

# OUR VOICES

The Latest News and Updates from the Students of Darul Uloom Leicester



## TALKING TARBIYYAH

by Muhammad Raidhan, Year 8

On Saturday 21st October, we had our monthly Tarbiyyah programme; in it I learnt about the Prophet (SAW)'s many miracles. One of them was when he met Munqidh ibn Hayyaan (RA). When the Prophet (SAW) met him, he greeted Munqidh with salaam and asked how he was doing. He then asked how his family/tribe was doing, mentioning their names, even though the Prophet (SAW) had never met them. Through the Holy Prophet's good manners and this miracle, Munqidh accepted Islam. From this story, I learnt the importance of carrying the sunnah of good manners and how much benefit and rewards we gain from practising them.

The main miracle given to the Prophet (SAW) by Allah was the Quran. I learnt that since the Quran was sent by Allah to the Prophet (SAW), it has been preserved through memorising to this day and will continue to be preserved until the day of Qiyamah.

## OTHER STORIES INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

The Islamic New  
Year

Charity Fun Day

The New Student  
Council

The Rohingya Crisis



# ORIGINS OF THE ISLAMIC NEW YEAR

by Hussain Patel, 2nd Year Alim Class

During the time of the Prophet (SAW), the Arabs did not use an annual dating system. Despite the fact that they had different names for the different months, they would name a year by a big event that took place in it. For this reason, the year in which the Prophet (SAW) was born was known as 'The Year of the Elephant' and the year in which the Prophet's beloved wife and uncle passed away was known as 'The Year of Sorrow'. Each year after the Hijra was named after its main event, and this was used for dating purposes. The first year of the Holy Prophet's residence in Medina was thus called: 'The permission to travel'. The second year was called: 'The year of the command to fight'. The third year: 'The year of the test', and so on.

This was the case until the 4th year of Umar (R.A)'s rule. The Islamic empire had expanded greatly, so when generals needed to communicate with Umar (R.A), they would send letters. However, there would be confusion regarding which letter came first as the letters would take a long time to reach their destination.

**Once, Abu Moussa Al-Ash'ari (R.A) wrote to Umar Ibn Al-Khattab (R.A) in distress:**

**"Letters have reached us from the Commander of the Faithful, but we do not know which to obey. We read a document dated [the month of] Sha'ban, but we do not know which of the Sha'bans is meant: is it the month that has passed, or that which is to come?"**

Therefore, Umar (R.A) gathered many Sahabah and did mushwarah (consultation) regarding when the Islamic calendar should start. The assembly eventually agreed that the Islamic calendar should begin with the Prophet's migration to Madinah, as all those present agreed on the date of that event; whereas other dates such as that of the Prophet (SAW)'s birth and when exactly he had received the first Divine message, aroused some controversy. Also, the Hijra reminded the Muslims of their ascent to power as a result of the sacrifices they went through for the truth and to preserve the Quran.

Although the Hijra took place in the third month of Islam, Rabiul Awwal, the Islamic year starts with Muharram. The reason for making Muharram the first month of the Islamic calendar was that firstly, it was one of the four sacred months of Islam. Secondly, it was the month which followed the Hajj, the fifth pillar of Islam. Thirdly, it was the month following the pledge of allegiance to the Prophet (SAW).

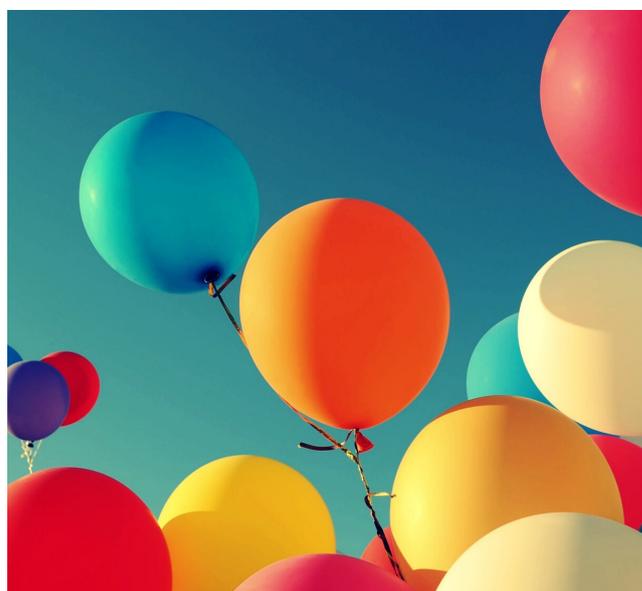
# OUR ANNUAL CHARITY FUN DAY

by Junaid Khan, Year 10A

On Saturday the 16th September 2017, Darul Uloom Leicester held its very own charity fundraiser. Although the rain was forecasted to come down, Alhamdulillah on the day, for the most part, the weather stayed dry. The fundraiser was open to brothers and sisters and started at 12.00pm, just as many of the outside public and the Darul Uloom students' friends and family started to arrive. There were lots of different games, activities, competitions and food stalls. Examples of these include a sizzling BBQ, a bouncy castle, a weightlifting challenge and a chocolate fountain stall.

As lunchtime approached, the BBQ stall started to attract a long line of customers, hungry for burgers, chicken, chips and loads more. Also at the opposite end of the playground, the bouncy castle was packed with lots of kids, using up all the energy they had gained from eating the variety of food. In the middle of the playground there was a lively atmosphere as several challenging competitions were taking place as well as a variety of games for different age groups. Furthermore there were lots of donation boxes dotted around for the public and students to donate generously to a range of selected charities.

The event lasted for approximately 5 hours, finishing at around 5.00pm. It was a great day, which everyone enjoyed and participated in, but most importantly lots of money was raised for the school and our chosen charities, ranging from local to international; the charities were Age UK, Rainbows Hospice, Macmillan Cancer Support and the Rohingya Crisis.



# THE NEW STUDENT COUNCIL

## Interview with Adam Nathani, a member of the new Student Council

### What is your role in the Student Council?

Alhamdulillah I was elected to be the Daytime Representative for students in the 16-18 age bracket. The Council's Chairman also appointed me as the Student Council Treasurer, which means that I handle the accounts when the Student Council is planning an event, etc. Furthermore, I was thankfully accepted as the Student Council Public Relations Officer, which enables me to represent the Student Council in cases such as this interview.

### What goals do the new Student Council aim to achieve by the end of the year?

In the few meetings we have had and the discussions that I've had with other Council members, it's fair to say we plan to do quite a lot this year. I personally wish to see a change in the school menu and my feelings resonate with a lot of students. We also plan to help organise some school trips, possibly a Careers Fair and maybe even another school fun day, all in this academic year.

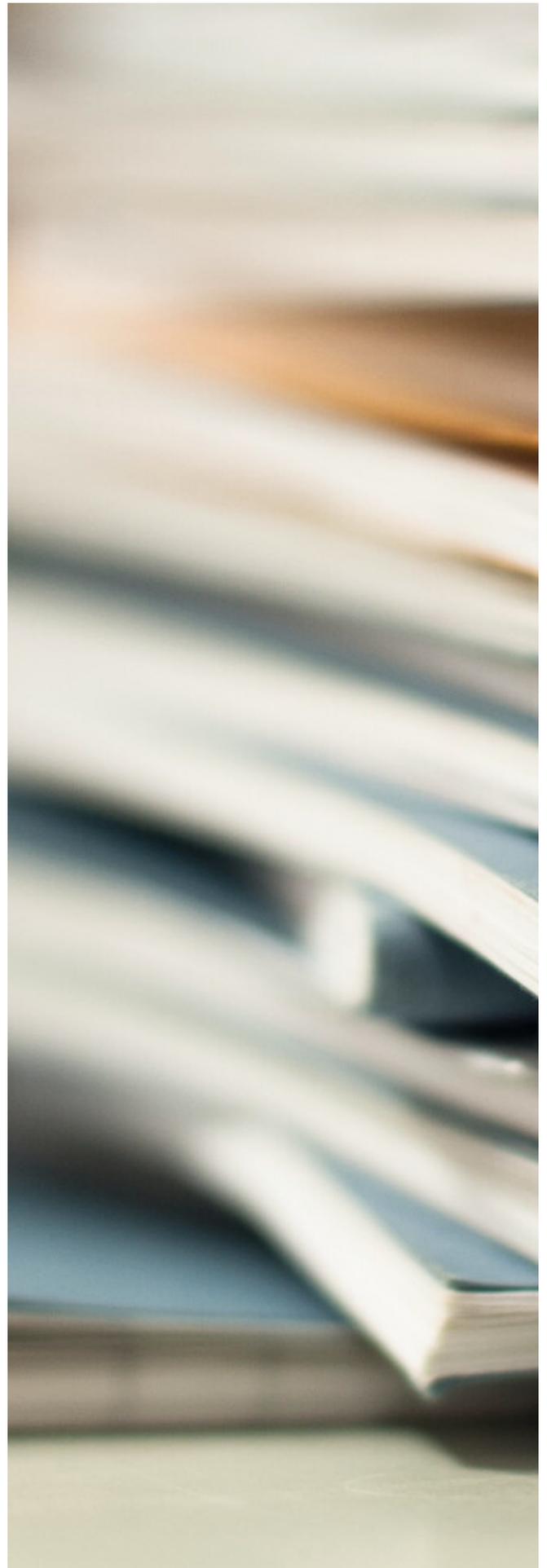
### I hear the Council is already off to a busy start.

#### What actions have been currently taken?

There had been an issue with the football pitch timings. My colleague drafted up some rules and even got some disciplinary actions approved if they're not followed. It hasn't been long, so further measures might still need to be taken.

### How do you think the new elected members will co-operate as a team to better the school?

I believe we are a great team and are led by a strong Cabinet and will therefore be able to communicate with each other easily to achieve positive outcomes for the students.



# THE PLIGHT OF THE ROHINGYA

**Riyad Muhammad, Editor**

As the editor of this newsletter, I select the important news that will reach the readers and highlight any issues that may affect our students, school and muslim community. Therefore I feel we must discuss the ethnic cleansing of our brothers and sisters in Rohingya.



Rohingya are ethnically from the Rakhine State in Myanmar (Burma) and have faced persecution at the hands of Myanmar's military since the country's independence in the late 1940s. Major violent clashes in the Rakhine State in 2012 and 2015, displaced large amounts of Rohingya and in October 2016, following an attack on the Myanmar border police, the military started a security crackdown on Rohingya, blaming them for the rebellion. This sent about 87,000 Rohingya to rush to Bangladesh for refuge.

The last military crackdown started on August 25th 2017, when an armed Rohingya group attacked military posts in the Rakhine State. Since then, the Myanmar military is reported to have burned dozens of Rohingya villages and fired indiscriminately at unarmed men, women and children. The unprecedented crackdown has sent more than 480,000 Rohingya to flee Myanmar and seek refuge in refugee camps in Bangladesh's Cox's Bazar. This latest incident brought much needed media attention to the plight of the Rohingya and the people have now seen large amounts of aid arriving in the area.

More than 80 villages in northern Rakhine State have been set ablaze by Myanmar security forces and vigilante mobs since August 25th, according to Amnesty International. Myanmar's government has said that nearly 40 percent of Rohingya villages had been targeted by the army in so-called "clearance operations", with 176 out of 471 villages emptied of people, and an additional 34 villages "partially abandoned".

Surrounded by our comforts and luxuries we cannot comprehend the difficulty the people of Rohingya are facing. Persecuted for the religion they practise, we take for granted the fact that we can freely practise Islam in this country. As compassionate human beings and as part of the muslim ummah, we should do all that we can to help alleviate the sufferings of the Rohingya. There are a number of charities, such as Lonely Orphans and Ummah Welfare Trust, who are endlessly working to assist those in need and I plead you to donate, give aid and pray for the Rohingya, not just today, but till there is an end to this injustice.