that the property requires major renovations. Specifically, the four flats on the first floor need to be converted from residential to commercial use to align with the evolving nature of the surrounding area. The building's external structure also requires refurbishment to give it a more modern and attractive outlook.

Akil bhai instructed Husseinali bhai to begin groundwork on converting the four apartment units into office spaces and to develop a proposal for discussion with the AFED Office Bearers and Trustees. The goal is to generate sufficient income for AFED and further strengthen the Federation's resources.



The Housing Board reaffirmed its commitment to supporting the Mombasa Jamaat in finalizing architectural designs and moving the project toward AFED Trustee review. The discussions highlighted the growing need for sustainable housing in Mombasa, especially to attract and retain young families and professionals.

During the visit, the delegation paid a courtesy call to Alhaj Dr. Mohamed Jaffer, a distinguished philanthropist and longstanding supporter of the Africa Federation. Akil bhai expressed profound gratitude to Dr. Jaffer for his decades-long commitment to economic and community development. Dr. Jaffer emphasized the importance of long-term investments in housing and education to foster stability and growth within the Khoja Shia Ithna-Asheri community.



The team then traveled to Lamu, a historically significant yet demographically smaller Jamaat. They met with Chairman Alhaj Hatim Fazel and Hon. Secretary Br. Mohamed Gulamhussein, where discussions focused on sustaining community facilities and exploring new economic empowerment strategies. With only four families currently residing in Lamu, the emphasis was on preserving the heritage of the Jamaat while seeking support from AFED for its continued development.



Akil bhai lauded the resilience and steadfastness of the Lamu Jamaat, praising their dedication to religious and cultural preservation despite limited numbers. AFED pledged its continued support in areas of sustainability and heritage protection.



Fostering Growth in the Capital: Visit to Dodoma Jamaat

On 2nd May 2025, Alhaj Akil Hirji, accompanied by Project Coordinator Br. Mohamed Moledina, paid an official visit to Dodoma Jamaat, where they were received by Chairman Alhaj Mohamedabbas Ebrahim. The visit included tours of the Masjid, Imambargha, surrounding infrastructure, and the Kabrastan plot to assess current conditions and future development possibilities.



After Zohrain prayers, a meeting was held at the Jamaat office to discuss strategic plans for facility improvements and economic growth. Mohamedabbas bhai outlined the Jamaat's history—tracing its roots to the early 1950s—and shared how support from AFED in the late 1980s helped around 20 families settle in the area.

He paid tribute to key pioneers such as Marhum Seyed Hassan Ansar Hussein Naqvi, Marhum Muzzafar Hussein Gulamali, Marhuma Kanizbai, Marhum Shaukat Hussein Gulamali, and Marhum Salim Panjwani, who played crucial roles in securing the Jamaat's assets and fostering community spirit. Today, the Jamaat generates income from five commercial shops and a rentable property near the Kabrastan—developments made possible under the leadership of Mohamedabbas bhai and Marhum Alhaj Mazaher Hussein Lalji. Despite the community's small size, it remains active and resilient.

A new proposal was presented to the Housing Board to construct a one-storey building comprising

commercial shops on the ground floor and studio apartments on the upper floor—designed to serve students from the University of Dodoma (UDOM), business visitors, and community members. The development aims to attract more families, facilitate services of a full-time resident Aalim, and enhance the Jamaat's long-term sustainability.

Akil bhai was impressed by the Jamaat's organization and commitment to growth. He commended their efforts and noted how the ongoing infrastructure advancements, particularly the SGR Railway, have strengthened Dodoma's potential for community development. The Housing Board will present the proposal to AFED's Office Bearers and Trustees for further deliberation.

The visit concluded with a tour of the Dar ul Muslimeen Centre, led by Alhaj Sheikh Muslim Bhanji. The centre operates nursery, primary, and secondary schools serving over 800 students, with a commitment to sponsor at least 10% of the student body through donor support. A recently launched clinic now enhances the centre's healthcare services.



Additionally, the centre hosts a Hawza with around 80 students, emphasizing its role as a vital hub for Tabligh, education, and healthcare. Akil bhai praised Sheikh Muslim bhai's tireless service and urged continued efforts to promote Islamic teachings and the Madh'hab of Ahlulbayt ('A) in Tanzania's capital.

The visits to Mombasa, Lamu, and Dodoma reflect AFED Housing Development Board's commitment to supporting Jamaats across regions, regardless of size. Through strategic planning, local partnerships, and continued investment, AFED aims to foster resilient and self-sustaining communities.

Alhaj Akil Hirji extends his heartfelt gratitude to all three Jamaats for their warm hospitality, insightful discussions, and unwavering dedication to the progress of our community.

Let us all remember the past leaders and pioneers of these Jamaats, as well as all Marhumeen, with a recitation of Sura-e-Fateha.

Tanga Jamaat Mosque and Imambargha Undergo Major Renovations



In alignment with AFED Chairman Alhaj Amine Nassor's ongoing commitment to support the maintenance and enhancement of Jamaat centres across Africa, the Tanga Jamaat Mosque and Imambargha are receiving a much-needed facelift. This renovation, led by the AFED Housing Development Board, not only ensures that the facilities meet the highest standards of safety and comfort but also preserves the Khoja identity, offering a positive reflection of our religious institutions to the wider community, regardless of the size of the Jamaat.

Imambargha and Mosque Upgrades

The Imambargha has undergone an extensive renovation, which includes fresh paint, a new gypsum ceiling, upgraded lighting, new fans, and modern switches, as well as the installation of a new main electrical panel. Air conditioning units have been added, and the projectors in both the Masjid and Imambargha have been replaced, improving the facilities for daily and special programs.



The Mosque itself has received significant improvements, such as wall repainting, lighting upgrades, and the installation of new air conditioning units. These changes contribute to creating a more comfortable and welcoming environment for worshippers.

On 27th February 2025, AFED Housing Board Chairman Alhaj Akil Hirji, accompanied by project coordinator Br. Mohamed Moledina, met with Tanga Jamaat Office Bearers and the Managing Committee to officially hand over the renovated facilities. During the visit, Alhaj Hirji emphasized the importance of regular maintenance to ensure that the mosque and imambargha remain in pristine condition, offering a comfortable and conducive space for ibadaat.

Upgrading Facilities for a Healthier Community



In addition to spiritual enhancements, the Tanga playground has been upgraded. Originally a simple badminton court, it has now been transformed into a multi-purpose court suitable for both badminton and pickleball. This upgrade is part of a broader vision to encourage an active and healthy lifestyle within the community. The addition of floodlights will allow for evening use, making it more accessible to members.

Further improvements have been made to the Madressah building, which has been repainted, and external lighting has been installed to brighten the area. The kitchen has also been modernized, moving from traditional firewood cooking to an environmentally friendly LPG-based facility, ensuring sustainability and better environmental practices.

The mortuary area has been refurbished to enhance its functionality, and a dedicated washroom for elderly ladies has been introduced to promote accessibility and dignity for all members. In addition, security improvements have been made, including the replacement of old lights with new security lighting and the preparation for the installation of a CCTV system to enhance surveillance and safety. We express our sincere gratitude to the Africa Federation for their financial support, and to all the generous donors who have contributed to the refurbishment of the Tanga Mosque, Imambargha, Madressah, and playground. Special thanks go to Br. Sameer Bandali, Chairman of Tanga KSI Jamaat, and his team for their invaluable support and cooperation during the renovation process.

We pray for the successful completion of these works and invite all community members to continue supporting this noble cause.

WOMEN'S

The journey of a thousand miles begins with one step, as did the first ever trip to Iraq organized by the Africa Federation Women's board, for the women. It gives us immense pleasure to report that the Women's board successfully organized a spiritual trip to the holy lands of Iraq from 24th May to 3rd June 2024.

14 ladies from the Jamaats of Arusha, Bujumbura, Dar-es-salaam, Madagascar, Mombasa, Nairobi and Reunion visited Iraq for the first time and were full sponsored through the funds raised by the initiative of the Women's board along with 26 others.



Muharram Art Challenge!

This event once again brought women together and challenged them to depict their grief of Imam Hussain (A.S) through painting.

With the theme of 'Karbala' set in mind, women of all ages from Jamaats around Africa came out large numbers to participate and what a variety of skills and talents shone through this noble activity.

The paintings were auctioned and sold during the Eid-e-Zahra event and all the money raised was used towards the Iraq trip.



The Walk of Spiritual Love & Allegiance

Walk It Challenge!

To honour our beloved Lady Zainab (AS) of Karbala, women from jamaats all over Africa came out in numbers to participate in the Walk It challenge over a 40 days period from Ashura to Arbaeen.

In groups women came out in their cities replicating the famous 'Najaf to Karbala walk' as they aimed to complete 3143 KM.

This challenge held a two-fold purpose. It served as a means to encourage women to improve their health and well being as well as raising funds for the trip to Iraq.

Solidarity Day-Love in Action!

To inspire the young generation toward the path of our living Imam, the Women's board organised a competition of the ink!

The theme was 'Imam Mahdi' (AS) and women and children poured their hearts out on paper through poetry and essays expressing their understanding and connection of this great personality to their lives. Each Jamaat organized a writing session where all the participants came together and wrote their creative pieces.

Women's Tech Enhancements

Recognizing the growing role of technology in our lives, the Women's board have set out to bridge the gap between our ladies and their smart phones.

We aim to impart basic skills such as connecting using Bluetooth and WIFI, saving space on the phone by controlling downloads.

In second session we will move on to more complex applications such as mobile money. This will help build the confidence of the ladies in using apps like Tigo Pesa, M-Pesa and Airtel Money to do basic transactions.

This exercise is being implemented by various jamaats and it has shown a unity like no other as the youth are volunteering to teach the old.



SPORTS

Africa Sports Festival 2025 in Madagascar Draws Jamaats Across Three Continents in a Thrilling Display of Unity and Competition.

The Easter weekend of 2025 witnessed a spectacular celebration of athleticism, unity, and community spirit as the Africa Sports Festival 2025 lit up Antananarivo, Madagascar with energy and passion. Organized by The Association Khoja Shia Ithna-Asheri of Madagascar (AKSIAM), the highly anticipated event brought together 486 participants from 15 Jamaats across Africa, the Middle East, and Europe, creating a vibrant platform for international sportsmanship.

Over the course of the weekend, athletes competed in six exciting sports, with one of the festival's standout moments being the introduction of pétanque - a French-born precision game that captivated both seasoned competitors and curious spectators. The new addition met with enthusiasm, quickly becoming a crowd favorite and highlighting the festival's commitment to innovation in sport.



Futsal Glory for Tanzania

Flying the flag for Tanzania, KSIJ Dar es Salaam fielded a formidable squad of 22 players, making their mark in style. With skill, grit, and teamwork, the team powered through the competition to claim the

championship title in the Futsal tournament, cementing their status as a regional dazzling in the fast-paced indoor game.



Behind the Scenes: A Team Effort

The festival's seamless execution was a result of months of meticulous planning and tireless dedication from the organizing committee of AKSIAM. The coordination, hospitality, and structure of the event were universally praised by participants and spectators alike.

Special recognition is owed to the leadership of the Africa Federation, including:
Alhaj Amine Nassor, AFED Chairman
Alhaj Aunali Khalfan, AFED Vice Chairman
Alhaj Fazole Ali Kassam, Chairman of the Africa Federation Sports Council
Br. Mohammed Kazim Sheriff, AFED Chief Operating Officer.

Their collective vision and unwavering support played a pivotal role in delivering a sports festival that was not only professionally run but also emotionally resonant for the global Jamaat community.



More Than Just a Tournament

While medals and trophies were earned, the true victory lay in the camaraderie fostered among participants. The festival served as a reminder of the power of sports to transcend borders, forge lifelong friendships, and strengthen ties across continents.

As the curtain falls on this landmark event, the legacy of the Africa Sports Festival 2025 is clear: a unified community, a celebration of athletic excellence, and memories that will endure long after the final whistle.



Above: Recognition & Appreciation Awarded by AKSIAM – Africa Sports Festival Organizing Committee at the Opening Ceremony in the Imambargha on Thursday, 17th April 2025. From L to R: Alhaj Aunali Khalfar, Alhaj Amine Nassor, Alhaj Fazle Ali Kassam and Chairman of the AKSIAM Sports Committee, Alhaj Chahik Rajabaly

Our appreciation to the Africa Federation Sports Council for organizing a 22-players strong contingent from Dar-es-Salaam, well-coordinated by Br. Minhaal Dewji from the Dar-es-Salaam Jamaat and led by Br. Shaheed Rizwan Ratansi. Our sincere gratitude to the Chairman of the Africa Federation Sports Council, Alhaj Fazle Ali bhai Kassam and his committee member, Alhaj Ali Abid Mamdani who accompanied the contingent to Madagascar.

GAME CHANGERS: INSPIRING JOURNEYS OF FOOTBALL ACADEMIES IN OUR COMMUNITY



1. How was APEX Football Academy founded? What inspired you to relocate from London to Dar to start this initiative?

Growing up, we played football in Dar es Salaam before moving to London. The differences in football levels and infrastructure were striking. In London, we were exposed not just to the technical side of football but also to elements like nutrition, body conditioning, and high-intensity training—things we never had access to as a child in Tanzania. We played

semi-professionally and had friends in professional football, which gave us a deep understanding of what it takes both on and off the pitch. We also developed an appreciation for the media side of football—commercials, short films, and media exposure. That combination of football and media is something we wanted to bring to Dar, to Tanzania.

2. How did your experience with Union Sports Club Dar influence the creation of the academy?

Union Sports Club provided us with many opportunities from a young age. We were exposed to tournaments and learned how to organize and manage them, which gave us a platform to develop. Being involved with different age groups early on also helped shape us as individuals. We've met great people through the club, which played a big role in who we are today.

3. What challenges did you face transitioning from London to Dar and setting up the academy?

One of the biggest challenges was the lack of facilities and resources in Tanzania. In London, you can find a football pitch or a park to train in every 5-10 minutes, and it's free. But in Tanzania, the infrastructure is limited—there are few 11-a-side pitches and even fewer free spaces to play. This lack of access to proper facilities makes training difficult and is something we want to change.

4. With 70 kids currently enrolled, how do you manage the training sessions? Can you tell us about the age groups and skill development levels?

As the academy has grown to over 70 players in the past six months, we've maintained our individualized group training approach. We focus on each player's development, paying close attention to their strengths and weaknesses. We currently have four age groups: U9, U13, U15, and U18, each training 3-4 times a week. We set specific goals for each session to get the best out of every player and build a team with a unique style of play. We also keep detailed notes on each player to track progress and tailor training to their needs. We're blessed with a variety of talented players, and we make sure that our sessions cater to everyone's capabilities.

5. What is the long-term vision for APEX Football Academy? Where do you see the academy in the next five years?

Our long-term vision for AFC APEX is to be the "roots" of Tanzanian football, offering opportunities for local talent to flourish. We want to fill the gaps in football development by providing media training, nutritional guidance, mental conditioning, and education on the game. We aim to have our own facility and become a household name in Tanzania. In the next five years, I see APEX competing in international tournaments, helping Tanzanian players reach bigger teams, and contributing to the growth of Tanzanian football by developing future national team stars.

6. How does the academy build character and life skills in young athletes?

- Building character is our primary focus. Discipline is our top priority, but we also emphasize teamwork, recovery, and family bonding. Our media activities, like short films and commercials, have helped build our players' confidence, making them more comfortable in front of the camera. Parents often tell us how much their kids enjoy these activities, and it's helping them develop life skills beyond football. Having a strong relationship with parents, who come to us when their kids are facing challenges, allows for open conversations and guidance and help us instill responsibility and good habits in our players. They learn that being part of AFC APEX means adhering to standards and taking accountability from a young age. We also encourage critical thinking by challenging our players to analyze situations, make decisions on their own, and understand the why behind their action

7. How does the sports culture in London compare to Dar, and what unique opportunities does Dar offer for nurturing football talent?

- The difference between London and Dar is stark. London offers extensive football opportunities—from mental conditioning to physical training, and access to facilities, which Dar lacks. In London, football is ingrained in the culture from a very young age, but in Dar, there is a lack of educational resources for the game. This is something we aim to bring to Tanzania. By targeting the youth, we can change the culture and create more opportunities for international footballers to emerge.

8. Do you collaborate with any local or international football organizations to provide more opportunities for your players?

- Yes, we actively collaborate with football organizations in the United Kingdom to provide more opportunities for our players. During our time in London, we built strong connections with several scouts and professional clubs. These relationships are invaluable, as they help us identify and nurture talent at our academy, guiding players on their paths to professional level

9. What role does the local community play in APEX's success? How have parents and local clubs supported your journey?

Establishing AFC APEX in Tanzania has been challenging, particularly with local clubs viewing us as competitors. However, we've received overwhelming support from the local community and parents. Parents who enroll their children with us often spread the word to others, which has created a strong, united family within the academy. It's been amazing to see parents advocating for what we do, not just for their own children, but for others as well.

10. Are there plans to expand beyond 70 kids? How will you accommodate more aspiring footballers?

- Yes, we definitely plan to expand. We believe AFC APEX should be accessible to every aspiring footballer in Tanzania. Any expansion will focus on

maintaining our individualized training approach to ensure that each player's development remains a priority.

11. What keeps you motivated in running the academy, and what has been the most rewarding experience so far?

Motivation isn't an issue for us because we're doing what we love—teaching football and helping others chase their dreams. The trust that players and their families place in us is humbling. The most rewarding experiences come from the personal connections we've built with our players. They send us videos of themselves practicing, ask for advice on how to improve, and show a genuine desire to gain that competitive edge. These are life skills they'll take with them beyond football, and that's incredibly fulfilling for us.

12. What advice would you give to young footballers who dream of playing professionally?

Don't let anyone tell you that you can't and have that self-belief that you will do it. But most importantly, enjoy the journey and always aim to be 1% better every day. Through ups and downs always know what you're working towards and chase that dream. People will tell you the chances are slim, to be realistic, that it doesn't happen where you come from, well, you be the first. We're not telling you it's easy, but it's very possible. Dedicate your first ounce of energy of the day to it and your last and I'll tell you that nothing is impossible.





1. Can you share the story behind the founding of Bulls Academy and the inspiration that led to its creation?

In 2018, I was introduced to a small club led by an exceptionally skilled coach named Edward. Coach Edward opened my eyes to the world of local football. My son joined his program, a small group of just 12 players who played twice a week. One day, Coach Edward organized a match against a local team called 'Winners Academy' from Maandazi road area, who are now Bulls major partner. So my son's team went on to lose 13-1, with the guest team (Winners) playing unbelievable football, especially for 9 & 10 year olds. It was then that I realized how vibrant the local youth football scene was and the immense talent within it. Then I thought, if local coaches could nurture 8 and 9 year-olds to play such beautiful football, they could certainly do the same for our boys. That moment sparked the idea of what is now Bulls Football Academy.

Bulls officially took shape after the first Dar Youth Cup in 2019. The tournament highlighted the significant gap and demand for youth football clubs and programs in Dar, especially around the Peninsula area where we operate. My son, now 13 and playing for U13 Bulls, and his friends, who were 8 years old at the time, were passionate about football—they lived and breathed football. They participated in the first Dar Youth Cup as a school as Bulls was not alive then and went on to win as the first U9 Champions. They were highly competitive and motivated young people and some were extremely talented in sports and they went on to create the first group of Bulls Football which is now the U13 group. Today, we proudly run nine age groups, ranging from 4 to 17 years old, marking a beautiful journey of growth and development.

2. What motivated the focus on empowering local underprivileged children through sports, and how has that shaped the academy's mission?

So after our 13-1 loss and positively taking it in, we decided to learn from the experience by way of collaboration. We started with one group of mixed age 8-11yrs mostly friends and siblings together with five talented boys from Winners Academy training at

the newly opened Oysterbay Soccer Pitch for 1.5hrs three times a week. The relationship between the boys was instant. Despite a language barrier, as most of our boys spoke very little Kiswahili and Winners Academy kids speaking very little to no English, they found a way to connect. During water breaks, they would curl up together, laughing and chatting, I guess football became their common language. From that initial group, we gradually expanded by adding more age groups and with each new age group came along five more top players from Winners Academy of a similar age.

Through our daily interactions with our sponsored players, we gained a deeper understanding of their life struggles and needs. While we knew we couldn't change their lives completely, we focused on providing as much support as we could. This experience gradually shaped the mission we uphold today. We started with just kids from Winners Academy but after four years in operation, we now consider players even beyond the Maandazi road area.

3. What is the overall vision for Bulls Academy, and how do you see it evolving in the coming years?

We are dedicated to developing our players into well-rounded footballers. They are nurtured to be disciplined both on and off the field, equipped with a strong understanding of the game, and physically fit, ready to perform at a higher level whenever called upon. As we continue to grow, we aim to become a central hub for top-tier clubs and the federation to recruit players for their programs and national teams.

4. How does Bulls Academy ensure that underprivileged children get an equal chance to participate in sports alongside other enrolled children?

We have several initiatives that ensures our sponsored players are not only included but have equal access to opportunities as those for paying players.

Our sponsored players do not need to worry about monthly fees or any financial obligations to the program. We ensure they have everything they need—playing kits, shoes, water during training to fully participate in the program and we sometimes provide food (lunch or dinner) after matches on a long Saturday.

All our boys and girls regardless of status receive equal playing time during friendlies, equal access to our dedicated coaches, and train on the same facilities as everyone else. When opportunities arise for tournaments, whether local or international, we travel and participate together. Once you become a Bull, there are no labels—you are part of a close-knit community with the shared goal of becoming better players and better people.

5. Can you tell us about the fee structure where children who enroll help cover the fees for underprivileged children? How has this model been received by the community?

Our fees have always been set at cost, as our goal is not to make a profit but to cover the expenses of running the program. In fact, 50% of the monthly fee goes toward supporting a sponsored player, primarily covering the cost of pitch rentals. Currently, we have 57 sponsored players and 90 paying players, but we still haven't managed to break even. We've been carrying forward negative balances since the first year.

Our community has been nothing but supportive. We have all come to love the program and the kids have grown to appreciate not only one another but their blessings. Some of our players had not known the level of poverty some of our sponsored kids are living by and for those who have been with us long have learned to share, clothes and shoes that no longer fit are no longer thrown away; instead, their first thought is to give them to our sponsored players. It's a beautiful family affair and we are truly blessed to have an amazing supportive community.

6. What kind of impact have you seen on the lives of underprivilege children who have participated in the academy's programs?

One of the most significant impacts we've made, beyond football, is through the Liske Program. Launched in 2021 in partnership with Marzia Golden Manor, this program provides nutritional support to all our sponsored players. Every fortnight, we deliver food packages that include Liske Uji, beans, rice, and flour, among other items, to each sponsored player. The program was born from the realization that many of these sponsored players would attend matches or training sessions without having eaten, and some would go to bed hungry after training due to food insecurity at home. The disparity in physical growth, strength, and endurance between paying and sponsored players became evident. Since launching the program in 2021, we've seen remarkable improvements in their health, endurance, confidence, and even school performance.

We've built close partnerships with the schools of our sponsored players to support their academic progress alongside their athletic development. We are now in the loop of their progress in school as well attendance.

Ofcourse nothing is without challenges. We would like to do more with this program, give out more quantities of the food but funding remains the biggest challenge but we do not give up.

7. What have been some of the biggest challenges and rewards in managing Bulls Academy?

As is common in most non-profit programs, funding has been our biggest challenge. The lack of public facilities in Dar necessitates hiring the few private grounds available, which are extremely expensive. While we want to provide our sponsored players with the opportunity to train on quality facilities, we also

need to ensure that the amenities meet the expectations of our paying players. This balance requires us to hire good facilities, despite the high costs.

As you know we also run an annual tournament for youth the Dar Youth Cup – finding sponsorship has not been an easy task but we always find a way to keep it going but must limit ourselves to only what we can afford which is a shame as we want to do so much more.

Other small challenges are what makes the journey more rewarding as you know we get players from all walks of life with different backgrounds and upbringing, so we get our days of excitement if you know what I mean.

Seeing boys and girls from these two distinct economic backgrounds become friends and close is just remarkable. Seeing some players changing their personalities to a better version of themselves because of this fusion just reminds us why it is important to keep doing this.

But the best part of course is watching them play as a team from U9 to U17, they manage to move my heart with every single match or tournament. Incredible feeling. Proud!

8. How has the community responded to Bulls Academy's efforts? Are there any memorable moments where community involvement made a significant difference?

With limited options available, the Dar Youth Cup alone has become the one tournament that many young players and parents eagerly anticipate. It is highly valued within the youth football community, and each year, there is growing excitement for the season. This year, during one of the series, a parent whom I didn't know gave me a big hug and said, "Thank you for doing this for our kids, we appreciate your effort." Moments like that, along with the messages of appreciation we receive from coaches, truly make it all worthwhile. It inspires us to keep doing this, year after year.

As for the football program, parents and teachers of our sponsored players have repeatedly expressed their appreciation for Bulls. The program not only helps keep the kids focused, healthy in school and homes but it also takes them away from negative influences and gives them a sense of purpose and commitment. Feedback like this motivates us and fuels our determination to keep working hard to ensure the program remains active and impactful.

It's always heartwarming when a paying parent acknowledges the positive changes in their child, both as a player on the field and as a person. One parent shared how her child's confidence with the ball had completely transformed, thanks to Bulls. Hearing feedback like this truly warms our hearts.

9. How does Bulls Academy plan to ensure the long-term sustainability of its model, especially with the goal of supporting underprivileged children?

One of our primary goals is to secure permanent partners who can enhance key initiatives like our Lishe Program. We are working hard to create a steady stream of resources that can help cover not only nutrition but also other essentials like venues, coaches remunerations, extend sponsored player support with school donations and health insurances just to mention a few.

We operate on a model where a significant portion of the monthly fees paid by paying players helps to cover the costs of our sponsored players. As long as we maintain a healthy balance between paying and sponsored players, this approach can continue to provide a financial foundation for Bulls. The goal is not to expand intake dramatically but to keep the program small, manageable, and focused on the individual development of each player.

While we face financial challenges, particularly with not being able to break even on monthly costs, we remain committed to keeping our fees at cost to make the program accessible to as many players as possible. We are continually exploring ways to cut costs without sacrificing quality, whether that's negotiating better rates for facilities or leveraging partnerships to reduce expenses.

We aim to continue providing high-quality football training to both paying and underprivileged players, ensuring that we remain a sustainable and impactful program for years to come.

10. What plans do you have to expand or enhance the academy's reach in the future, both locally and potentially beyond?

Expansion beyond Dar es Salaam is still a long way off. We must first make the current outfit self-sustainable. As mentioned above, we are working to secure permanent partners. This approach is essential for ensuring the program's long-term sustainability. Currently, we are barely making ends meet with our existing model and income structure, so external support is crucial.

11. What message would you like to share with other community members or organizations who want to make a difference through sports?

The routine and discipline that come with football and sports help young people avoid idleness, which often leads to negative habits. While not everyone can run a program like Bulls, there are many ways to get involved, such as volunteering expertise in finance management, fundraising, or creative design just to give as an example. I strongly encourage those who can support initiatives like ours through sponsorships and partnerships or otherwise to do so. We need all the help we can get, and we are ready to receive such support.

Similar models could also be replicated across Tanzania or here in Dar, using football or other sports. The more "Bulls" models we have out there,

the better off our underprivileged youth will be, and the stronger our communities will grow.

12. Tell us more about your LISHE Program. How did it start? What's the aim?

We launched the 'Lishe Program' to provide nutritional support to our sponsored players. The program was born from the realization that many of these players would attend matches or training sessions without having eaten, and some would go to bed hungry after training due to food insecurity at home. The disparity in physical growth, strength, and endurance between paying and sponsored players became evident. Since launching the program in 2021, we've seen remarkable improvements in their health, confidence, endurance and even school performance.

We are extremely grateful to Marzia Golden Manor a children's care home in Dar es Salaam that instantly took up our request to provide food packages every two weeks to the families of all our sponsored players.

These packages serve the entire family of our players and the size of families ranges between 4-7 siblings. We are aware that it does not last long but at least 5 out of 10 days is guaranteed meals to this family. We made a request to these families to leave the lishe porridge to the player as it contains most nutritional benefits to them as athletes.

The immeasurable value of this program has inspired us to aspire to expand its reach even further. We recognize that, with the support of partners corporate or individuals who share our mission, we can make an even greater impact. We are actively seeking out companies and individuals who are willing to enhance our current support packages. Our goal is to provide 5kgs of each essential item, which would sustain a family for two weeks until the next package arrives.

If you feel inspired by what you've read, we encourage you to reach out and join us in making a difference!





1. DSA Academy is one of the largest in Dar. What was your vision when founding the academy, and how has it grown to where it is today?

Alhamdulillah, with the grace of Allah, our journey of three and a half years at DSA has been incredibly fruitful. My vision when starting the academy was pure football development for my own children. My twins, Minhal and Mahdiyah Fazal, who are football fanatics, had a passion for learning, and that is how this academy began. Of course, as we all know, football cannot be played alone, so we started with a summer camp for children of various ages to see how it would progress. Alhamdulillah, the success is visible in these past years. We have developed many children and youth, both boys and girls, some of whom have now moved on to universities, continuing to play while studying abroad. We began with a vision of grassroots development, and by Allah's grace, the journey has been so successful that we now have travel tournaments as a key part of our program.

2. What are some of the key factors that have contributed to DSA Academy's success in developing young talent?

Several key factors have contributed to DSA's success. First, we work closely with parents, who share our vision and are partners in this program. Secondly, we set benchmarks, and once achieved, we set new ones, allowing us to track our progress over time. Additionally, we use a progress review app for each child, which helps us monitor their development. If a child isn't progressing as expected, we investigate and address the reasons. Discipline is also a significant part of our program – skill alone isn't enough without discipline. We take feedback seriously and work to improve on any shortcomings.

3. Your players have had the opportunity to travel to places like Dubai, South Africa, and Spain. How have these international experiences shaped the players, both on and off the field?

Alhamdulillah, our players have participated in regional and international tournaments, including those in Spain, Dubai, and South Africa. These

experiences have greatly impacted our athletes, teaching them the importance of proper training, nutrition, and a healthy lifestyle. Exposure to such tournaments has made them more resilient under pressure. As a result, we have athletes who are young yet mindful of their diets, avoiding fizzy drinks and fried foods because they understand the negative effects of unsaturated fats and sugar on performance.

4. What do you see as the biggest challenge for young athletes in Dar, and how does DSA Academy help them overcome these challenges?

One of the biggest challenges for young athletes in Dar es Salaam is peer pressure, which can lead to issues like vaping, drug use, or excessive gaming. At DSA, we monitor each child's background and performance closely. If we notice a decline, we investigate the cause. We have two sports counselors who assist in guiding athletes away from negative influences. At DSA, we are a big family, and every child is treated as our own. Our coaches, who serve as father figures, mentor the athletes at all times.

5. Sports academies play a crucial role in personal development. How does DSA Academy instill values like discipline, teamwork, and leadership in its athletes?

Sports play a critical role in personal development, which is why we encourage children to engage in sports instead of excessive screen time. Through football, we teach the values of teamwork, leadership, emotional control, and the ability to make sound decisions. We mentor our athletes so that when they leave us, they are not only skilled on the field but also equipped to handle life's challenges. Discipline is a core value at DSA, helping them with time management, commitment, and nutrition.

6. What were some of the standout moments or achievements during the international tours to Dubai, South Africa, and Spain?

We have had many standout moments, including achieving strong placements in international tournaments, even as first-timers. We've had inquiries from agents and scouts, recognition by the TFF, and partnerships with Yanga FC and SPF Rush for exchange programs. These achievements open up incredible opportunities for our youth, some of which may lead to university scholarships.

7. How does DSA Academy stay connected with international trends in sports training and development to ensure your players are always improving?

We stay connected to international standards by having highly qualified coaches with UEFA and FIFA credentials who are always up-to-date with the latest teachings. International tournaments also help us assess our progress and adjust where needed. We track each player's development using a system that allows us to analyze their growth.

8. With many academies emerging, what sets DSA Academy apart in terms of opportunities and training for young athletes?

Honestly, we don't view other academies as competition. Our focus is on our goals and achievements. This isn't a business for us, and winning isn't our main goal. That may sound illogical for football, but in grassroots development, it's about building a foundation so strong that success, including wins, will come naturally after proper development.

9. How do you maintain a balance between academic performance and sports training for your athletes?

We merge each child's academic and athletic progress to ensure they are performing well in both areas. If there are issues with academics, we work with the school and parents to find solutions. It is important that our athletes learn to balance school and sports.

10. What are your future plans for DSA Academy, both locally and internationally?

Our future plans include aligning with international standards, collaborating with universities to provide scholarships for talented athletes, and continuing to support the 56 underprivileged athletes who are part of our sponsorship program. This program not only covers training but also funds regional and international tournaments for these athletes. We also aim to become FIFA's brand ambassador in Tanzania to drive further youth development. With the right support, we believe Tanzania's immense football talent can gain global recognition, as we experienced firsthand in Spain when scouts were amazed by the raw talent from our country.



Making History: Zaheer Shah Becomes First Khoja UEFA Europa League Champion

In a landmark moment for the global Khoja community, Zaheer Shah, Lead Performance Analyst at Tottenham Hotspur, has etched his name into the history books by becoming a UEFA Europa League Champion. His achievement marks not only a personal triumph but also a significant milestone — he is the first Khoja to reach this prestigious level in European football.

Zaheer has been a dedicated figure at Spurs for six seasons, working tirelessly behind the scenes to elevate the club's performance. His efforts played a crucial role in helping Tottenham secure their first trophy in 17 years.

This proud achievement is one Zaheer shares with his wife, Aaliah Jacksi, and his mother, Zehra Shah. It also stands as a heartfelt tribute to his late father, Marhum Mustafa Shah, whose unwavering support fueled his journey from the very beginning.

Zaheer's triumph is more than just a win on the pitch — it's a legacy in the making and an inspiration for aspiring professionals everywhere.



HEALTH BOARD

AFEDLife - Empowering Our Future Through Insurance, Unity, and Community Care

In a world where uncertainty looms and financial hardships can arrive without warning, a beacon of security has emerged within the Khoja Shia Ithna-Asheri community of Africa (Africa Federation). AFEDLife Introduced in January 2024, this groundbreaking insurance scheme by the Central Health Board (CHB) of the Africa Federation is already reshaping the landscape of financial preparedness, life protection, and community support.

Driven by a shared vision and backed by data, the scheme is a powerful testament to what is possible when compassion meets collaboration.

1. A Vision Rooted in Responsibility

AFEDLife was conceptualized under the visionary leadership of the chairman of Africa Federation, Amine Nassor with a mission to provide comprehensive, inclusive, and dignified life insurance solutions for community members across the continent. As part of CHB's 2022–2025 strategic roadmap, the scheme was tailored to address crucial needs such as

Death and funeral expenses

Critical illness

Permanent disability

The intent? To build a safety net that no family in our community has to walk alone through hardship. And the execution? Purposeful, structured, and progressive.

2. Building the Foundation (2022–2023)

The foundation of AFEDLife was laid with meticulous care. During the planning phase

Religious approval was secured to align with Islamic principles.

A needs based design was developed, ensuring affordability and flexibility.

Requests for Proposal (RFPs) were floated to top tier insurers and brokers.

A robust awareness campaign was launched, including interactive sessions with the appointed broker.

Key Milestones

5th July 2023 – AFED Chairman announces the scheme's readiness.

22nd August 2023 – Jamaats officially invited to begin registration.

3. Implementation & Expansion (2024–2025)

AFEDLife officially launched on 1st January 2024, with

- Old Mutual Life as the underwriter

- Zamara Risk & Insurance Brokers Ltd as the official broker

- A cash and carry premium model in USD

The scheme initially offered three options. Encouraged by the community's response, it expanded to five in 2025:

Year	No. of Options	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD
2024	3	-	-	25,000	50,000	100,000
2025	5	10,000	20,000	25,000	50,000	100,000

4. Growth and Outreach: A Continental Impact

From 7 Jamaats in 2024 to 13 in 2025; the scheme has nearly doubled its footprint. The total number of participants grew from 260 to 514, marking a 97.3% increase in just one year.

Top Growth Jamaat	2024	2025	% Change
Dar es Salaam	190	314	65.3%
Kampala	26	41	57.7%
Lilongwe	3	8	166.7%
Mwanza	2	15	650%
Jamaat Participation	7	13	85.7%

5. Gender Participation

Participation remains slightly male dominated but stable

Year	Male	Female	Percentage
2024	163	94	63.4% vs. 36.6%
2025	331	183	64.4% vs. 35.6%)

There remains room for further awareness and inclusion of women in the scheme.

6. Coverage Trends & Preferences

Community members continue to show a strong preference for higher protection levels. However, the introduction of lower tier plans in 2025 made the scheme more inclusive.

Scheme	2024 Participants	% in 2024	2025 Participants	% in 2025
\$ 10,000	-	-	101	19.6%
\$ 20,000	-	-	13	2.5%
\$ 25,000	72	28%	76	14.8%
\$ 50,000	28	10.9%	45	8.8%
\$ 100,000	157	51.1%	279	54.3%
Total	257	100%	514	100%

The USD 100,000 tier remains the most chosen, underscoring a preference for maximum security despite premium costs.

7. Financial Snapshot.

Year	Total Insured Sum (USD)	Premium Paid (USD)	1 USD insures
2024	18,900,000	83,659	225.9
2025	33,320,000	161,239	205.9

The improved financial efficiency in 2025 reflects growing scale and optimized pricing.

8. Claims and Impact

Year	Total Claims Settled	Amount Paid (USD)	Jamaat
2024	7	155,000	Dar es Salaam
2025	1	500	Dar es Salaam

While claims reduced in 2025 (as of 30th May 2025), the previous year's support provided significant relief to grieving families.

Claims Loss Ratio

2024 - 185.3%

2025 - 0.007%

This variation indicates early high impact claims followed by steady risk management and enrolment control.

9. A Community United in Purpose

AFEDLife's success is not just in numbers but in trust. The overwhelming response shows our community's readiness to adopt solutions that blend compassion with foresight. The growth is not accidental; it is the result of relentless dedication by Jamaat heads, volunteers, regional coordinators, and, above all, the members who believed in the mission.

10. The Journey Ahead

In just two years, AFEDLife has grown from concept to cornerstone. It has empowered over 500 families across 13 regions, provided financial peace of mind, and deepened the sense of togetherness in our community.

As we move forward, CHB remains committed to further expanding access and affordability.

Strengthening claims response and service delivery

Promoting insurance education and financial literacy

Ensuring every family feels protected, valued, and supported

Let us continue to embrace this path of protection, dignity, and progress. With AFEDLife, we are not just insuring lives; we are securing futures.

CHB Renews Agreement with Zamara for AFEDLife 2025

In a strategic move to ensure continued professionalism and community-centered service, the Central Health Board (CHB) of the Africa Federation successfully renewed its partnership earlier this year with Zamara Risk & Insurance Brokers Limited for the administration of the AFEDLife Insurance Scheme for 2025.

This renewal follows the successful implementation of the scheme in 2024, during which Zamara Risk & Insurance Brokers Limited delivered dependable and responsive services to CHB members across Africa, reinforcing the community's growing trust in the program.

A Year of Trusted Service

Initially appointed in 2023 through a rigorous tendering process, Zamara Risk & Insurance Brokers Limited was selected based on their deep industry expertise and strong alignment with community values. Over the course of 2024, Zamara Risk & Insurance Brokers Limited exceeded expectations by

Managing policy issuance and renewals with efficiency

Providing timely and transparent claims settlement

Offering proactive support to Jamaats and members

Maintaining consistent collaboration with CHB at every step

Their contribution was vital to the successful growth of the AFEDLife scheme, which saw membership nearly double from 260 to 514 between 2024 and 2025, with coverage expanding to 13 Jamaats.

Honoring Excellence

CHB also took the opportunity to recognize individuals who played a pivotal role in the scheme's success; chief among them, Ms. Leticia Amakobe, the dedicated Relationship Manager from Zamara Risk & Insurance Brokers Limited.



Her professionalism, responsiveness, and attention to member needs significantly contributed to the scheme's smooth operations. From clarifying complex technical aspects to offering practical support during enrollment drives, Ms. Leticia's presence was felt throughout the period.

In recognition of her outstanding service, CHB Board Member Mr. Gulamabbas Habib presented a token of appreciation to both Zamara Risk & Insurance Brokers Limited and Ms. Leticia in a brief ceremony, acknowledging their valued partnership.

Looking Ahead - Expanding Protection, Deepening Trust

With the renewed contract in place, CHB and Zamara Risk & Insurance Brokers Limited have set their sights on enhancing the scheme further in 2025. Areas of focus include

Broadening the range of coverage options

Leveraging digital platforms for easier access and onboarding

Rolling out enhanced community education campaigns

Improving turnaround times for policy servicing and claims.

This sustained collaboration allows CHB to remain agile while ensuring stability for community members seeking financial protection.

A Partnership Built on Shared Values

The renewal of this partnership is a testament to CHB's commitment to building long term, values driven relationships. Zamara Risk & Insurance Brokers Limited's alignment with the Federation's mission to serve with compassion, excellence, and transparency has made them an ideal partner in this journey.

Empowering the Future

As AFEDLife enters its second year, the renewed partnership between CHB and Zamara Risk & Insurance Brokers Limited stands as a powerful example of collaboration in action. Together, they have brought structure, reliability, and dignity to life insurance transforming it from a distant concept to a lived reality for hundreds of families.

We thank Zamara Risk & Insurance Brokers Limited for their continued support and look forward to a future where every community member feels secure, supported, and safeguarded.

Honoring Marhuma Sajeeda Murtadha Suleiman Through a Gift That Continues to Give

In every community, there are individuals whose lives radiate compassion, humility, and quiet strength. One such soul was Marhuma Sajeeda Murtadha Suleiman; a woman remembered for her unwavering faith, kindness, and deep commitment to uplifting others.

In a heartfelt act of remembrance and generosity, the family of Marhuma Sajeeda made a significant donation of USD 20,000 to the AFEDLife Insurance Scheme, under the auspices of the Central Health Board (CHB) of the Africa Federation. This remarkable contribution served not only to strengthen the sustainability of the scheme but also to preserve and extend the legacy of a life well lived. The Generosity

Marhuma Sajeeda was admired for her gentle nature and genuine concern for the wellbeing of others. Her

family's donation reflected those same values; channeling love and loss into something that could serve the broader community.

The donation played a vital role in enhancing the reach and financial strength of the AFEDLife Insurance Scheme, which offers critical life, illness, and funeral coverage to members across Africa. It represented more than a financial gesture; it was a powerful symbol of empathy, legacy, and communal solidarity.

The "Marhuma Sajeeda Memorial Fund" – A Lasting Legacy

In recognition of this noble act, CHB established the "Marhuma Sajeeda Memorial Fund" for the year 2025. This dedicated fund was set aside to provide subsidized life insurance coverage to individuals and families from underserved Jamaats; those who may otherwise have been unable to afford such protection.

Through this initiative, Marhuma's legacy extended beyond remembrance, offering practical and deeply meaningful support to those most in need. The fund has already enabled greater inclusion, dignity, and security across multiple regions turning personal sorrow into community strength.

An Example of Inspired Giving

The generosity of Marhuma Sajeeda's family underscored a profound truth; when giving is guided by love, its impact is boundless. Their contribution helped expand the reach of the AFEDLife Scheme, which now serves over XXX members in XX Jamaats, offering crucial financial protection during life's most difficult moments.

It also set a precedent for other community members to consider similar forms of sadaqah jariyah; ongoing charity that benefits others long after we return to our Creator.

Encouraging a Ripple Effect

The CHB takes this opportunity to invite and encourage other families to contribute towards such memorial funds whether in memory of a loved one or simply as a gesture of collective goodwill. By doing so, we build a stronger, more resilient network of support across our communities.

A Light That Still Shines

The donation made in memory of Marhuma Sajeeda Murtadha Suleiman is a poignant reminder that even in passing, a person's light can continue to shine. Her family's decision to honor her through the AFEDLife Insurance Scheme has not only preserved her legacy but also touched the lives of countless others. Through the Marhuma Sajeeda Memorial Fund, her values of compassion, service, and community care live on, an enduring source of comfort, protection, and inspiration.

May Allah (SWT) grant her the highest station in Jannah and continue to reward her family for this lasting act of sadaqah jariyah.

Towards a Healthier Future; Jamaat (Tanzania's) Journey to Community Health Insurance

Access to quality healthcare should never be a privilege; it should be a fundamental right. Yet for many community members across Tanzania, the rising cost of medical treatment and lack of structured coverage create gaps that impact wellbeing and peace of mind.

In response, the Central Health Board (CHB) of the Africa Federation has taken bold steps toward creating a comprehensive health insurance scheme tailored to the unique needs of our Jamaats in Tanzania. This pioneering initiative represents a critical investment in community health, protection, and long term resilience.

A Vision with Purpose

The primary objective of the proposed health insurance scheme is to bridge existing healthcare access gaps, enhance affordability, and establish a sustainable, community owned system for long term medical support. This initiative goes beyond insurance; it is about dignity, equity, and ensuring that no member of our community is left vulnerable in the face of illness.

Laying the Groundwork

To ensure the program is designed thoughtfully and inclusively, the CHB has implemented several foundational steps

1. Community Health Survey

Earlier this year, a comprehensive health survey was distributed across Jamaats in Tanzania. The goal? To gather real, actionable insights into community members healthcare needs, spending capacity, current insurance gaps, and service expectations. The outcome was powerful. The data revealed the community's desire for a plan that is not only financially feasible but also inclusive of varied medical services; from hospitalization to outpatient care.

2. Request for Proposals (RFP)

Using the findings from the survey, the CHB issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) to multiple insurance brokers and companies. The response was encouraging, with a range of competitive and thoughtful proposals submitted by industry professionals, showing the market's readiness to collaborate with the community sector.

3. Shortlisting of Brokers

Following a thorough review process, four brokers were shortlisted. To ensure the decision reflects the collective will, the CHB has invited Jamaat representatives and councilors from Tanzania to participate in upcoming presentations and discussions. This approach empowers grassroots participation and shared ownership of the decision.

4. Data Collection from Jamaats

In parallel, Jamaats have been requested to share key data to better understand the current healthcare ecosystem

Annual medical support expenditures

Funds raised for health related initiatives

Any past or present assistance received from AFED for medical needs

This vital information will guide the selection of an insurer that is best aligned with the realities of our communities.

A Collective Call to Action

1. Community Engagement

As this initiative takes shape, community engagement remains the cornerstone. CHB urges all Jamaats and its members to actively participate in future surveys, provide accurate data, and join the conversation. Your voice ensures that the final scheme reflects real needs, not assumptions.

2. Transparent Decision Making

By involving Jamaat representatives, councilors and community representatives during the final presentations, CHB guarantees a transparent, inclusive, and consensus based selection process. Every decision taken will reflect the broader interests of the community, not just a few.

3. Implementation and Expansion

The launch of the Tanzania Health Insurance Scheme is the first step. Once successfully implemented, CHB intends to replicate this model across other regions of the Africa Federation; building a united, protected, and health conscious community across borders.

Health Is Our Shared Responsibility

This initiative is more than a policy; it is a promise. A promise to protect our elders, safeguard our children, and ensure every family can access medical care without financial distress. The CHB's pursuit of a tailored health insurance scheme reflects its deep rooted commitment to compassionate leadership and proactive planning.

We appeal to all community members, Jamaat leaders, and stakeholders your engagement and support are essential. Together, we can build a system that honors the values of empathy, inclusivity, and resilience, and ensures a healthier tomorrow for every member of our community.

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The Imperative of Eye Care and Quality Healthcare: The Role of the KSI Charitable Eye Centre in Addressing Tanzania's Health Gaps

By Ali M Dewji, Executive Board Member of KSI Charitable Eye Centre

Access to quality healthcare is a fundamental human right, as enshrined in both international legal frameworks and ethical principles. Yet, for many people in Tanzania, especially in underserved regions, this right remains elusive. The healthcare system, while improving, faces significant challenges, particularly in specialized fields like ophthalmology. Eye care, in particular, is a critical area where inadequate infrastructure and a shortage of trained personnel create a significant gap between the need for services and their availability.

Ophthalmic diseases such as cataracts, glaucoma, and refractive errors are among the leading causes of preventable blindness globally, including in Tanzania. According to the World Health Organization, cataracts alone account for more than 50% of blindness worldwide. In Tanzania, the situation mirrors global trends, with many individuals, particularly in rural and economically disadvantaged areas, unable to access timely care. The result is often preventable blindness or visual impairment, leading to diminished quality of life, loss of economic productivity, and increased dependency.

In response to these challenges, the KSI Charitable Eye Centre in Temeke was established in June 2021 to provide high-quality and affordable eye care to all, irrespective of socio-economic status. The founding philosophy of the centre aligns with both Islamic ethical principles and public health imperatives. Islam places great emphasis on the preservation of health and well-being, as reflected in the Qur'anic verse: "And whoever saves one life – it is as if he had saved all of mankind" (Qur'an, 5:32). The Prophet Muhammad (SAW) further stated, "The best of people are those who are most beneficial to others." These values guide our mission to provide essential healthcare to those most in need, recognizing that the alleviation of suffering is both a spiritual and social obligation.

The KSI Charitable Eye Centre represents a fusion of faith-driven social responsibility and evidence-based medical practice. With a modest registration fee of 10,000 TSH, we ensure accessibility while maintaining the quality of care. All follow-up visits are free, reflecting our commitment to comprehensive patient care. Cataract surgeries, one of the most pressing needs in Tanzania, are offered at the lowest subsidized rates in the country, underscoring our commitment to affordability. These procedures, which would otherwise be inaccessible for many due to their high cost, restore

not just sight but dignity and autonomy to those affected.

One of the unique aspects of the KSI Charitable Eye Centre is our ability to offer cutting-edge ophthalmic services in a context where such services are often scarce. The clinic is equipped with state-of-the-art medical technology, rivaling facilities that charge significantly higher fees. This is particularly remarkable in a healthcare system where such advanced care is often out of reach for the majority. Furthermore, the KSI Charitable Eye Centre boasts three full-time ophthalmologists, a rarity in Tanzania where the shortage of specialized medical personnel is acute. The presence of these skilled professionals ensures that patients receive top-tier care, and the volume of patients—over 150 per day—is a testament to the high demand for and trust in our services.

From a public health perspective, addressing avoidable blindness has far-reaching implications for both individuals and society. Blindness and visual impairment are not just medical conditions; they are socio-economic issues that perpetuate cycles of poverty and exclusion.



Studies have shown that restoring sight through interventions like cataract surgery can significantly enhance a person's ability to participate in the workforce, improve educational outcomes, and reduce the economic burden on families and communities. By providing these services at a fraction of the usual cost, the KSI Charitable Eye Centre plays a pivotal role in not just treating patients, but in enabling social and economic mobility.

In July 2024, we celebrated the third anniversary of the KSI Charitable Eye Centre, a milestone that marks both growth and the deepening of our mission. The presence of dignitaries, including the then Minister of Health, Ummy Ally Mwalimu, and the CEO of TIGO Tanzania, Kamal Okbba, highlights the significance of our work in the broader healthcare landscape. These partnerships between the government, private sector, and faith-based organizations are crucial in addressing the systemic challenges that confront healthcare delivery in Tanzania.

Reflecting on the role of the KSI Charitable Eye Centre, I am reminded of the spiritual dimension of healthcare. Health, in Islamic thought, is a blessing and a trust from Allah (SWT). Our ability to see—so often taken for granted—is a profound gift. As one spiritual reflection poignantly states: "My heart is so small it's almost invisible. How can you place such big sorrows in it? 'Look,' he answered, 'your eyes are even smaller, yet they behold the world.'" This reminds us that while we may have limited resources, our impact can be immense when we use what we have wisely and with compassion. The KSI Charitable Eye Centre, though modest in size, holds the vision and capacity to transform lives through the restoration of sight.



In a country where the ratio of ophthalmologists to the population is critically low, our team's dedication ensures that those most in need receive care. We recognize that providing healthcare is not just about treating a condition; it is about restoring hope, dignity, and the ability to fully participate in the world. The KSI Charitable Eye Centre exemplifies how faith-based initiatives can work hand in hand with modern medical practices to address the most pressing healthcare needs of society.



As we look to the future, our mission remains clear: to continue providing high-quality, affordable eye care to the people of Tanzania. The journey thus far has shown us the immense potential for positive impact when communities unite for a common cause. I extend my deepest gratitude to our medical staff, our partners, and the broader community for their unwavering support. Together, we have made the KSI Charitable Eye Centre a beacon of hope and a model for what can be achieved when compassion and medical excellence converge.



For further information, or to learn how you can contribute to this mission, please contact us at eyecentre@KSIJDar.org or visit eyecentre.co.tz.

TECHNOLOGY



TECHNOLOGY

Top 10 Technology Trends in 2025 That Will Shape The Next Decade

As we hurtle towards 2025, the technological landscape continues its relentless evolution. The rapid development of new technologies in the next 10 years promises to revolutionize everything from transportation to medicine. This year promises a plethora of groundbreaking advancements that will reshape the way we live, work, and interact with the world around us. From the realm of artificial intelligence to the interconnectedness of the Internet of Things (IoT), these trends hold immense potential to revolutionize various industries and improve our overall quality of life.

Let's delve into the top 10 new technology inventions in tech trends poised to dominate 2025:

1. Artificial Intelligence (AI): From Assistants to Augmentation

Artificial intelligence (AI) has transitioned from a science fiction trope to a ubiquitous reality. Moving beyond basic automation, 2025 will witness the widespread integration of AI into our daily routines. Artificial intelligence (AI) is all about creating computer systems that can do things we used to think only humans could do. We can expect to see the emergence of sophisticated personal AI assistants capable of anticipating our needs and streamlining tasks. Customer service will undergo a significant transformation, with AI-powered chatbots providing personalised and efficient support, indistinguishable from their human counterparts.

Impact:

Business Automation: AI will automate repetitive tasks in businesses.

Decision Optimisation: AI will optimise decision-making processes.

Personalised Customer Experiences: Businesses will use AI to personalise customer interactions.

Healthcare Breakthroughs: AI will aid in medical diagnosis and drug discovery.

Data Analysis: AI's ability to analyse vast datasets will drive personalised treatment plans in healthcare.

2. Smart Cities: Building a Sustainable and Connected Future

Imagine a city that adapts to the needs of its residents in real-time. Traffic lights dynamically adjusting to congestion patterns, waste management systems optimising collection routes, and infrastructure prioritising sustainability – these are just a few hallmarks of a “smart city.” This interconnected network of sensors, devices, and data promises to revolutionise urban living.

Impact:

Smart City Initiatives: The year 2025 will witness a surge in smart city projects.

Interconnected Network: Sensors, devices, and data will form an interconnected network.

Efficiency Improvement: Smart cities will enhance efficiency.

Environmental Impact Reduction: These initiatives will reduce the environmental impact.

Quality of Life Enhancement: Citizens will experience a better quality of life.

3. Extended Reality (XR): Bridging the Gap Between Physical and Digital Worlds

Extended reality (XR) encompasses augmented reality (AR) and virtual reality (VR), latest technologies blurring the lines between the physical and digital realms. AR overlays digital elements onto the real world, while VR creates entirely immersive virtual environments. In 2025, XR is poised to transition from niche applications to mainstream adoption. Imagine attending a live concert from the comfort of your home with VR, or receiving interactive training manuals through AR overlays in a manufacturing facility.

Impact:

XR Adoption: XR (extended reality) will revolutionise training and education.

Immersive Experiences: XR enables highly immersive and interactive learning.

Retail Benefits: Customers can virtually try on clothes and visualise furniture using XR.

Enhanced Decision-Making: XR helps customers make informed purchase decisions.

Improved Retail Experience: XR enhances the overall shopping experience.

4. The Internet of Things (IoT): A Web of Connected Devices

The Internet of Things (IoT) refers to the ever-expanding network of physical devices embedded with sensors and software, all connected to the internet. From smart appliances and wearable health trackers to connected cars and industrial equipment, the number of IoT devices is expected to explode in 2025.

Impact:

Data Insights: The interconnected web generates valuable insights for businesses and governments.

Intelligent Systems: Data can be used to develop adaptive and real-time intelligent systems.

Efficiency Boost: These systems enhance efficiency and productivity.

Cross-Sector Impact: The benefits extend across various sectors.

Data-Driven Decision-Making: Businesses and governments make informed decisions using this data.

5. Cybersecurity in a Hyperconnected World: Evolving Threats and Solutions

As our reliance on technology increases and the world becomes more interconnected, the need for robust cybersecurity solutions becomes paramount. In 2025, we can expect to see a rise in sophisticated cyberattacks targeting critical infrastructure, businesses, and individuals.

Impact:

Cybersecurity Investment: Companies and governments should prioritise investing in advanced cybersecurity measures.

AI-Powered Threat Detection: Implement AI-driven threat detection systems.

Zero-Trust Security Models: Adopt zero-trust security models to minimise vulnerabilities.

Individual Vigilance: Individuals must protect their personal information online.

Safe Digital Hygiene: Practice safe digital habits.

6. Quantum Computing: Breaking the Computational Barrier

While traditional computers rely on bits (0s or 1s), quantum computers harness the power of qubits, which can exist in multiple states simultaneously (a superposition). This allows them to perform complex calculations exponentially faster than classical computers. Though still in its nascent stages, 2025 could mark a significant leap forward in quantum computing, with potential applications impacting fields like materials science, drug discovery, and financial modelling.

Impact:

Quantum Machine Learning: Quantum computers could revolutionise machine learning by solving certain problems more efficiently than classical digital electronics.

Unique Properties: Quantum computers harness subatomic properties to speed up specialised tasks like simulating molecules or finding prime factors.

Materials Science: Quantum computing enables accurate results in materials science simulations.

Health and Medicine: Quantum computing applications are emerging in health and medicine.

Advancements Across Fields: Quantum breakthroughs impact AI, cryptography, medicine, and renewable energy.

7. The Rise of Bioprinting: Revolutionising Medicine and Manufacturing

Bioprinting, also known as 3D bioprinting, utilises living cells and biomaterials to create three-dimensional tissues and organs. In 2025, this technology is expected to make significant strides, bringing us closer to the realm of personalised medicine. Imagine printing replacement tissues or even entire organs for transplantation, potentially eliminating organ donor waiting lists.

Impact:

Bioprinting Promise: Bioprinting offers the potential for personalised medicine and regenerative therapies.

Complex Tissues and Organs: Researchers can create complex tissues and organs using bioprinting.

Drug Discovery Acceleration: Bioprinting aids breakthroughs in drug discovery.

Disease Modelling: Bioprinted tissues enable disease modelling.

Healthcare Impact: Bioprinting has significant implications for healthcare.

8. Hyper Automation: Robots Taking Over Repetitive Tasks

Hyper-automation refers to the automation of not just individual tasks, but entire processes. By leveraging a combination of technologies like robotic process automation (RPA), artificial intelligence (AI), and machine learning (ML), companies can automate a wider range of activities than ever before.

Impact:

Human Focus: Hyper-automation allows humans to focus on creative and strategic tasks.

Efficiency Boost: Increased efficiency and productivity across industries.

Cost Reduction: Hyper-automation leads to cost savings.

Job Displacement Concerns: The trend raises concerns about job losses.

Workforce Re-Training: Necessity for re-training programmes due to automation.

9. Blockchain: Beyond Cryptocurrency

Blockchain technology, the distributed ledger system underpinning cryptocurrencies, has the potential to revolutionise how we store and share data. In 2025, we can expect to see blockchain applications extend beyond financial transactions, impacting sectors like supply chain management, healthcare, and voting systems.

Impact:

Supply Chain Streamlining: Blockchain enhances supply chain efficiency and transparency.

Product Authenticity: It ensures the authenticity of products.

Healthcare Record-Keeping: Blockchain improves record-keeping in healthcare.

Voting System Security: The technology could enhance voting system security.

Trust in Democracy: Blockchain fosters greater trust in democratic processes.

10. The Future of Work: Embracing Flexibility and Collaboration

The COVID-19 pandemic has significantly altered the way we work. In 2025, remote and hybrid work models are likely to become the norm. Technology will play a crucial role in facilitating collaboration and communication across geographically dispersed teams. Additionally, automation will continue to transform the job market, demanding new skillsets and fostering the need for continuous learning.

Impact:

Flexibility and Work-Life Balance: Remote and hybrid work models provide greater flexibility.

Collaboration Tools: Companies should invest in collaboration tools and platforms.

Company Culture: Maintaining a strong company culture is crucial.

Adaptation: Employers and employees must adapt to the evolving work landscape.

Continuous Learning: Embrace upskilling opportunities for professional growth.

These top ten technology trends represent just a glimpse into the dynamic and ever-evolving landscape of technology. As we move towards 2025, we can expect to witness further advancements that will continue to reshape the world around us. It's an exciting time to be alive, and the key to navigating this technological revolution lies in being adaptable, curious, and open to the possibilities that the future holds.

Beyond the Top 10: Emerging Top New Technologies on the Horizon

While the top new technologies discussed above paint a vivid picture of the technological landscape in 2025, it's important to acknowledge the dynamic nature of innovation. Several other emerging technologies hold the potential to disrupt industries and shape the future in unforeseen ways. Here are a few to keep an eye on:

Brain-Computer Interfaces (BCIs): These devices allow direct communication between the human brain and computers, bypassing traditional input methods like keyboards or mice. In 2025, we might see early applications of BCIs in fields like prosthetic control, rehabilitation, and even augmented reality experiences. The ethical implications of this technology will need careful consideration as it develops further.

Digital Twins: A digital twin is a virtual representation of a physical object or process. Imagine creating a digital replica of a factory or an aeroplane engine that can be monitored and analysed in real-time. In 2025, digital twin technology could become more pervasive, allowing for predictive maintenance, optimised resource allocation, and improved product development processes.

Next-Generation Batteries: The development of more efficient and powerful battery technologies is crucial for the widespread adoption of electric vehicles and renewable energy sources. Breakthroughs in lithium-sulphur or solid-state batteries in 2025 could significantly improve the range and performance of electric vehicles, accelerating the transition towards a more sustainable transportation system.

Gene Editing: The latest technologies, like CRISPR are revolutionising the field of genetics, allowing for precise editing of DNA. While the ethical considerations surrounding gene editing remain complex, 2025 could see advancements in gene therapies for a wider range of diseases, offering hope for millions of patients.

The Human Touch in a Tech-Driven World

The rapid pace of technological advancement can sometimes feel overwhelming. It's easy to get caught up in the hype and lose sight of the human element at the core of it all.

Here are some crucial aspects to remember as we embrace the technological revolution of 2025:

The Importance of Critical Thinking: Technology is a powerful tool, but it's not a substitute for human judgement. In a world saturated with information, developing critical thinking skills will be essential. The ability to discern fact from fiction, identify biases, and evaluate the potential impact of new technologies will be paramount.

The Power of Human Connection: While technology facilitates communication and connection, it can't replace the richness of face-to-face interactions. As we become increasingly reliant on digital tools, it's important to prioritise real-world connections and cultivate strong social bonds.

Fostering Creativity and Innovation: Technology can be a powerful tool for creativity and innovation. However, it's important not to let it stifle our own ingenuity. In 2025, we need to continue fostering environments that encourage original ideas, critical problem-solving, and artistic expression.

Addressing the Ethical Landscape: The development and implementation of new technologies raise significant ethical questions. Issues like privacy, data security, and the impact of automation on the workforce require careful consideration. Open discussions and collaboration between diverse stakeholders are essential to ensuring the responsible and ethical development of technology.

Technology for Good: Technology has the potential to address some of humanity's most pressing challenges – from climate change and resource scarcity to poverty and disease. In 2025, let's focus on harnessing the power of technology to create a more sustainable, equitable, and prosperous future for all. The future belongs to those who can embrace change, adapt to new realities, and leverage technology's potential for positive change. By remaining curious, learning continuously, and prioritising human values, we can ensure that the technological revolution of 2025 empowers us to build a better future for ourselves and generations to come.

REF:
<https://cambridgeopenacademy.com/top-10-technology-trends-in-2025/>

10 Breakthrough Technologies 2024

AI for everything. We now live in the age of AI. Hundreds of millions of people have interacted directly with generative tools like ChatGPT that produce text, images, videos, and more from prompts. Their popularity has reshaped the tech industry, making OpenAI a household name and compelling Google, Meta, and Microsoft to invest heavily in the technology.



Super-efficient solar cells. Solar power is being rapidly deployed around the world, and it's key to global efforts to reduce carbon emissions. But most of the sunlight that hits today's panels isn't being converted into electricity. Adding a layer of tiny crystals could make solar panels more efficient.

Apple Vision Pro. Apple will start shipping its first mixed-reality headset, the Vision Pro, this year. Its killer feature is the highest-resolution display ever made for such a device. Will there be a killer app? It's early, but the world's most valuable company has made a bold bet that the answer is yes.

Weight-loss drugs. The global rise in obesity has been called an epidemic by the World Health Organization. Medications like Mounjaro and Wegovy are now among the most powerful tools that patients and physicians have to treat it. Evidence suggests they can even protect against heart attacks and strokes.

Enhanced geothermal systems. Geothermal energy is clean, always available, and virtually limitless.

However, because of engineering challenges, we have barely scratched the surface of what it can offer. New drilling techniques, which dig deeper and in places where we couldn't before, are unleashing more of Earth's heat to produce clean energy.

Chiplets. It's getting devilishly hard to make transistors smaller—the trend that defines Moore's Law and has driven progress in computing for decades. Engineers must now find new ways to make computers faster and more efficient. Chiplets are small, specialized chips that can be linked together to do everything a conventional chip does, and more.

The first gene-editing treatment. New treatments based on CRISPR have been in the works for years. In the final weeks of 2023, one from Vertex became the first to earn regulatory approval in both the UK and the US for its ability to cure sickle-cell disease, a life-threatening condition. It won't be the last.

Exascale computers. The world's fastest supercomputers can now perform more than an exaflop's worth of calculations (that's a 1 followed by 18 zeros). New machines that can crunch scientific data at these speeds will enable scientists to perform more sophisticated simulations of the climate, nuclear fission, turbulence, and more.

Heat pumps. Don't let the name fool you. Heat pumps are electric appliances that can both cool and heat buildings, and wider adoption could substantially reduce emissions. Sales have increased around the world; in the US, they have surpassed gas furnaces for the first time. New types that run at higher temperatures could help decarbonize industry, too.

Twitter killers. Elon Musk bought the site now known as X in 2022, and virtually nothing about it has been the same since. He fired most of the staff and dispensed with content moderation, scaring off advertisers and users alike. Now, as alternatives like Bluesky, Threads, and others gain ground, the central town square has given way to private rooms.



Gartner: The Top 10 Strategic Technology Trends For 2025

Agentic AI, AI governance platforms and post-quantum cryptography are among the most disruptive future technology trends facing IT leaders. Rapid advancements in AI, computing, and human-machine interaction are the key drivers behind this year's list of 10 technologies that Gartner believes IT leaders should closely monitor in 2025.

Gene Alvarez, Gartner's distinguished vice president analyst, revealed a list of technology trends likely to cause disruption in the next two to 10 years during the IT Symposium/Xpo in Australia on Sept. 10. Based on research and analyses, he said the list includes only technologies and trends that "are so significant C-level executives are saying we need to do something about this."

1. Turning AI into decision-making agents

Gartner expects Agentic AI to emerge within the next two to three years — with capabilities that go beyond tasks like summarising information to actually taking actions on behalf of individuals. Rather than presenting users with options, they will be able to choose the option that is optimal for the user if given permission.

2. Technology platforms for governing AI

Prompted by concerns such as model bias, AI governance platforms and tools are being developed to build trust through transparency and ethics into models. Alvarez explained that this will enable features like explainability of AI-generated answers and prevent harmful outputs.

3. Tools defending against disinformation

Generative AI could allow bad actors to create synthetic media, such as fake videos, voices, and images that impersonate people or organisations. Disinformation security tools will help organisations identify deepfakes or detect synthetic media by assessing truth and tracking the spread of disinformation.

4. Moving to post-quantum cryptography

Post-quantum cryptography standards were recently released. According to Gartner, post-quantum cryptography will become a concern in just two to three years. IT leaders will soon need to replace every piece of encryption with a post-quantum algorithm unbreakable by classical or quantum computing.

5. Ambient wireless tags and sensors

The falling cost of wireless tags and sensors, which can track and monitor inventory, supply chain conditions, or physical assets, will soon enable organisations to access and respond to data from parts of their operations that were previously "in the shadows," Alvarez said.

6. Exploring energy-efficient computing

Organisations may soon begin moving energy-intensive algorithms to green cloud providers, rewrite algorithms to consume less

energy, or more closely monitor energy use for generative AI. Additional technologies like optical, neuromorphic, and DNA storage could create vast efficiency improvements.

7. Going hybrid with future computing

Organisations are expected to take a hybrid computing approach in the future. Alvarez said they are likely to integrate and orchestrate multiple different computing paradigms and technologies, including CPUs, GPUs, edge computing, quantum computing, optical computing, and storing information in DNA.

8. Enhancing reality with spatial computing

Spatial computing brings the physical and digital realms together into a single, unified 3D space through devices such as augmented reality headsets. Alvarez said devices and applications are being developed that could support just-in-time contextualisation for decision making in places like the manufacturing shop floor.



9. Robots that multitask

Though it will take between three and ten years, polyfunctional robots that can perform multiple functions, rather than being limited to a single task, are expected to become part of everyday life. By 2030, Alvarez said 80% of humans could be engaging with smart polyfunctional robots on a daily basis.

10. Neurological enhancement technologies

Developing technologies that can read and enhance brain functions could be used in settings including healthcare facilities to restore senses such as sight or hearing — though, Gartner says, this will not happen for at least another 10 years. Devices will range from simple wearables such as earbuds or headbands to complex integrated brain-computer interfaces.

Ignore technology trends at your peril, Gartner warns. IT leaders would need to decide for themselves which technologies to act on now, which to monitor and which to ignore, Alvarez said. However, he urged caution to those who do choose to ignore Gartner's strategic technology trends, saying, "if you turn your back on a wave, it could knock you down."

REF:

<https://www.techrepublic.com/article/gartner-10-technology-trends-2024/>



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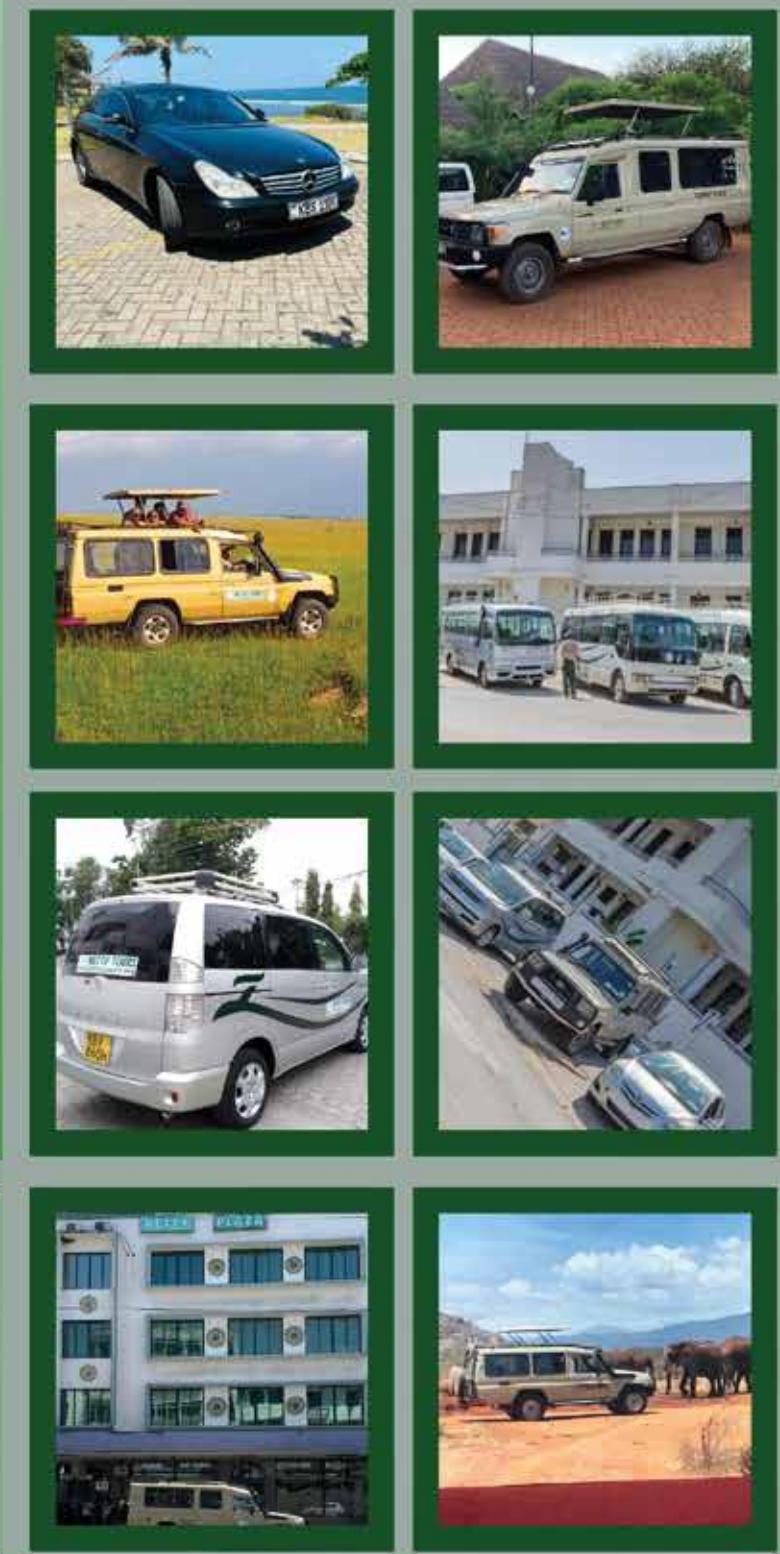
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SPORTS

From Amana to Action: Honoring the Body Through Faith and Fitness

Irfan Nanji

Islam provides us with comprehensive guidance for all aspects of life, including physical health and nutrition. We learn the importance of eating moderately, staying active, and caring for the body as a trust (amaña) from Allah (SWT). This spiritual perspective aligns perfectly with modern health science, reinforcing the idea that a sound body supports a sound mind, heart and soul. As Muslims, taking care of our physical health is not just a lifestyle choice—it is an act of worship and a form of gratitude to our Creator. This belief forms the foundation of my approach to health and fitness, where physical well-being is intricately linked to our spiritual consciousness.



My passion for understanding the human body, coupled with my lifelong love for sports, naturally led me to pursue a degree in Sport, Health, and Exercise Science. I have always been curious about how the body moves, adapts, strengthens, and heals (also because I had too many injuries). Studying biomechanics, physiology, nutrition, and psychology deepened my appreciation for the human body's complexity and resilience. It also gave me the tools to translate theory into practice—to not only improve athletic performance but also promote long-term wellness in individuals from all walks of life. Throughout my academic journey, I remained

grounded in my faith, constantly drawing parallels between what I learned in the classroom and what I understood through the lens of Islam.



My name is Irfan Nanji, and I currently serve as an Assistant Football Coach, Analyst, and First Aider at the Southampton Academy affiliate, Nairobi Jaffery Academy. I have the privilege of working alongside a UEFA Pro certified coach—the highest qualification in the footballing world—within a highly motivated and supportive team, as we create an elite sporting environment for young athletes. We offer elite-level training twice a week for athletes aged 13 to 19, and developmental training daily for children aged 6 to 12. Being in this environment allows me to constantly learn, observe, and apply best practices in coaching and athlete development. My role goes beyond running drills or setting up cones; it involves tracking player progress, supporting injury prevention and recovery, and offering individual mentorship to help each child grow on and off the pitch.

While the prospect of developing elite sporting environments excites me, my true passion lies in fostering the holistic development of all ages, especially children, through sports. For me, sports have always been more than just competition—it's a culture, a way of life. The growth it fosters goes beyond technical skills. Sports teach essential life values such as leadership, commitment, dedication, and perseverance. It offers a creative outlet for individuals to express themselves beyond the confines of traditional academics. Especially for children, sports can be a transformative force, providing structure, confidence, and a sense of belonging. In a world increasingly dominated by screens and passive consumption, physical play and teamwork are more vital than ever for healthy emotional and social development.

This led me to start a business named Bluezone Wellness. It is inspired by the concept of "Blue Zones"—regions in the world where people consistently live active, happy, and healthy lives into their 90s and even beyond 100. These zones—like Okinawa (Japan), Ikaria (Greece), Sardinia (Italy), Nicoya (Costa Rica), and Loma Linda (California)—share common lifestyle traits that contribute to their longevity: natural movement throughout the day, strong social connections, plant-based whole foods, minimal processed food, a sense of purpose (*ikigai*), reduced stress, and deep spiritual or religious engagement. These holistic elements closely mirror Islamic principles. In Islam, we are taught to walk often, eat mindfully, maintain strong family and community bonds, live with purpose, avoid stress through dhikr (remembrance), and maintain a positive mindset rooted in tawakkul (trust in Allah). Through Bluezone Wellness, my aim is to create environments, services, and programs that promote these principles—encouraging people to live healthier, more connected, and spiritually meaningful lives.



Why do these principles resonate so deeply with me? Because they mirror how we connect with Allah (SWT). The discipline required to wake up early for training mirrors the commitment to waking up for Fajr on a cold morning. The perseverance to push through challenging moments in matches reflects the inner strength we need to avoid sin. Leadership in sports—taking accountability and responsibility for your team—parallels the self-accountability and inspiration we aim for in our spiritual lives. Through sports, we can develop these valuable qualities, helping us grow not just as athletes, but as well-rounded individuals. Each struggle in the athletic world can be a metaphor for spiritual growth: resisting laziness, staying consistent, encouraging others, and knowing when to push and when to rest. It is a dynamic field that trains not only the body but also the heart and soul.

My mission is to create environments that nurture these life skills, enabling young athletes to realize their full potential, not only in sports but in becoming the best versions of themselves. I believe that every child and young adult deserves an environment that recognizes their individuality and guides them to success—be it through sport, mentorship, or simply having someone who believes in them. Whether it's on the pitch or in the classroom, I aim to instill values that last a lifetime: humility in victory, resilience in failure, and a mindset

that views challenges as opportunities for growth. I want each person I work with to walk away not only faster or stronger—but more confident, more disciplined, and more connected to their purpose.

I may not have all the experience yet, but I am constantly seeking to learn and grow. I believe that humility and lifelong learning are at the heart of success in any field. Every player I coach, every match I analyze, and every session I lead teaches me something new. I actively seek mentorship, study the latest research, and reflect deeply on how I can improve. To anyone reading this, I encourage you to embrace every opportunity to improve, stay committed, and strive to be the best version of yourself in everything you do. Progress doesn't require perfection—it requires consistency, reflection, and heart.



Dear World; A Letter from Generation Z

By: Sister Aliya Lakha

Dear World,

I know that we're known to be the generation that is constantly swiping on their phones. I know that we're known to be the generation that only understand things through memes and TikToks. I know that we're known as the generation with a completely different set of vocabulary.

But, at the end of the day, we are so much more than that! Behind it all, we're a generation filled with individuals who are fuelled with the passion to do great things and take the world into a direction, never seen before!

I promise you, when we don't succumb to norms of the past, it's not because we want to be defiant, or we're trying to be rude, or disrespectful, but because some of it no longer serves our vision. We're aware that our unique mindset can be confusing for you, but all we need is a little bit of time and patience from the world. This support will allow us to discover and navigate through the unique challenges of today, as we enter the realm of adulthood, trying to be the best versions of ourselves whilst simultaneously making the world a better place. With your support, encouragement, and faith in our vision, we can do incredible things; not only for our generation, but for those before us, and those after us too.

Our attention spans may be short, and we may not be able to read through long pieces of information with ease. But this doesn't mean we don't have potential to do great things. We're innovative in the ways we learn! There are so many powerful minds amongst us who just need to be given a chance, to be given an opportunity, to be given a platform to unlock their full potentials.

Yes, we are the first generation to have grown up with the instant access to information from an early age. Most of us have never had to spend hours in a library looking for one piece of information. But why does that have to be a bad thing? Isn't it a good thing that we don't have some of the same challenges as previous generations? This gives us the room to channel our energy into greater discovery and innovation. The tools we have access to are pivotal in many realms of the world, such as research and development in medicine.

It may seem as if we've taken a collective oath to spend large portions of our days scrolling and swiping on our phones. Sometimes it is exactly what it seems, a colossal waste of time. Admittedly so, there is a lot of unnecessary content being consumed from various social media platforms. But other times, behind our screens, through the touch of our keyboards, we're putting in incredible efforts to reshape the world! Platforms like Instagram, Snapchat, and TikTok have become powerful tools for activism, and for making our voices heard on pertinent issues like the terrors taking place in Gaza, and the oppression faced by many worldwide.

We've inherited a world that is in a constant state of chaos. As a result, we've had no choice but to take matters into our hands. We refuse to inherit such a world, and consider it our duty to actively reshape it, for a better tomorrow.

Take a look at the recent protests in Kenya. These protests were spearheaded and lead entirely by our fellow youth. Simply through platforms like X (formerly Twitter), and Instagram, the Kenyan youth was able to orchestrate protests of such magnitude, and come together, united as one, representing the majority of their nation against the Finance Bill. This was a Bill that would have brought great agony and struggle to the nation. Gen Z refused to succumb to it and let it pass. They made sure their voices were heard loud and clear and were successful in this! The Bill was withdrawn. This shows us the remarkable power and potential held by today's youth.

We stand at the intersection of tradition and innovation. Whilst exploring innovation, we also keep in mind the importance of hanging on to tradition. Whilst rejecting the harmful notions of 'tradition', we're also embracing their history and reclaiming lost aspects of culture. It's not that we don't care for culture anymore. Truly. Many of us are actively trying to incorporate culture back into our lives and reclaim our identities.

Look at the increase in youth-lead events within our communities. The youth are doing an excellent job of organising events in different realms such as sports, university preparation, religious workshops, and so much more. Look at the number of volunteers we have amongst our communities, who are deeply committed to serving. We're committed to making a lasting impact in our communities by incorporating culture, religion, and other aspects of life all into a delicate balance.

We aim to increase both self and social awareness in the sphere of spirituality/religion, and the other spheres of life too! We're aware of and admit our shortcomings. However, we also do our level best to try and develop ourselves wherever we can, making ourselves the best versions of ourselves we can possibly be, and the best soldiers for Imam Mahdi (ATFS).

With the tools that we have, the wisdom that the generations before us have, and with your support and understanding we can do great things together and make the world a much better place InshaAllah.

Yours Truly,
Generation Z



WY S U L I COOKING RECIPES

SOOJI SIRO RECIPE

By: Anonymous

Prep Time: 5 minutes
Cook Time: 20 minutes
Total Time: 25 minutes

Servings: Serves 4-6

Ingredients:

250 grams sooji (semolina)
100 grams mawa (khoya)
225 grams butter or $\frac{1}{4}$ cup of ghee
200 grams sugar (adjust to taste)
1/2 tin evaporated milk
250 ml regular milk
1/2 teaspoon cardamom powder (elchi)
A pinch of saffron threads
1 tablespoon of chopped
almonds and pistachio (optional)
10-12 cashews (optional)
Raisins (optional)

Instructions:



1. Prepare the Milk Mixture:

In a saucepan, combine the evaporated milk, regular milk, sugar, cardamom powder, and saffron. Heat this mixture on low heat, stirring occasionally for about 15 minutes. Keep it warm while preparing the other components.



2. Cook the Sooji

In a separate pan, melt the butter on low-medium heat. Once the butter has melted, add a pinch of saffron and let it infuse the butter for a few seconds.

Add the sooji (semolina) and cook, stirring frequently, until it releases a fragrant aroma and is fully cooked. This should take about 12-15 minutes for 250 grams of sooji.



4. Combine:

Gradually add the warm milk mixture to the sooji and mawa, stirring constantly to avoid lumps and sticking. Keep stirring until all the liquid is absorbed and the mixture comes together, leaving the sides of the pan.

3. Add Mawa

Once the sooji is cooked, stir in the mawa. Optionally, you can also add raisins and chopped/halved cashews at this stage. There will also be a fragrant aroma of sooji and butter/ghee in your kitchen. Mix well until fully incorporated.



5. Finish:

Once the siro is well combined and holds together, it's ready to serve. Garnish with chopped almonds (badam) and pistachios (pista) if desired. Enjoy warm!



NIHARI RECIPE



Ingredients:

- Beef (big chunks) – 1 kg
- Nihari Shan masala – 2 tablespoons
- Ghee – 2 tablespoons
- Oil – 4 tablespoons
- Flour – $\frac{1}{2}$ cup (mixed with water)
- Garlic (freshly minced) – 2 tablespoons
- Ginger (freshly minced) – 2 tablespoons
- Fried onions – 4 tablespoons
- Yogurt – 3 tablespoons
- Jaifal (nutmeg), Jawetri (mace), and Saunf (aniseed – roasted and ground)



Instructions:



Heat Oil & Ghee:

In a large pressure cooker or pot, heat 2 tablespoons of ghee and 4 tablespoons of oil.

Sauté Ginger & Garlic:

Add the minced garlic and ginger, sauté for about a minute until fragrant.



Brown the Meat:

Add the beef chunks to the pot. Fry until the meat changes color.

Prepare Yogurt-Spice Mixture:

In a bowl, mix Nihari Shan masala, the ground jaifal, jawetri, and saunf into the yogurt.

Cook the Meat with Spices:

Add the yogurt-spice mixture into the meat. Fry everything together until well combined.



Add Water & Pressure Cook:

Pour in 3 mugs of water and season with salt. Pressure cook the meat for 10 minutes on high in the Ninja Foodi. Let it rest for 1 hour without opening.

Remove Oil & Thicken:

After resting, open the pressure cooker and skim off the excess oil. Add the flour-water mixture into the curry. Cook for an additional 30 minutes on low heat, stirring occasionally.

Garnish & Serve:

When serving, drizzle the removed oil back on top. Garnish with freshly sliced ginger, chopped coriander, and lemon wedges.

VIRAL DUBAI CHOCOLATE KUNAFA



Preparation time:

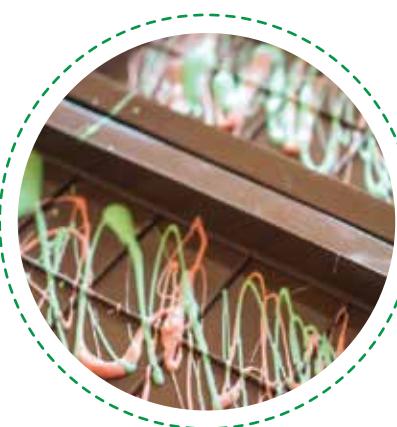
20 minutes plus setting time

Cooking time: 18 minutes

Yield: Makes 2x500g/1.1lb large chocolate bars -
150g/5ozs kataifi pastry, chopped and separated -
60g/2ozs butter -
360g/12.7ozs pistachio paste -
20g/0.8oz tahini -
Pinch salt -
15g/0.5oz pink chocolate -
1/2 teaspoon coconut oil -
15g/0.5oz green chocolate -
1/2 teaspoon coconut oil (optional) -
500g/1.1lbs dark or milk chocolate -

INSTRUCTIONS:

Step 1 - First make the kataifi filling using a large, high sided frying pan. If you have a small frypan I'd recommend doing this in two lots, halve the butter and kataifi and cook separately to ensure that it is completely toasted. In a very large frying pan with high sides melt the butter on medium heat and add the kataifi pastry breaking it up as you add it in. Toast the kataifi pastry well all over. This will take around 10 minutes to toast the whole batch. This is very important to ensure that you get the requisite crunch. In a large bowl mix the pistachio paste, tahini and salt and then add in the kataifi.



Step 3 - Melt the dark or milk chocolate in the microwave or a double boiler until smooth. Spoon it into the molds and then let the excess drip off but making sure that the chocolate goes all the way up the sides and doesn't pool too much in the corners. Scrape the sides of the excess chocolate and let set in the fridge.



Step 4 - Spoon in the kataifi pistachio mixture into both molds and smooth over evenly with an angled spatula. Spoon over the remaining chocolate and smooth this over with the spatula. If you have a chocolate scrape, make sure to scrape the chocolate from the edges. Allow to set completely. Then unmold and enjoy!



Step 2 - Place both molds on a tray. Melt the pink chocolate in one bowl and then stir in the coconut oil. With a teaspoon flick chocolate over the mold lightly making a splash pattern. Do the same with the green chocolate, melting it and mixing it with the coconut oil and then splashing it over the pink. Allow to set in the fridge.



NOTES: To ensure crunchiness, fully toast the kataifi pastry until golden, separating any clumps.

Fry in batches if needed, especially if your pan has low sides. Salt and tahini balance the sweetness, so don't skip these. Use a deep enough mold for the filling and add coconut oil to chocolate melts for better consistency. If pistachio cream is unavailable, Biscoff spread works as a tasty substitute. Kataifi pastry can be found in Middle Eastern or Mediterranean grocery stores.

WORLD HISTORY



SEIZURE OF FADAK AND THE QURANIC DEFENSE OF BIBI FATEMA ZAHRA (SA)

The episode of Fadak and the denial of inheritance to B. Fatema (sa) is often regarded as a pivotal moment in Islamic history, raising critical questions about women's rights, leadership, and adherence to Quranic principles.

Fadak was a village located approximately two days' journey north of Medina. Historical accounts suggest that it became Prophet Muhammad (saw)'s property following a peace agreement with a Jewish tribe.

Fadak was a property gifted by the Prophet Muhammad (saw) to his daughter B. Fatema (sa) during his lifetime. At the time of the Prophet's passing, Fadak was not in his possession but was under the control of B. Fatema (sa).

Despite this, it was forcefully confiscated by the first caliph, Abu Bakr. Even prominent anti-Shia historians, such as Ibn Hajar al-Makki, acknowledge that the first caliph "took over" Fadak from B. Fatema (sa).

This confiscation was justified by the first Khalifa citing a fabricated hadith that claimed prophets do not leave inheritance, and whatever they leave behind becomes public property.

B. Fatema (sa) firmly rejected this assertion in her famous sermon, arguing that the Quran explicitly supports inheritance for the families of prophets.

According to Quranic verse 59:6, properties like Fadak, classified as fay (gains acquired without direct warfare), belonged to Muhammad to use as he deemed appropriate.

"And whatever Allah restored to His Messenger from them – you did not spur for it any horses or camels. But Allah gives authority to His Messengers over whom He wills, and Allah is over all things competent."

Shia sources, and some Sunni scholars, assert that P. Muhammad gifted Fadak to B. Fatema after the revelation of Quranic verse 17:26:

"And give the relative their right, and [also] the poor and the traveler, and do not spend wastefully."

Before P. Muhammad's passing, the revenue generated from Fadak was allocated to charitable causes, such as supporting needy travellers, the poor, and P. Muhammad's family.

Importantly, his family was prohibited from receiving general alms, a restriction based on their elevated status as purified, referenced in the Quran.

Quranic Defense

B. Fatema (sa) used multiple Quranic verses to challenge the confiscation of Fadak and the claim that prophets do not leave inheritance:

"O Muslims! Will my inheritance be usurped? O son of Abu Quhafah (Abu Bakr)! Where is it in the Book of God (Quran) that you can inherit from your father and I do not inherit mine?"

Surely you have come up with an unprecedented thing. Do you intentionally abandon the Book of God and cast it behind your back?

Do you not read where it says: "And Sulaiman inherited Dawood?"

And when it narrates that story of Zakaria and says: "So give me an heir as from thyself; (One that) will inherit me, and inherit the posterity of Yaqoob (Jacob)"

And: "But kindred by blood have prior rights against each other in the Book of Allah."

And: "... if he leaves any goods, that he make a bequest to parents and next of kin, according to reasonable usage; this is due from the pious ones..."

1. Surah An-Naml (27:16):
"And [Solomon] inherited David..."

2. Surah Maryam (19:6):
"And make him, my Lord, an inheritor of me and an inheritor of the family of Jacob..."

3. Surah Al-Ahzab (33:6):
"...And those of blood relationship are more entitled [to inheritance] in the Book of Allah than the believers and the emigrants."

4. Surah An-Nisa (4:7):
"For men is a share of what the parents and close relatives leave, and for women is a share of what the parents and close relatives leave, be it little or much – an obligatory share."

5. Surah Al-Anfal (8:75):
"... But only blood relatives are now entitled to inherit from one another, as ordained by Allah..."

"Shall my inheritance be wrested from me in a tyrannical and oppressive manner? For soon, those who commit injustice will find out what they return to!"

6. Surah Ash-Shu'ara (26:227):
"... As for those who commit injustice, [soon] they will find out by what overturning they will be overturned."

B. Fatema (sa) references this verse to denounce those who seized Fadak from her.

Fatima then addressed the Ansar (Medinan Muslims) and criticized them for their indifference:

"Oh, you people of intellect, you strong supporters of the nation, you who have embraced Islam! What is this shortcoming in defending my right? What is this indifference toward the injustice being done to me?"

Did not the Messenger of God, my father, use to say: "Man is preserved through his children." How quickly you have acted against him and how soon you have plotted against us! You have the capability to help me in my attempt and the power to influence my plea and goal."

7. Surah Al-Imran (3:144):

"...So if he [Muhammad] dies or is slain, will you turn back on your heels?..."

B. Fatema (sa) uses this verse to address the betrayal of those who failed to support her father's succession and claim to the rightful inheritance as turning their back on Islam.

Rebuttals to Abu Bakr's Claims

B. Fatema (sa) directly refuted Abu Bakr's reliance on the hadith about prophets not leaving inheritance. She pointed out contradictions in their approach to Islamic guidance:

During the Prophet's final days, Umar dismissed the Prophet's call for a written will, claiming, "Hasbuna Kitabullah" (The Book of Allah is sufficient).

Yet, in this case, they bypassed the Quran's explicit laws on inheritance to uphold a fabricated narration.

She invoked the Quranic verses as clear (This is Kitabullah) and sufficient evidence for her claim and questioned why her father would be excluded from these laws, asking,

"Did Allah send a special verse to you to exclude my father from the laws of inheritance?
Do you mean to say that my father and I belong to different religions?"

She also highlighted the barriers to inheritance in Islam, such as disbelief.

In her sermon, B. Fatema (sa) laid bare the injustice, describing the denial of Fadak not just as a personal loss but as a violation of Quranic principles and women's rights in Islam. She lamented:

"Is there no relationship between me and my father?"

"Is there anyone who knows the Quran better than my father, the Prophet, and his cousin, Ali?"

She declared that Fadak's seizure was not merely about property but an attempt to undermine the principles of inheritance laid out in the Quran. This act disregarded the teachings of Islam in favor of political consolidation.

Historical Context and Impact

The Quran explicitly states that inheritance laws apply after a parent's passing, and Fadak was in B. Fatema's possession during the Prophet's lifetime. Despite her clear evidence, the political climate led

to the confiscation of Fadak, marking what some regard as the first major denial of women's rights in Islam.

B. Fatema (sa)'s rhetorical questions and Quranic references underscored the injustice of the situation. The loss of Fadak represented not only a personal injustice but a distortion of Islamic principles and the marginalization of women's rights.

This event remains a cornerstone of Islamic history, emphasizing the importance of adhering to Quranic guidance and resisting cultural distortions that deviate from its message.

Abu Bakr dealt a crushing blow to the sanctity of P. Muhammad's family by forcing them to depend on general alms—something P. Muhammad had explicitly prohibited during his lifetime.

Yet, he turned around and granted lavish inheritances to the widows of Muhammad, including prime properties in Medina and Bahrain, conveniently favoring his daughter Aisha.

By propping up Aisha and the other widows, Abu Bakr effectively positioned them as the rightful heirs of Muhammad in the public eye, a calculated move to consolidate his power.

Abu Bakr's actions were a deliberate and ruthless strategy to strip the House of Muhammad of its revered status, crush its political influence, and destroy Ali's chances of claiming the caliphate.

The fallout was irreversible. B. Fatema (sa) never forgave Abu Bakr, her fury immortalized in traditions like those in Sahih al-Bukhari. Accounts suggest that Abu Bakr and Umar, perhaps in a desperate bid to salvage their reputations, visited her on her deathbed to apologize.

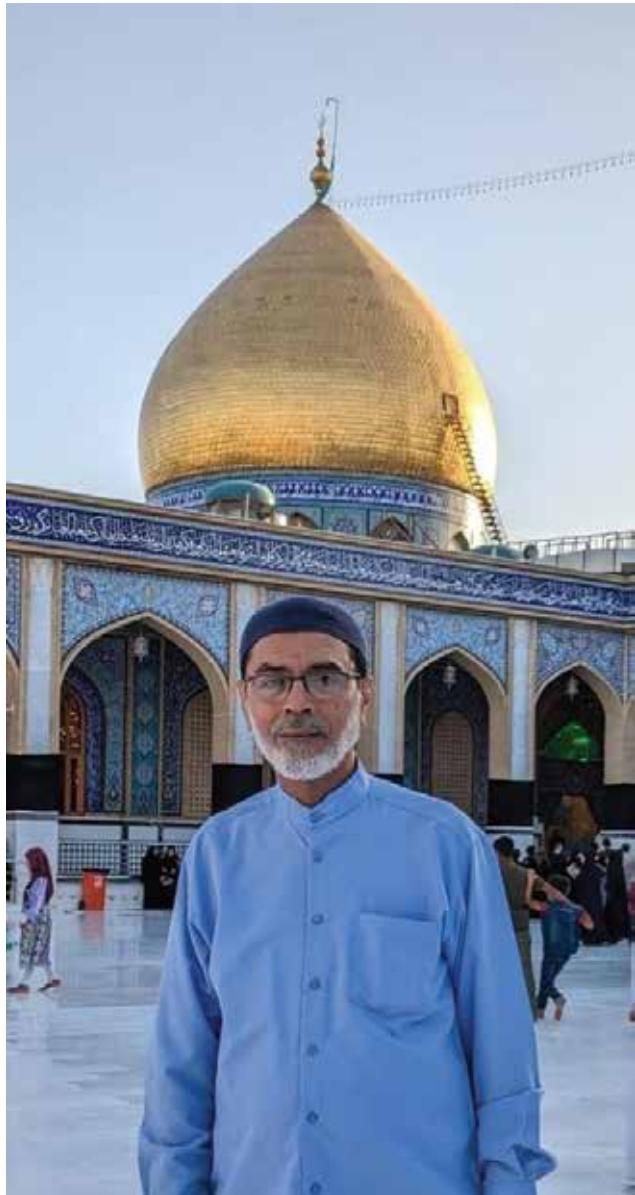
But, as recorded, her response was searing. She reminded them of Muhammad's warning: "Fatima is part of me, and whoever angers her has angered me."

She declared that they had indeed angered her and vowed to present her grievance directly to God and His Prophet in the afterlife. This confrontation was a damning indictment of their actions, leaving an indelible stain on their legacies.

TRIBUTE TO MARHUM MOHAMEDTAKI ESMAIL (DAR JAMAAT TRUSTEE 2004 – 2010)

by Akil Hirji (Past Dar Jamaat MC Member, Chairman Projects & Developments)

Alhamdulillah, I had the privilege of working alongside Marhum Mohamedtaki Esmail under the leadership of Alhaj Anwerbhai Dharamsi from 2004 to 2010, during my time as the Managing Committee Member of the Dar es Salaam Jamaat, heading the Projects & Developments portfolio.



Marhum Mohamedtaki was a sincere, hardworking, and an intellectual figure. His unwavering honesty and dedication to upholding Islamic principles, particularly Shariah compliance, were evident throughout his tenure as a Trustee of the Dar es Salaam Jamaat. He stood firm in his convictions and was never afraid to make difficult decisions when it came to protecting the interests of the community.



Dar es salaam Managing Committee 23 July 2009 -
Front L- R: Alhaj Sadiq Alishan, Alhaj Mohamed Nathoo, Alhaj Anwarali Dharamsi (President), Alhaj Razahussein Manji, Alhaj Sajjad Virani

Back L-R: Alhaj Munawwar Bharwani, Alhaj Mohamedtaki Esmail, Alhaj Kumail Manji, Alhaj Aunali Khalfan, Alhaj Akil Hirji

In today's world, it is rare to find individuals of such integrity, passion, and calibre. He was deeply committed to the welfare and progress of our community, and his legacy continues.

Among the many achievements we shared, the following are a few where his contribution was crucial towards our community:

1. Acquisition of the Plot Adjacent to the Mosque

Marhum was instrumental in the successful acquisition of the land next to our mosque for its extension. He stood firm from the initial stages until it was fully secured under the Jamaat's name.



2. Extension of the Imambargha and Musafarkhana

Working closely with the late donor Marhum Mustafa Jaffer (Sabodo), Marhum Mohamedtaki played a key role in the extension of these vital facilities for the community. He was also actively involved in the process of successfully acquiring back a piece of land of the Imambargha that was encroached by the neighbors.

3. Strategic Property Acquisitions

He was actively involved in the successful acquisition of several important properties including the Kalidas Samji plot, Uhuru Street plot (next to Jenabai Hasham), and two properties next to Ebrahim Haji.

4. Mkunguni Street Building (Al-Redha Flats)

Litigation

Despite the plot being invaded and numerous challenges with the authorities and courts, Marhum was firm to ensure the Jamaat retained ownership of this valuable asset.



5. Rental Collection Responsibilities

Marhum took his role as Trustee seriously—often personally visiting long-standing defaulters, climbing stairs himself to ensure that dues owed to the Jamaat were collected. His hands-on approach reflected his deep sense of duty towards his responsibility.



His legacy is a reminder of what it means to serve selflessly with passion and integrity, and maintain a strong moral compass. May Allah (SWT) grant Marhum Mohamedtaki Esmail the highest station in Jannah and continue to bless our community with such devoted individuals.

Al-Fatiha.

**Tayseer Alijavad
Arusha**





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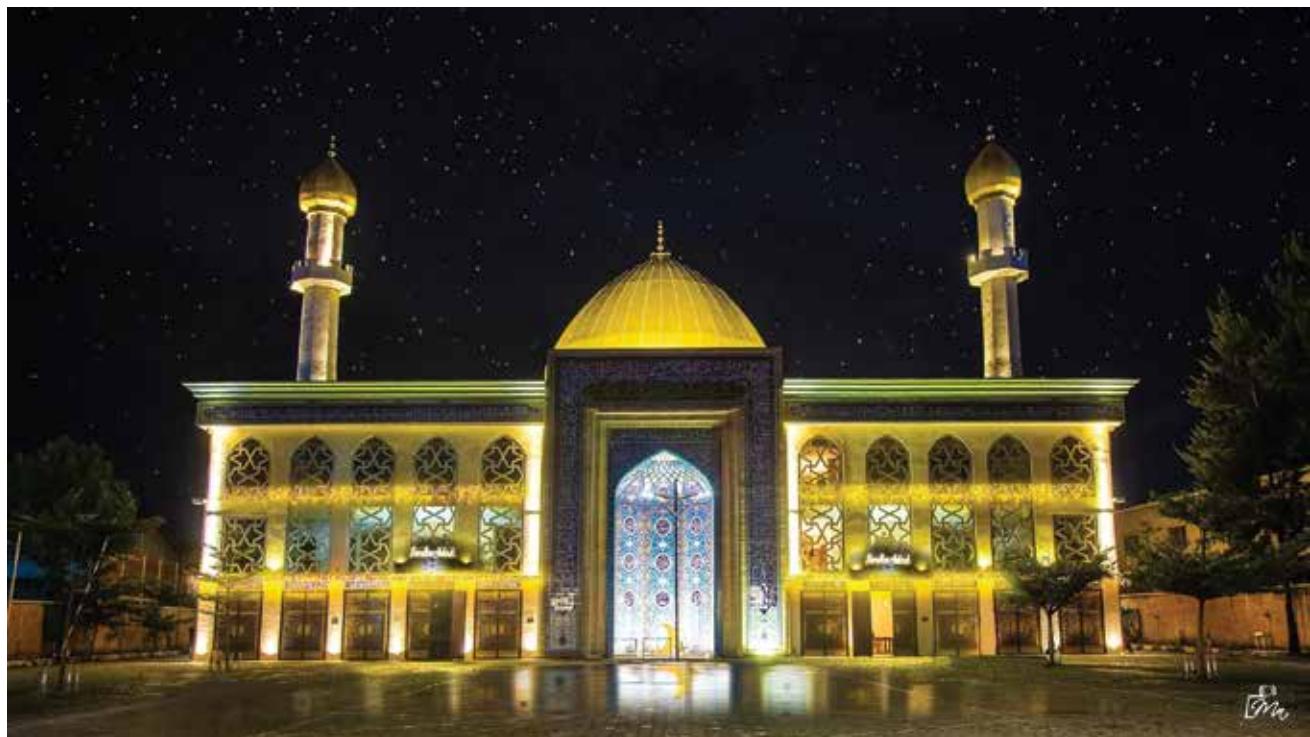
AFED PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

AFED Photography Competition – Capture Your Community

In November 2024, the AFED Media Board launched an engaging photography competition under the theme "Capture Your Community Centre", inviting members across our region to showcase the spirit and vibrancy of their Jamaat centres through the lens.

We are pleased to present the entries received for this competition, each showcasing unique perspectives and powerful storytelling through imagery. The number of votes received for each photo is indicated below, reflecting the community's engagement and appreciation.

We thank all participants for their wonderful contributions and look forward to more such creative initiatives that celebrate our identity and community spaces.



Nayab Moujahid | Antananarivo

1769 Votes | WINNER



Muhammad Ladak
Moshi | 459 Votes



Aasiya Dhala
Dar es salaam | 208 Votes



Ali Hassan Habib
Bujumbura | 279 Votes



Alireza Surati
Arusha | 105 Votes



Amira Nourmamod Djoussab
Antananarivo | 311 votes



Danial Vakil
Kampala | 433 Votes



Hussein Kassim Ali
Mombasa | 147 Votes



Hussein Rashid
Nairobi | 332 Votes



Maleeha Dhala
Dar es salaam | 184 Votes



Komel Vally
Antananarivo | 1078 Votes



Muhammedsadiq Dhalla
Mwanza | 108 Votes



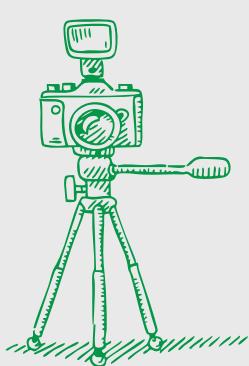
Meenaz Ladak
Dar es salaam | 124 Votes



Mehmood Dhalla
Lindi | 236 Votes



Mishal Sakina Djoma
St. Denis, Reunion | 289 Votes



Raj Mohan
Nairobi | 72 Votes



Rania-Fatema Nourah
Antananarivo | 192 Votes



Sadiq Abbas Badriwala
Kampala | 1636 Votes



Saif Hussain
Kampala | 409 Votes



Sakina Fatima Wasim Abbas
Kampala 345 Votes



Syed Himayat Hussain
Kampala 273 Votes



Sakina Hussein Muraj
Mombasa | 107 Votes



Syeda Kaniz Fatima Naqvi
Kampala | 263 Votes



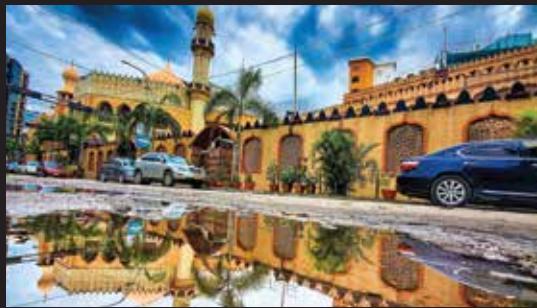
Tahssin Amirali Khatau
Nairobi | 246 Votes



Tayseer Alijavad
Arusha | 137 Votes



Zaairabbas Giga
Mombasa | 102 Votes



Zain Raza
Dar es salaam | 368 Votes



Sabiha Suleiman
Mombasa | 118 Votes



WINNER
Nayab Moujahid | Antananarivo

TAZAWAAT
TAZAWAAT
TAZAWAAT
TAZAWAAT



JAMAAT NEWS

AKSIAM - MADAGASCAR

MCE Tarbiyyah Curriculum Training: A Step Forward in Madrassa Development

MADAGASCAR, September 15 – The recent MCE Tarbiyyah Curriculum Training sessions held in Antananarivo have marked a pivotal moment for Madaris across Madagascar. This significant event brought together a diverse group of dedicated educators and facilitators coming from Dar Es Salam and Reunion Island.



Participants were actively engaged throughout the training, which was designed to be highly interactive. The format encouraged collaboration and the exchange of ideas, fostering a vibrant learning atmosphere. Lively discussions and hands-on activities allowed teachers to not only absorb valuable information but also apply it in real-world contexts.

A key highlight of the training was the opportunity for teachers to immerse themselves in the curriculum's core principles. Through a series of workshops, attendees learned innovative strategies tailored to meet their students' diverse needs, enhancing their ability to deliver impactful lessons focused on Allah, the Ahlul Bayt, Quran and Islamic values.



In addition to the in-person training, a follow-up online micro-teaching session was scheduled for two weeks later. This initiative aims to reinforce the concepts covered during the training and provides educators with a platform to showcase their newly acquired skills. Such follow-up sessions reflect a strong commitment to ongoing professional development, ensuring that teachers feel supported as they implement their learning.



Feedback from participants has been overwhelmingly positive, with many expressing gratitude for the opportunity to enhance their practices. The hope is that this training will inspire lasting changes in instructional methods, ultimately benefiting students and contributing to a more enriched spiritual experience throughout the community madaris.



Empower the Future: Support Our School Project in Antananarivo, Madagascar!

Imagine a place where children can learn and grow, not only in knowledge but also in faith. We are excited to introduce our project: a community school in Antananarivo, Madagascar, designed to nurture young minds in an environment that aligns with Islamic principles.

In a world filled with bad influences, it's vital for our youth to have a safe haven where they can embrace their identity and values. Our school will provide academic excellence, helping students to stay rooted in their faith while preparing them for a bright future.

Currently, we have raised less than 10% of the funds needed to move this project forward, and we urgently need generous donors to help us realize this vision. Your support can make a transformative difference! With your help, we will create a space that fosters learning, character development, and community engagement. Together, we can equip the next generation with the tools they need to thrive, both as scholars and as dedicated members of their community.

Join us in this noble endeavor. Every contribution, no matter the size, helps build a brighter future for our children and strengthens the bonds of our community. Let's invest in their potential and ensure they carry their faith proudly into the world!

Donate today and be a part of this life-changing journey!



Community Developments in Tamatave Mosque: Elevator Installation and Land Acquisition

On September 20, 2024, the Mehfil-e-Mohammad Association in Tamatave announced two significant developments: the installation of an elevator at their mosque, donated by Mr. Mahamadaly Aziz and Mr. Djaffaraly Amarsy families for the benefit of elderly community members, and the acquisition of adjacent land after years of effort by community members and support from AKSIAM President Alhaj Féride Ismael. The committee expressed gratitude for these contributions and hopes for continued support for future projects to enhance community development.



A SPIRITUAL ADVENTURE - AL ASKARI CRASH COURSE - 2024

GIRL'S SECTION

From July 29 to August 11, 2024, a girls' camp took place in Mantasoa, Madagascar, with 36 participants from across Madagascar, Réunion, and Mayotte, along with about ten mentors. This edition featured deep engagement with nature, Islamic education, and spirituality.

First Visit: Homeopharma

The adventure began with a visit to Homeopharma, a leader in homeopathy and alternative therapies. The tour of their production facilities and fields offered insights into natural medicine, including the preparation process and quality control.

Ecological Exploration in Andasibe

Next, the group visited Ecovision Village in Andasibe, focusing on biodiversity conservation in Madagascar's tropical rainforest. They learned about local conservation efforts, participated in reforestation, and planted over 200 trees, contributing to environmental preservation.

Spiritual Stay in Mantasoa



The program continued in Mantasoa (about 60 km far from the capital), providing a serene setting for reflection and spirituality. Activities included commemorating Imam Hussain (as)' sacrifice, studying Fiqh, Aqaed, and Akhlaq, and participating in different kinds of workshops. Daily schedules balanced learning with community interaction, including discussions, practical workshops, and evening campfires.

Spiritual Stay in Mantasoa

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Visit to Nosy Soa Park

An excursion to Nosy Soa Park included a hike and a boat trip on Lake Mantasoa, offering relaxation and the chance to see Madagascar's wildlife.

Closing Ceremony The event concluded with heartfelt speeches from participants, marking the success of the camp. The Crash Course - Imam al Askari (as) provided a profound experience of self-discovery, environmental stewardship, and spiritual growth, leaving lasting memories for all involved.

BOY'S SECTION



From July 29 to August 12, 2024, 39 boys from Madagascar and Réunion embarked on an unforgettable adventure, exploring Madagascar's natural and spiritual wonders while deepening their Islamic values and brotherhood.

A Journey Through Madagascar

The adventure began on July 29 with an exciting departure from Antananarivo. The boys first stopped at Antsirabe for a warm lunch and then stayed overnight in Fianarantsoa. They continued their journey to Isalo National Park, known for its breathtaking rock formations, canyons, and lush plateaus. After a day of exploration, evening gatherings with majlis and nohas/marassias strengthened their bonds.

A Unique Learning and Spiritual Experience

Arriving at their hotel in Tuléar, the boys enjoyed stunning views of the sea and sandy beaches, creating a perfect setting for spiritual and educational activities. Under the guidance of Shouyoukhs that came from Iran and Madagascar, they delved into core beliefs (aqaed), contemporary Islamic issues, sessions on legal rulings (fiqh) and Qur'an recitation, combining learning with reflection by the sea.



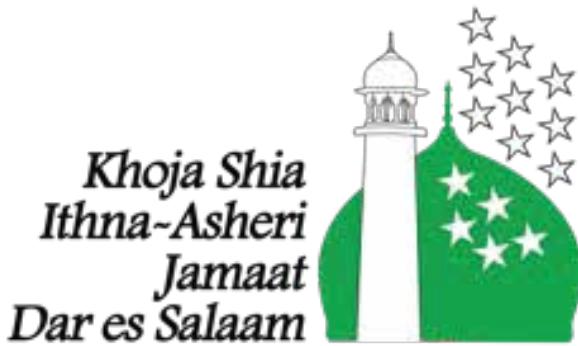
Prayer and reflection times, including majlis at the hotel and local jamat, offered profound spiritual experiences, deepening their connection to the Ahloul Bayt and Shia values.

Cultural Encounters and Exchanges

Visits to the Bilal Mosque and the Tuléar cemetery provided religious insights, while a touching encounter with the less fortunate in Tuléar, where the boys received handmade hats, highlighted solidarity and generosity.

A Transformative Experience

This camp was more than a vacation; it was a deep immersion into culture, nature, and spirituality. The boys engaged in meaningful learning and created lasting memories, strengthening ties between the communities of Madagascar and Réunion and fostering a true sense of brotherhood and unity.



KSIJ Dar es Salaam: Fostering Faith Through Innovation

The Khoja Shia Ithna-Asheri Jamaat of Dar es Salaam (KSIJDar) stands as a beacon of unity, spirituality, and progress, playing an essential role in the lives of its members. Under the exemplary leadership of President Mohamed Raza Dewji, the community continues to thrive and adapt to the evolving needs of its members, while remaining rooted in the values of compassion, service, and faith; His tenure is marked by his tireless dedication and visionary approach to enhancing both spiritual and social welfare within the community.

One of his most notable contributions has been the fostering of a spirit of inclusivity and innovation. He has supported initiatives that embrace modern technology, enhance communication, and streamline community services, ensuring that KSIJDar remains at the forefront of community development. Whether through improvements in infrastructure or the integration of digital platforms for better communication and outreach, KSIJDar President has shown that progress and tradition can go hand in hand supporting families, and ensuring that the elderly are cared for with dignity and respect.

Among the many significant achievements of KSIJ Dar es Salaam over the past years is the Juloos of 1443 that stood out as a truly remarkable event amid pandemic. It left a lasting impact on the community, showcasing the powerful tradition of remembrance and unity centered around the martyrdom of Imam Hussain (AS).

The Juloos of 10th Muharram 1443 AH (2021) was a standout event, as the community's leaders worked closely with health authorities to organize a safe yet spiritually significant procession

To accommodate those who couldn't attend physically, KSIJDar leveraged technology, live-streaming the event to ensure that people could join in from their homes with over 17000 views. This virtual participation allowed the wider community, including vulnerable individuals and international viewers, to be part of the Juloos, keeping the spirit of the occasion alive while respecting the health limitations of the time

The 1443 Juloos at KSIJDar during COVID became an example of how faith and tradition can endure even

in the face of global adversity. It was a moment where the community came together, both physically and virtually, to honour the timeless message of Imam Hussain (AS) - a message of justice, sacrifice, and resilience - under extraordinary circumstances.



The Mafunzo Ya Imam Hussain at KSIJ Dar es Salaam is another major remarkable annual event that embodies the spirit of service and community inspired by the teachings of Imam Hussain (AS).

"And whoever saves one [life], it is as if he had saved mankind entirely.
(Surah Al-Ma'idah: 32)

Dear Members of the Khoja Shia Community, As-Salaamun Alaikum,

We are pleased to share the success of this remarkable event Held on August 8th -10th, 2024 at Mnazi Moja, Dar es Salaam. This event was a testament to the values and teachings of Imam Hussain (AS) whose message of justice, compassion, and selflessness continues to inspire us to serve humanity.

The camp was an incredible success, it brought together various Shia institutions under the KSIJ Dar es Salaam banner, showcasing our joint efforts in education, scholarships, Quran studies, well construction, orphan support And medical facilities providing free health and eye care to over 10,000 attendees. Key services included screenings for cataracts and mental health, blood donations, and cancer checks.

Over 20 Shia-owned clinics, hospitals and pharmacies contributed generously to the cause by donating time, personnel and resources

The initiative, guided by the values of compassion and justice exemplified by Imam Hussain, also served as an important platform for Tabligh and community engagement.

With volunteering educating attendees about Islam Islamic books and Qur'ans were distributed to those interested, with follow-up sessions planned to offer continued support and education for those who wish to deepen their knowledge of Islam. The camp's impact was not only felt by those who received care but also by all who participated and volunteered, putting the lessons of Imam Hussain (AS) into practice.



Key Services and Impact

The camp provided a wide range of services to address the needs of the community:

Total patients screened at the eye camp: 5,818

- Surgical cases (cataract and other conditions) identified: 298
- Reading glasses given: 2,469
- Eye drops dispensed: 2,945
- Blood units donated: 281
- Medical screenings and counseling sessions conducted: 2,102
- Long-term follow-up cases and major surgeries to be performed at Ebrahim Haji: 56
- Mental health education provided to over 5,000 individuals
- Cancer screenings conducted (breast, cervical, and prostate): 1,382
- Highly suspicious cancer cases identified: 29
- Ultrasounds performed for various conditions: 70+



This event not only served with the physical health needs of participants but also emphasized mental health education, breaking stigma and promoting mental wellness across the community. The effort was supported by partnerships with NGOs and professionals like The Awaited Rehab and FikraAfy to provide counseling and mental health support. We had about 5000 individuals who were educated

about mental health and wellness. The success of the program has been widely recognized, with media coverage celebrating its impact and the dedication of volunteers



Testimonials: Lives Changed

The true impact of the camp is best reflected in the stories of individuals whose lives were transformed:



Personal stories, such as that of an elderly man who regained his vision through cataract surgery, "I had been struggling to see for years, but I never imagined I would be able to get the surgery I needed so quickly. The doctors here operated on me the same day, and today I can see clearly again. I am so grateful," he shared with tears in his eyes.

and Mama Amina, who found hope for tumour treatment, showcased the life-changing impact of the camp. "I came to this camp thinking there was nothing more that could be done for me. But the doctors examined me and have scheduled a surgery that could save my life. I have hope again, and I can't thank them enough," she said emotionally.

Positive Media Coverage

The Event of Mafunzo Ya Imam Hussain - kambi ya Afya na Macho received extensive media attention, with Imam Hussain's (AS) name featured in newspapers and TV stations across Tanzania. The positive coverage highlighted the event's impact and helped spread the message of Imam Hussain (AS) to a broader audience, reinforcing our community's efforts in Tabligh and public service.



Visits from Government Officials We were honoured by the presence of several government officials, who visited to witness the camp's activities and to show their support, emphasizing the importance of community driven initiatives and its positive impact on the relationship with the government.

A Message of Gratitude and Commitment

We extend our heartfelt thanks to all those who made this camp possible, including the committed healthcare professionals, organizers, and the community members who took part. The success of the camp has truly highlighted the power of coming together and the meaningful impact we can make through collective action.

As we continue to uphold the legacy of Imam Hussain (AS), we remain firmly dedicated to the principles of service, compassion, and justice. We are steadfast in our determination to launch more initiatives that not only benefit our community but also uphold the cherished values we hold dear.

*With prayers for continued success,
Khoja Shia Ithnaaشری Jamaat of Dar es Salaam,
Tanzania*

Renowned for its hospitality and well-organized events; Yes, the KSIJ Dar es Salaam has established itself as a gracious and effective host when it comes to organizing meetings for the Africa Federation (AFED) and the World Federation (WF).

This esteemed Jamaat has built a solid reputation for its exceptional hospitality and ability to create a

welcoming atmosphere for delegates from various regions.

Throughout the years, KSIJ Dar es Salaam has hosted numerous conferences, workshops, and seminars, consistently receiving recognition for its professionalism and warm hospitality. Its ability to cater to diverse needs makes it a model venue for such gatherings.

The strategic location of KSIJ Dar es Salaam in the heart of Dar es Salaam adds to its appeal. The vibrant local culture and friendly community further enhance the overall experience, allowing visitors to feel at home while participating in deliberation.



The “Karbala to Al-Quds” conference, initiated by the Tabligh Board, evolved into a three-day event held from July 26th to 28th, 2024.

The conference was held in Dar es salaam, streamed globally, aimed to deepen the understanding of Ashura and Mahdavia within the Shia faith through lectures, panel discussions, and Q&A sessions. It provided a platform for the participants to explore these concepts from socio-political and religious perspectives, enhancing both scholarly dialogue and spiritual reflection.

Day 1 of the conference featured Sheikh Ali Rajani as the speaker for the Friday night session on July 26, 2024.

TOPIC-The spirit of karbala in the struggle for Al-Quds:

Sheikh Ali Rajani highlighted the struggle of Palestine as a universal issue, emphasizing that it goes beyond cultural or sectarian divides. He supported his points with theological references and stressed the need for Islamic unity, warning against sectarianism as a tool that weakens the cause for Palestine.

During the conference on Day 2, Saturday, July 27, 2024, afternoon session:

TOPIC: Navigating the Geopolitical Landscape: Understanding Palestine & the Axis of Resistance.

Dr. Kamal Sheriff emphasized how Muslim unity within the Axis of Resistance plays a crucial role in defeating the Zionist entity. He discussed the global impact of the Al Aqsa Flood victory and its significance, emphasized the importance of unity and confidence in the movement against Zionist entity.

TOPIC: Islam in Action-A Call for Rise? Sheikh Nadir Amirali discussed the active role of Shias in justice while awaiting the Imam's return. He urged for a deeper commitment to the cause. Including the BDS movement (Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions) as a minimal action and emphasized the need for significant contributions. Additionally, he shared practical lessons of sacrifice and the challenges involved. Panel of discussion

saturday night starts with opening cermony followed by the program

TOPIC: The Beginning of the End for Taghuti Dominance

Prof. Mohammed Marandi discussed the potential shift away from a unipolar world dominated by the U.S. and the possible decline in American hegemony. He explored what a new world order might look like post-October 7th and reflected on why the Shia community remains at the forefront of resistance against oppression.

TOPIC: The Legacy of Resistance: From Karbala to Al-Q

Sayed Aidarus sharif alwy spoke about the legacy of resistance, linking the historical significance of Karbala to the struggle for Al-Quds. He emphasized that the principles of reform, revolution, and sacrifice from Karbala are still relevant today and are integral to the modern resistance movement.



Day 3 - Sunday, July 28, 2024- The first session was conducted by Sheikh Kamran, followed by sisters Sarah and Zainab from TMJ, all the way from the USA.

TOPIC: From the Pharaoh to Today: Quranic insight on oppression in Karbala & Palestine Sheikh Mohammed Kamran: Sheikh Kamran drew parallels between the Quranic account of Pharaoh's oppression and the events of Karbala and Palestine. He emphasized the themes of resistance, divine justice, and the need to stand against injustice, relating these principles to the current situation in Palestine.

TOPIC: Shaping the Narrative: the Media's role in Amplifying the Voice of the Oppressed

SR. Zainab and Sarah highlighted the concept of the 'soft war' through media, critiquing Zionist bias in mainstream outlets. They stressed the importance of Muslims being well-informed and resisting propaganda. They also introduced The Muslim Journalist Media Company and its role in shaping narratives post-Al Aqsa Flood. Panel of discussion

SUNDAY AFTERNOON-

Sheikh Jalala focused on the theme of "Targeting Innocence," reminding the audience of the atrocities in Palestine and the loss of an entire generation.

TOPIC: How does this End? Mahdavia in Motion

Sheikh Kamran summarized the conference by focusing on maintaining hope for the reappearance of the Mahdi. He outlined how events might unfold and discussed the responsibilities that attendees should uphold in anticipation of these developments

Closing of the Conference: The event concluded with speeches from the president of the Jamaat and the chairman of the Tabligh Board. Participants collectively raised 100 million shillings in support of Gaza, underscoring their commitment to the conference's themes of resistance, sacrifice, and victory.

Infrastructure has been one of the major focus of Development for KSIJDar.

Development Project has undertaken several infrastructure projects to enhance community facilities. These improvements will provide better resources for educational and social activities showcasing KSIJDar's dedication to improving the quality of life for its members by providing modern amenities and fostering community growth

A particular highlight this year has been the youth and women empowerment sessions. A series of empowerment sessions for women and youth continued focusing on personal development, leadership, and connecting with Islamic teachings. This has been vital in shaping the next generation of leaders and reinforcing the role of women in the community.



Education advancement has been a priority for KSIJ Dar es Salaam. AL Muntazir Schools, under KSIJ Dar, have continued to excel and has developed a master plan for further infrastructure upgrades. These schools remain one of the premier institutions in Dar es Salaam, fostering a strong educational foundation for the community.

In the realm of health and wellness, the KSIJ Dar es Salaam Central Medical Board held a Townhall meeting in August 2024 to discuss plans for a new community hospital. The initiative is aimed at expanding healthcare services to benefit the wider community. This expansion reflects KSIJ Dar es Salaam's commitment to promoting well-being and ensuring that everyone in the community has access to quality medical support.



On the kushali eve of Eid e Zahra and 17th Rabi ul Awwal, 1446 (milad e Sadiqain) KSIJ Dar es Salaam took the opportunity to honour their volunteers, celebrating the dedication and effort they continuously bring to the community. Each volunteer's commitment has played a vital role in driving our initiatives forward, from organizing events to supporting our ongoing projects.

KSIJ Dar es Salaam also had the honour to present to Professor Karim Manji in recognition of his outstanding contributions to public health, paediatrics, and child health, and for receiving the prestigious Harvard University T.H. Chan School of Public Health Alumni Merit Award 2024.

His unwavering commitment to enhancing lives and upholding the highest moral and ethical standards has made him a true inspiration to our community and beyond. With deep pride and gratitude, we celebrate his remarkable achievements and lifelong dedication to serving humanity.



Leadership for the 2024-2026 term elected by KSIJ Dar es Salaam

A Testament to Unity and Participation

On 14th September 2024, the Khoja Shia Ithna Asheri Jamaat (KSIJ) of Dar es Salaam, the largest Jamaat in the Africa region, successfully held its leadership elections for the 2024-2026 term. The election witnessed an impressive turnout, highlighting the dedication and commitment of the community members in shaping their future.

This election stood out as one of the most democratic in the Jamaat's recent history, with nearly all positions going to the ballot. The efforts of the Electoral Commission, led by Br. Jameel Kassam, Br. Javed Virjee, and Br. Asadali Hirji, played a vital role in ensuring a smooth and transparent voting process.

Elected Leadership

President:
Alhaj Mohamedraza Masumali Dewji (elected Uncontested)

Vice President:
Alhaj Sajjad Jusab (Elected)

honorary General Secretary:
Alhaj Hasnain M Sherally (elected Uncontested)

Joint General Secretary
Alhaj Mohamedraza Bharwani (Elected)

Honorary Treasurer:
Alhaj Mohamedabbas Rawji (Elected)

Alhaj Bashir Bandali (Contested)

Alhaj Sameerally Dhalla (Contested)

Alhaj Shabbir Chandoo (Contested)

Managing Committee Members

Elected:

Alhaj Kazim Dhalla
Alhaj Asger Dhanji
Alhaj Shaneabbas Jessa
Alhaj Shakeel Nazarali
Alhaj Noorel Ain Sheriff
Alhaj Minhal K Dewji
Alhaj Alihassan Kassam

Contested:

Alhaj Murtaza Kara
Alhaj Rasul Shamji
Alhaj Sadiq Datoo
Alhaj Abaas Bhimji
Alhaj Sajjad Rattansi
Alhaj Kausar Jeraj
Alhaj Jehangir Hirji
Alhaj Sameerally Dhalla

Board of Trustees

Elected:

Alhaj Gulam Kermali premji
Alhaj Shabbir Mohammedali
Alhaj Mustafa Dhanani
Alhaj Gulam Kermali Jagani

Contested:

Alhaj Alihussein Shamji
Alhaj Mohamedali Versi
Alhaj Fazleabbas Khimji
Alhaj Hassan Hirji

The newly elected leadership extends its heartfelt appreciation to the community for their unwavering support and active participation. we also commend all candidates for their enthusiasm and dedication to serving the Jamaat.

As the KSIJ Dar es Salaam moves forward, the leadership remains committed to fostering unity, progress, and collective growth. May the Almighty (SWT) continue to bless this vibrant community as we strive to achieve our shared goal together. Ameen

By the Secretariat of KSIJ Dar es Salaam for the Federation Samachar -7th October 2024



The KSIJDar community, under President Mohamed Raza Dewji's guidance, continues to serve as a source of inspiration and support for its members, setting an example of how faith-based communities can thrive in the modern world while remaining faithful to their values. His leadership not only strengthens the fabric of the community but also paves the way for future generations to inherit a legacy of service, unity, and excellence.

As the community looks to the future, it is clear that under KSIJDar President's leadership, it will continue to shine as a vibrant and resilient pillar of strength for all its members.

Kampala Jamaat

The Khoja Shia Ithnasherji Jamaat Kampala has been very progressive since the last edition of the Federation Samachar in September 2023, below is a very small glimpse of what has been happening over the past year.

The Jamaat successfully achieved one out of many of its objectives in September 2023 of remaining financially independent and becoming stronger for doing Social Welfare in Kampala along with the rest of Africa as need may be. This was achieved through the renovation of some of Kampala Jamaats old properties along with the complete reconstruction of Kampala Jamaats oldest property, plot 6 Wilson Road, the Jamaat built a seven Storey commercial mall on this plot in the center Kampala's business district. The projects helped to multiply the income of the Jamaat by many folds.



At the end of September 2023 the Jamaat hosted its 100 year anniversary and hosted 110 past Ugandan members from all over the world along with 130 officials from Africa Federation and the President of World Federation and COEJ and other Dignitaries from all around the world with total guests exceeding 250 people. Amongst the several different programs going on over the ten days celebrations, one of the programs was the inauguration of the newly constructed building called "The Mall" on plot 6 Wilson Road. All the Centenary guests, the Mayor of Central Kampala Mr Salim Uhuru, World Federation President, Africa Federation officials, COEJ President and Kampala Jamaat members were present and the Mall was inaugurated by the Chairman of Africa Federation Alhaj Amine bhai Nassor.



The Centenary program involved visiting of Jinja City, Entebbe City, Tour of Kampala City, Majlis at Kampala Jamaat Qabrastan along with several other programs with the main program being held on the eve of 30th of September 2023 which included a grand function with over 900 people in attendance including Ayatullah Ramzani, respected Alims, past Ugandan members, The President of World Federation, the Chairman of Africa Federation along with officials of Africa Federation, the President of COEJ, the Minister of Justice Hon. Norbert Mao, Members of Parliament, the Ambassador of Iran, Heads of Associations, members of Kampala Jamaat and several other dignitaries. The program had a few speeches talking about the history of Kampala Jamaat along with a grand dinner and fireworks at the end.



The entire Centenary and AFED Supreme Council program was outstanding and filled with unforgettable experiences for both the guests and the Kampala Community. The membership of Kampala Jamaat felt extremely blessed to have hosted 250 guests that had participated in the celebrations. The President of Kampala Jamaat in his closing speech for the Centenary program said "The community will never forget the few days spent with the humble and caring Past Ugandan community, these few days felt like Kampala Jamaat was in a beautiful dream and now we have to wake up and come back to reality. We as Kampala sincerely thank you for coming and pray that you all return back to your beautiful country Uganda". The guests thanked all of Kampala Jamaat and especially the Ad-Hoc Centenary/Supreme Council Committee for the outstanding arrangements they had done.



Amongst the most important objective of Kampala Jamaat is making sure that the youth are on a good track and the Jamaat showed the world during the Centenary program of the high capability of Kampala Jamaats youth. The youth are the backbone of Kampala Jamaat and help in every aspect of running the community, from Volunteering in all functions to helping in Audio/Visual, taking care of sports and social programs, looking after Jamaats YouTube and Social Media, taking care of sick members, looking after the Jamaat facilities and all other works required from them at any time of the day or night. To achieve this the Resident Alims along with some members of Kampala Jamaat have always tried to guide and help the youth as best as possible in all aspects of life. The Madressah also helps to prepare them from an early age and keeps them a few steps ahead from the global negative vices. The Jamaat also arranges regular seatings between the Youth, the Resident/Guest Alims, Senior members and Leadership of the community.

In the elections in the Kampala Jamaats Annual General Meeting in March 2024, Alhajj Shabbar Virani became the President of Kampala Jamaat. Him and his Committee have taken the huge task of taking Kampala Jamaats vision forward, among the main items of the Manifesto was starting the Housing Project with Africa Federation, a Joint Commercial Venture with Africa Federation along with several important items related to Madressah, the youth, economic upliftment, updating policies. One of the main manifestos has commenced which was the construction of the Secondary block for the Jamaat's school which is a ground plus two structure (with an additional floor to be constructed in the future) donated by the Punjani Foundation. The project completion is expected by March 2025. In the next Samachaar Kampala Jamaat will write in more detail about the School completion project along with its numerous policies and further progress that has been made.



The most important duty of any Jamaat is internal tabligh, making sure to provide the best religious education, atmosphere and facilities possible, especially during these times of external and internal attacks towards the strong Shia Faith. Alhamdulilah by the grace of Allah (s.w.t.) Kampala has remained unshaken by all the fitna and has no issues that other communities worldwide are facing. One of the biggest reason for this is the policy run by the Mukhis office for decades were in Muharram, Safar, Shabaan and some other occasions the Jamaat focuses strongly on Fazail of our Ahlulbayt, during other occasions in the years the Jamaat focuses on the vices effecting society, Wajibaats and all other chapters to help perfect the Aqeedah of every member. The Jamaat is blessed with the current Resident Alim of Kampala Jamaat, Molana Syed Ali Abbas Rizvi who is a very learned, knowledgeable and wise individual who very openly addresses the problems within the community and also advises with strong reasoning the attacks that Shia Faith is facing from all directions in the world. These efforts of Molana Syed Ali Abbas are supported by several invited Alims, Recitors and Zakiras that come from the world throughout the year. The Jamaat also hosts several open Question and Answer programs, Sunday classes at the Kabrastan on Quran and Hadith, and many other programs to make sure the community remains on the strong path of the 14 Masumeen.

Lilongwe Jamaat

The Formation and Legacy of the Jafri Muslim Association

The Jafri Muslim Association (JMA) has a rich and vibrant history, rooted in the dedication and vision of early immigrants who laid the groundwork for what the community has become today. Among the first to arrive and contribute were Nad e Ali Bhai, Aamir Bhai, Enayat Bhai, Saleem Bhai, Noman Bhai, and Murtuza Bhai. Over time, families like Jawed Bhai's, Dilawar Bhai's, and the late Mushtaq Bhai's played crucial roles in supporting the growth of the Jamaat.

Leadership and Growth

In 2005, Murtuza Bhai became JMA's first president, marking a key moment in the formal organization of the Jamaat. Over the years, leadership has been passed down through several dedicated individuals, including Enayat Bhai (late), Saleem Bhai, and the current president, Habib Bhai. The Women's Section, under the leadership of people like Mrs. Saleem Dodhia, Mrs. Murtuza Devjani, and Mrs. Mukhtar Devjani, has also been vital in ensuring women's participation and in managing their affairs within the community.

Building the Community

One of the defining moments in JMA's history came in 2016, when the managing committee, led by Murtuza Bhai, purchased land to create a permanent space for the Jamaat. This was made possible through generous donations from the community, including a remarkable \$100,000 contribution from Murtuza Bhai. As the community grew, so did the need for additional facilities. This led to the expansion of the Jamaat Hall and the construction of a new Ghusl Khana—the first in JMA's history—all made possible by the ongoing support from the Jamaat members.

Focus on Education and Youth

Education has always been at the heart of JMA's mission. Early Madrassah sessions were often held in members' homes, with individuals like Mrs. Enayat, Mrs. Zahid, and Mrs. Saleem taking the lead in teaching and organizing. Today, the community benefits from two key facilities: the Imambargah and the Madrassah. The Imambargah has separate spaces for men and women and includes a park for children and a volleyball court for youth. The Madrassah continues to provide structured education under the care of dedicated teachers.

Affiliation with the Africa Federation

In 2018, JMA formally became affiliated with the Africa Federation (AFED), solidifying its connection to the broader Shia community across Africa. This affiliation has helped the Jamaat achieve its goals of fostering unity and supporting growth within the region.

The Role of Women

Women have always been integral to JMA's development, whether by organizing early Madrassah classes or contributing to the establishment of formal educational centers. Today, women continue to take on leadership roles, ensuring that community activities and educational programs thrive.

Regular Activities and Programs

JMA maintains a strong focus on spiritual growth and community engagement. The Jamaat holds weekly Dua e Kumail on Thursdays and Dua e Tawassul on Tuesdays. Jummah prayers are held every Friday, along with daily Namaz Jamat. Additionally, the Madrassah offers workshops to enhance children's skills, including classes in Photoshop and Excel, to ensure they're equipped with both religious and practical knowledge for the future.

The Jafri Muslim Association remains a testament to the strength of community and faith. Through the efforts of its members and leaders, the Jamaat continues to flourish, meeting the spiritual, educational, and social needs of its growing congregation.

Mombasa

Mombasa Jamaat Holds Interfaith Maulidi Program

A Celebration of Unity and Gratitude

In the vibrant coastal city of Mombasa, the celebration of the birth anniversary of Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) took on a special significance this year. At the Jaffery Islamic Center, the Mombasa Jamaat organized an interfaith Maulidi program that brought together individuals from diverse backgrounds to honor the universal messages of love, compassion, and unity that the Prophet epitomized.

This remarkable event was not merely an observance of a historical occasion; it served as a powerful reminder of the strength that lies in our shared humanity, transcending the divides that often characterize our world.



The interfaith Maulidi program was a manifestation of the essence of Islam—an invitation to engage in dialogue, to learn from one another, and to foster a spirit of togetherness. It provided a unique platform for speakers from different faiths to come together and share their reflections on the life and teachings of the Prophet Muhammad (SWS). In an age where differences are often emphasized, this gathering stood as a beacon of hope, illustrating that unity is possible when we focus on our common values.



As we gathered in the spirit of camaraderie, we were privileged to hear from distinguished speakers, Seyyid Sikandar and Shk. Stambuli. Their words resonated deeply, illuminating the importance of education, community engagement, and interfaith dialogue. Seyyid Sikandar's call for proactive involvement in societal issues inspired many to think about their roles in building a cohesive community. His emphasis on education as a cornerstone for progress encouraged attendees to reflect on how knowledge can empower us to address the challenges we face.



Meanwhile, Shk. Stambuli's emphasis on mutual respect and understanding among different faiths served as a poignant reminder of the beauty of diversity. His insights encouraged us to embrace our differences while recognizing that our shared quest for peace and justice unites us all. Together, their messages reinforced the idea that interfaith dialogue is not just a noble aspiration; it is a necessary action that fosters harmony and collective growth.

The event was made possible through the dedicated efforts of Madrasah Zainulabideen, Husani Madressa, Jaffery Islamic religious boards and Mombasa Jamat whose commitment to nurturing the next generation is commendable. The faculty and administration worked tirelessly to create an environment where dialogue and learning could flourish, exemplifying the spirit of unity that the Prophet Muhammad (SWS) advocated. Their involvement underscores the importance of education in promoting understanding and respect among diverse communities.



Huge numbers of our brothers from various Muslim communities presence at this gathering speaks volumes about the general commitment to fostering a harmonious society. Our willingness to engage in meaningful discussions is a testament to the belief that together, we can work towards a brighter future. Each one of you plays a vital role in nurturing the ideals of compassion and collaboration that lie at the heart of our faith.

As we reflect on the themes discussed during this remarkable event, we must recognize the critical importance of Muslim unity. Our community, rich in diversity, encompasses various cultures, languages, and traditions. In a world that often seeks to divide, we must remember that our shared faith serves as a powerful force that can bring us together. True unity does not demand that we erase our differences; instead, it invites us to celebrate them while reinforcing the common goals and values that bind us.

In conclusion, let us carry forward the messages of unity, compassion, and resilience that we have shared today. May we continue to support one another, advocate for justice, and strive for a better community. The outcome of this pivotal event is not only the inspiration we draw from the teachings of the Prophet Muhammad (SWS) but also the promise of an upcoming all-inclusive Shia-Sunni conference. This gathering will further cement the bonds of brotherhood among Muslim communities and herald a new era of collaboration and understanding.

let us remember that our journey toward unity is ongoing. Each step we take towards understanding and respect will pave the way for a future where compassion reigns and diversity is celebrated. Together, let us strive for a world marked by unity, love, and resilience. Alhamdulillah.

Mwanza Jamaat

2024: A Year of Impactful Programs and Community Engagement for Mwanza Jamaat

The year 2024 has been a testament to Mwanza Jamaat's unwavering commitment to fostering community spirit, enhancing educational outreach, and promoting holistic well-being. This year was marked by a diverse range of impactful programs, engaging lectures, and meaningful health initiatives designed to benefit both our members and the broader community. We are pleased to share a comprehensive summary of our major activities, which have significantly enriched our Jamaat and strengthened our outreach efforts.

Cardiac Arrest Awareness Talk



On the 26th of May 2024, Mwanza Jamaat hosted an informative and highly engaging session focused on cardiac arrest management and emergency response techniques. Led by Dr. Munaf Shamji, a renowned cardiac specialist visiting from the USA, the session aimed to equip our community with vital life-saving skills. Dr. Shamji provided a detailed overview of the symptoms of cardiac arrest, emphasizing the critical importance of rapid response. The talk included practical demonstrations of CPR (Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation) and the use of AED (Automated External Defibrillators), allowing participants to gain hands-on experience in managing cardiac emergencies. The event saw enthusiastic participation from members of all age groups, fostering a deeper understanding of emergency preparedness within the community.

Muharram 1446 Commemorations

The month of Muharram holds profound spiritual significance, and this year, Mwanza Jamaat curated a series of enriching programs to commemorate the legacy of Imam Hussain (AS). The commemorations were graced by esteemed guest speakers, Moulana Syed Rizvi Kalbe Zaid from Mumbai, India, and Zakira Zaida Mazahir from Nairobi, Kenya. Over the course of several days, their eloquent and thought-provoking lectures delved into the timeless message of Karbala, inspiring the congregation to embody the values of resilience, justice, and compassion in their daily lives. These sessions not only deepened our spiritual connection but also offered practical insights on how to navigate the challenges of the modern world while staying true to our faith.

Imam Hussain (A.S.) Blood Drive

In alignment with our mission to serve humanity, Mwanza Jamaat organized a community blood donation drive on the 20th of July 2024. The drive was a collaborative effort to address the ongoing demand for blood in local hospitals. Open to all communities, this initiative exemplified our commitment to fostering unity and compassion beyond religious and cultural boundaries. The response was overwhelmingly positive, with numerous donors stepping forward to contribute to this life-saving cause. The collected blood units significantly bolstered the local blood supply, potentially saving countless lives. This event not only highlighted the spirit of giving but also reinforced the importance of community solidarity in times of need.



Safar 1446 Commemorations

Continuing our tradition of spiritual enrichment, the Safar 1446 commemorations featured respected scholars Sheikh Mustafa Muraj from London and Zakira Kulsum Khatoon from Dar es Salaam. The speakers delivered profound lectures that resonated deeply with attendees, offering spiritual solace and intellectual stimulation. Their discourses covered a range of topics, including the sacrifices of the Ahlulbayt (AS) and their enduring legacy. The sessions served as a source of inspiration, encouraging the community to reflect on the values of patience, faith, and resilience during life's trials. The program fostered a sense of unity and spiritual rejuvenation, drawing large gatherings each evening.

Presentation on Advances in Breast and Prostate Cancer Surgery



On the 12th of September 2024, Mwanza Jamaat had the privilege of hosting Dr. Tanay Shah, an esteemed oncologist from the Manjis Healthcare Laboratory & Polyclinic, who shared insights into the latest advancements in breast and prostate cancer surgery. The session was designed to raise awareness about cancer prevention and the benefits of early diagnosis. Dr. Shah provided an in-depth look at cutting-edge surgical techniques, innovative treatment options, and emerging technologies that are revolutionizing cancer care. The presentation was followed by an interactive Q&A session, where community members had the opportunity to seek advice and gain clarity on various aspects of cancer treatment and prevention. This informative event aimed to empower the community with knowledge that could potentially save lives.

Free Eye Screening for All Communities

In collaboration with Agarwals Eye Clinic, Mwanza Jamaat organized a free eye screening camp on the 28th and 29th of September 2024. The initiative was open to individuals of all backgrounds, reaffirming our commitment to inclusive healthcare services. The screening included comprehensive eye exams, testing for common conditions such as cataracts, glaucoma, and diabetic retinopathy. The clinic's team of specialists provided personalized consultations, ensuring that each participant received tailored advice on maintaining optimal eye health. The initiative was particularly impactful in identifying cases requiring further medical attention, thereby contributing to early intervention and prevention of vision-related issues.

Looking Ahead: A Continued Commitment to Community Well-being

As we reflect on the achievements of 2024, Mwanza Jamaat remains steadfast in its mission to uplift our community through a diverse array of educational programs, spiritual gatherings, and healthcare initiatives. These activities not only nurture individual growth but also strengthen the bonds that unite us as a community. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all members, volunteers, and partners who have dedicated their time and resources to make these events a resounding success.

Moving forward, we are excited to explore new avenues of service and community development. With the continued support of our members, we look forward to celebrating more milestones and achievements in the years to come, insha'Allah. Together, we are building a brighter, healthier, and more connected future for all.

THE FEDERATION OF THE
KHOJA SHIA ITHNA-ASHERI JAMAATS OF AFRICA

OFFICE BEARERS 2025-2028



ALHAJ
AMINE NASSOR
CHAIRMAN

ALHAJ
MURTAZA SOMJI
VICE CHAIRMAN SECRETARIAT

ALHAJ
FERIDE ISMAEL
VICE CHAIRMAN MADAGASCAR

ALHAJ
RAZA ALY ASGARALY
VICE CHAIRMAN REUNION



ALIHASSAN KASSAM
HON. SECRETARY

ALHAJ
MURTAZA KARA
HON. ASSISTANT SECRETARY

ALHAJ
MUNTAZIR WALJI
HON. TREASURER

app
store



AFED HISTORY



Formation of AFED and the Rich History that Has Brought Us Here Today

The Federation of Khoja Shia Ithna-Asheri Jamaats of Africa (AFED) stands today as a monumental institution, embodying the unity and resilience of the Khoja community in East Africa. From its inception in 1946, AFED has been a beacon of progress and brotherhood, navigating its way through countless challenges to emerge as a stronghold of communal harmony, leadership, and development. This article delves into the formation of AFED and traces the rich history that has shaped it into what it is today.

The Birth of an Idea

The vision for AFED began as early as 1927 in Mombasa when some visionary community members first broached the idea of forming a federation to unite the Khoja Shia Ithna-Asheri Jamaats. Although the idea didn't gain much traction at the time, it sowed the seeds of unity. Over the next two decades, several attempts were made to revive this concept through publications like *Munaadi* and *Salsabeel*, which advocated for the establishment of a unifying body. However, it wasn't until 1945 that this dream began to take shape. A group of forward-thinking intellectuals, recognizing the growing need for communal unity, met in Dar es Salaam to discuss the formation of a Federation, one that would provide a platform for collaboration and mutual support across all Jamaats in East Africa.

This effort culminated in the first-ever Constitutional Conference of the Khoja Shia Ithna-Asheri Jamaats, held in Dar es Salaam in 1946. Representatives from Kenya, Uganda, Tanganyika, and Zanzibar participated, and Alhaj Abdulhussein Nurmohamed

was unanimously elected as the first Chairman of the newly formed Africa Federation. This meeting was not merely a gathering of minds but a defining moment in the community's history, establishing a framework for cooperation that would endure for decades to come.

AFED's Impact on Global Khoja Unity

One of AFED's most remarkable contributions is its role in fostering unity not just within East Africa, but across the globe. The success of AFED's model of institutional regional unity became a template for other Khoja communities around the world. This influence led to the establishment of the World Federation in 1976, which now serves as an umbrella organization for Khoja Jamaats worldwide.

The Africa Federation has been instrumental in supporting its community during times of crisis. During the 1972 exodus from Uganda under Idi Amin's regime, AFED stepped in to provide vital support to displaced community members, demonstrating its ability to rally in the face of adversity. Such actions solidified AFED's role as not just a regional body but as a global anchor for Khoja Ithna-Asheri communities in times of need.

Growth and Expansion

From its humble beginnings, AFED quickly gained momentum. The success of the Federation in East Africa attracted attention from other Khoja communities across Africa, including those in Congo, Rwanda, Burundi, Madagascar, and beyond. Over the years, AFED has expanded to encompass 46 Jamaats and two Territorial Councils in the Indian Ocean islands of Madagascar and Reunion, serving approximately 21,000 members.

A Legacy of Leadership: The Office Bearers Who Shaped AFED

The remarkable journey of the Africa Federation has been guided by strong leadership, committed to the progress and unity of its members. Since its establishment in 1946, the Federation has been shaped by dedicated office bearers, each playing a vital role in fostering the growth, stability, and support that AFED has come to represent. Their collective efforts have not only strengthened the Federation's capacity to serve Khoja Ithna-Asheri communities across the continent and beyond but have also left an indelible mark on its mission and vision, shaping its path since its inception.

Below is a chronological list of office bearers from 1946 to the present:

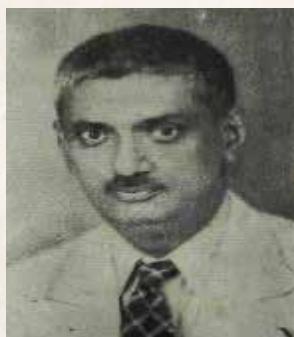


1946 - 1949

1st Chairman of Africa Federation

Alhaj Abdulhussein H. Nurmohamed.

Vice Chairman - M.A. Khimji
Hon. Secretary - Gulamhussein N. Lakha
Hon. Treasurer - Abdulrasul M. Dewji



1950 - 1953

Chairman - Abdulrasul bhai N. Virji

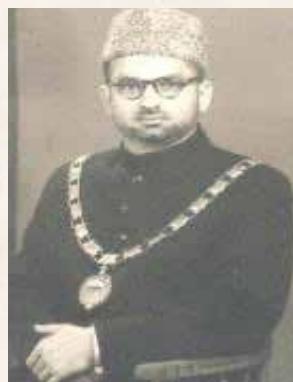
Vice Chairman - H. K. Jaffer
Hon. Secretary - Mohammedali Janmohamed
Hon. Treasurer - Juma Hajji



1953 - 1956 / 1956 - 1959

Chairman - Abdulhusein H. Nurmohamed

Vice Chairman - Mohamed Abdallah Khimji
Hon. Secretary - Gulamhussein N. Lakha
Hon. Treasurer - Ally Jaffer Sherrif



1959 - 1962 / 1962 - 1965

Chairman - Ebrahim Sheriff Dewji

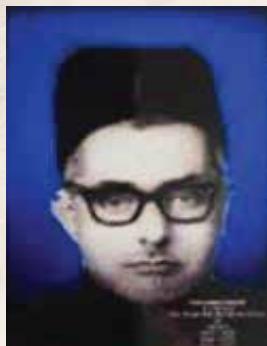
Vice Chairman- Mohammedali Sharrif Jiwa
Hon. Secretary - Hassanali P. Visram
Hon. Treasurer - Mohammedtaki R. Pirbhai



1964 - 1965

Chairman - Mohammedali Sharrif Jiwa

Hon. Secretary - Hassanali P. Visram
Hon. Treasurer - Mohammedtaki R. Pirbhai
Mohammedali Sharrif Jiwa continued taking forward the missions of Marhum Ebrahim bhai Sherrif Dewji



1965 - 1968

Chairman – Alhaj Mohammedali bhai Meghji
Vice Chairman - Hassanali Ladak
Hon. Secretary – Mulla Asgharali M.M. Jaffer
Hon. Treasurer - Hassan Ali M Jaffer



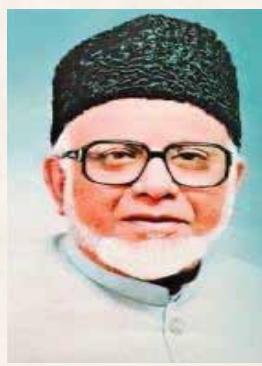
1974 - 1977

Chairman - Mulla Asgharali M.M. Jaffer
Vice Chairman - Hussein Nasser Walji
Hon. Secretary - Bashir Peera
Hon. Treasurer - Gulamali E. Karim



1968 - 1971

Chairman – Alhaj Mohammedali bhai Meghji
Vice Chairman - Alhaj Alimohamed Jaffer Sheriff
Dewji
Hon. Secretary - Jaffer Ali H. Asaria
Hon. Treasurer - Jaffer Ali M. Merali



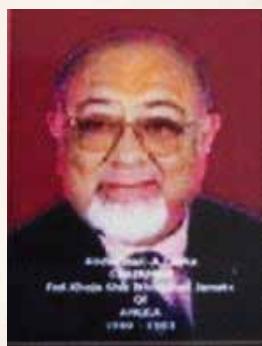
1977 – 1980

Chairman - Mulla Asgharali M.M. Jaffer
Vice Chairman - Abdulrasul A. Lakha
Hon. Secretary - Akberali A. Karim
Hon. Treasurer - Mohamedjaffer G. Hasham



1971 - 1974

Chairman – Alhaj Mohammedali bhai Meghji
Vice Chairman - Mulla Asgharali M.M. Jaffer
Hon. Secretary - Bashir H. Peera
Hon. Treasurer - Gulamali E. Karim



1980 - 1983

Chairman – Alhaj Abdulrasul A. Lakha
Vice Chairman - Hassan Ali M. Jaffer
Yusuf M Kermalli
Hon. Secretary - Mohamedraza Datoo
Hon. Treasurer - Abdulrazak Khalfan



1983 - 1986

Chairman - Mohamed bhai Dhirani
Vice Chairman - Habib Mulji
Hon. Secretary - Mohamed Rafiq Somji
Hon. Treasurer - Akber Dhirani / Mohamed Hassam



1986 - 1989

Chairman - Mohamed bhai Dhirani
Vice Chairman - Habib Mulji
Hon. Secretary - Mohammed Rafiq Somji
Hon. Treasurer - Mohamed Hassam



1989 - 1992

Chairman - Alhaj Habib bhai Mulji
Vice Chairman - Mohamed Rafiq Somji / Mohamed Khalfan
Hon. Secretary - Habib Virani
Hon. Treasurer - Murtaza Walji



1992 - 1995

Chairman - Alhaj Habib bhai Mulji
Vice Chairman - Habib Virani
Hon. Secretary - Murtaza Walji
Hon. Treasurer - Mohamed Hassam



1995 - 1998

Chairman - Mohamed bhai Dhirani
Vice Chairman - Mohamed Pirbhai
Hon. Secretary - Mohammed Somji
Hon. Treasurer - Mohamed Hassam

1998 - 2001

Chairman - Mohamed bhai Dhirani
Vice Chairman - Mohamed Pirbhai
Hon. Secretary - Asger J. Dhanji
Hon. Treasurer - Ahmed H. Alloo

2001 - 2004

Chairman - Alhaj Zulfikar bhai Khimji
Vice Chairman Mainland - Alhaj Ramzan Nanji
Vice Chairman CROI - Mohammedraza Khamis
Hon. Secretary - Hussein Rashid / Barkat Rajani
Hon. Treasurer - Mustafa Pirmohamed



2001 - 2004

Chairman – Alhaj Zulfikar bhai Khimji

Vice Chairman Mainland – Alhaj Ramzan Nanji
Vice Chairman CROI - Mohammedraza Khamis
Hon. Secretary - Hussein Rashid / Barkat Rajani
Hon. Treasurer - Mustafa Pirmohamed



2007 - 2010

Chairman – Ramzan Mulla Nanji

Vice Chairman - Zulfikar Dewji
Hon. Secretary - Fazleabbas Chandoo
Hon. Treasurer - Murtaza Kanani



2004 – 2007

Chairman – Alhaj Zulfikar bhai Khimji

Vice Chairman (Mainland) – Alhaj Ramzan Nanji
Vice Chairman CROI - Mohammedraza Khamis
Hon. Secretary - Barkat Rajani/ Fazleabbas Chandoo
Hon. Treasurer - Murtaza Kanani



2010 – 2013

Chairman – Alhaj Anwarali Dharamsi

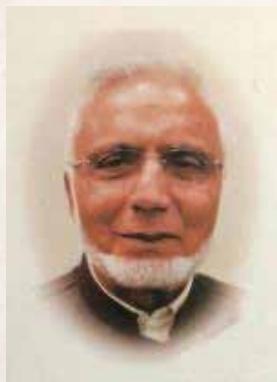
Vice Chairman (Mainland) - Shabir Najafi
Vice Chairman CROI - Sabirhoussen Goulamlay
Hon. Secretary - Aunali Khalfan
Hon. Treasurer - Mohammed Hemani



2013 - 2016

Chairman – Alhaj Anwarali Dharamsi

Vice Chairman - Shabir Najafi
Vice Chairman CROI - Navazaly Molou
Vice Chairman UAKSIR - Amine Nassor
Hon. Secretary - Aunali Khalfan
Hon. Treasurer - Mohammed Hemani



2004 - 2007

Chairman – Alhaj Ramzan Nanji

Vice Chairman Mainland - Dr. Asgher Moledina
Vice Chairman CROI - Mohammedraza Khamis
Hon. Secretary - Fazleabbas Chandoo
Hon. Treasurer - Murtaza Kanani



2016 - 2019

Chairman – Alhaj Shabir bhai Najafi
Vice Chairman - Aunali Khalfan
Vice Chairman CROI - Navazaly Molou/ Sheikh Haniphe Akbaraly
Vice Chairman UAKSIR - Amine Nassor
Hon. Secretary - Hussein A. Karim
Hon. Treasurer - Mohammed Hemani



2019 - 2022

Chairman – Alhaj Shabir Bhai Najafi
Vice Chairman - Aunali Khalfan
Vice Chairman CROI - Sheikh Haniphe Akbaraly
Vice Chairman UAKSIR - Amine Nassor
Hon. Secretary - Zuhair Jaffer
Hon. Treasurer - Zainul Chandoo



2022 - 2025

Chairman – Alhaj Amine Nassor
Vice Chairman - Aunali Khalfan
Vice Chairman AKSIAM – Alhaj Feride Ismael
Vice Chairman UAKSIR – Alhaj Raza Aly Asgaraly
Hon. Secretary - Zuhair Jaffer
Hon. Asst Secretary – Mohamedamir Hamza
Hon. Treasurer - Zainul Chandoo
Hon. Asst Treasurer – Muntazir Walji

Marking Milestones:

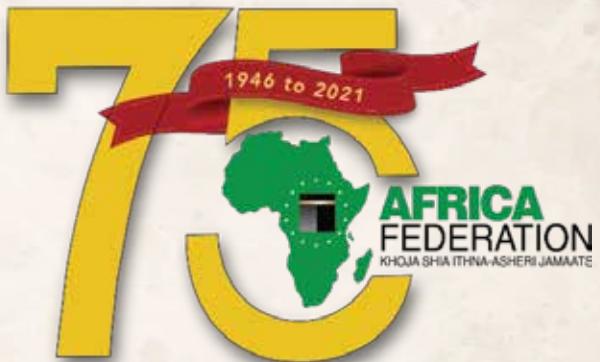
The Transformation of AFED Logos since 1946, the AFED logos have evolved to represent the federation's journey and growth. Each redesign signifies key milestones in AFED's history, showcasing its commitment to serving the Khoja Shia Ithna Asheri community throughout Africa. This journey of transformation emphasizes the federation's expansion and the strengthening of unity among its members over the decades, while also highlighting its deep-rooted connections across generations.



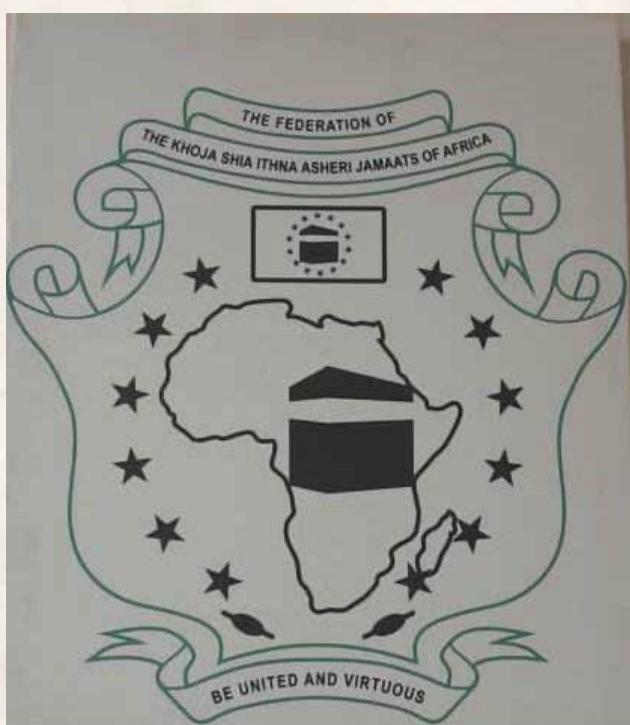
AFED Logo 1946 - 1964



AFED Logo 2017 - To date



AFED Logo specifically designed for AFED 75th Year Celebrations



AFED Logo 1966 - 2017

The Boards of AFED

AFED's mission evolved over time to encompass various facets of community life, such as economic development, education, healthcare, housing, and religious outreach through both internal (AFTAB) and external (Bilal) Tabligh efforts. These initiatives were structured under various boards, allowing AFED to serve the diverse needs of its members while maintaining a cohesive vision of unity and progress.

AFED's work is driven by its various boards, each of which plays a vital role in different areas of the community's development:

- Capacity Building: Empowering community members through trainings and personal development initiatives.
- Economic: Facilitating economic growth and sustainability within the community, including the management of income-generating projects, loans and grants.
- Education: Providing educational opportunities, scholarships, loans and grants to ensure the community's youth are well-equipped for the future.
- Health: Promoting healthcare initiatives and supporting access to medical care for community members.
- Housing: Addressing the community's housing needs, including providing affordable housing options.
- Media: Managing communication efforts and enhancing the community's presence in both traditional and digital media.
- Sports: Fostering physical well-being and camaraderie through sports programs and competitions.
- Tabligh (AFTAB - Internal): Strengthening religious education and spiritual growth within the community.
- Tabligh (Bilal - External): Expanding religious outreach to non-Muslim communities in Africa through programs like Bilal Muslim Mission.
- Women: Focusing on the empowerment, education, and welfare of women in the community.
- Youth: Engaging the younger generation in activities that build leadership, responsibility, and community service.

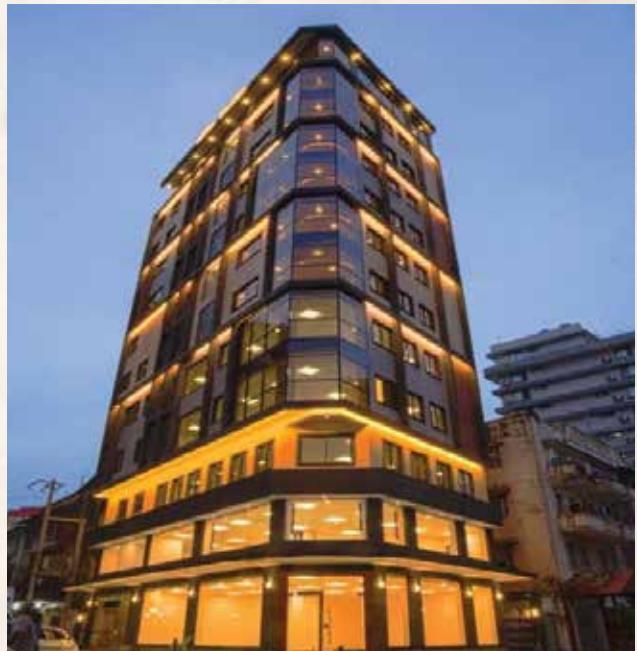
Financial Sustainability and Navigating Modern Challenges

To commemorate its Platinum Jubilee Anniversary, AFED inaugurated the AFED Business Park, a landmark development located along Mwalimu Julius Nyerere Road in Dar es Salaam, on October 30, 2021. This event coincided with the conclusion of the 83rd Supreme Council Session and was attended by numerous dignitaries, including past AFED Chairmen, community leaders, and members.

The AFED Business Park is a vital component of the Federation's strategy to invest in sustainable, income-generating commercial projects that enhance long-term financial security. This facility aims to generate revenues that will support various educational, economic, and social programs, underscoring AFED's commitment to self-reliance and its ability to navigate modern challenges.

AFED has adapted to the evolving needs of its

community through initiatives like the Business Park and education loan schemes, which have assisted over 500 students. Under the leadership of past Chairmen, AFED has focused on economic sustainability and expanding its reach across Africa, establishing a strong financial foundation to support the well-being and progress of its members.



Milestone: AFED's Own Building

A significant milestone in AFED's journey was the opening of the AFED Tower in Dar es Salaam on March 11, 2022. This ten-storey building features commercial outlets, residential flats, a training center, and AFED's head offices, representing a major achievement for the Federation. The project was completed quickly despite challenges from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The AFED Tower marks the first time in the Federation's 75-year history that it has its own administrative offices, reflecting the community's growth and progress. This building symbolizes AFED's self-sufficiency and enhances its operational capabilities, reinforcing its commitment to effectively serve the community.

Alongside other initiatives like the AFED Business Park and Amira Apartments, the Tower is designed to generate sustainable income for the Federation, ensuring that AFED can continue providing essential services and support to its members for generations, fostering a legacy of growth and development.



A Legacy of Unity and Progress

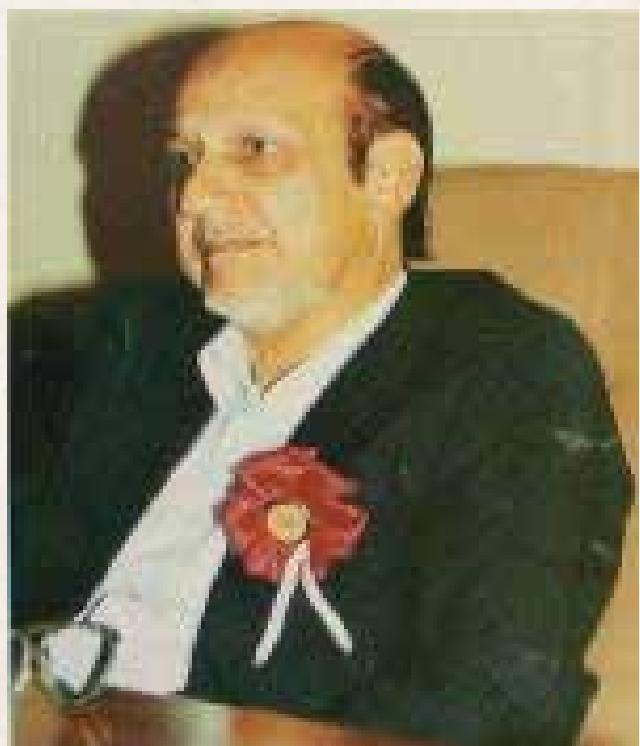
The foundation of AFED was built on a dream of unity—a dream that was realized through the foresight, perseverance, and dedication of the early pioneers. Today, AFED stands as a testament to their efforts. The Federation continues to be a driving force of unity, progress, and brotherhood, honouring its rich legacy while looking forward to a future of even greater accomplishments.

As we reflect on the history of AFED, it is crucial to remember the enduring lessons of unity, resilience, and service to others. These principles remain at the heart of AFED's mission, guiding the Federation as it charts its path forward. The rich history that brought us to this moment serves as both a reminder and a beacon, illuminating the road ahead for generations to come.

Excerpts from the addresses of the Chairmen of the Africa Federation.

A portion of the address of the Chairman, Alhaj Habib Mulji, in December, 1989 in Mombasa before a large gathering of youths from a number of countries on the occasion of the Fifth Sports Festival.

What the Chairman has said in Mombasa...



A CHALLENGE WITH CONFIDENCE IN YOUTHS

The entire purpose is not sports accompanied by festivity merely for the sake of sports and festivity. Sports being popular among youths in all ages serve as one of the means to get them together as participants, fans and well-wishers at a single venue periodically for men and wide to reach them. Youths of the Community need to be reached if they are to be made aware of their responsibilities to the Community.

It is collective exercise and cultivation of perseverance, discipline, team-spirit, self-confidence and above all, mutual understanding and fraternity through "sports-get-together." But that is not the end.

As the youths grow up to take the place of their elders and leaders in the Community, the qualities cultivated by them are now applied to a noble advantage in the service of the Community with due dedication to the faith.

It is in this spirit that the bi-annual programme of the sports festival will be seen to be coming to fruition in each generation. And it is in this context that I offer my thanks to Alhaj Shabbirhussein Waljiata for the concern for the youths in general and the participants, the fans and the Sports Council in particular.

(An extract from the message of the Chairman, Alhaj Habib L. Mulji on the occasion of the Fifth Sports Festival of the Sports Council in December, 1989 in Mombasa)

WHEN ADDRESSING A LARGE GATHERING OF YOUTHS:

As the Chairman of the Supreme Council, I carry a responsibility in the matter of youths of the Community. Therefore I shall be very serious and not in its traditional lighter side but the other side.

All praise is due to Allah, that this evening I have before me a large gathering of youths. Those who come from other far countries will act as ambassadors to carry with them the message and exhortation of the occasion to their youths.

A gathering like this of youths before me gives me a feeling: that here before me is a backbone of the Community. You are the force, the energy and the hope of the Community and how you will be a decade or two from now. Amongst you some will grow up to become professionals, some thinkers, some skilled workers and a few true leaders of our Community.

You are all going through an important stage of your life and if you care to take advantage of the opportunity and openings that come on your way, seriously, your success will be the Community's success. And those amongst you who opt to carelessly waste their prime years will look back upon those opportunities and openings (which are no more) with regret. It would be too late when they wake up to realise that they have wasted an opportunity that was never to come again.

One of the purposes of making this elaborate arrangement of Sports Festival is for the youths to meet, compare their skills and experience, compete and learn from each other about the opportunities of life in the field of sports, education and employment. Our experience have shown that such gatherings of youths have proved helpful and fruitful. But we probably have more to gain and achieve.

HIGHER EDUCATION

Considering the prevailing circumstances of affluence and improved economical means, the youths of our Community have generally begun to develop a wrong notion about their future security and entertain attitudes which are short-sighted. This, if not contained and changed, will have a serious effect on youths as an important part of a Community and also on himself as an individual.

I therefore appeal to the young members of the Community to take higher education seriously. Good economic times come and pass but the youth period in life comes only once. If one achieves good education, acquires useful art and skill and learns trade, then these will be his lifetime asset, which will ensure independent true security in life and freedom of movement. You should take maximum advantage in seeking guidance and obtaining information regarding educational opportunity and career openings from the Education Board of the Supreme Council. You will Inshallah derive immense benefits from the CAREER GUIDANCE SEMINAR organised by the Education Board in collaboration with the World Federation to coincide with this Sports Festival.

SOCIAL EVILS

Secondly, I wish to take the opportunity of expressing my deep concern about the ways some of our youths have taken their way of life for granted. The evils of the West which have gripped the youths in that part of the world could easily creep into our Society of youth and teenagers. We are a Community whose belief and faith is based on Islam. We are supposed to be guided by the Qur'an and the teachings of Ahlul Bait. And it is very hard to believe that our youths' behaviour and habits could ever be un-Islamic.

I appeal to all the youths in the Community to guard themselves from the social evils which have gripped the youths of the West. It is the duty of all well-intentioned members to flash a discreet alarm to their respective Jamaat leaders if they have evidence of these social evils creeping into the Community. You are the guardian of our faith, culture and good ethics and with your timely action the present and future generation will be saved.

I see it appropriate here to quote a **Hadith of our Prophet HAZRAT MUHAMMAD (S.A.W.):**

On the day of Judgement we will all be asked to explain how did we spend our youthful years? How we earned our livelihood? How we spent what Allah had given us? What did we learn from Qur'an and Ahlul Bayt? And how did we convey to others?

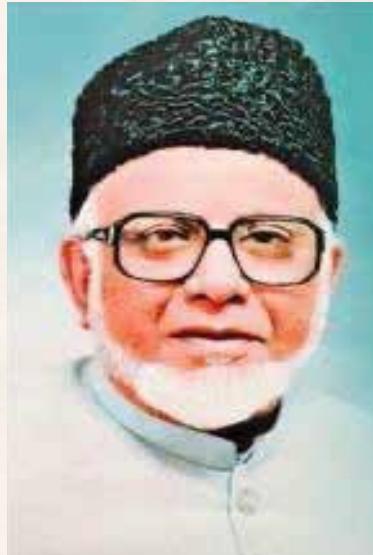
There are important lessons we can draw from this Hadith of our beloved Prophet (S.A.W.). The youthful years and earnings are Allah's blessings and should not be misused. It is not only our duty to learn and understand Allah's message for mankind but we have a further duty to convey the message to each other.

Let us make this Hadith our guideline and our life programme. Let us learn to take our life seriously. We have a duty to ourselves and our future generation.

As the Chairman of an Islamic institution, I am answerable to Allah and IMAM-E-ZAMANA (Ajalallaho Farajah) and if I had missed this opportunity to convey all that what I have said, then I am sure it would have been a breach of the trust you have placed in me.

FEDERATION SAMACHAR | JAMADIL AKHAR 1410

A CHALLENGE TO THE YOUTHS & ELDERS OF THE COMMUNITY !



In a wide ranging review on the state of the community, quoted below is a talk delivered by Mulla Asgharali M. M. Jaffer at the second Golden Crescent Group Seminar held at Tarangire National Park, Tanzania, on 15-16 December, 1973. (Quoted from "Relentless Endeavours" – Reflections on Mulla Asgharali M. M. Jaffer, 1936- 2000 - by Hassan Ali M. Jaffer and published by Tehrike Tarsile Quran, New York, 2009)

"Unless the youths of this community are prepared to girdle their loins to serve the community to the best of their abilities, this community left in the hands of hard core traditionalists will not be able to take strides ahead. But at the same time a question arises before me, what class of youth we would like to take over such responsibilities?"

An Obsessed Reader

A voracious reader with a sharp memory, in his early days, Mulla Asgharali was a regular visitor to the Social Service League Library operating from the Vasco da Gama Street, currently known as Mbarak Hinawy Road, near Mombasa's Old Port. He was also a frequent visitor to what was then known as the Seif Bin Salim Library and Reading Room, Digo Road or what was then known as Salim Road. This library has since been incorporated into the Kenya National Library and is now located in a purpose built accommodation off Haile Selassie Road, Mombasa.

In later life, when addressing youths he would always urge them to develop interest in reading books on serious subjects by good authors. 'Do not restrict your literary taste to browsing through your local newspapers only and do not confine your serious reading to "Readers Digest" and the Gujarati publications of "Be Ghadi Moj" and "Chakram" only,' he would say.

The passion of reading drove him to novel experiments. After he settled in London, he converted his garage into a library. Later, he moved his bed from the master bedroom upstairs and turned the library into his bedroom: a large room furnished with a double bed placed in the middle and bookshelves with books decorating all the wall spaces around.

Intellectual, spiritual and overall educational welfare of the youths concerned him most. He yearned to see well-informed, educated, intellectually and religiously enlightened youths coming forward to serve the Community.

"Unless the youths of this community are prepared to girdle their loins to serve the community to the best of their abilities, this community left in the hands of hard core traditionalists will not be able to take strides ahead. But at the same time a question arises before me what class of youth we would like to take over such responsibilities?"

Common tendency

On the common tendency among people who recall the days gone by as the glorious period in the history of the community, he deflated the myth with a candid observation:

"I would like to tell you that I do not very much conform to the subject as it is framed - 'Let us revive our Community'. The insinuation is that our community has had a glorious past. Suddenly we have come upon a period of stagnation. We would like to revive the glorious period. I believe that there was no glorious past for this community and therefore the question of revival does not arise."

Alluding to such common tendencies prevalent among the wider Muslim societies, Dr. Pirzada Qasim, Vice Chancellor of the Karachi University and an accomplished Urdu poet has highlighted the issue in these words.

Asre hazir dhundhta raha hai mujhko, aur mai.N
Magan hu.N ahde raftaga.N ki azamato.N ke
darmiyan!

Realities of the current times require of me to come forward and accept the challenges of But here I am, lost in my thoughts, content only in recalling past achievements of the days gone by!

In his address, Mulla Asgharali lamented the poor intellectual state of the youths of the Community and made some hard-hitting observations.

"I said it very clearly in Dar-es-salaam and I repeat. If such youngsters, who are ignorant of the present

state of affairs in the world and are simply not concerned about it; who have not been able to keep pace with the rest of the world; who are mainly concerned with their personal well-being only, interested in seeing what they are able to get out of their jobs and in the evenings for a happy stride in their well ironed clothes with 'panpatti' in their mouths frequenting the best restaurants, (if such youths) are handed over the reins of our community, it is going to be suicidal!"

"But rather than blame the youths and only complain about their attitudes we should try and take some creative steps. We must not have the tendency of shunning the problem by shifting the problem. We must solve the problem, and therefore the youngsters will have to be mobilized."

"How? We must see that intelligence of our average youth is up to the mark or perhaps above average.

"By cultivating (practice of) serious readership. I want the youngsters to read. I am told frequently by those who are concerned that we do not have a single journal in our community today. We used to have 'SALSABIL' 'REHBAR' 'ALAMDAR' and many other Gujarat journals. Also 'INQILAB' if I may not forget Mr. Satchu and 'MANZIL' from Kampala. Today, we do not have a single journal from East Africa. I am told that we need a journal."

"But what type of a JOURNAL?" "If I have an editorial board compiling serious of subject beneficial to the community I am positive - and you will forgive me for the assumption that I shall not get a readership of 15% in the community."

"They are not prepared to read anything that is serious. As I have said it frequently from the Minber and also when I addressed my friends in Dar last week, when I visit my friends at their homes and have a glance at their bookshelves, the best thing that I can sometimes pick up are volumes of 'Readers Digest' otherwise it is normally 'Chakram', 'Begum' etc. Or I am ashamed to say, things like 'Topper' & 'Beezer' etc. Or if a person is slightly interested in English literature, I might see something by Earle Stanley Gardner."

"But if you are concerned with philosophy, history, geography, economics or religion for that matter, you can hardly find a book worth its name in that bookshelf. As a matter of fact, one can hardly find a young man telling you that he is a visitor to a particular library, borrowing books that are worth their name."

"Most of our youngsters are not aware of the names of the renowned authors in the world, leave aside their work!"

"The result is this (my dears) that when we have an article published in any one journal, our youngsters are simply unaware of it."

"As this is the state of affairs prevailing at the moment, we cannot have a good class of youngsters on whom we can pin some hopes. Consequently, even when we have youngsters working in the Jamaat and Unions, they are normally pushed by the elders. The result is that they immediately start accepting and receiving influence from their own elders. You will not be surprised to hear of a young man voting for a particular resolution only because his father in law has voted for it! He will only speak in favour of those items when he has already been assured of his family's conformity. Now this being the case (gentlemen) original thinking does not appear to be there at any level."

Reactionary tendencies among elders

On the question of the reactionary tendencies prevalent among the elders and the leaders of the Jamaats who show considerable intolerance to new ideas presented by well-meaning youths, Mulla Asgharali had strong words for those at the helm of the Community affairs.

"When you find a young man coming up with something revolutionary, you find elements that are known as reactionary elements, who always try to brand the youngsters as rebellious. They try to resist any suggestion emanating from the youths, with the result that the young man who has come up with fresh ideas will withdraw to his well-cushioned obscurity forever wondering: 'why should I bother myself with the community affairs when people are not prepared to understand or even listen. Why should I burn my fingers when I am otherwise better off in my own house?'

"Therefore unless we raise the intellectual level of our community to meet the challenges of the times, I do not see any hope of reformation anywhere."

"Now to the elders I have nothing to say because I know that they have blazed a track and do not want to get out of the rut."

"But to the young men I appeal that whenever you are told something that is generally unacceptable to you why don't you argue and discuss?"

"The normal reaction to this would be that how can we argue when we do not have the knowledge and experience that the older person has?"

"So gentlemen, there can only be two things - if you cannot understand a thing, either accept it or reject it."

"My community has chosen to reject it whether there is reason behind it or not."

Feeling of despair among youths

On the current intellectual state of the Community as he saw in 1973 and the feelings of the youths towards the Community, he said:

"The tragedy is that we have met with despair from the young people. The world is going ahead at such a tremendous pace that I am inclined to feel that

living in the 20th century, we are 50 or perhaps 100 years behind times in our deliberations, reasoning, wisdom and intellect."

"Now when I talk of intellect gentlemen, I am not talking of degrees and diplomas, I am talking in terms of wisdom. What I am talking of is that stage and stratum of vision and wisdom wherefrom we get the best of deliberations for the interest of the community without sentiments and emotionalism. And if that comes, only then can we have a forum where we can suggest radical changes."

"I am not a pessimist gentlemen, but quite hopeful and optimistic and have pledged to serve my community to the last minute. But - nothing can come out of such meetings if there is no change in our own vision and that is the basic thing".

"After having thought of this subject again and again I have come across only one point and that is: **SOME RADICAL CHANGES HAVE TO COME BEFORE ANYTHING IS ACHIEVED".**

"Change the people. Have discussion groups and debates."

"Pour into them some inclination and propensities towards going to like reading serious subjects. Deliberate on these subjects and leave aside your petty talks about your material life only."

"At the moment there is not a single forum whereby a person who has decided to give an impetus to his intellect can take part. If a youth today wishes to discuss his own faith, which is the only vehicle of his survival here and hereinafter according to our faith, there is nowhere he can turn to. And if he happens to put an intellectual question he is immediately branded as a 'KAFIR'."

"Therefore intellect and vision have a direct bearing on all we want to learn."

"But is our community conscious of this? Is the level of our intellect up to standard?"

"When one tries to talk about the abstract world from the platforms such as Minber, one finds that people are lost. When one talks about reason or philosophy, and other aspects of human life that are not tangible and visible, people merely start staring, because they are not used to these ideas."

Good and bad Jamaat – prevalent yardstick

"For instance, a Jamaat is a good Jamaat and the chairman a good chairman, if we have our Muharram feasts and majalis in time - this is a tangible result of his organization. But, that chairman and Jamaat who comes out with a program to effect some basic changes in our lives telling you that look: - (I am only giving an example) - "Instead of spending unnecessarily during the marriage ceremonies, give us that amount so that we can aid the boy who wants to go for further education or to someone who wants to start earning his living."

"The reaction is: "Ah! That Jamaat is trying to break from convention. That Jamaat is trying to strike at the very roots of our customs! And there is uproar." "Ah! Who are you to tell us that?!"

"And therefore that Jamaat becomes a bad Jamaat and that chairman need to be removed overnight!"

"This is the condition prevailing in our community today because our intellect (pardon me for the word) is below level."

On the question of the challenge facing the community and how to go about facing that challenge, Mulla Asgharali had following concluding observations to make.

"Gentlemen, you and I have all a duty to perform - we need to start immediately what was started in the age of renaissance in the European Countries. When the first thing they did was to awaken the masses from deep slumber to the values of literature, art, philosophy, science, thus producing original thinkers most of them coming out with flying colours in their chosen fields."

"We do not have a country to rule; we have a society so we should become people who have qualifications in order to bring us on that border of wisdom from which we can talk effectively."

As we reflect on these comments, the question that comes to mind here is that in our thinking, have we changed much since 1973?

How does an average youth of today feel towards the Community?

How do the little tin gods at the helm of the various Jamaats, the power barons, warlords and influence peddlers who like to call the tunes in local Jamaat affairs lead or stifle independent intellectual thinking of our youths today?

Is the situation in North America, Europe any better than Africa and the Indo-Pak sub-Continent?

In order to encourage and give recognition to the intellectually inclined youths of the Community, at one stage after this event, Mulla Asgharali floated an idea of granting special associate membership status in the Federation of the Khoja Shia Ithna-Asheri Jamaats of Africa to organizations like the Golden Crescent group. The idea was dropped in

the face of opposition from the wider membership who feared that in so doing the organization would run the risk of creating an elitist group and as a result undermine cohesive working of the local Jamaats.

COOL
MOA
HOTEL
EXPO



A Historic Day for KSIJ Dar:

Groundbreaking Ceremony for Three Transformative Projects

"And let there arise from among you a group inviting to all that is good, enjoining what is right and forbidding what is wrong. And it is they who will be successful." - Surah Aal-e-Imran, 3:104

On Saturday, January 18, 2025 (17th Rajab 1446AH), the KSIJ Dar es Salaam Jamaat marked a historic milestone with the groundbreaking of three major projects that promise to shape the future of our community:

- The Fatmabai & Rajabali Dharamsi Community Haven,
- The new Madrasah Complex, and
- The KSIJ Ultra-Modern Hospital.

These ambitious developments were launched under the inspired leadership of the President of KSIJ Dar es Salaam, Alhaj Mohamedraza M. Dewji, with the full support of his team of Office Bearers, Trustees, and Managing Committee. The event saw a remarkable attendance of global dignitaries, uniting nearly every regional federation of the Khoja Shia Ithna-Asheri world in a single event—a powerful symbol of unity, legacy, and shared vision.



Presence from Across the World

In a display of rare global solidarity, the event was graced by leaders including:

- Alhaj Safderbhai Jaffer (Chairman, World Federation)
- Alhaj Amine Nassor (Chairman, Africa Federation)
- Alhaj Arifali Hirji (President, Council of European Jamaats)
- Alhaj Arif Jacksi (President, NASIMCO)
- Alhaj Suhel Burhani (President, India Federation)
- Past Presidents of KSIJ Dar, AFED, and WF including Alhaj Anwer Dharamsi
- Scholars, youth leaders, and Jamaat heads from across continents.

This unique convergence of leadership reflected the deep roots that Tanzania and Dar es Salaam hold in the global Khoja narrative—a living testimony to the spiritual and communal ties that span borders.

A Vision Anchored in Wilayah and Service

The ceremony commenced with a spiritual tone, recalling the legacy of Imam Ali (a.s.), whose Wiladat had just been celebrated. The President reminded the gathering of the Imam's unwavering commitment to service, justice, and care for the vulnerable.

"The one who purifies his intentions, Allah will multiply his blessings."

— Imam Ali (a.s.)

With heartfelt words, the President offered congratulations to Imam-e-Zamana (a.t.f.s.), praying that these projects become a means of preparing a stronger, united community—worthy of his reappearance.

Each project was described not just in architectural or financial terms, but as a spiritual and moral responsibility, rooted in the values of the Qur'an, the Ahlulbayt (a.s.), and the aspirations of the Tanzanian Khoja community.



1. Fatmabai & Rajabali Dharamsi Community Haven

This 13-floor facility will address the needs of elderly widows and widowers, single mothers, families in hardship, and children with special needs, all under one roof. It aims to provide not only physical shelter but also restore dignity, companionship, and care.

What sets this project apart is its self-sustaining model, with rental shops on the ground floors expected to offset operational costs.

In an emotional moment, the President announced that the project would be named in honor of Fatmabai and Rajabali Dharamsi, the parents of Alhaj Anwer Dharamsi, whose family pledged \$1.5 million without any prior knowledge of this dedication—a gesture that deeply moved the attendees.



2. The Madrasah Complex

Serving over 1,250 students, KSIJ Dar's Madrasah has outgrown its current premises. The new 14-floor Madrasah will be built adjacent to the main mosque, with modern classrooms, a Qur'an learning floor, sports facilities, libraries, and safe spaces that reflect the evolving needs of our youth.

The project followed community-wide surveys, engaging parents, teachers, and students. With 72% voicing full support and highlighting traffic congestion as a key challenge, this location offers a strategic and community-supported solution.

"The best inheritance a parent can give to their child is good manners and an education."

– Imam Ali (a.s.)



3. The Ultra-Modern Hospital

This hospital project is KSIJ Dar's response to rising healthcare costs, aging infrastructure, and the need for specialized care within the community. It will feature advanced medical services, expand charitable programs like the Bibi Sakina Pediatric Clinic, and prepare for the future with scalability in design.

"Whoever helps someone in difficulty in this world, Allah will rescue him from the difficulties of the Hereafter."

– Prophet Muhammad (s.a.w.)



Gratitude and Acknowledgment

President Mohamedraza Dewji expressed deep appreciation for past leaders, elders (wadilo), volunteers, and especially the trustees who helped secure the land. He emphasized that everything achieved is due to the mercy of Allah (SWT) and the blessings of the Ahlulbayt (a.s.).

He also thanked federations like Pakistan and Australia, who couldn't attend but sent their duas and solidarity.

From naming buildings, to community surveys, to transparent portals for public engagement, the event showcased a vision of collaborative, transparent, and spiritually aligned leadership.

In his closing prayer, the President sought Allah's guidance and forgiveness for any shortcomings in hosting, stating: "We will first show our work, prove our commitment, and then approach you for support."

A Legacy in the Making

This groundbreaking is not the finish line—it is the beginning of a long-term commitment to faith, service, and excellence.

"The best deed is to anticipate and prevent harm before it arrives."

— Imam Ali (a.s.)

With firm roots in the past, strong partnerships in the present, and a bold vision for the future, KSIJ Dar es Salaam steps forward into a new chapter—one that will echo for generations, InshaAllah.

While the Groundbreaking Ceremony was not intended as a fundraising event, we believe in a simple yet powerful approach: we will show our work first, demonstrate our commitment, and then invite your support. A dedicated donation portal is now live on our website, where anyone—locally or globally—can contribute, starting from as little as Tsh 10,000. This is a chance for every individual to earn thawāb al-jāriyah (continuous reward) by being part of something that will benefit generations to come. To ensure transparency and shared ownership, we've also launched a special webpage where you can track the progress, view updates, and see photos and milestones of all three projects. This is your project, and we want you to feel involved every step of the way.

Visit: ksijdar.org/development-projects to donate, follow our progress, and stay connected.



Madrasah Project

Shaping our children's future through faith and education.



Hospital Project

Delivering quality healthcare for our community & beyond.



Community Haven

A sanctuary for the elderly, widows, single mothers & space for the community.

Ground Breaking Ceremony

29TH CONFERENCE IN PICTURES



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