



# Community News

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## Building Bridges

Every generation has its 'Moments,' great transformative moments that we remember as a nation and beyond. For many of a certain generation witnessing an Apartheid South Africa, the 80's and 90's were marked by boycotts of South African produce, attending protests and demonstrations, celebrating the boycott of South African sporting teams and standing up against Apartheid.

On the cusp of starting university, we watched with baited breath as Nelson Mandela was released from prison. The day was Sunday 11th February 1990 after 27 years in incarceration.

What a moment! What a celebration!

This was the man who, while facing a possible death penalty, spoke these words that were dubbed "The Speech from the Dock."

"During my lifetime I have dedicated my life to this struggle of the African people. I have fought against white domination, and I have fought against black domination. I have cherished the ideal of a democratic and free society in which all persons will live together in harmony and with equal opportunities. It is an ideal for which I hope

to live for and to see realised. But, My Lord, if it needs be, it is an ideal for which I am prepared to die."

This was the man who spent the first 18 of his 27 years in jail at the brutal Robben Island Prison, a former leper colony off the coast of Cape Town, where he was confined to a small cell without a bed or plumbing and compelled to do hard labor in a lime quarry. His mother and eldest son died while he was in prison yet he was not allowed to attend their funerals.

That day, when Nelson Mandela walked out of prison is imprinted in the minds of so many of us.

On April 26, 1994, more than 22 million South Africans turned out to cast ballots in the country's first multiracial parliamentary elections in history. An overwhelming majority chose the ANC to lead the country, and on May 10th Mandela was sworn in as the first black President of South Africa, with FW de Klerk serving as his first deputy.

How would a fractured, hurt and bleeding South Africa respond to a post-Apartheid future? How can festering wounds bind, bleeding hearts heal and a nation move forward?

ward?

Is it possible?

In the face of anger, hurt and the possibility of retaliation, Mandela emphasised reconciliation between the country's racial groups and created the Truth and Reconciliation Commission to investigate past human rights abuses.

With anger, hostility and brutality bubbling away just below the surface, it took a great leader to steer a country from the possibility of civil war and imminent implosion towards being a 'rainbow nation at peace with itself and the world.'

We talked in awe about that Truth and Reconciliation Commission which included high profile personalities like Archbishop Desmond Tutu. For the first time victims and perpetrators came face-to-face; testifying in attempts to heal wounds and to move forward. Those who accepted responsibility for what happened, were sometimes granted amnesty. These were heart breaking accounts of human misery but truth needed to be heard and honoured.

Did too many get away too lightly? Did the work the commission set out for itself

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اللهم إني أعوذ  
بك من منكرات  
الأخلاق،  
والأعمال،  
والأهواء

## Dua of the Month

Ziyad bin 'Ilaqah reported: My uncle Qutbah bin Malik (May Allah be pleased with him) said that the Prophet (ﷺ)

used to supplicate: "Allahumma inni a'udhu bika min munkaratil-akhlaqi, wal-a'mali, wal-ahwa'i (O Allah! I

seek refuge in You from undesirable manners, deeds, and aspirations)." [At-Tirmidhi].

## Upcoming Events

### ELECTION 2019 HUSTINGS ISLAMIC CULTURAL CENTRE - SAT 30TH NOV

CONSERVATIVE	LIBDEM	LABOUR	GREEN	INDEPENDENT
				
Sir Graham Brady	Angela Smith	Andrew Western	Geraldine Coggins	Iram Kiani

If you wish to submit a question, please arrive by 6.30 pm, with your question, as a selection of questions will be put forward to all four candidates (Question Time style)

### HOW TO BREAK INTO YOUR DREAM JOB, YOUR STORIES, YOUR VOICES

### ISLAMIC CULTURAL CENTRE - SAT 7TH DEC : 2 EVENTS BY ROOHI HASAN

Roohi Hasan: award winning Senior Producer at ITV News



@ 5PM: "HOW TO BREAK INTO YOUR DREAM JOB" - AN INSPIRATIONAL TALK FOR YOUNG PEOPLE (12 - 18 YR OLDS)

@ 7PM: "YOUR STORIES, YOUR VOICES" - HOW YOU CAN ENGAGE WITH THE MEDIA - ALL WELCOME



### AHMA: LADIES MIND, BODY & SOUL EVENT SAT 14TH DEC @ 3PM - ISLAMIC CULTURAL CENTRE GROVE LANE, HALE, WA14 8JQ ENTRY FEE: £2



Modest Fashion Show by NEISH Clothing (FOOD, DESSERTS, CLOTHING & SKIN CARE) Makeup Demo, Hijab Styling by Uzma Hijab Stylist, Talks on Mindfulness & Nutrition.

Guest Speaker for the Spot Project: Aliyah (Al Bidaya)  
Stalls / Other Enquiries: SHAHYDAC@YAHOO.CO.UK

### FUTURE EVENTS: SAVE THE DATE:

Feed the homeless at the Wellspring **9th Feb** - Volunteers needed to cook & serve - podiatrist & hairdressers needed

Family Quiz night **15th Feb**



## *The Stories We Tell: Continued from p1.*

get completed after the passing away of Mandela? Despite its limitations, many argue that the Truth and Reconciliation Committee set a gold standard in how to move forward from a horrific yesterday to a more hopeful tomorrow; placing forgiveness at the heart of healing a nation.

And yet more than 1400 years ago, we had a gold standard that needs sharing and must be spoken of; that of Fath al Makkah- The Conquest of Makkah. The preceding Treaty of Hudaibiyah had been signed by Muhammad SAW and the Quraysh, promising peaceful interactions and co-existence for a period of 10 years. This was broken by the Quraysh of Makkah and their allies after only 2 years when they were responsible for bloodshed whilst violating the peaceful pact. The treaty was now void; unilaterally broken. The Prophet SAW set out for Makkah with a large contingent and advised his followers to enter the city peacefully; with no bloodshed. Some relate that he entered on his

camel in a physical posture of humility; wanting nothing but peace despite the provocation. This was the city of his birth and of his kinfolk, which held such a special place in the hearts of the migrants. This was the city of bittersweet memories; that boycotted him and his clan such that Khadijah RA was physically so weakened. This was the city whose people tortured and persecuted early Muslims such that the Prophet endorsed two migrations under peril; one group fleeing to Abyssinia to be protected by the Christian Negus followed by a later, larger migration to Medina.

What would happen now?

How would civil strife be avoided with bubbling tensions and hostilities?

Is it possible to build when emotions are so strong?

Here again we see the role of forgiveness, reconciliation and the strengthening of civic bonds; the trail of a great leader.

The people of Makkah were afraid that retribution and

revenge would be sought by the Muslims for the years of persecution, hostility and venomous conduct yet the Beloved Prophet SAW declared safety and amnesty for the vast majority of the city's inhabitants. He entered the city of Makkah in peace; steering away from violence, revenge and civic strife to civic growth and social order. He announced safe houses for the inhabitants and an amnesty to the people. Again, he steered the building of a new nation away from the possibility of implosion and civil war.

Here we have the gold standard of gold standards!

Let us focus on the words of the Qur'an that the Prophet then recited:

49:13 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.

minor and major, and ashamed of them to the point he strives to replace them with generosity, agreeableness, honesty, reliability, dignity, and other noble traits.

When the mind is given the responsibility to decide upon right and wrong it will usually base its judgment subjectively: what advances or thwarts one's whims? Our understanding of right and wrong, licit and illicit, needs a judge higher than ourselves and our whims. We are beings who are created and, therefore, have a Creator who brought us into existence for a reason. It is

## About AHMA

The Islamic Cultural Centre is a vibrant and dynamic centre with activities for everyone, and welcomes people of all ages, nationalities, madhabs (schools of thought), and level of knowledge and practice. We have also engaged with the wider community through their work with the local schools, the Altrincham Interfaith Group (of which they are a founding member) and with Trafford Metropolitan Borough Council.

The Altrincham Muslim Association was formally established in September 1995 with the first constitution, although the association had been going since 1992. The Islamic Cultural Centre was set up in July 2003, when the Association purchased the former St David's Church in Grove Lane, Hale. The Association subsequently became a charity 2004, and as a company limited by guarantee with Companies House.

## *Pearls of Wisdom:*

### **Ayah of the Day:**

Worship Allah and associate nothing with Him, and to parents do good, and to relatives, orphans, the needy, the near neighbour, the neighbour farther away, the companion at your side, the traveller, and those whom your right hands possess. Indeed, Allah does not like those who are self-deluding and boastful. [4: 36]

### **Hadith of the Day:**

Abu Huraira reported: The Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, said, "People are like mines of silver and gold. The best of them in the time of ignorance are the best

of them in Islam, if they have religious understanding. Source: Sahih Muslim 2638

### **Wise Quote of the Day:**

And love your Lord by serving Him. For lovers are but servants of the Beloved. [a poet]

### **Guidance of the Day:**

Dissatisfaction is a motivator to seek out better character. A human being is spiritually stalled as long as he is content and smug with his state. The basis of achieving good is knowing yourself. When this happens, a person becomes aware of his imperfections,



His purpose and guidance that informs our sensitivity and response to right and wrong. [Purification of the heart]

### **Food for Thought:**

If you want to talk to Allah perform salah, and if you want Allah to talk to you, read Quran.

In the name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful  
**Altrincham & Hale Muslim Association**  
 Registered Charity Number 1101378

## *Prayer Schedule December 2019*

Day	Date	Fajr	Fajr Jama'at	Sunrise	Dhuhr	Dhuhr Jama'at	Asr	Asr Jama'at	Maghrib	Isha	Isha Jama'at
Sun	1	6:27	6:30	8:02	11:59	1:15	1:37	1:42	3:55	5:20	8:00
Mon	2	6:28	7:00	8:03	11:59	1:15	1:37	1:42	3:54	5:19	8:00
Tue	3	6:29	7:00	8:05	12:00	1:15	1:36	1:41	3:54	5:19	8:00
Wed	4	6:30	7:00	8:06	12:00	1:15	1:36	1:41	3:53	5:18	8:00
Thu	5	6:31	7:00	8:07	12:01	1:15	1:36	1:41	3:53	5:18	8:00
<b>Fri</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6:33</b>	<b>7:00</b>	<b>8:09</b>	<b>12:01</b>	<b>1:25</b>	<b>1:36</b>	<b>1:41</b>	<b>3:52</b>	<b>5:17</b>	<b>8:00</b>
Sat	7	6:34	7:00	8:10	12:01	1:15	1:35	1:40	3:52	5:17	8:00
Sun	8	6:35	7:00	8:11	12:02	1:15	1:35	1:40	3:51	5:16	8:00
Mon	9	6:36	7:00	8:12	12:02	1:15	1:35	1:40	3:51	5:16	8:00
Tue	10	6:36	7:00	8:13	12:03	1:15	1:35	1:40	3:51	5:16	8:00
Wed	11	6:36	7:00	8:13	12:03	1:15	1:35	1:40	3:51	5:16	8:00
Thu	12	6:38	7:00	8:16	12:04	1:15	1:35	1:40	3:51	5:16	8:00
<b>Fri</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>6:39</b>	<b>7:00</b>	<b>8:17</b>	<b>12:04</b>	<b>1:25</b>	<b>1:35</b>	<b>1:40</b>	<b>3:51</b>	<b>5:16</b>	<b>8:00</b>
Sat	14	6:40	7:00	8:17	12:05	1:15	1:36	1:41	3:51	5:16	8:00
Sun	15	6:41	7:00	8:18	12:05	1:15	1:36	1:41	3:51	5:16	8:00
Mon	16	6:41	7:00	8:19	12:06	1:15	1:36	1:41	3:51	5:16	8:00
Tue	17	6:42	7:00	8:20	12:06	1:15	1:36	1:41	3:51	5:16	8:00
Wed	18	6:43	7:00	8:21	12:07	1:15	1:37	1:42	3:52	5:17	8:00
Thu	19	6:43	7:00	8:21	12:07	1:15	1:37	1:42	3:52	5:17	8:00
<b>Fri</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>6:44</b>	<b>7:00</b>	<b>8:22</b>	<b>12:08</b>	<b>1:30</b>	<b>1:38</b>	<b>1:43</b>	<b>3:52</b>	<b>5:17</b>	<b>8:00</b>
Sat	21	6:44	7:00	8:22	12:08	1:15	1:38	1:43	3:53	5:18	8:00
Sun	22	6:45	7:00	8:23	12:09	1:15	1:39	1:44	3:53	5:18	8:00
Mon	23	6:45	7:00	8:23	12:09	1:15	1:39	1:44	3:54	5:19	8:00
Tue	24	6:45	7:00	8:24	12:10	1:15	1:40	1:45	3:55	5:20	8:00
Wed	25	6:46	7:00	8:24	12:10	1:15	1:41	1:46	3:55	5:20	8:00
Thu	26	6:46	7:00	8:24	12:10	1:15	1:41	1:46	3:55	5:20	8:00
<b>Fri</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>6:46</b>	<b>7:00</b>	<b>8:24</b>	<b>12:11</b>	<b>1:30</b>	<b>1:42</b>	<b>1:47</b>	<b>3:57</b>	<b>5:22</b>	<b>8:00</b>
Sat	28	6:46	7:00	8:24	12:12	1:15	1:43	1:48	3:58	5:23	8:00
Sun	29	6:47	7:00	8:24	12:12	1:15	1:44	1:49	3:59	5:24	8:00
Mon	30	6:47	7:00	8:24	12:13	1:15	1:45	1:50	4:00	5:25	8:00
Tue	31	6:47	7:00	8:24	12:13	1:15	1:45	1:50	4:01	5:26	8:00
<b>Jummah Khutba will start at 1:05pm &amp; Jama'at at 1:30pm</b>											