

# Imam Afroz Ali at Suleman Lockhat Auditorium

Imam Afroz Ali's two day lectures on the "Nature of Ethics: A Ghazalian Paradigm" at the Suleman Lockhat Audiotorium on Saturday and Sunday 2-3 June 2018 was such a success that plans are being made for a return, extended visit. He said that people were looking for a blue print for life – now they can better their conditions because they have an Islamic way of life. "People are looking for something deeper within themselves in an effort to better their lives. We want to get the best of ourselves," he said.

The reaction from those who attended the two-day, intensive lecture said that they needed more information and that a much longer course was necessary to enable people to get the benefits, which they seek.

Mrs Žillquainnise Tayob described the two-day event as "inspiring" and "interesting." "He opened a window for me to look deeper into my character and to build on it. I believe that we need more such sessions," she said.

Another delegate, Mrs Mariam Jhaveri praised the sessions saying that it was useful. "Its nice to have a programme like this which leads to self reflection and improvement. I will come back," she said.

Ruwaida Vawda said that the sessions "teach one to be in touch with the soul, temperament and how we can change one's self. "It brings strength to relationships



among people. There is a strain in modern society and there is a need for this kind of leadership," said Mrs Vawda. Imam Afroz Ali taught for seven years at

Imam Afroz Ali taught for seven years at the Deen Intensive Programme. He lectures on Islam, the environment, economics, ethics, leadership and academic university settings as well as Traditional Islamic learning programmes. He is a corporate and personal development mentor, providing ethical life coaching as well as training. His work is to primarily to develop individuals and organisations at grassroots and community level.



Top: Mohamed Amra of Baitul Hikmah and Islamic Forum giving set of Ghazzali Books to Imam Afroz Ali - Bottom: Sunday talk at SLA



Imam Afroz Ali is based in a number of countries including Australia, New Zealand, Malayasia, Singapore, Canada and the United Arab Emirates.

Al-Ikhlaas Academia Library and Resource Centre hosted him in South Africa during the Month of Ramadan. His trip in Durban was hosted by Baitul Hikmah and the Islamic Forum.

### **Call on Hawks to find perpetrators of Mosque Attack**

On Thursday 10 May 2018, South Africans witnessed an unprecedented and horrific attack on the Imam Husayni Mosque in Ottowa, about 30 kilometers from Durban and a few kilometres from Verulam. The assailants of this mosque brutally murdered Mr. Abbas Essop by slitting his throat and stabbed two others (Muhammad Ali and the local Imam, Ali Nchinyane). The mosque's library was thereafter set alight by a petrol bomb. In a subsequent investigation a sinister device attached to a cellphone was found under a chair used by Imam Ali Nchinyane. According to news reports, the bomb squad entered the masjid after this device was found. The South African Police Force had to ask people to move further away from the mosque and residents on the street said they were asked to evacuate their homes temporarily

We express our deep concern and distress that since the attack on the Imam Husayni Mosque in Ottowa the perpetrators are still at large. The attack had all the hallmarks of the politically motivated sectarian violence that has ravaged the Middle-East in recent times.

We are concerned about the future safety of our community. During this Ramadan many mosques have taken precautionary measures to ensure the safety of their congregants and we are grateful that no subsequent attacks have taken place. We fear, however, that if the perpetrators of this abominable attack get away with it and are not found and arrested they may well be emboldened to commit further attacks.

We are also concerned by the unsubstantiated speculations and vicious rumour mongering that this has generated. In the aftermath of the Imam Husain mosque attack in Durban, there were malicious rumours that Egyptians had orchestrated the attacks, and this later changed to Iranians. The speculations have not been helped by the



fact that no-one has been bold enough to claim responsibility for this heinous act.

We must therefore also not be naïve to the possibilities of outside forces intent on sowing discord amongst Muslims by exploiting the vulnerabilities of people's sectarian views. The source of these rumours should therefore form part of the investigation to apprehend the perpetrators and bring them to justice.

We once again call on the South African Police Service (SAPS) and the Hawks to intensify investigations, find the perpetrators and bring them to justice. We call on all South African citizens to cooperate with our police services in finding the perpetrators of the dastardly attack on the Ottowa mosque and to bring them to justice.

#### TIP Family Eid Gah-14th year

#### If you have not experienced the TIP family eidgah, this year may be the time to do so.

TIP is making history by offering a sign language service for the deaf muslim community. Zohra Moosa who is deaf and teaches at Ethembeni school has guided us through the process of starting this initiative. Asiya Essop , also a teacher, at Fulton school for the deaf, has offered her services to sign the talks and dua for us. We appeal to the deaf muslim community to join us and experience full inclusion, possibly for the first time at an Eid prayer. Our theme for Eid ul Fitr, being on the eve of youth day, is "Soweto 76: reclaiming our history, envisioning the future". Our youth speaker is Zuhayr Mahomed, a TIP member since inception when he was just 5 - Zuhayr Mahomed is a 3rd year BCom Politics, Philosophy & Economics student at UCT. He is the former Deputy Chair of the MYM UCT, he currently serves on the Exec committee of the UCT Palestine Solidarity Forum (UCT PSF), and holds membership in the Pan Africanist Student Movement of Azania (PASMA). Zuhayr identifies himself as a Fallist and is particularly passionate about the Decolonisation movement.

Our female speaker is Tshegofatso Masibi, also a regular TIP congregant. She is an entrepreneur and owner of Ditiro Media and is a convenor of Beyond August Project, an initiative that focusses on critical dialogue and economic initiatives amongst women.

There will be light refreshments and party packs for children after the prayer. We have a tent, so are not affected by rain. Chairs are also available for the elderly. Bring your own musallah and come with wudhu. Fitra collection takes place before the Eid salah commences. Please consider supporting us with a lillah donation via EFT or in cash on the day.

## ILM-SA hosts family Eid Gah at Essenwood Park

Are you an individual or part of a family that recently embraced Islam? Or an individual or part of a family that doesn't have extended family or many close friends?

We understand that you may be dreading the thought of spending the day of Eid alone.

We at ILM-SA, a Durban based charity would like to invite you to be our guest/s on Eid day in sha Allah.

Join us in bringing cheer to over 200 underprivileged children at Essenwood Park from 7am to 1pm on the day of Eid ul Fitr.

We'll pray the Eid Salaah together after which we'll provide breakfast and lunch and plenty of entertainment for all kids (face painting, henna application, balloons etc) present.

If you'd like to attend please Whatsapp us at 0832714500 or





Join us in bringing joy to over 200 underprivileged children on Eid-ul-Fitr @ Essenwood Park

All welcome
Volunteers needed
Edible goodies needed
WhatsApp 083 271 4500 or call 031 207 6155

need to be alone on this special day join us!

There's no



TIP began the family eidgah project in 2004, when there was no space for families to pray together. The incidents at the Ormonde mosque remind us about the value of our eidgah space. The women in TIP went through what the women at Ormonde mosque are experiencing now. They were called names, received death threats, were ostracised and had their Iman questioned. Because TIP knew what they were doing was right, they persevered. TIP today has a dedicated congregation of over a thousand people. TIP supports the women of Ormonde and other communities who work for places where women and families can pray together. Change is not easy, nor comfortable, but we take our guidance from our beloved messenger who was a radical reformer. He made the Meccans uncomfortable and achieved a spiritual revolution.

TIP looks forward to welcoming you on the day of EID.

email us at info@ilmsa.co.za so we can cater for you.

Please spread the word - nobody should be alone on this blessed day and we would love to host anyone who'd like lots of company.

Programme:

7:30am Takbeer

7:45am Talk in IsiZulu with English translation

8:00am Eid Salaah

8:15am Samoosas and almond milk for all

8:30am Play time

- 10:30am Lunch for all
- 11:30am Cake for all
- 12:00pm Eid presents



Mountain Rise Primary School Entrance on Royston Rd 7.00 am - Eid Salaah 7.20am pmbfamilyeidgah@gmail.com