



Tribute to Mawlana Ihsaan Hendricks aka Abu Yusuf Saleh

On Friday 10th August 2018 Moulana Ihsaan Hendricks passed away in Cape Town bringing with it a profound loss to the Muslim Ummah in South Africa. In a fitting tribute at his Janaza, former Ambassador Ebrahim Rasool lamented the loss of knowledge, intellect, intelligence, strategy and direction that his death has brought to the community. He did in his short life what others would do in a hundred years. Moulana championed against of injustice and was concerned, locally, about the plight of South Africans and internationally, the Palestinians.

Rasool went on to add that the Moulana was not interfaith because he put on the coat of interfaith, but interfaith because his Christian grandmother took him to madressah every day. He went on to add that whilst others were looking for their white, French or Dutch parentage, the Moulana was proud of his Koi-San heritage and embraced all cultures. He was also not political because it was fashionable, but because he joined the liberation movement in Worcester at an early age. He shunned people with degrees and titles and stood with those who sought justice. He lived up to the description of knowledge in the Qur'an. Rasool went on to beseech the Almighty to reward the Moulana abundantly and that his name "Ihsaan", which appears in Sura Ar-Rahman, was fitting in that the reward for Ihsaan is only goodness. Concluding, Rasool said that now that the Moulana is no longer with us, he has indeed passed on his baton to all of us and that he relegates his qualities of justice, peace and character in all of us.

On social media, Professor Ebrahim Moosa posted that he had lost a wonderful, caring and justice-loving friend. He went on to add that "Moulana Ihsaan was born in Worcester, and trained as a traditional alim, a scholar of Islam, at Darul Uloom Newcastle in Kwazulu-Natal and at the Darul Uloom Nadwatul Ulama in Lucknow, India. He was a stoic fighter for justice for all dispossessed people, be they in South Africa, Palestine or elsewhere in the world. He was passionate about two things: justice and knowledge. And true to the meaning of his name, he oozed the beauty of character, generosity of spirit and grace.

Contrary to what many might think of most traditional scholars, Moulana Ihsaan was an extremely open-minded person. He listened to different points of view. He strongly believed that traditional Muslim scholars needed the best exposure to new knowledge and experiences.

"Moulana Ihsaan had the unique distinction of serving on the International Union of Muslim Scholars (IUMS) under the leadership of Shaykh Yusuf al-Qaradawi whom he admired and he also served as the representative of the World Alliance of Muslim Youth (WAMY) responsible for Central and West and Southern Africa.

"Moulana Ihsaan was ailing for some time with a variety of kidney and cardiac related ailments. Only a few days ago, on the day he was discharged from a long period of hospitalization, we spoke for almost 45 mins laying out plans to begin in earnest the



Mawlana Ihsaan Hendricks seen here with Ismail Hania of Hamas

work of Madressah Discourses and he made me promise that we would work together on this initiative.

"He and I were of one mind that it was fruitless and destructive to engage in the demonization of different Muslim perspectives, especially the disastrous sectarian conflict and tensions between Sunni and Shia theological tendencies. He would agree with me, I know, that the best response to sectarian outrage is to show self-restraint. I will miss him, his laughter, sense of humour, brilliant mind, his humanity and the capacious knowledge he shared with all." Indeed, we will all miss him and, in the words of Abu Tammam,

"Far be it, that time will ever bring forth the likes of him
Time is stingy in sharing the likes of him."

"From Allah we come and unto Allah is our return"
Go well our friend, hamba kahle, habibi Ihsaan!

A loss to the Ummah in SA

The late Moulana Ihsaan Hendricks epitomised the kind of leader the Ummah in South Africa and indeed internationally needs in today's times. Sound knowledge, humbleness, empathy, passion, a principled approach and a sound grasp and understanding of the environment that we live in, were just some of the attributes that Moulana brought to any position that he held.

Moulana Hendricks' concern for the Ummah in South Africa and internationally is reflected in his willingness to take up challenges and responsibilities for the betterment of Muslims.

I was witness to just one such occasion when, in spite of his many responsibilities, notably as the then President of the Muslim Judicial Council, Moulana willingly accepted the presidency and the responsibility of leading the South African Hajj and Umrah Council (SAHUC). As the representative of the Islamic Forum in SAHUC, I was privileged to serve as his immediate deputy at the time.

During the period that he served as the President of the South African Hajj and Umrah Council his many remarkable qualities coupled with an open-minded approach, reflected in his willingness to listen and understand all points of view, helped steer the Organisation through some difficult and contentious times.

With the passing of Moulana Ihsaan Hendricks, the Muslim Ummah in South Africa has lost a dedicated and committed servant at a very critical juncture in our history. We will certainly miss him. As the Islamic Forum, we pray that Allah (Subhaanahu wa Ta'aala) in His Mercy grants forgiveness to Moulana and grants him the highest stage in Jannah. Our condolences to Moulana's family and we pray that Allah (Subhaanahu wa Ta'aala) grants them the patience and forbearance to bear this immense loss. Aameen

Ebrahim Vawda - Representative of Islamic Forum on the General Council of SAHUC

TIP Taking Islam to the People

TIP Family Eid Gah

EID SALAAH FOR ALL

George Campbell School of Technology
261 Sylvester Ntuli (Brickhill) Road

Programme commences @ 7h00
Salaah @ 7h45

Safe, ample parking | Marquee provided | Carry a prayer mat | For your convenience, make wudhu at home
***Now including sign language**

Support TIP Family Eidgah with Lillah donations
Acc name: Taking Islam to the People
Albaraka Bank - Branch 800 000
Account number 786 001 261 93
Send POP to tipsa@telkomsa.net

Aneesa @ 0824808813
tipsa@telkomsa.net
TIP Family Eidgah

CMRM laments loss of dynamic and courageous son of the soil

It is with great sadness that the Claremont Main Road Masjid receives the news of the passing of Maulana Ihsaan Hendricks, former president of the Muslim Judicial Council.

Maulana Ihsaan was a dynamic and courageous son of the soil, whose dedication and tireless passion for his community was only eclipsed by his immense humility and faith as a human being. He embodied what it meant to be a leader by serving and establishing a litany of organisations and initiatives ranging from early childhood development to international scholarly commissions, Maulana was assiduous, hardworking and most of all connected to his community.

Maulana Ihsaan was a good friend of the CMRM. He delivered the keynote address at the CMRM Annual General Meeting (AGM), on Sunday 19 June 2016, at the Sports Science Institute. During his address he called for a Fiqh of citizenship that should emphasise the Muslim community's peaceful co-existence with other faith groups in the country as well as the responsibility of individuals to make a positive contribution to the challenges we face in our country. He also delivered the Layla al-Mi'raj lecture at CMRM on 24 April 2017, where he spoke passionately about the unjust

occupation of Palestine. He was keen on following this up by offering a full course on the history of Masjid al-Aqsa and the struggles of the Palestinians, at CMRM, but due to his deteriorating health he was unable to do so. Maulana Ihsaan was also a keen supporter of CMRM's youth empowerment programme and contributed financially towards our youth camps.

Maulana Ihsaan Hendricks was an eloquent and courageous South African Muslim voice for Palestinian and global justice. He was a champion of the poor and downtrodden, supporting many humanitarian relief efforts at home and abroad. His was a life of "scholactivism" in the true sense, marrying a broadminded and authentic scholarly approach to Islam with the fervour and compassion of an activist. Maulana Ihsaan was the embodiment of a scholar fearlessly witnessing to justice.

Our prayers and condolences go out to his family and loved ones during this sorrowful time. May they find strength in their beautiful memories, his immense leadership and scholarly contributions and most of all in the warm embrace of family and friends. We pray that Allah, the Most Compassionate, pardon him, have mercy on him and grant him a high status in Al-Jannah, in-sha-Allah.

Profile: Sisters Qaisar Jahaan & Umme Haanee

Women around the world are assuming leadership roles to such an extent that, by 2025, most parliaments, including South Africa's would go through a dramatic change.

This is the view of Chatsworth Sulaiman sisters, Qaisar Jahaan and Umme Haanee – both of whom have embarked in careers which were previously perceived not to be for Muslim women.

Speaking to Farook Khan on Radio Al-Ansaar's Friday night talk show, 90 Minutes, they said that, like so many young women their age, they opted to pursue tertiary education which would enable them to push back the barriers, to be an inspiration to the younger set and send a message: "This is not only a man's world."

Qaisar is a Clinical technologist who chose to specialize in cardiology and has worked relentlessly for four years to equip her to walk into any intensive care unit in the country and deal with life and death situations on an almost daily basis.

Umme Haanee is a budding television camera-woman who has her sights set on working for Al Jazeera, in her ambition to widen the horizon for all people, regardless of where they are in the world. She caused a sensation in family circles when she announced that, after matric, it was her ambition to break into the highly competitive, but amazingly creative, world of movies, television and the mass media. Lean built and petite, Umme Haanee would stand dwarfed in front of cameras and cranes, which would be part of her future.

Undaunted, the sisters stepped out of the sheltered lifestyles created by their parents, Swaleh and Sajeeda, and made their way to the Durban University of Technology in 2014. "Nothing could have prepared us for our respective journeys into the real world. The workload and the demand to acquire and develop specialist skills followed in the quick succession of a series of examinations. Our studies outstripped time in each day and we found

that, despite a full schedule, we took home even more work, almost daily," said Qaisar Jahaan.

For Umme Haanee, the introduction to cutting edge journalism seemed exciting, until she had to master the latest technologies she had to use to write and video tape, and acquire the technical expertise to make sure that the tens of thousands of Rands worth of equipment she was using was in working order.

"It called for profound concentration. On the one hand, I had to acquire interview skills and follow this up with writing it in journalese. Then I had to take to the camera and capture my message on tape. It was stunning, to say the least," she said.

But for Qaisar Jahaan, it got tough when she had to take to the Nkosi Albert Luthuli Hospital in Cato Manor.

"This is where the real-life experiences came to me and I had to cope with them. Here were real people who were really ill. I was being trained to help them regain their physical health. But it turned out to be more - I realized that there was a greater effort needed and here, my faith, being a Muslim, had to be summoned countless times a day in seeking relief for a patient," she said.

The sisters recalled that at one time, young women went to university to become teachers, lawyers and accountants, with some, who were lucky, getting into Medical School. But with the competition for jobs so strong, especially in a male-dominated society, it called for a person to be so good in their chosen profession that they to beat tough competition to get and maintain work.

For Qaisar Jahaan, her job, though highly intense, has made her a people's person. "I have learnt so much more about human beings, the different cultures and our diversity. We reach out to each other in all circumstances, including life and death situations."

Umme Haanee has realized that she wants to make documentaries for



Top: Umme Haanee with host Farook Khan
Bottom: Qaisar Jahaan

television. "I believe that I need to deliver messages through the stories I tell to the world. Messages to remove the restrictions which prevent us from getting to know and understand our world. There are many untold mysteries that need to be uncovered."

Both sisters say that, for some reason, the present day young woman is serious about the future. Young men may be concerned too, but not at the level and in numbers compared to those women who are keen to play a major role in public office, especially on the African continent.

The sisters are determined to make a positive contribution to the community, guided by their grandparents - maternal and paternal - from whom they receive guidance, leadership and love. They credit their parents for making sacrifices and having confidence in them to realize their respective dreams, no matter how far out of reach they once seemed.

**Farook Khan - 90 Minutes -
Radio Al-Ansaar, 29th June 2018**