

THE MEMON



17th **WMO CF AGM**
D U B A I 2 0 1 9

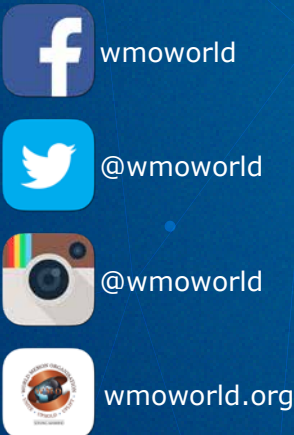
CONNECT • UNITE • UPLIFT

THE MEMON

INSIDE

Mrs. Fazila AK Ismail	3
A Ramadan in Africa	5
Pray for Durban	12
Sri Lanka - A Paradise Lost	13
Ramadan Ration Cards	14
Ramadan Iftar Camps	15
Irfane Hameed	16
India Chapter Shines in Ramadan	17
Zakat Masterclass	18
10 years of MITI	19
Pride of the Memon Community	20
Memon Day Celebrations in Dubai	21
A Royal Affair	23
Cricket Season in Chicago	24
Canada Celebrates Eid	25
Snippets	26
The AGM Program	27

CONNECT



EDITORIAL

ZUBAIR CHASHMAWALA
Editor-in-Chief

REEDA SHEIKHANI
Editor

SHAZLY MAKEEN
Designer



The Prophet (PBUH) said, **The best charity is that given in Ramadhan.** (At-Tirmithi).

Ramadan is a month of fasting and giving. The rewards for generosity are multiplied manifold in this holiest of months.

We take this opportunity to thank our donors and benefactors for contributing towards the many admirable, humanitarian campaigns undertaken by the World Memon Organisation during this month of infinite hope and mercy.

May Allah Swt reward you with abundance for your kindness and generosity.

We are eternally grateful to our Chapters, the Regional Management Committees and all our members for their extensive humanitarian endeavours to uplift the marginalized in their corner of the World during the month of Ramadan. We are thankful to our stalwarts for setting an example and inspiring our younger generation to continue their precious legacy of Serving Mankind under the WMO banner.

May Allah Swt accept our humble endeavours.

We are also pleased to extend a cordial invitation to our Memon brethren from across the globe for the 17th WMO AGM to be held in Dubai from the 31st of October to the 2nd of November 2019.

Join us at this marquee event which connects and unites Memons from all corners of the World and is an elaborate celebration of camaraderie and brotherhood.





AN ODE TO THE HAND THAT ROCKS THE CRADLE

“For women, the blessed month of Ramadan is the busiest time of the year.

As head of the household, you have to attend to the daily chores of managing your home and then make time to attend to the special needs of your family but more importantly, taking out invaluable time for your ibaadath.

Although extremely hard pressed for time, you balance your Duniya & Akirat and put in as much charitable work as possible in this month of infinite hope and mercy.

As a businesswoman you juggle your packed schedule between the emails, long distance calls, WhatsApp messages, long hours at work and the extensive humanitarian endeavours of Ramadan. From serving Iftar meals to hundreds of Rozgars on a daily basis to buying Eid gifts, clothes & goodies for orphans and deprived children, to distributing food packs to the underprivileged so that they don't have to worry about getting food on their tables during the holy month.



Serving of Iftar Meals at Orphanages throughout the 30 days of Ramadan

Strength comes from Almighty Allah SWT and each day you are thankful to your creator for having blessed you with these opportunities to help those who need it most.

This is all possible, thanks to our mothers, daughters and sisters who are trying their level best and putting in every single ounce of energy to go that extra mile to reap the rewards of aakhirah, for themselves and for their families.

Once the crescent moon is sighted, Eid celebrations conclude and the six fasts of Shawwal follow, it is only then that the ladies can finally pause for breath. As our dearest womenfolk relate and reminisce on how magical the month of Ramadan was and how they juggled all the exceptional charity work without neglecting their families. They express their eternal gratitude towards every member of the family who silently worked in the background and assisted in every which way they could as they understood the demanding tasks undertaken by their ladies.

A sense of pride and so much love was felt for the womenfolk by their families.

Knowing that an example was set in each household on the importance of doing your utmost for your less fortunate brothers and sisters in this most blessed of months and encouraging others to continue these humble endeavours through out the year.

An example was also set for the future generations to follow, as even the youngest members of the family, who whilst fasting were taken along for the humanitarian campaigns so that they too could empathize, understand and learn first hand that so much more still needs to be done.

Alhamdulillah.

We are blessed that these are our mothers, our daughters and our sisters

We are blessed that as off springs we can witness these acts of kindness in our own homes and families.

May our mothers stay blessed

May they continue to be the silent contributors of the whispers of duas that Almighty Allah SWT bestows in each of our homes

May the contributors of these blessings always stay in our midst so that we remain eternally blessed

May each family continue to give utmost support to our ladies and may we always be thankful for such women in our lives.

May their tribe grow.

May they stand up and walk tall. And just like our mothers, may they never cease to amaze us."

By

Mrs. Fazila A.K.Ismail

Mother, Daughter, Wife, Grandmother, Entrepreneur, Businesswoman, Humanitarian.....Leader.



Eid Hampers for Children



Eid Kurtas for orphans



Special Feast for the Marginalized to Celebrate the Joyous occasion of Eid



Blanket Distribution Drive during the devastating floods that struck Durban and the East coast of South Africa.



Mrs. Fazila AK Ismail has been presented several awards for her selfless and dedicated services towards the upliftment of the Community and Humanity.

A RAMADAN IN AFRICA

TAHEERA HASSIM

“A woman is the full circle. Within her is the power to create, nurture and transform.” – Diane Mariechild

Taheera Hassim is indeed that complete woman.



Having lost her father at a very young age, she overcame multiple hurdles to complete her education. Since then, she has gone from strength to strength, excelling in academics to become a reputed gynaecologist with a flourishing practice. The eldest of her siblings, she has inspired each of them to follow in her footsteps and become successful and independent individuals. Firmly perched on the pinnacles of success, Taheera is now giving back to society and trying to make a difference.

Being a compassionate and caring human being, Taheera has been the figurehead of several charitable campaigns around the world. **The Regional Secretary General of WMO Africa Chapter** has travelled to the Myanmar border to serve the Rohingya community and closer to home spearheaded many humanitarian causes to uplift the marginalized of Africa.



After the very admirable menstrual cup project wherein hygienic, affordable and effective sanitary products were made available to underprivileged girls, Taheera has taken up another worthy cause in Ramadan. The WMO Africa Chapter youth wing along with members of the community have joined hands with Taheera to selflessly devote time, effort and funds towards the upkeep of several orphanages in South Africa; to bring hope and a smile on the faces of hundreds of children who reside in these homes.

Witnessing the zeal and enthusiasm of Taheera as she dedicates her life to charity and humanitarian causes, we are reminded of the memorable words of the legendary Mother Teresa, **"Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love."**

As Taheera spreads the love and transforms lives across the globe, we can only stand up and applaud her for being an inspiration to people from all walks of life. She is the living embodiment of the famous Hellen Keller quote, **"When we do the best we can, we never know what miracle is wrought in our life or in the life of another."**

WMO thanks you Taheera Hassim for being that miracle!

THE ORPHANAGE PROJECT



The holy prophet (PBUH) said: **"I and the Guardian of an orphan will be in Paradise like this."** And he lifted his 2 fingers, the forefinger and the middle finger, holding them close together. Saheeh Sunan At-Tirmidhi

WMO Africa Chapter identified a few orphanages - Al Hudaar Foundation, Salman Farsi Orphanage & Zuberkom Farm in Lenasia, a suburb on the outskirts of Johannesburg. There was a compelling need for **beddings, appliances** and other essential items. Spearheaded by our Assistant Secretary General - Dr Taheera Hassim, immediate steps were taken to raise funds, purchase the required items, form a team and deliver on Saturday the 18th of May 2019.

We would like to thank the WMO Youth Wing team and the community members who gathered at the break of dawn, loaded their vehicles with tons of beddings & appliances and spent their morning distributing and interacting with these adorable children. **2 refrigerators, a chest freezer and a stove** were delivered to the orphanage.



It was truly a humbling experience to be in the company of the caregivers who relentlessly strive each day to provide for the needs of these children. The children appreciated the personalised goody bags with their individual names printed on each that included **clothes, toys, perfumes and refreshments**. Their endless smiles and resounding laughter were more than enough reward for the day.

Most of these children had a heart breaking past but they continued to look at the brighter side of life and hoped to overcome all hurdles to ensure a better future.

Through our endeavours, WMO has sent a strong reminder to the children that they are not alone. There are people out there who still care for them and who will support their goals in life.

Our message to them is to continue to put up a brave front, you will Insh Allah survive these difficult times and eventually you will be strong, resilient and successful individuals who will make a difference and give back to society.

It is indeed true that **"We make a living by what we get but we make a life by what we give..."**

TARBIYATUL AYTAAM



The Tarbiyatul Aytaam is a child care Foundation which serves as a home for the disadvantaged. **It helps and protect children suffering from the perils of domestic violence within the community.** The foundation is located in the suburb of Robertsham on the outskirts of Johannesburg.



The Youth wing of the World Memon Organisation Africa Chapter identified the urgent need for **bedding, diapers and basic medication** to assist the foundation which caters to 18 children. Layla is a caring mother who heads the home and a steadfast supporter of children suffering from autism. The facility cares for children with special needs and those unfortunate few who have been abandoned by their families.

The youngest was a 7 month old, the bundle of joy was abandoned at the gate of the home just hours after delivery.

The home was in desperate need for beddings, the children had an acute shortage of pillows whilst the sheets were in tatters. The home was in a dilapidated condition with the girls room on the higher floor having a broken ceiling which exposed them to the brutal winters. There was a compelling need for blankets too.

The World Memon Organisation Africa Chapter opened their hearts and purse strings to provide warm comforters for the beds. Pampers, diapers, child dental products and basic medication were delivered. The little children were asleep when we arrived so we left behind goodies, chocolate cupcakes, yoghurts, crisps and milkshakes for each child, along with a party paper plate to add a bit of celebration and colour to their lives. Some puzzles, colouring books, crayons and story books were also included so that they could revisit their childhood once again.

Pillows and sheets were delivered the next day. There was palpable excitement in the corridors of the home. The girls were up early at Fajr, cleaning out their rooms and re-arranging everything. They were excited about their new pillows and beddings. The boys were equally thrilled but they had to wait as their rooms were in the process of getting painted. A small celebratory party was organised at Iftar.

"It's not how much we give but how much love we put into giving," states Dr. Taheera Hassim.

Truer words were never spoken.

PECKFARMS WELLNESS CENTRE



On Friday 17th May 2019, WMO Africa Chapter along with members of the Memon community joined hands to raise funds for Peckfarms Wellness Centre. **A rehabilitation centre that caters to those suffering from substance abuse and other physical addictions.**

Being a Non-profit organization and barely sustaining the everyday needs of its facility or their Muslim residents, an appeal was made for assistance towards their monthly **Ramadan groceries**. WMO immediately took it upon themselves to purchase essential food items for the duration of the month, whilst the community members prepared a hearty meal and broke bread with the residents at iftar on the day of delivering the groceries.

It is very inspiring, yet emotional to spend an iftaar with those who are constantly battling towards living a fuller, healthier and happier life. Trying to once again contribute towards society in a positive way and rebuilding their relationships with their loved ones, whom they have lost because of the circumstances. The program for the evening included Taraweeh salaah, where we were once again amazed by the soulful renditions of verses from the Holy Quran, eloquently recited by the very residents of this facility.

The evening ended with a note of thanks and appreciation for one and all - the hosts, our generous donors and those who took out time from their busy schedules to bask in the company of some very motivated individuals.

We make dua that Allah Swt grant strength to the ailing, accept our humble efforts and reward our donors with abundance for their kindness.

Ameen.

CAPETOWN



Another stop on the WMO Africa Chapter Orphanage project was Al Noor in Capetown.

The 54 children facility had its young residents jostling for space and the dilapidated condition of the home needed an urgent upgrade. **4 double bunk**

beds, 4 cupboards, a washing machine, beddings and blankets were duly delivered to the delight of its occupants.

The children's eyes lit up when they noticed the vibrant new linens add colour to the drab surroundings. A reticent and shy little girl, suffering from downs syndrome, was so touched by the warm, plush blanket she received that she managed to utter a few words of gratitude. It was quite surprising as she had a long history of never speaking in public before. A word of thanks to Muhammad and Ahmed from Fati Online who assisted us with the logistics, transport, sourcing and for making the process seamless. To Farzana, daughter of our WMO President, we are grateful to you for joining us in facilitating the distribution. **And last but not the least, to our Regional Secretary General, Dr. Taheera Hassim who personally flew down to Cape town from Johannesburg to oversee the last leg of the project. Please add a big hug from our end to the countless ones you have so warmly received from hundreds of thankful children whose lives you have touched through this admirable program. You make us proud, girl!**

BRAZZAVILLE AND PURPOSEFUL GIVING



On the 26th of May 2019, WMO Africa Chapter and its apex body Purposeful Giving visited the Brazaville West Islamic Centre and Masjid Complex situated in the informal settlement of Brazaville on the outskirts of Laudium in Pretoria.

The **Ramadaan Shoeboxes** containing goodies, gifts and essential items provided by the Purposeful Giving team, were distributed to the children attending the Madressah, along with party packs and sandwich meals.

Both the organizations also run a daily iftaar program throughout the duration of the month of Ramadaan



for the brothers and sisters who break their fast at the complex. A sandwich, cold drink, packet of biscuits, a banana, an orange and dates are given to the **200** rozgars who gather at Iftar. Over the weekends, full degh meals are also prepared for the fasting.

The number of children attending the madressah and accepting Islam has risen with each passing year, necessitating the need for more space. The madressah is in the ongoing process of expansion as WMO is building more classrooms to accommodate the increasing number of children. Daily madressah classes are also held for ladies and girls.

We are grateful to our donors for their continuous and steadfast support towards the development of Brazaville Islamic Centre but there is much more that needs to be done. **Your contributions make the difference, every small donation goes a long way in making a meaningful impact on this struggling community and ensures a better future for their children.** May Allah Swt reward you for your generosity.

AMALIA



We received a letter of gratitude from Amalia's parents for providing their little angel with equipment

that will strengthen her body. Amalia is a child with special needs, diagnosed with **Dandy Walker Syndrome**, Hydrocephalus, Infantile Spasms, Scoliosis and Low Muscle Tone. To put it mildly, Amalia suffers from severe neurological disorders that affect her development, speech and mobility.

WMO Africa Chapter contributed **ZAR 88,000** (6000 USD) towards the equipment. Sister **Khashiefa Martin** played an important catalyst in arranging the funds and providing the perfect equipments to help Amalia's cause.

As the parents poured their heart into the thank you note, we were just pleased that WMO has touched one more life and made a small difference to a family in their time of need as we continue unabated, our journey of changing lives across the globe.

We hope and pray that Allah Swt grant Amalia the strength to overcome all obstacles and give her Muqammal Shifa.

Ameen.

FEED THE FASTING



There are several hadiths that highlight the rewards of feeding a fasting person.

Zayd ibn Khalid reported: The Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings be upon him, said:

مَنْ فَطَّرَ صَائِمًا كَانَ لَهُ مِثْلُ أَجْرِهِ غَيْرَ أَنَّهُ لَا يَنْقُصُ مِنْ أَجْرِ الصَّائِمِ شَيْئًا

"Whoever helps break the fast of a fasting person, he will have the same reward as him without decreasing anything from the reward of the fasting person."

Anas ibn Malik reported: The Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, came to the home of Sa'd ibn 'Ubadah, who presented him with bread and olive oil. The Prophet ate them and he said:

أَفْطَرَ عِنْدَكُمْ الصَّائِمُونَ وَأَكَلَ طَعَامَكُمْ الْأَبْرَارُ وَصَلَّتْ عَلَيْكُمْ الْمَلَائِكَةُ

"The fasting have broken their fast with you, the righteous have eaten your food, and the angels send blessings upon you."

WMO Africa Chapter have sponsored mass iftars at Riverlea Masjid in Johannesburg, South Africa. Around **200** Rozgaars gather at the Mosque on a daily basis to break their fasts.

We implore you to delve deep into the bountiful spirit of giving and brotherhood during the blessed month, contribute towards the admirable cause of 'Feeding the Fasting' and join us as we unite to break bread with our brethren in South Africa.



The children were very appreciative when they were gifted their custom sized shoes. **As the adage goes - good shoes take you good places, WMO hopes that these new pairs provide the children with ease and comfort, putting them firmly on the path to education and a brighter future.**

HAPPY FEET



Dr. Taheera Hassim literally marched on with the WMO Africa Chapter "Orphanage Project" by providing **64 pairs of school shoes** to the children at the Salmaan Farsi Orphanage in Grasmere on the outskirts of Johannesburg.

Taheera personally delivered the shoes on Friday 31st May, as there was a compelling need for footwear since many children did not own a single pair and most had worn out their current ones; making it extremely cumbersome to walk the long road to their schools.

CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS



On the 1st of June, WMO Africa Chapter visited **Twinkle Stars Early Childhood Development (ECD)** Centre for children with special needs in Lenasia on the outskirts of Johannesburg.

Dr. Taheera Hassim and her team distributed special mattresses, waterproof sheets and comforters to help the children combat the brutal Gauteng winters.

As the centre doesn't receive subsidies from the state, the children are burdened with bringing their own books, mattresses, toiletries and even their lunches. Unfortunately most families belong to the marginalized section of society and cannot afford even these basic necessities for their children. WMO Africa Chapter raised funds to provide for the children and ensured that they successfully complete the program which is essential for their physical and psychological well being.

May Allah Swt accept our humble endeavors and reward our donors with abundance.

JELLY BEANS ORPHAN FUND



On the 4th of June 2019, WMO Africa Chapter and Jellybeans Orphan Fund visited the Albadr Boys Orphanage in Lenasia on the outskirts of Johannesburg.

Each child was gifted a personalized goody bag containing custom fit eid kurtas, school shoes, hygiene products from the **AMKA** group, a party pack and many more items that instantly brought a broad smile on their faces.

Their smiles were infectious and heartwarming as every child received his gift. The soccer balls and cricket sets made the boys giddy with excitement. They reciprocated by reciting soulful renditions of verses from the holy Quran.

Another hundred gift bags were also delivered to the girls at An Uloom in Nancefield. We would like to thank our donors for gifting the children with a memorable and joyous Eid. May Allah Swt reward you for your generosity.

THE LADIES WING'S VISIT TO THE ORPHANAGE



On the 4th of June 2019, WMO Africa Chapter Ladies Wing, under the supervision of **Dr Khudaija Suliman** visited the Maraisburg Orphanage in Johannesburg. Comforters, bed sheets, pillows, fruits and groceries were delivered to the children who are residents of this home.

Alhumdulillah, under the orphanage project, children in Johannesburg and its surrounding areas have been primary recipients of our outreach programmes throughout the blessed month of Ramadan.

We are thankful to our donors for enabling us to put a smile on their faces. May Allah Swt accept our humble endeavors and reward our donors for their generosity towards this admirable cause.

EID HAMPERS



On the 3rd of June 2019, **Dr. Haroon Gutta** and **Mr. Moosa Carrim** represented WMO Africa Chapter in the annual distribution of Eid Food Hampers at the Newclare-Westbury areas of Gauteng on the outskirts of Johannesburg.

It is a yearly tradition dutifully followed by Africa Chapter wherein they collaborate with the distinguished humanitarian and octogenarian - **Hadjie Luffie** to gift Eid Hampers to underprivileged Muslim families on the cusp of Eid - ul - Fitr. **The objective being that the festival of Eid must be a joyous occasion for all.** Africa Chapter donated 300 hampers towards the admirable cause.



We hope that the families are blessed with a wonderful and memorable Eid and this auspicious day brings peace, happiness and prosperity to all.

PRAY *for* DURBAN



On the 22nd of April, devastating rains struck the East coast of South Africa, heaping widespread damage to life and property in and around Durban.

Flash floods ravaged the KwaZulu - Natal coast with the incessant rains causing water levels to rise, inundating homes and vehicles. The storms triggered mudslides that engulfed entire villages, buried families and homes. The death toll kept rising with every passing hour with several still trapped under the rubble. The torrential rains affecting thousands, displacing hundreds from the comfort of their homes, leaving them stranded without food, clothes and belongings.

Under the supervision of **Mrs Fazila AK Ismail** (Trustee - WMO Africa Chapter), the organisation swung into action to provide relief aid to the victims battered by the floods. **Jama'atun Nisa** and **WMO Ladies Wing (Africa Chapter)** initiated a blanket distribution drive

for the afflicted with more than **500 blankets** being distributed on an urgent basis to provide comfort during these difficult times. **Zafreen Feizul Ayob**, a pillar of strength for **Purposeful Giving** has collaborated with Jama'atun Nisa and WMO Ladies Wing (Africa Chapter) to garner funds towards **300 mattresses**.

We pray that the Almighty ease the pain and suffering, provide comfort, protect the vulnerable, strengthen the weak and shower his mercy on all those whose lives have been devastated by the rains and floods. WMO's response will be immediate and continuous, as and when the need arises. We stand firm, shoulder to shoulder with the flood victims of KwaZulu - Natal in their hour of need.

We are grateful to our donors. Your timely contributions help us to Serve Humanity at their most vulnerable times.





SRI LANKA

A Paradise Lost

Saturday marked a decade of the end of the bloody civil war between the government and the LTTE. 18th of May 2019 witnessed the 10 year anniversary, the commemoration of a decade of peace since the eradication of terrorism that plagued Sri Lanka for three long decades.

Ironically the country was still reeling under the scars of the **Easter Sunday bomb blasts** which killed 250 innocent civilians and brought back vivid memories of its gruesome past. Peace and stability are once again under threat in the island nation, following mob attacks on Muslim-owned homes, mosques and shops in the country's northwest. It is unsettling to witness the recurrence of hostility and violence against ethnic and religious minorities in Sri Lanka.

We would like to thank our donors for their magnanimous generosity towards the pertinent cause. Your timely contributions help us to Serve Humanity at their most vulnerable times. We are eternally grateful to the army for providing us with adequate security during our travel and distribution.



The recent terrorist attacks and riots in the North West Province have firmly thrust the Christian and Muslim communities into the vortex of horrific violence which was the hallmark of the brutal civil conflict a decade ago. **World Memon Organisation Far East Chapter** partnered with **Memon Aid, Sadaqa Bulletin, Lanka Relief & Development Foundation and Families Relief** to provide relief aid to the innocent victims of the mindless attacks.

1800 food packs containing rice, flour, milk powder, salmon tins, onions, potatoes, tea, sugar, dates, oil, soap, toothpaste, bottled water, chilli powder, curry powder, dal along with other essential food items were distributed amongst afflicted families belonging to 9 different towns, irrespective of religion, caste or community.



The teams personally visited the affected regions to assess the damage caused to homes, offices and places of worship. There was an urgent need to restart businesses as most families had lost their only source of livelihood and were enduring severe hardships during the month of Ramadan. Monetary assistance was provided to rebuild the shops and a few families who had lost their only breadwinners in the savage attacks were put on a viable program wherein they would be sustained on a long term basis.

WMO shall continue its endeavours to serve our brothers and sisters in Sri Lanka. We hope and pray during this month of infinite hope and mercy that the Almighty bring an end to the violence, hatred and discord. Grant us Peace which is true, perfect and everlasting.

Ameen.

RAMADAN RATION CARDS

Trust **Mr. Mahmood Shaikhani** (Deputy Secretary General of WMO) to think out of the box and come out with an initiative which not only aligns with the bountiful spirit of giving during the holy month of Ramadan but truly maintains the dignity of the receiver as well.

As a norm, several WMO Chapters across the globe deliver hundreds of food packs to underprivileged families in their corner of the World at the advent of Ramadan. During the Month of Fasting we would like to ease the burden on our Muslim brothers and sisters hence we are doing our bit to bring food on their table.

Each pack consists of several kilograms of essential food items such as **rice, wheat, dal, sugar, salt, tea, spices** along with **ghee, oil, milk powder, dates** and **sweets**.

The common ritual followed until last year was announcing a date and venue for the distribution of the Ramadan Ration Bags wherein the underprivileged would arrive, wait in long queues, jostle about under the hot sun for a food pack which would have a fixed quantity of essential items.

With **Mr. Mahmood Shaikhani's** invention of the **Ramadan Ration Card**, the receiver has the privilege to go up to a general store which the organisation has collaborated with. Buy food items of his or her choice,



at a time of his or her choosing and make purchases on the card; quantities in accordance with the needs of their families. Your very own credit card whose dues are already paid off by WMO.

More importantly it saves the person the humiliation of standing in line for a meagre bag and exposing oneself as a Zakat receiver.

WMO firmly believes in dignity of life hence most of the global humanitarian endeavours are centred around education and empowerment to enable less fortunate individuals to stand on their feet and ensure a better life for their families. Mr. Mahmood Shaikhani has just taken another big step in achieving that paramount objective.

RAMADAN IFTAR CAMPS

WMO Middle East Chapter epitomises the values of Giving – the same values to which the United Arab Emirates had dedicated the Year 2017 – the “**Year of Giving**”.

In the Ramadan of 2015, the World Memon Organisation, Middle East Chapter served **Iftar** meals for the entire duration of the holy month. An Iftar camp was set up in Dubai and **37,500** Muslim brothers were provided meals for 30 days as they gathered together, under one roof to break their fast.



These brothers were mostly poor migrant workers employed in the bustling Middle East construction industry. They toil laboriously throughout the day, without food and water, building skyscrapers that will soon adorn the Dubai skyline whilst religiously fasting under the hot desert sun.

Since then the Ramadan Iftar Camp has become an annual feature on the WMO Middle East Chapter Calendar. In the year 2016 two camps were set up at **Sonapur** and **Dubai Investment Park**. **60,000** meals were distributed during the 30 day tenure.

Mr Mahmood Shaikhani, stalwart of WMO Middle East Chapter has pioneered the project, along with other distinguished members of the local chapter who have provided unflinching support to this commendable campaign. Mr. Shaikhani took this cause one step further by setting up another camp - the third in **Ajmaan** in 2017. Over **75 thousand** meals were served in 2017. Alhamdulillah.

In 2018, the same feat was repeated and in 2019 we breached the **100,000** mark. There were record crowds with a daily consumption of more than **2500** meals at each of the 3 Iftar Camps in Sonapur, Dubai Investment Park and Ajman. **Mr. Salman Iqbal** of **ARY** fame has made a welcome addition to this admirable campaign by hosting iftar meals for more than 500 brothers at 2 separate mosques in the Al Barsha region of Dubai.

Mr Shakir Haroon, son of the illustrious **Haroon Karim** (Chairman of WMO Board of Trustees) has spread the cheer across the border by establishing an Iftar Camp in the Al Khoudh region of **Muscat** in Oman.

We implore you to delve deep into the bountiful spirit of giving and brotherhood during the blessed month, contribute towards the worthy cause of the Ramadan Iftar Camps and join us on the Arabian coast as we unite to break bread with our brethren in the Middle East.



The Team that Spearheads the Ramadan Iftar Campaign



IRFANE HAMEED AND HIS YOUTH BRIGADE CONQUER HEARTS IN PORTUGAL

Sintra is a picturesque city situated on the **Portuguese Riviera**. It is a major tourist destination in Portugal, famed for its ornate architecture.

The **Global Youth Wing of Europe Chapter** under the leadership of **Irfane Liyakat Hameed** hosted **iftar** meals for 150 Muslim brothers at the Sintra Masjid. Irfane and his youth brigade repeated this feat on a regular basis throughout the holy month of Ramadan. The brothers are mostly African labourers who are working on minimum wages in Europe and are striving to provide a better life for their families back home.

Irfane Hameed is a zealous 18 year old who is spearheading the Iftars and is ably supported by a team of committed youngsters. **Uwais Majeed, Suheil Mamad, Mikail Ossman, Saif Shaid** and **Imran Rassid** are devoted towards this admirable cause and the ardent group of teenagers plan to do much more in the coming months.

After serving several iftar meals to the fasting at the Sintra Mosque and delivering **Ramadan Ration bags** to the marginalized in the city, the youth wing intends to spread the distribution of food packs to other cities in Portugal. Each pack contains cooking oil, a pack of



biscuits, milk, cornflour, orange juice, beans, chickpeas and canned fruits.

Next, the youth wing plans to collect clothes, books, toys and other essential items through a door to door campaign and pass them on to the needy. The group wants to focus their attention on children with special needs and the disabled. **We applaud their efforts and appeal to the people of Portugal to support our youngsters in their benevolent work.**

Irfane is following in the footsteps of his father **Liyakat Hameed**, a prominent Memon personality from Portugal who played a stellar role in introducing the organization to the country and is flying the WMO flag high in the Portuguese Republic. We are very proud of Irfane who has taken up the mantle of the Youth Wing and is proving to be a worthy son of a very worthy father.

May Allah Swt bless the family, reward them abundantly for their endeavours and grant them the strength to continue to Serve Humanity under the WMO banner for many years to come.



MONSOON DRIVE

On the 2nd of June, WMO North India Chapter Ladies Wing under the leadership of its Deputy Chairperson **Mrs. Raziya Chashmawala** conducted the Monsoon Drive. More than 500 umbrellas, raincoats and tarpaulin sheets were distributed to the marginalized in Vasai, a suburb on the outskirts of Mumbai, to combat the onslaught of the dreaded Indian monsoons.

It is during the onset of the South West monsoons in June that the impact is most severe with widespread rains and flooding hence it was a thoughtful and timely gesture to provide the rain gear at the beginning of the month.

Classes were also initiated in Vasai to empower women by teaching them special skill sets that would enable them to stand on their feet, ensure a livelihood for their families and a life of dignity. Orphans, daughters of widowed mothers and the most poverty-stricken were given preference as the special batches began in earnest. Clothes and purses were also distributed to the young girls who enrolled for the courses.

We are grateful to Mrs Raziya Chashmawala for her tireless endeavors to serve Humanity and are thankful to our donors for their steadfast support towards the empowerment and upliftment of women in India.



RAMADAN RATION BAGS



In keeping with the bountiful spirit of giving during the Holy month of Ramadan, several WMO Chapters across the globe deliver hundreds of food packs to the underprivileged families that dwell in their corner of the World.

Each pack consists of several kgs of essential food items such as rice, wheat, dal, sugar, salt, tea, spices along with ghee, oil, milk powder, dates and sweets. During the Month of Fasting we would like to ease the burden on our Muslim brothers and sisters hence we are doing our bit to bring food on their table.

250 foodpacks were distributed in Dubai, Sharjah and Ajman. Ramadan Ration Bags distribution took place in Mumbai as well.

The ladies wing had taken on the mantle to distribute the bags with Mrs Maimoona Darvesh (WMO International Ladies Wing Chairperson) spearheading the cause in the Middle East and Mrs. Raziya Chashmawala (Deputy Chairperson - WMO India Chapter Ladies Wing) attending to a massive gathering of more than 500 marginalised women in Mumbai.

SCHOOL KITS FOR UNDERPRIVILEGED CHILDREN

The ardent **WMO Youth Wing (North India Chapter)** collaborated with the Ummeed Foundation and reached out to underprivileged children by distributing 238 school kits to deserving students from sixteen different schools located in the suburbs of Mumbai.

Each kit contained a school bag, books, a pencil box, erasers, a geometry box, water bottles and a colorful tiffin. The kits were delivered to the students at an event in Mumbai which was attended by the children and their families.

May Allah Swt accept our humble endeavors and grant strength and compassion to our youngsters to continue Serving Humanity in all corners of the World.



ZAKATH MASTERCLASS

a WMO GLOBAL YOUTH WING initiative

On the 19th of May, **WMO South India Chapter** launched the E - Booklet - "**Zakat Simplified**" by prominent Muslim scholar, CA Abdul Rahim at the **Master Class Zakat** event organized by their **Youth Wing** in Frazer Town. The venue - Savoury Hotel was packed to the rafters with more than 125 guests who graced the occasion. Even the ladies turned up in full force to partake in the event.

"**Zakat Simplified**" is a treasure trove of information on one of the most important pillars of Islam. It was shared with the gathering to enhance their knowledge of Zakat, its purpose, how it purifies wealth and benefits not only the recipient but more importantly the donor.

A panel discussion aptly titled "**Talk, Think, Realize**" consisting of distinguished speakers and eminent members of the community put the spotlight firmly on the obligations of Zakat. The session was followed with a scrumptious Iftar.

We are thankful to **Mr. Abdul Azeez** (VP - WMO South India Chapter), **Mr. Adil Azeez** (Assistant VP - WMO South India Chapter), the **Aziz Sait** family and all the young members of the recently formed South India Chapter Youth Wing for hosting an enlightening evening in **Bengaluru**.



DOWNLOAD
Zakath Simplified eBook



THE 10 GLORIOUS YEARS OF MITI

WMO firmly believes in the age old adage -

Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day but teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime”

MITI (Memon Industrial and Technical Institute) is a Vocational and Technical centre for the youth (boys and girls) offering a wide variety of technical, IT, multimedia and home economic courses. MITI was established under the auspices of the World Memon Organisation on the **31st of May, 2009** in bustling Karachi.

The institute opened its doors for students in June 2009 with 7 Trades for men. And today, courses are offered in 36 Trades for men and 25 for women.

MITI has always been the Flag Bearer of the Humanitarian Work done by WMO and offers scholarships to hundreds of deserving students each year. Over the past decade, more than **100,000** graduates have secured employment or are self employed.



We are eternally indebted to **Mr. H M Shehzad** (Former VP - WMO Pakistan Chapter) and the wonderful faculty of MITI for their tireless endeavours to create a brighter future for the youth of Pakistan.

MITI was a dream envisioned by the legendary **Hajji Abdul Razzak Yaqoob** (Founder President of WMO) and was brought to fruition by the dedication, passion and hardwork of another force of nature - the unstoppable H M Shehzad.

As MITI has gone from strength to strength and completes 10 glorious years in 2019, we can only stand up and applaud the utopian vision of both these distinguished Memon stalwarts. They have ensured a livelihood for thousands of youngsters and built a strong foundation for a better Pakistan, a Naya Pakistan!





Pride of the Memon Community

On the 23rd of March, **Mr. Aqeel Karim Dhedhi, Mr Peer Mohammad Diwan, Mr. Mohammad Yunus Tabba and Mr. Muhammad Bashir Farouqui** were conferred with the highest civilian award - the **Sitara-E-Imtiyaz** for their tireless services to Humanity and significant contributions towards the economic growth of the country.

It was **Pakistan day** and the **President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Dr. Arif Alvi** presented the award in a glittering ceremony to these eminent Memons.

In the following months, it was the turn of the Office bearers of WMO Pakistan Chapter to felicitate these distinguished gentlemen. **Mr. Altaf Jangda (Regional**

Secretary General - WMO Pakistan Chapter), Mr. Shoaib Ismail (Secretary General - WMO) and Mr. Gul Mohammed (Regional Treasurer- WMO Pakistan Chapter) led the WMO contingent who presented the special awards on behalf of the organisation.

The awarded trophy was inscribed with a quote from our beloved prophet Muhammad (PBUH) - "The Greatest of Richness is the Richness of Soul". It was quite befitting for the men who have been the pride of the Memon Community and have put their heart and soul in making the Community, the Nation and the World a better place through their relentless humanitarian endeavours.



WMO MIDDLE EAST CHAPTER CELEBRATES **MEMON DAY**



The members of **WMO Middle East Chapter** possess many appealing traits. They are generosity personified, the most gracious hosts and the deep bond of friendship that they share with one another epitomises the true meaning of brotherhood.

The **Memon Day** celebrations held at the opulent setting of the **Dusit Thani** in downtown **Dubai** were testament to those distinguished traits.

On the **27th of April**, WMO Middle East Chapter hosted **WMO Pakistan Chapter** and brought out a mammoth crowd to celebrate Memon Day. More than **300** prominent members of the global Memon Community attended the grand event, followed by a gala dinner.

A recitation from the holy Quran began proceedings, followed by the national anthem of the UAE and the Memon anthem. **Mr. Ahmed Shaikhani (VP – WMO Middle East Chapter)** welcomed the gathering and elaborated on the extensive humanitarian services provided by the Middle East Chapter in the region. Encompassing bursaries for education, food pack distribution on a regular basis to underprivileged families and medical aid to the less fortunate. He further stated that members of the Chapter also provided legal recourse and bailed out individuals who did not have the requisite funds to pay their legal obligations, in order to obtain their freedom.

"The Middle East contributes on a regular basis towards the air travel of detainees languishing in prison as they lack funds to buy air tickets to travel back home. **WMO firmly believes that you can't put a price on freedom and alleviates the pain of the family members by reuniting them with their loved ones through this noble endeavour. The Middle East Chapter also helps to free individuals from the debt trap by paying off their dues. WMO calls it paying our debts to Humanity!**" concludes Mr. Shaikhani.



Mr Shoaib Ismail (Secretary General of WMO) delivered an elaborate presentation highlighting the broad spectrum of humanitarian services rendered by WMO across the globe. It was followed by a series of presentations – **Mr. Altaf Jangda** (acting VP - WMO Pakistan Chapter) spoke at length about the various educational projects, health care initiatives and rehabilitation programmes undertaken by the Pakistan Chapter. He showered praise on the excellent work being carried out at the **Memon Industrial and Technical Institute (MITI)** in Karachi.

Mr. Haroon Karim (Chairman of WMO Board of Trustees) took the floor next and emphasised the need for the Memon Community to leave behind a legacy by building more hospitals, schools and institutions that would stand the test of time. He briefed the gathering of the **WMO India Chapter** activities and discussed the upcoming projects undertaken by India towards **Serving Mankind**.

Careem CEO, Mudassir Sheikha, a young Memon entrepreneur was the guest of honour at the event. He has been included in the prestigious **Bloomberg list of top 50 CEOs**. Careem is a transportation network company based in Dubai, with operations in over 100 cities across 14 countries in the Middle East, Africa and South Asia. The company was recently valued at 2.1 billion dollars as it entered into a merger with Uber.

Another special guest **Maulana Bashir Farooqi**, recipient of the prestigious **Sitara-e-Imtiaz** and founder of Seylani Welfare Organisation also graced the occasion.

WMO is grateful to Mudassir Sheikha and Bashir Farooqi for taking out time from their busy schedules to attend the event and congratulates them on their remarkable achievements. We wish them even greater success in the coming years.

Mr. Junaid Ahmed (Chairman - Global Youth Wing Middle East Chapter) shared the Youth Wing progress report and announced the upcoming projects. There was palpable excitement amongst the youngsters who joined the Global Youth Wing in droves.

Achievement awards were presented to those who had distinguished themselves in the arenas of business, philanthropy and community service. Notable awardees were the **ARY** family who have proven themselves as **Caretakers of Humanity** for several decades now. **Mr. Khalid Dhedhi** (RSG – WMO Middle East Chapter) and Mr. Khurram Kalia (Advisor – GYW) were awarded the **Shining Stars of WMO**.

Mr. Mahmood Shaikhani (Deputy Secretary General-WMO) concluded the proceedings by delivering the Vote of Thanks and encouraged the audience to partake in the thoughtful initiatives undertaken by WMO, by contributing wholeheartedly towards the betterment of the Community and Humanity.

As the guests mingled with each other over a sumptuous dinner and the hosts pledged a very handsome sum towards the upliftment of Humanity, the camaraderie and generosity of the Middle East Chapter came to the fore. Another memorable evening, another grand event, yet another day when the famed Middle Eastern hospitality came shining through before the sun set over the Arabian coast in Dubai.



A Royal Affair

His Highness Sheikh Nahyan bin Mubarak Al Nahyan, Minister of Culture, Youth & Social Development (UAE) is the Chairman of several businesses conglomerates in Pakistan with interests in telecommunications, finance and banking. He hosted prominent members of the **Pakistan Business Council** (PBC) for an Iftar meal at his grand palace in **Abu Dhabi** to strengthen the bonds of friendship and bolster trade relations between the two countries.

Mr. Ahmed Shaikhani (VP - WMO Middle East Chapter and Deputy President - PBC) attended the event accompanied by **Mr. Iqbal Dawood** (President PBC and WMO Trustee) and several eminent businessmen from Pakistan and UAE. It was an evening of bonding and building business relationships over an exquisite meal. Mr. Dawood reciprocated by inviting His Highness to the upcoming exclusive PBC business event in Dubai wherein they could share ideas and discuss strategic investment opportunities in Pakistan.

The event came to an end with the President of the PBC thanking His Highness for a wonderful evening spent in his royal company in the vibrant Emirate of Abu Dhabi.



CRICKET SEASON IN CHICAGO

Nelson Mandela had famously quoted,

“Sport has the power to change the world. It has the power to inspire. It has the power to unite people in a way that little else does.”

World Memon Organisation North America Chapter followed in the footsteps of the legendary Nelson Mandela and organised a spectacular cricket tournament to unite the Memons from across the US of A.

On the 14th of June, **Mr. Bashir Akuly** (VP - WMO NA) collaborated with **Mr. Javaid Khandwala**, a stalwart of **Chicago Memon Association** to host the first **Memon Cricket Night** at the sprawling Ackerman Sports & Fitness Center in the suburb of Glen Ellyn, on the outskirts of Chicago city.

4 teams from different regions of the Chicago metropolitan area participated in the tournament with the **North Side** being crowned eventual winners. The Memons from Chicagoland came out in full force to cheer for their teams. Each boundary got the crowd on their feet, every dropped catch drew a gasp and many close matches had the spectators

on the edge of their seats. The matches went late into the night with the finals being concluded in the wee hours of the morning but the crowds remained glued to their seats till the last ball was bowled. The first Memon Cricket night was a colossal success.

We are very pleased with the encouraging response to the cricket tournament and are thankful to **Mr. Asif Rangoonwala**, **Mr. Arif Sattar**, **Mr. Ghaffar Variend**, **Mr. Mikhael Essa**, **Mr Asif Usman** and **Mr. Talha Naviwala** for their steadfast support towards organising the event. WMO North America Chapter shall follow up with many more sporting events in the coming months to unite not only the Memon community but people from all corners of the world who have migrated to this great nation and now call it home.

It is indeed true that sports has the power to inspire, to unite and could perhaps even change the World. Take a bow, Madiba.



CANADA

Celebrates Eid

Mississauga is a scenic city anchored on the shores of Lake Ontario, on the outskirts of Toronto, Canada. It is a popular shopping destination, dotted with malls. The city is blessed with a vibrant arts community who host a multitude of events throughout the year at the civic square, aptly named the Mississauga celebration square.

In keeping with the long tradition of playing the most gracious and perfect hosts, **Mohammad Ashfaq** - President of Memon Association-Canada and a prominent member of the WMO North America Chapter organised the yearly Eid picnic at the panoramic Mississauga Valley Park for members of the community.

The 9th of June turned out to be a glorious day with the park bathed in sunshine. The guests began to trickle in by one in the afternoon and soon the grounds were buzzing with a sizable crowd of 400.

The annual picnic is an elaborate celebration bringing together people of all ages. The community members mingle freely and spend a leisurely evening, basking in each other's company.

Several food stalls were pitched up across the manicured lawns with the large spread including several ethnic Memoni dishes. The children and youngsters were entertained with games of volleyball and cricket while the ladies bonded over the appetizing food.

As the evening set in, old friends connected over a cup of hot tea, new friendships blossomed and the genial camaraderie brought greater cheer to a sunny day in Ontario.

That sums up a very memorable evening in Mississauga, as the association has yet again achieved its objective of fostering friendships, building brotherhood and bringing the community closer together.



PAKISTAN DELEGATION VISITS MEDINA

Al-Masjid an-Nabawi - the Prophet's Mosque in Medina is one of the most revered sites in Islam and amongst the largest mosques in the World. One of the most notable features of the historic Mosque is the **Green Dome** in its south-east corner, which houses the tomb of our beloved Prophet Muhammad (PBUH). Although the Mosque is visited by millions each year, only a privileged few have access to the sacred tomb.

The visiting delegation of the **Prime Minister of Pakistan - Mr. Imran Khan** were bestowed with the rare honour of paying their respects at the holy tomb of the Prophet (PBUH). Amongst the delegates was **Mr. Shoaib Kothawala**, founder Trustee of WMO.

Mr. Shoaib Kothawala is an eminent Memon residing in **Los Angeles, California** who was instrumental in establishing **WMO North America Chapter**. We take great pride in Mr. Kothawala for being a visionary businessman and scaling the greatest heights of success but more importantly for being the distinguished humanitarian and a generous donor towards the many admirable causes over the years.



A DINING HALL FOR ORPHANS IN COLOMBO



The **Global Youth Wing Far East Chapter** under the able leadership of **Saad**, raised funds to provide furniture to an orphanage in Colombo, Sri Lanka. Several members of the Memon community and well wishers came forward to contribute towards the admirable cause. An iftar was organized wherein the youth wing spent time with the children and inaugurated the dining hall which was set up, thanks to the tables and chairs donated by the Chapter.

May Allah Swt accept our humble endeavors and reward our donors with abundance for their generosity.

AN IFTAR IN THE US

Memon Association of Greater Austin (MAGA) hosted the grand iftar for 800 rozdaars at the NAMCC-Masjid Aisha in Austin, Texas (USA). It is an annual ritual followed by MAGA wherein iftar meals are served to the massive gathering on the occasion of Lailatul Qadr each year.

May Allah Swt accept our humble endeavors and May this special night bring peace, happiness and prosperity to all.





METROPOLITAN HOTEL
D U B A I

Al Thanya Street, Umm Al Sheif,
PO Box 31588, Dubai, UAE

Ms. Carmela A. Alcantara, *Banquet Sales Executive*
+971 50 790 0511

carmela.alcantara@habtoorhospitality.com

**PLEASE BOOK EARLY TO
AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT**

Room rates with Buffet Breakfast at Al Safa Restaurant:

**Premium Room
Single Occuancy (AED 460 net BB)**

**Premium Room
Double Occuancy (AED 500 net BB)**

**Premium Suite Room
Single Occuancy (AED 950 net BB)**



ONLINE BOOKING - [HTTP://WMOWORLD.COM/METRO](http://WMOWORLD.COM/METRO)



World Memon Organisation Charitable Foundation

17TH ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING 2019

VENUE

Metropolitan Hotel
Dubai

31 October 2019 (Thursday)

02.00PM – 04.00PM : Board of Trustees (BOT) Meeting

08:30PM – Onward : Dinner at ARY Residence along with Ladies Wing Program

01 November 2019 (Friday)

09.00AM – 12.00PM : Executive Committee (ExCom) Meeting

12.30PM – 01.30PM : Jumma Prayer/Lunch

02.30PM – 05.00PM : 4th Management Committee (MC) Meeting

08:30PM – Onward : Dinner at Mr. Ismail A. Karim Residence

02 November 2019 (Saturday)

02.00PM – 05.00PM : 17th Annual General Meeting

05.00PM – 06.00PM : 5th Management Committee (MC) Meeting

08:30PM – Onward : Dinner at Mr. Majid Ranani Residence