

Al Mu'minaat, a project of the Tayyibun Institute dedicated to sisters

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Al Mu'minaat
PRESS

FREE!

Al Mu'minaat Press

A Successful Launch of Al Mu'minaat!

We have perhaps read about the status of women in Islaam, but have we really thought about how noble their status actually is?

By the will of Allaah, Al Mu'minaat, a project of the Tayyibun Institute dedicated to sisters held its first ever seminar on Thursday 6th of August 2009, on 'The Honourable Status of Women in Islaam'. This special launch event was hugely successful Al-hamdulillah, enjoyed by all, attracting more than 680 people!

Mashaa-Allaah the weather was beautiful and set the tone for the rest of the day. The London Muslim Centre was filled to full capacity and although it was hot and cramped it did not deter more sisters from coming! The event was, without a doubt, truly a reflection of the meticulous organisation and teamwork of Al Mu'minaat.

It was a sisters' only event addressing important issues facing Muslim women today. Topics such as 'The Complete Hijaab', 'The Role of Women in the West', 'Remaining Steadfast in Times of Fitnah' were covered. The lectures were delivered by notable scholars; Shaykh Salem al-Amry, Imam Abdul Qayyum and Dr Khalid Khan.

Unfortunately two of the advertised speakers, Shaykh Haitham al-Haddad and Ustadh Murtaza Khan, were unable to attend. Considering the disappointment of the missing speakers, the event started with a blast. Shaykh Salem al-Amry delivered two lectures in his humorous, captivating, and entertaining style, much to the delight of the audience. De-

livered in his unique style, he began by enthralling his audience with the blessings of being a Muslim, thereafter mentioning honourable status of women: 'A woman in Islaam is a queen sitting on her throne!' He emphasised the need for Muslim women in bringing about a righteous society, quoting an Arab poet Hafidh Ibrahim: 'The woman is as a whole school, the sound management of which leads to the production of a noble society'.

Not only did this event provide the sisters with beneficial knowledge, but it also created a sense of sisterhood, connecting them and involving them in contributing towards the da'wah of Ahlus Sunnah wal Jamaa'ah, here in the UK. The number of volunteers that signed up was astounding. Al Mu'minaat received a huge number of interests from the female attendees, with more than 100 volunteer sign-up forms to support the objectives of Al Mu'minaat.

Segregation was very well maintained, as expected; the speakers were behind a screen and there was a live projection for all the viewers to see.

Overall, the event proved to be very fruitful and an excellent start to the project. Al Mu'minaat has set a high benchmark for future events to come. Inshaa-Allaah we look forward to see more from Al Mu'minaat. May Allaah accept all the efforts of the Tayyibun Institute, reward them with goodness and bless the Al Mu'minaat project!

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The Status of Women in Islaam

by Shaykh 'Abdul-'Azeez Ibn Baaz
The status of the Muslim woman in Islaam is a very noble and lofty one, and her effect is very great in the life of every Muslim. Indeed, the Muslim woman is the initial teacher in the building of a righteous society, providing she follows the guidance from the Book of Allaah and the *Sunnah* of His Prophet *sallallaahu 'alayhi wa*

sallam. Since adherence to the Qur'aan and the *Sunnah* distances every Muslim - male or female - from being misguided in any matter...

The secret of her importance lies in the tremendous burden and responsibility that is placed upon her, and the difficulties that she has to shoulder - responsibilities and difficulties

some of which not even a man bears. This is why from the most important obligations upon a person is to show gratitude to the mother, and kindness and good companionship with her. And in this matter, she is to be given precedence over and above the father...
(cont. on page 2)

(Continued from the front page)

A man came to Allaah's Messenger *sallallaahu 'alayhi wa sallam* and said: O Messenger of Allaah! Who from amongst mankind warrants the best companionship from me? He replied: "Your mother." The man asked: Then who? So he replied: "Your mother." The man then asked: Then who? So the Prophet replied again: "Your mother." The man then asked: Then who? So he replied: "Then your father." [Related by al-Bukhaaree (no.5971) and Muslim (7/2), from Abu Hurayrah *radiallaahu 'anh*]. So this necessitates that the mother is given three times the like of kindness and good treatment than the father.

As regards the wife, then her status and her effect in making the soul tranquil and serene, has been clearly shown in the noble *aayah* (verse), in His - the Most High's - saying:

"And from amongst His Signs is this: That He created for you wives from amongst yourselves, so that you may find serenity and tranquility in them. And He has put between you love and compassion. Indeed, in this are signs for those who reflect." [Soorah Room 30:21].

...And do not forget about 'Aaishah - *radiallaahu 'anhaa* - and her great effect. Since even the great *Sahaabah* (Companions) used to take knowledge of Hadeeth from her, and many of the *Sahaabiyyaat* (female Companions) learn the various rulings pertaining to women's issues from her...

And I have no doubt that my mother - may Allaah shower His mercy upon her - had a tremendous effect upon me, in encouraging me to study; and she assisted me in it. May Allaah greatly increase her reward and reward her with the best of rewards for what she did for me.

And there is no doubt also, that the house in which there is kindness, gentleness, love and care, along with the correct Islaamic *tarbiyyah* (education and cultivation) will greatly affect the man. So he will become - if Allaah wills - successful in his affairs and in any matter - whether it be seeking knowledge, trading, earning a living, or other than this. So it is Allaah alone that I ask to grant success and to guide us all to that which He loves and is pleased with. And may the prayers and peace of Allaah be upon our Prophet Muhammad, and upon his Family, his Companions and his followers.

Majmoo' Fataawaa wa Maqaalaat Mutanawwi'ah

"So this necessitates that the mother is given three times the like of kindness and good treatment than the father"

A Message from Al Mu'minaat

Bismillāh-ir Rahmān-ir Raheem

As-salāmu 'alaikum wa rahmatullāhi wa barakātuh

Dear readers, Al-hamdulillah we have entered the blessed month of Ramadhaan, a month of ample opportunities to gain to the pleasure Allaah, immense reward and protection from the hellfire.

Al-hamdulillāh, in front of you is the very first copy of Al Mu'minaat Press. Al Mu'minaat is a project of the Tayyibun Institute and is run by sisters, for sisters. It has been set up to fill a major gap in our community, catering for the needs of young girls and women by Islamic education & Tarbiyyah.

By the Mercy of Allaah, this project was successfully launched at the event 'the Honorable Status of Women in Islaam' with lectures delivered by distinguished scholars and over 600 attendees; many of whom registered as volunteers. If you missed this event, then worry not! You can now view the lectures online, including an exclusive recorded lecture for Al Mu'minaat by Shaykh Haitham Al Haddad, who was unable to attend the event.

Al Mu'minaat Press will be informing you of our upcoming events & activities, alternatively you may visit www.almuminaat.com for further information.

If you would like to contribute towards the next issue of Al Mu'minaat press please e-mail your creative writings to: almuminaat@tayyibun.com

May Allah accept our fasting and grant us forgiveness in this sacred month, ameen.

Was-salaam,

Your Sisters from Al Mu'minaat

...Stay Beautiful...

Yummy Honey For Your Tummy...

'And thy Lord taught the bee to build its cells in hills, on trees and in (men's) habitations.... there emerges from their bellies a drink, varying in colours, in which there is a healing for people. Verily in this is a Sign for those who give thought'. [Soorah Nahl: 68-69].

The Messenger (Sallallaahu Álayhi Wasallam) said, "Make use of the two remedies: honey and the Quran" [al-sahih al-Bukhari, Tirmidhi, ibn Majah & Baihaqi]

Muhammad (Sallallaahu Álayhi Wasallam) has informed us of the great benefits found in honey. In recent years, scientific support is beginning to emerge confirming the beneficial effects of honey on certain medical and surgical conditions as well.

You may not be surprised to learn that Australia a few years ago approved honey as a medicine, beginning to sell it in Pharmacies!

Honey is one of nature's oldest and most treasured sweeteners (even if it does take a little nerve to gather), so we're never surprised when we hear about its benefits as a food source. It has occupied a prominent place in traditional medicines throughout world history. It is known that the ancient Egyptians,

Assyrians, Chinese, Greeks and Romans employed honey for wounds and diseases.

Abu Sa'eed al-Khudri (may Allaah be pleased with him) narrated, "A man came to the Messenger (Sallallaahu Álayhi Wasallam) and said, 'my brother has pain in his stomach', so the Messenger (Sallallaahu Álayhi Wasallam) said, 'give him honey to drink.' The man came back and said, 'O Messenger of Allaah (Sallallaahu Álayhi Wasallam), it only increased his illness!' So the Messenger (Sallallaahu Álayhi Wasallam) said, 'Give him honey to drink.' The man came back and said, 'O Messenger of Allaah (Sallallaahu Álayhi Wasallam), it only increased his illness!' The Messenger of Allaah (Sallallaahu Álayhi Wasallam) said 'Allaah spoke the truth and your brother's belly has lied. Go and give him honey to drink.' He went and gave him honey and was cured. [Saheeh al-Bukhari, Book of Medicine (5684), Saheeh Muslim (2217)].

Ibn ul Qaiyyum commented that the reason why the man wasn't cured straight after taking the honey was due to much harmful properties in the man's stomach that needed more honey for it to be removed. [Zaad al-Ma'aad -4/35].

www.healthmeanswealth.co.uk

Reviving the Sunnah

Could You Fast A Whole Lifetime?

Allaah says: "He who obeys the Messenger (Muhammad), has indeed obeyed Allaah..." [4:80]

The Prophet (peace be upon him) said,
 "Whoever fasts **Ramadaan** then follows it with six days of **Shawwaal**,
 it will be like fasting for a lifetime."

(Sahih Muslim)

BUILDING YOUR HOME

The Home is a Blessing

By Shaykh Saalih al Munajjid

Allaah says: "And Allaah has made for you in your homes an abode..." [al-Nahl 16:80]

Ibn Katheer (may Allaah have mercy on him) said: "Here Allaah, may He be blessed and exalted, is mentioning His complete blessing to His slaves: He has given them homes which are a peaceful abode for them, to which they retreat as a haven which covers them and gives them all kinds of benefits."

What does the home represent to each one of us? Is it not the place where he eats, enjoys intimacy with his wife, sleeps and rests? Is it not the place where he can be alone and can meet with his wife and children?

Is the home not the place that offers cover and protection to women? Allaah tells us (interpretation of the meaning): "And stay in your houses, and do not display yourselves like that of the times of ignorance..." [al-Ahzaab 33:33]

If you think about those who are homeless, who live in shelters, or on the streets, or as refugees scattered in temporary camps, then you will realise the blessing of having a home. If you listen to a distressed homeless person saying, "I have nowhere to settle, no fixed place to stay. Sometimes I sleep in so and so's house, sometimes in a café or park or on the sea-front, and I keep my clothes in my car", then you will realise the disruption that results from not having the blessing of a home.

There are many motives for the believer to pay attention to putting his house in order.

FIRSTLY protecting himself and his family from the Fire of Hell, and keeping them safe from the burning punishment: "O you who believe! Ward off from yourselves and your families a Fire (Hell) whose fuel is men and stones, over which are (appointed) angels stern (and) severe, who disobey not, (from executing) the Commands they receive from Allaah, but do that which they are commanded." [al-Tahreem 66:6 – interpretation of the meaning].

SECONDLY the great responsibility borne by the head of the household on the Day of Reckoning.

THIRDLY the home is a place to protect oneself, to keep

away from evil and to keep one's own evil away from people. It is the refuge prescribed by Islaam at times of fitnah (strife, tribulation).

* The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) said: "Blessed is the one who controls his tongue, whose house is sufficient for him, and who weeps over his mistakes."

* The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) said: "The safety of a man at times of fitnah is in his staying home."

The Muslim can see the benefit of this advice when he is residing in a foreign land where he is unable to change much of the evil around him. Then he will have a refuge which, when he enters it, will protect him from doing haraam things or looking at haraam things, and will protect his wife from wanton display and unveiling, and will protect his children from bad company.

"Blessed is the one who controls his tongue, whose house is sufficient for him, and who weeps over his mistakes."

FOURTHLY people usually spend most of their time at home, especially when it is very hot or very cold, when it is raining, early or late in the day, and after finishing work or school, so this time should be spent in worship and halaal pursuits, otherwise it will be spent in wrongdoing.

FIFTHLY AND MOST IMPORTANTLY, paying attention to the home is the most important means of building a Muslim society, because the society is formed of the households and families that form its building blocks. Households form neighborhoods, and neighborhoods form societies. If the building blocks are sound, the society will be based on the laws of Allaah, standing firm in the face of enemies and filled with goodness that evil cannot penetrate. Then Muslim homes will produce pillars of society who will reform and guide it aright, such as exemplary dai'yahs, seekers of knowledge, sincere mujaa-hideen, righteous wives, caring mothers and all other types of reformers. Because this subject is so important, and our homes are full of so many shortcomings and evils and examples of negligence, this begs the very important question: What are the means of reforming our homes?...

Find out in our next issue what the means of reform in our homes are!!

Umm Salamah: a Woman of Honour

Written by Umm 'Abdil Khaaliq

Umm Salamah (RadiyahAllahu Anha) was a woman with exceeding beauty. She possessed extraordinary intelligence with sound judgment. When she spoke, she spoke with wisdom. She was God fearing; a woman well known for her frequent worship, her strict devotion to the deen and passion to help the destitute and needy. She was also very learned in the religious matters and narrated over three hundred and eighty ahadith of the Prophet (SalAllaahu Álayhi Wasallam).

*'O Lord,
give me
in return
something
good
from it
which
only You,
Exalted
& Mighty,
can give'*

Her name was Hind. She came from a wealthy and noble family and married Abdullah ibn Abdul-Asad (RadiyahAllahu 'Anhu) of equal status, he became known as Abu Salamah. They were a blessed couple, together they were amongst the very early converts to Islaam but were faced with hostility, persecution and torture which led them to make hijrah (migration), leaving their habitual life to a foreign land, nevertheless, their strong faith in Allaah was a sufficient provision for them. They were amongst the twelve who made the first hijrah to Abyssinia, later they also migrated to Madinah.

Abu Salamah fought in the Battle of Uhud and was wounded badly from which he never recovered. The Prophet (Sallallaahu Álayhi Wasallam) closed the eyes of his companion with his own blessed hands. Umm Salamah, deeply saddened by the death of her beloved husband, would make the same du'a that Abu Salamah made in his death bed, 'O Lord, give me in return something good from it which only You, Exalted and Mighty, can give', but she could not complete it, instead she kept saying to herself; "Who could be better than Abu Salamah?"

Many men from the Ansar and the Muhajirun proposed to Umm Salamah. Even Abu Bakr and Umar bin Al-Khattab (RadiyahAllahu Anhum) asked for her hand in marriage yet she declined them both. Umm Salamah narrates, "...The Prophet sent Hatib ibn Abi Balta'ah to ask for my hand in marriage on his behalf, but I told him that I had a daughter, and that I am a very jealous woman. The Prophet responded, 'As far as her daughter is concerned, I shall pray to Allaah to make her independent, and I shall pray to Allaah to take her jealousy away...'" (Muslim)

Allaah (Subhanahu Wa Ta'ala) responded to her prayer by giving her someone better than Abu Salamah (RadiyahAllahu Anhu); the Messenger of Allaah, and who could be better than the Messenger of Allaah ((SalAllaahu Álayhi Wasallam))!? From this day forward she was no longer just the mother of Salamah but also Umm al-Mu'mineen; Mother of all the Believers. Allaah addresses these honoured women: "O wives of the Prophet! You are not like any other women.." (Al Ahzaab 33:32).

The Prophet ((SalAllaahu Álayhi Wasallam)) entered Al Hudaibiyah with some 1,400 Muslims and accompanying him was his wife, Umm Salamah. The companions differed during the finalisation of the Hudaibiyah Treaty. When it had been completed, the Prophet (Sallallaahu Álayhi Wasallam) ordered his companions to sacrifice the animals and shave their heads, however the companions were reluctant. The Prophet (SalAllaahu Álayhi Wasallam) sought the advice of Umm Salamah. She advised him to go out without speaking to anyone, offer the sacrifice and to shave his head publically. Upon doing so the companions followed the actions of the Prophet (SalAllaahu Álayhi Wasallam) and they too shaved their heads. The Prophet (SalAllaahu Álayhi Wasallam) was so joyful that he laughed, so much so that his molar teeth were seen! This is one of the most memorable events for which Umm Salamah is praised for.

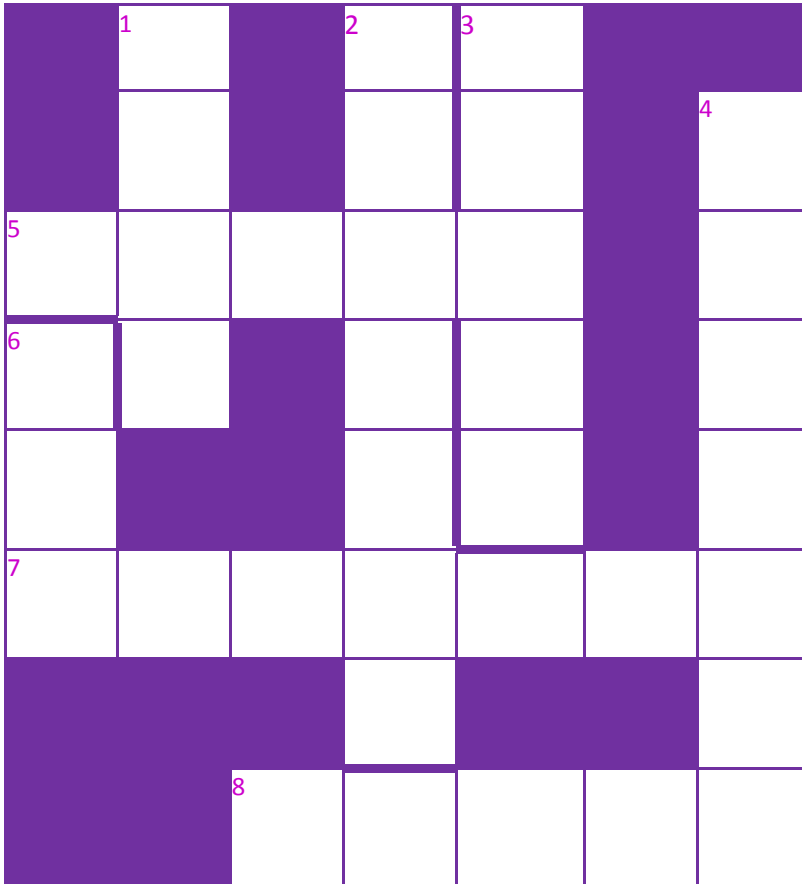
Umm Salamah (RadiyahAllahu Anha) is an inspiration to us all; she strove in the way of Allaah to safeguard her eemaan by making hijrah twice. She was a woman who was constant in her devotion to Allaah; she asked Allaah for someone better than Abu Salamah and she was granted the best of Mankind! She used intelligence in the way of Allaah; teaching the Sahabah in some of the most intricate matters of the religion. She was a woman of piety and was eager in pleasing her Lord and His Messenger (SalAllaahu Álayhi Wasallam).

Our history is full of great women who excelled in what they did. Their sincerity, knowledge, strong determination and piety is what took the society forward. They are the true gems of our society! We should aspire to be like Umm Salamah (RadiyahAllahu 'Anha), she is a true role model.

More stories of great women to come in the next edition...

Little Muslims

Crossword Puzzle



DOWN

- 1 A place which has many blessings (4)
- 2 In which Islaamic month is it a sunnah to fast consecutively for 6 days? (7)
- 3 A cure for sickness - it is smooth and sweet (5)
- 4 The month of fasting (7)
- 6 We give 3 times more kindness to this parent (3)

ACROSS

- 5 What is the Arabic word for faith? (5)
- 7 Name of our beloved Prophet (7)
- 8 The Book of Allaah (5)

Quote of the Month

"Meet people in such a manner that if you die, they should weep for you,
and if you live, they should long for you"

(Ali RadhiyaAllaahu Anhu)

If you would like to contribute towards the next issue of Al Mu'minaat Press please email your creative writings to almuminaat@tayyibun.com or post to: Al Muminaat, Po Box 57328, London E1 2WL.

www.almuminaat.com