

# Editor's Message

llah is most great. There is no Deity besides Allah and Allah is most Great. Allah is most Great and Verily all praises are for Allah."

My Deen, the Muslim magazine will promote awareness about our Deen and to encourage Muslims to practice Islam. It will be a vessel to inform Muslims about Islamic principles in everyday life and will encourage interaction among Muslims. Our mission is to empower the communities we live in.

"Invite all to the way of your Lord with Wisdom and beautiful Preaching" (Qur'an 16:125)

It will enable Muslim companies and Individuals to fulfil their corporate Social Responsibility as a way of giving back to communities in which they operate, by way of propagating Da'awa.

Da'wa is teaching Islam as a complete way of life by use of the Holy Qur'an and Sunnah i.e. the Prophet Muhammad's (P.B.U.H) teachings and way of life.

The Management of my Deen like all Muslims has a greater obligation to fulfill which is to propagate da'wa. Da'wah can be achieved by:Being honest and sincere in conveying the teachings of the Qur'an and hadith to others. By seeking Allah's help and sacrifice for His reward and by seizing opportunities.

With your support we shall convey the prophet's (peace be upon him) message to whoever reads My Deen magazine. How will the message of Islam reach others unless we play an active role in spreading it to everyone we get in touch with.

Our prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) said "By Allah! If a single person embraces Islam of your hands (i.e, guided by you), that will be better for you than the world and all that is in it".

# Strive4Jannah Foundation Goals-



### **FOOD AID**

Hunger is a major problem affecting thousands of Ugandans. Even where famine is not the immediate cause, grinding poverty superseeds many parts of the country.



# INDIVIDUAL C

S4JF seeks to continue the religious tradition by sponsoring students of all ages living in poor communities across Uganda.





# SCHOOL SUPPORT PROGRAMMES

Our work in this field has gone on to include building of classroom blocks, distribution of scholarstic materials, clothes, beddings among others.



# MASJID CONSTRUCTION

Building mosques is an essential and excellent form of Sadagat Jariyah as the donor can except to recieve rewards as long as people worship there.



### HEALTH CARE

S43F funds several medical camps across the nation which provides free medical treatment to hundreds of patients at a time.

# Aiming For On-going Charity

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Strive 4 Jannah Foundation Limited

# Brief background.

S4JF is a Uganda-based relief and development Muslim charity established in March 2016 driven by the Islamic teachings of empathy, generosity, and selflessness.

We are dedicated to performing ongoing charity for local communities in need. Our mission is to improve the lives of individuals through various projects in the fields of health, education, the supply of basic necessities, and empowerment.

We strive to help those in need regardless of religion, race, tribe, and geographical location. We are grateful to Allah for blessing us with the opportunity to support orphaned children and make a positive impact on our community.

### **Our Vision**

To restore hope and dignity among the less privileged communities in Uganda.

### Mission

To improve livelihoods of the less privileged people in communities of Uganda.

# S4JF's Aspiration:

To be an organization that reflects the Muslim view and enjoys strong support throughout Uganda society by proving its worth and adhering to Islamic principles and values.

To be an organization that reflects the diversity of the Muslim community and leads the way in promoting and defending Islam. In addition, we aim to develop a constructive and mutually beneficial relationship with the wider non-Muslim community whilst remaining true to Islam and its noble principles.

To be an organization that supports charitable work in its wide spheres, beginning with local issues like helping to build mosques, helping to spread Islam through Qur'an and Islamic books distribution, homelessness, food distribution, supporting the vulnerable young and old, etc., and extending to national projects like health care.



# LAND FUNDRAISING PROGRAM

Building Hope: Help us Establish an orphanage, a Mosque, and a Madrasa

As-salamu alaikum! We are an Islamic charity organization committed to supporting orphans and underprivileged communities. We are currently fundraising to acquire a 2-acre plot of land just 20 miles from Kampala, where we plan to establish our offices, a home for orphans, a mosque, and a madrasa that will serve as a hub for the community to come together and flourish. With your support, we can make a positive impact in the lives of those who need it the most. Please donate towards our noble cause and help us build a brighter future for the orphans and the community. May Allah bless you abundantly for your generosity. Jazakum Allah Khairan.

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# HAII the fifth pillar of Islam.

Labbaik Allahumma Labbaik. Labbaik, La Shareek Laka, Labbaik. Innal Hamdah, Wan'nimatah, Laka wal Mulk, La Shareek Laka Labbaik.

Meaning;

"Here I am at Thy service O Lord, here I am. Here I am at Thy service and Thou hast no partners. Thine alone is All Praise and All Bounty, and Thine alone is The Sovereignty.

Thou hast no partners, here I am.

The sound of this chant (said in Arabic) echoes over the land, as the pilgrims begin arriving in Mecca by the thousands for the sacred rites. All praise be to Allah, Lord of the universe, and I bear witness that there no deity worthy of worship except Allah.

May Allah's peace and blessings be on Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H), his family and his companions, and those who call to his message, follow his tradition, tread his traits, and work by his methodology until the Day of Judgement.

Hajj is the fifth pillar of Islam. Literally Hajj refers to visiting Allah's house (Kaaba) in Mecca. According to Islamic jurisdiction (shariah) it refers to visiting Allah's house to perform Hajj rituals. It's a duty of an abled Muslim to perform pilgrimage to Allah's house (Kaaba) once in his lifetime, but it's permissible for him to go for pilgrimage voluntarily more than once.

It's performed in the twelfth month of the Islamic calendar (Dhul hajj). Allah says:

"----And Pilgrimage thereto is a duty Men owe to Allah; those who can afford the journey: but if any deny faith, Allah stands not in need of any His creatures" (3:97).



Muslims from all over the world are taking part in the largest gathering on Earth, the Hajj, or pilgrimage to Mecca. The Hajj is a religious obligation that every Muslim must fulfill, if financially and physically able, at least once in his or her lifetime.

During these historic days, white, brown and black people, rich and poor, kings and peasants, men and women, old and young will all stand before God, all brothers and sisters, at the holiest of shrines in the center or the Muslim world, where all will call upon God to accept their good deeds.

These days represent the zenith of every Muslim's lifetime. The Hajj resembles the re-enactment of the experiences of the Prophet Abraham (A.S), whose selfless sacrifice has no parallel in the history of humankind.

The Hajj symbolizes the lessons taught by the final prophet, Muhammad (P.B.U.H) who stood on the plain of Arafat, proclaimed the completion of his mission and announced the proclamation of God:

"This day have I perfected your religion for you, completed my favor upon you, and have chosen for you Islam, or submission to God, as your religion" (Quran 5:3).

This great annual convention of faith demonstrates the concept of equality of mankind, the most profound message of Islam, which allows no superiority on the basis of race, gender or social status. The only preference in the eyes of God is piety as stated in the Quran:

# "The best amongst you in the eyes of God is most righteous."

During the days of the Hajj, Muslims dress in the same simple way, observe the same regulations and say the same prayers at the same time in the same manner. There is no royalty and aristocracy, but humility and devotion. These times confirm the commitment of all Muslims, to God, It affirms their readiness to leave the material interest for His sake.

The Hajj is a reminder or the Grand Assembly on the Day of Judgment when people will stand equal before God waiting for their final destiny, and as the Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) said, "God does not judge according to your bodies and appearances, but he scans your hearts and looks into your deeds".

The Quran states these ideals really nicely (49: 13): O mankind! We created you in nations and tribes, that ye may know each other not that you may despise (each other). Verily the most honored of you in the sight of God is (he who is) the most righteous of you. And God has full knowledge and is well acquainted (with all things)."



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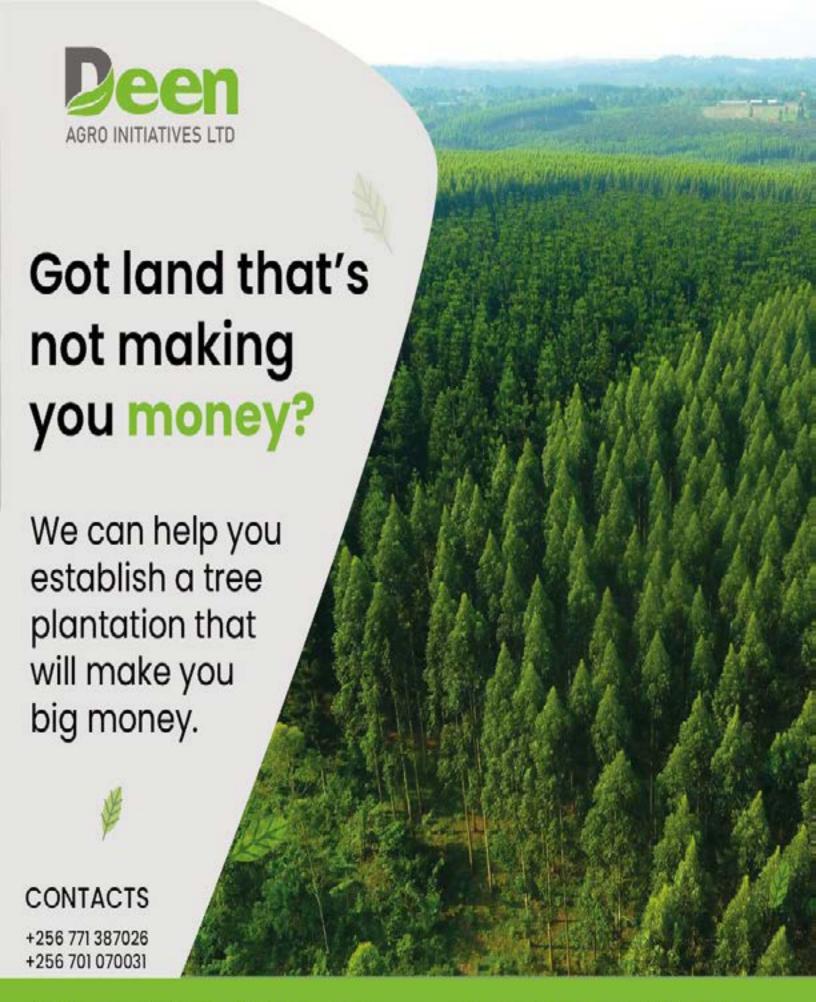












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# The Last Sermon of SALLALLAHU-ALATHI-WASALLAM (SAW) at the FAREWELL HAJJ

uhammad (P.B.U.H) performed Hajj during the 10th year Hijri, which incidentally was the last year of his life. On this journey such things were seen from him as is normally seen from someone who is about to take leave.

Hence this has become known as the Hajjatul Wadaa (the Farewell Hajj), It was as if Muhammad (P.B.U.H) was bidding farewell to all his companions present there with him before his final departure to his Lord.

"Hurt no one so that no one may hurt you. Remember that you will indeed meet your Lord, and that He Will indeed reckon your deeds." This sermon was delivered on the Ninth Day of Dhul Hajjh 10 A.H. in the 'Uranah valley Of Mount Arafat' (in Mecca).

After praising, and thanking God, Muhammad (P.B.U.H) said:

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

O People, just as you regard this month, this day, this City as Sacred, so regard the life and property of every Muslim as a sacred trust,

Return the goods entrusted to you to their rightful owners.

urt no one so that no one may hurt you. Remember that you will indeed meet your Lord, and that He will indeed reckon your deeds, God has forbidden you to take usury (interest), therefore all interest obligation shall henceforth be waived.

Your capital, however, is yours to keep, You will neither inflict nor suffer any inequity. God has judged that there shall be no interest and that all the interest due to Abbas ibn 'Abd'al Muttalib (Prophet's uncle) shall henceforth be waived...

Beware of Satan, for the safety of your religion. He has lost all hope that he will ever be able to lead you astray in big things, so beware of following him in small things. O People, it is true that you have certain rights with regard to your women, but they

# START A BUSINESS BY JAMIL SEWANYANA & ZAITUN SAAD BUSINESS IDENTIFICATION.

Like most developing economies, there has been a rampant flow of new businesses on the market, those that flow in as huge corporate and those that start small but continue growing slowly, even in their fifth year of operation!

Most businesses as reported by ILO, under SME's account for 80% of the formal sector and contribute largely to the country's new registered business product profile.

Unfortunately still, most of these new enterprises hardly survive past their first year of operation mainly due to failures or threats business owners put into their own businesses.

### Why go into business?

Most business concepts are driven with the sole vision of "improving personal income". As this may be an honest claim, it lacks the visionary options to sustain continuity or may not have a strong foundation to cope against hard external influences.

Others have a concept, "if x is doing well, then that's the way to go!" most people see their own ambitions in others, other than setting their own pace. For instance look at the mushrooming restaurants and then, ... months later their businesses are let out! It takes a lot more to set up a restaurant than in keeping one.

As Muslims sura Fatir (35:12) says "whatever of mercy (i.eg of good) Allah may grant to mankind, none can with hold it/ and whatever He may withhold, none can grant it thereafter. And He is the All-mighty, All. wise." With the faith that Allah provides all things, going into business involves a process that requires mental dialogue, a personal but visionary ambition, a need in the system, or a solution to the end user.

### 1. Believe in Allah

Once you have mentored your- self to be an entrepreneur, continuously seek Allah's guidance, make sure all that you wish to earn is from halal means. make dua for your financial and physical health so that you may be worthy of Allah's mercy.

### 2. You and only you:

The number one opportunity is you and your personality: When trying to suggest business ideas one should look at their skills, talents and personal strengths. Skills are the great abilities or expertise that rises from training or practice.

Strengths are the personal quality one has, as an advantage over their weaknesses or failures. When you have a mental dialogue ask yourself these questions:

What am I good at? What am I very sure about doing well for the next five years? And when a stimulating response has been done put your ideas on paper and come out with a plan. What do I enjoy doing? What do my friends say about me? To be successful in business, you must find a field that satisfies three requirements. First; it must be something for which you have a passion-something you really believe in and love to do.

Second; it must be an area where you have the potential to be the best, to be better than 90 percent of the people in that field.

Third; it must involve a product or service that can be profitable and enable you to achieve all your financial goals.

### THE IMPORTANCE OF DU'AA

Du' aa is the essence of Ibaadah. The Qu'ran has termed du'aa as Ibaadah (Call unto me, I shall answer you surely those who are arrogant to worship me will enter hell humiliated.

Muhammad (P.B.U.H) has also declared du'aa as Ibaadah. therefore; to forsake Du'aa is to forsake Ibaadah. for every need of mankind he





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# DUA SERIES ACQUIRING PLENTY or RIZQ

# How To Pray Salat-Ul- Istikhar;

By Rafik Beekun (email; rib19@columbia.edu) at the Islamic Workplace weblog (http://makkah.wordpressecom) < Source: Fiqh-us-Sunnah, volume 2, number 32 and volume 4, number 141

Often, we have to make major life changing decisions. whether to undertake a major project or not, whether to apply for a promotion or not, whether to change career or not, whether to invest in a certain company or not, whether to get married or not, whom to get married to, etc.

stikhara (Arabic) means to ask Allah to guide one to the right thing concerning any affair in one's life, especially when one has to choose between two permissible alternatives, e.g. a career choice, getting married, etc. Similarly, a traveler should consult good righteous persons before setting out on a journey, because

Allah says, "And consult them (O Prophet) in affairs (of moment)," (Qur'an, 3: 159) and of the characteristics of (conduct) their affairs by mutual consultation" (Qur'an. 42: 38).

Qatadah said. "Every people who seek the pleasure of Allah and consult with one another are guided to the best course in their affairs." The traveler should also make istikharah and seek guidance from Allah.

Sa'd ibn Waqas reported that Muhammad (P.B.U.H), said,

"Istikharah (seeking guidance from Allah) is one of the distinct favors (of Allah) upon man, and a good fortune for the son of Adam is to be pleased with the judgment of Allah. And a misfortune of the son of Adam is his failure to make istikharah (seeking Allah's guidance), and a misfortune for the son of Adam is his displeasure with the judgement of Allah:"

Ibn Taimiyyah said, "He who seeks guidance from the Creator and consults the creatures will never regret it."

Salatul Istikharah is a sunnah. It is a prayer that one may pray if one must choose permissible alternatives: it is two non-obligatory rak'at (that can be recited separately or in combination with the regular sunnah prayers or the prayer for entering the mosque (...) during any time of the day or night and to recite there in whatever one wishes of the Quran after reciting al-Fatihah. After the two-rak'ats, one praises Allah and sends salutation to the Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) and recites the following supplication which has been recorded by al- Bukhari in Jabir's hadith (see full text below):

"The Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) would teach us al-istikhara for all of our affairs as he would teach us a surah from the Qur'an. He said: 'If one of you is deliberating over an act, act, he should pray two non-obligatory rak'at and say: For a video on how to recite the Istikhara dua in Arabic, please use the following link http://makkah.wordpress.com/2006/12/25/before-any-major-decision-pray-salat-ul-istikhara/

An- Nawawi holds that "after performing the istikharah, a person must do what he is wholeheartedly inclined to do and feels good about doing and should not insist on doing what he had desired before making the istikharah. And if his feelings change, he should leave what he had intended to do, otherwise he is not completely leaving the choice to Allah, and would not be honest in seeking aid from Allah's power and knowledge.

Sincerity in seeking Allah's choice, means that one should completely leave what he himself had desired or determined."

The above duas for salat ul Istikhara was derived from hadiths (referred above in Fiqh-us-Sunnah) and narrated by Jabir bin Abdullah about salat-ul-istikhara in sahih Bukhari (volume 2, hadith number 263 and again volume 9, hadith 487).

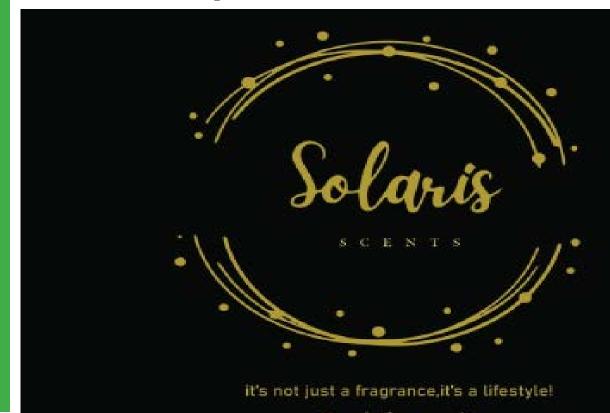
## Meaning;

"O Allah, I consult You as You are All-Knowing and I appeal to You to give me power as You are Omnipotent, I ask You for Your great favor, for You have power and I do not, and You know all of the hidden matters . O Allah! If you know that this matter (then he should mention

it) is good for me in my religion, my livelihood, and for my life in the Hereafter, (or he said: 'for my present and future life,') then make it (easy) for me. And if you know that this matter is not good for me in my religion, my livelihood and my life in the Hereafter, away from me and take me away from it and choose what is good for me wherever it is and please me with it."

# How to pray Salat-ul-Istikhara step-by step:

- 1. Perform Wudu (the ablution) if you do not have it already.
- 2. Pray 2 rakarat either with the Intention of praying Istikhara separately by itself or jointly with 2 rakat of, for example, tahajjud.
- 3. Immediately after you have completed the 2 rakats. recite the above mentioned Istikhara Dua.
- 4. Name the deed you wish Allah to provide you with guidance about,
- 5. Follow An Nawawi's advice on how to interpret Allah's guidance (again see above).
- 6. There is no limit on the number of times you can pray Salat-ul-Istikhara. If you have questions about Salat Istikhara, its applicability in specific circumstances or its interpretation,





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