

# Al Amanah College

Success Through Knowledge

## NEWSLETTER

*"Pursuing Academic Excellence: Al Amanah College is committed to pursuing academic excellence and nurturing the individual abilities in a caring, educational and Islamic environment."*

### From the Principal's Office

Dear Parents, Students, Staff and Friends of Al Amanah College;

Praise be to Allah the Lord of the Worlds. To Him belong the endowments and proper commendations. May Allah raise the honour of Prophet Muhammad, peace be upon him, and protect his nation from that which he fears for it.

Welcome to our final newsletter for 2016. In this edition we continue to share with you some of the school's achievements in 2016. During this term Year Ten students had their graduation in a traditional Al Amanah College style with a whole school assembly and presentation ceremony. Year Eleven students had their presentation during week two. Year Seven, Eight and Nine students have continued to work at their studies this term and have also enjoyed participating in various school and sporting events. Our Year Six students from both campuses attended an open day as part of their transition programme to gain some insight into High School. They spent the day at the secondary school and participated in team building activities and met some high school staff in readiness for 2017.

As I reflect on 2016, I am filled with great pride at the many achievements of both our students and staff. As a school community we move forward to embrace the changes that are ahead and consistently look for ways in which we can realise the expectations in all areas of Education.

At Al Amanah College we work solidly to create a balance between welfare, education and behaviour so that our students are able to grow individually in the areas that they need. Our focus is on building positive relationships in a learning community and maintaining a culture of respect and responsibility towards ourselves and others.

It has been rewarding and motivating to see the drive coming from teachers and having that drive instilled in the students. We have taken a whole school approach towards one vision which is evident in the achievements of our students.

As in previous years, we have continued with the collaborative relationship our school has formed with the Western Sydney University. Professional speakers from the university, including professors and doctors from various fields visited our campus throughout the year and presented talks to our students on a range of topics – all of which were highly relevant to their studies at school. Our students are given as much material as possible to take advantage of any scholarship or early offer schemes. This year, a number of our HSC students received offers from universities including the University of Wollongong's new campus opening in Liverpool next year. Year Twelve students visited university campuses and attended careers expos to build an understanding of what is being made available to them, not just for studying at a tertiary level, but also in becoming entrepreneurs and valuable members of the Australian community.

At Al Amanah College we encourage students to participate in external events, competitions and activities through which they build on their own skills, and more importantly contribute to the local community.

Every year we have students participate in the International Competitions and Assessments Australia. We emphasise the importance of participating in external assessment to the students as it will give them very good indications of how they are going in comparison to other students around the state and nation. A number of our students received outstanding results in the Business Studies competition. Results included credits, distinctions and high distinctions. The outstanding participants received cash prizes ranging from \$50 and \$100. Moreover, the following students achieved high distinction in the Australian Economics competition: Firas Noun, Rawan Abdo, Sibal Chams, and Hussam El Dana. Hussam scored in the top five percentile for High Distinction in Business Studies. Well done to all participants!

These are just a few of the school's achievements in 2016. There are many more I could

### Dates to Remember

Monday 5 December	Anti-Bullying Incursion
Monday 5 December & Tuesday 6 December	Primary Teacher/Parent Interviews - 4:00pm - 6:00pm
Wednesday 7 December	Year Six Luna Park Excursion
Thursday 8 December	Mawlid Celebration K - Eleven
Friday 9 December	Years Seven - Nine Presentation Day
Monday 12 December	Year Six Graduation
Tuesday 13 December	Kindy - Five Presentation Day
Monday 16 - Wednesday 25 January, 2017	School Office open 9:00am - 2:00pm
Thursday 26 January	Public Holiday
Friday 27 January	Term One starts/Pupil Free Day
Tuesday 31 January	Student Day One Year One - Year Twelve
Wednesday 1 February	Kindergarten Day One

share. Al Amanah College is committed to continually improving. We are working hard to build a learning community that offers all students an excellent education.

I thank my dedicated team of teaching and non-teaching staff, for their talent, passion and commitment to producing innovative and engaging programmes - You are all exceptional! Students, staff members, parents and the wider community have contributed to the successes of Al Amanah College. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their commitment and efforts. The energy displayed this year leads to the optimism of great things for next year.

As always I thank our whole school community and all professional organisations that offer their support to lead programmes within our schools. In particular, I thank the parents and carers who work closely with us to support the learning and wellbeing of the students. Together we achieve great things.

*I wish you all a time of happiness and relaxation and look forward to working with you in 2017.*

Regards,

Ayman Alwan  
Principal

## Firas El Hawat Young Scientist Awards 2016 Prize Winner

We are immensely proud of Firas El Hawat's achievement in the 2016 Young Scientist Awards. Firas received the Western Sydney University Science Award and a \$500 cheque at the STANSW Young Scientist Ceremony for his science investigation 'The effectiveness of different greenhouse materials on the growth of wheat grass'. Firas' parents and teachers, along with many prominent scientists and professors celebrated his wonderful achievement at STANSW Young Scientist Awards Ceremony held at the University of Wollongong on 2 November, 2016.

Picture below:

Firas El Hawat Year 10B Young Scientists prize winner with UWS Associate Professor Dr Simon Green



## Year Six Open Day

The Year Six open day was an exciting experience. We were able to ask a variety of questions about the sorts of learning (and fun activities) that we would be able to enjoy in high school. Without this special day, we would not feel so comfortable going through to Year Seven. The high school SRC were with us, and were very helpfully answering every question asked. They also had some fun games for us to play. The teachers we met along the way were very friendly and gave us some tips about how to be a successful student next year. Halima El-Zahab and Sara Baltaji presented speeches explaining that there will be up and downs during senior school but that it is all worthwhile. Overall, the day was a success and we enjoyed it thoroughly!

Ismail Dabboussi and Sara Alaany  
Year Six





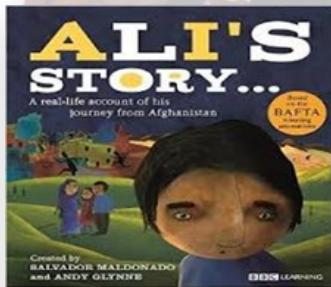
## Year Five at the NSW Parliament House

On Tuesday 25 October, Year Five students visited the NSW Parliament House and were engaged in civics and citizenship education learning about the procedures in parliament and the growth and process of democracy in NSW and within the Australian federal system. On the day, students had a very useful tour, the opportunity to observe parliament at work and discover more about Parliament members.

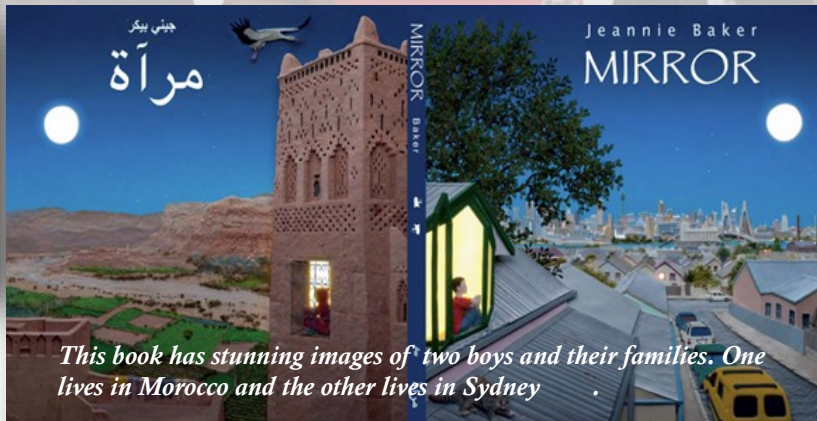
By participating in an educational tour of Parliament House, students learned some important facts about both houses of parliament and had the opportunity to undertake a role-play in the Legislative Assembly Chamber.

The excursion was interesting, fun and full of facts. Each class had some parent helpers and we were very thankful for their assistance.

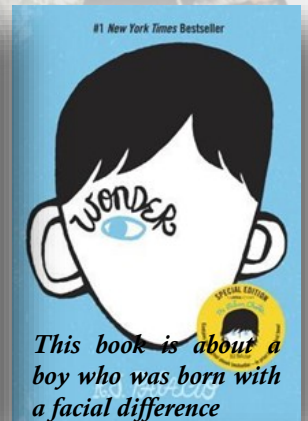
Mrs Khalil  
Year Five Teacher



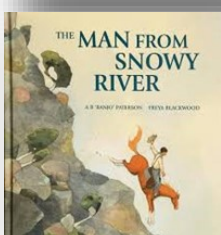
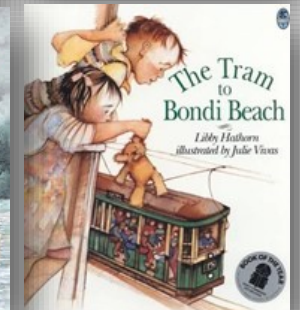
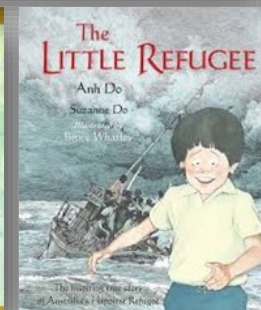
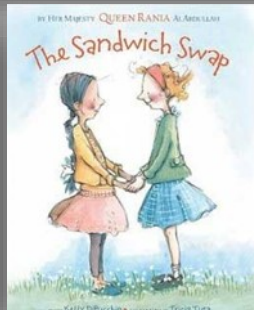
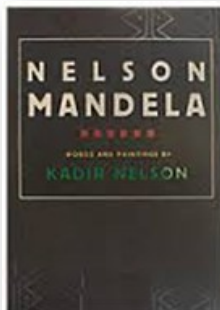
*Ali's story is a book of a ten year old refugee who flees his home country to avoid the conflict caused from the war.*



*This book has stunning images of two boys and their families. One lives in Morocco and the other lives in Sydney*



*This book is about a boy who was born with a facial difference*



**This year, many primary staff worked on rewriting out English programmes for 2017. We are very excited to implement the new programmes next year. These are a few exciting texts that will be included in the Primary English programmes.**





## Kindergarten Orientation Sessions - 2016

Our Kindy orientation programme was held on Wednesdays 2, 9 and 16 November. Students had the opportunity to get ready for 'big school' and parents attended a session to become familiar with school procedures. The orientation programme marks the beginning of a positive partnership between the school and families, which will enrich the education of our future kindy students. The sessions are important for both new and existing families and each session builds upon the previous ones by providing a comprehensive programme for all parents and children starting in Kindergarten 2017. During this time, parents had the opportunity to meet our executive staff members and kindergarten teachers. These sessions covered some of the following topics:

- Getting students ready for school
- Specific information about the Kindergarten teaching/learning programme, curriculum, schedule and routines
- School policies and procedures

*Thankyou* to the many parents who attended.



## Star Student of the Week



### K - 1

### 2 - 6

Week 5

Week 6

Week 7

Week 8

Week 5

Week 6

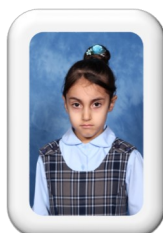
Week 7

Week 8



Leena Alaany

KK



Sama  
Khashashneh  
1B



Saja El Wazze

KH



Elias Halabi

KK



Tianna Hoblos

6S



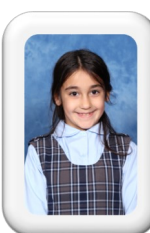
Aseel Kanj

3P



Zackaria Khaled

3H



Lana Awad

2E



## Year Twelve University Visits

Each year senior students at Al Amanah visit university campuses around greater Sydney as part of their investigation into tertiary studies and careers. Campus visits are then followed up with a careers expo and individual university open days as students head into Terms Two and Three of their studies in the HSC course.

The benefits of student engagement with universities include:

1. **Atmosphere** - Students are able to engage with the campus and university atmosphere, get a glimpse of the nature and diversity of facilities and get a feel of the 'vibe' at different university campuses which in turn help our students decide which university they are most likely to attend.
2. **Attend Seminars/Presentations** - Students are able to obtain invaluable information such as course structures, multi-disciplinary programs, nature of assessments, work placement and career opportunities in various fields. Information has a strong influence in motivating students to set targets and plans for themselves.
3. **Scholarships and facilities** - students learn about opportunities they can take advantage of through scholarships to reduce the total costs of their degrees. This is particularly relevant when degrees such as medicine and engineering may cost a student up to \$100 000 to \$150 000 even after the government covers most of the cost.

Students visited the University of New South Wales on 1 November and University of Sydney and Western Sydney University on 3 November. Students have been able to further clarify questions and doubts they have had about post Year Twelve studies and careers. The HSC class impressed the student ambassadors at Sydney University with their knowledge base on course requirements and careers. The class is looking forward to attending the upcoming careers day expo in 2017 and to host information session visits from University of Sydney and University of Wollongong at Al Amanah.

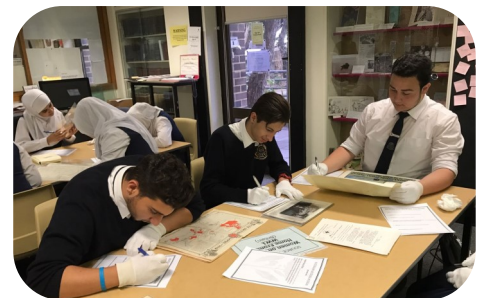


## Year Twelve Modern History Excursion

The HSC Modern History students attended the annual Macquarie University's HSC World War One study session on 8 November with their class teacher Miss Baker. The study workshop involved skills development of source analysis and interpretation which is an integral aspect of assessment in the Modern History course. Student participation in the session also focuses on strategies to tackle extended responses which students are encouraged to adopt to ensure band six level of attainment in their examination.

Students collaboratively worked to analyze WWI sources using ICT and artefacts of the era. Students also presented their findings to a panel of students studying history and politics at Macquarie University.

Year Twelve students had a enjoyable and productive day out!!!





## Arabic Excursion

The excursion to Kamay Botany Bay National Park was an enjoyable excursion which included a lot of beneficial information about the First Fleet. The excursion included a walk around through the museum which showed some significant ancient sources from the arrival of the First Fleet to Australia in 1788. Some of the sources were spears, boomerangs, a cannon and its bullet and a sample of the Endeavor ship. James Cook was the captain of the Endeavor and he was the one who decided to throw out the cannon of the ship to decrease the weight of the ship. Our trip was a journey full of excitement and discovery.

Muhammad Alwan and Elias Kahil  
Year 8B



## Senior Student Advice – Summer Break

The first term of studies in the HSC class 2017 is drawing to an end. It is essential for senior students to devote some time during the upcoming summer break towards their learning while also enjoying a well-deserved break! It is strongly advised that the 2017 HSC class engage in:

1. Planning and successfully implementing a study regime over their summer break. It is recommended that Year Twelve students take leadership in formulating a plan to accommodate family and personal commitments whilst also making time for academic pursuits
2. In academic - knowledge driven courses such as Business Studies, Biology, Economics, Geography and Chemistry it is vital that ample time is spent in readings to ensure preparations for the Half Yearly Exams are well underway during the break. It is also essential that all syllabus concepts, skills and rubric requirements for these courses are clearly understood by all students.
3. In English it would be advisable for all students to ensure all prescribed texts and rubric requirements are well understood. In Mathematics solving problems is key to success.
4. The use of past HSC exams for practice under time constraints is an excellent idea as well to assess success points. Note the past exams and marking criteria/guidelines are available on BOSTES website.

Learning resources will continue to be available on Moodle and it is a great pathway to remain engaged with academic work. Mr Nand will continue to be available via email over the break in the event you have any queries regarding your volunteer work and or record keeping for university related applications in 2017.

Enjoy your break Year Twelve!





## Year Ten Graduation



Al Amanah College held its Year Ten Graduation Ceremony on Friday 25 November. The presentation ceremony acknowledged the academic performance and achievements of the students throughout the year. To the parents of those who graduated, congratulations on your children's achievement and we would like to sincerely *thankyou* for all your support over the years.

Congratulations to the Year Ten award recipients and we wish them all the best and success in their future endeavours.

### Consistent Effort Awards

Adam Hawchar  
Jalal Hussein  
Maryam Amir  
Mariana Noun

### Achievement Awards

Abdullah Rajab  
Mariam Moussa  
Nour Sulaiman  
Zainab Imtiaz  
Talia Saad

### Principal Awards

Firas El Hawat  
Banine Alfartose  
Sakena Alwan

### Environmentalism of the Year

Shaheer Ali

### Values Awards

Yusuf Sabbagh  
Merhde Khazma

### ADF Award

Firas El Hawat

### Young Scientist of the Year

Firas El Hawat

### National Geography Competition Award

Nour Sulaiman

### USYD Award

Banine Alfartose

### Caltex Award

Mariam Moussa



# Annual Business Dinner 2016

Al Amanah College held its Annual Business Dinner on Friday 18 November in the school's Grand Hall. Staff members and eminent guests gathered to celebrate the accomplishments of 2016, share the successes of the school and take a look forward into 2017 and beyond.

The Annual Business Dinner has been a successful initiative inspiring staff members to continue with the successful advancement which the school's executives aspire towards and continue to promote.

Each year during the dinner teachers who strive to achieve their potential throughout the year are recognised.

Distinguished guests, including members of parliament, ADF personnel, council representatives, school principals, local NSW police area commanders, community leaders, religious advisors and student Alumni representatives attended the dinner.

The official opening of the event was signalled by beats of drums (called Nawba) played by select students. The evening began with a beautiful Qur'an recitation by Muhammad Hazarvi – Year Twelve graduate, followed by a magnificent performance presented by the School Choir.

The Islamic Education Office and school head principal Mr Mohamad El Dana, delivered the welcome speech followed by the Chairman of Darulfatwa Islamic High Council of Australia. Dr Sheikh Salim Alwan Al-Husainiyy focused on the importance of acquiring Islamic knowledge and remaining steadfast on the path of Prophet Muhammad "Peace be upon him." Sheikh Salim Alwan thanked Al Amanah for all their hard work in supporting and educating our community.

A video projection highlighting some of Al Amanah's achievements over the past years was presented.

Our final speaker for the night was Douha Bakkour. Douha is one of Al Amanah College's 2009 graduates. She thanked Al Amanah staff for the inspiration, support, guidance and encouragements she received during her schooling years and beyond which have shaped her into the successful person she is today.

The evening continued with an Award Ceremony during which awards were presented to the following staff members:

## 5 Years of Service Award

Emine Gonul, Ada Kabbara, Muhammad Eid, Asmaa Elwan and Amy Louise Wilmot

## 10 Years of Service Award

Marlene Jalloul, Mohamad Halabi, Wafa Abdallah, Suemaya Chami, Dania Moksasi and Hoda El Jisri

## 15 Years of Service Award

Mona El-Marouk, Mayada Hamouda, Wissam Ismail and Azzam Rajab

## Outstanding Performance Award – Teaching

Rabeaa El Zahab, Lara Jazzar, Danielle Buckle, Nisrine El Hashmawi, Belinda Hall, Ada Kabbara, Mona El-Marouk and Mary Baker

## Outstanding Performance Award – Non-Teaching

Nadine El Masri, Amal El Saj, Hoda El Jisri, Rabie Kanj and Rabih Tessine

## Volunteer Recognition Award

Tarek Haddad

## Leadership Award

Ajay Nand

## Outstanding Achievements Student Award

Abdulla Kakkat in recognition of his distinguished achievement in the HSC 2015 – ATAR 98.1

Moses El-Saj in recognition of his distinguished achievement in the HSC 2015 – ATAR 90.6

Diana Noun in recognition of her high achievement in the HSC 2015

Eiman Alkhulaifi in recognition of her high achievement in the HSC 2015

Maya Chamseddine in recognition of her high achievement in the HSC 2015

Firas El Hawat for receiving a special recognition award at the Young Scientist Award ceremony from STANSW

## International Competition of the Holy Qur'an Outstanding Achievement Award

Hafith Mohammad Hazarvi in recognition of his outstanding achievement in the International Competition of the Holy Qur'an organised by the ministry of Religious Affairs in the Arab Republic of Egypt.

## Al-Azhar Imam Awards

Shaykh Hasyam Hammoud, Shaykh Abdul Latif Al Nachar, Shaykh Chadi Al Kasem and Shaykh Amr Alshelh in recognition of their meritorious fulfilment of the Azhary Imam course that was held in Egypt in March – May 2016.







## محمد رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم صاحب الخلق العظيم

له يتم بين جبلين، فأتى قومه فقال: أسلموا، فإن محمداً يعطي عطاء من لا يخاف الفاق.

أما أخبار زهده وتواضعه واختياره الدار الآخرة فكثيرة منها ما رواه البيهقي والترمذي وابن ماجه عن عبد الله أنه قال: اضطجع النبي صلى الله عليه وسلم على حصير فأثر الحصر بجلده، فجعلت أمسه عنه وأقول يا بني أنت وأمي يا رسول الله، ألا أئنتنا فنيست لك شيئاً يقيك منه تمام عليه، فقال: "ما لي وللدنيا، وما أنا والدنيا، إنما أنا والدنيا كراكب استظل تحت شجرة ثم راح وتركها".

فقد كان صلى الله عليه وسلم متصفاً بصفات حسنة من الصدق، والأمانة، والصلة، والعفاف، والكرم، والشجاعة، وطاعة الله في كل حال وأوان لحظته ونفسه، مع الفصاحة الباهرة والنصح التام، والرافقة والرحمة، والشفقة والإحسان، ومواساة الفقراء والأيتام والأرامل والضعفاء، وكان صلى الله عليه وسلم أشد الناس تواضعاً، يحب المساكين ويشهد جنازتهم، ويعود مرضاهم، هذا كله مع حسن السمات والصورة، والنسب العظيم، قال الله تعالى: (اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ حَيْثُ يَجْعَلُ رِسَالَتَهُ) سورة الأنعام / 124.

مُحَمَّدٌ تَحَنَّنَ إِلَيْهِ الْإِنْفِدَةُ وَتَقَرَّرَ بِهِ الْعُيُونُ وَتَأَسَّسَ بِهِ الْقُلُوبُ، فَكَلَامُهُ نُورٌ وَمَدْخَلُهُ نُورٌ وَمَخْرَجُهُ نُورٌ وَعَمَلُهُ نُورٌ، إِنْ سَكَتَ علاه الوقار وإن نطق أخذ بالقلوب والبصائر والأبصار.

إني عشقت محمداً قرشياً حُباً يفوق محبتي أنوباً ماذا أخذت عن جمال محمد أرني كمثل الهاشمي ذكياً وكيف لا أعشق مُحَمَّداً، فهو الذي كان يجالس الفقراء والمساكين والعبيد والإماء ويعودهم ويؤزهم ويتفقد حالهم ويشهد جنازتهم، وكيف لا أعشق مُحَمَّداً وكلامه بين ظاهر يفصل بين الحق والباطل، يرضى بما يرضاه القرآن، ويتأدب بأدابه ويتخلق بأخلاقه ويلتزم أوامره، وكيف لا أعشق مُحَمَّداً وهو أكثر الناس حياءً وأدباً مع ربه ولا يقول في حالة الرضا والغضب إلا الحق قطعاً، لمصمته، فإنه معصوم لا ينطق إلا بالحق، وكان يعظ الناس أي يخطبهم بالجد والاجتهاد ويذكرهم بأيات الله ويخوفهم من عقابه، فكان إذا خطب أحمرت عيناه وعلا صوته واشتد غضبه حتى كأنه منذر جيش أي قوم يُصَبِّحهم عدوهم، وكان إذا سُرَّ استنار وجهه من السرور بدرأ أي قمرًا كاملاً، وكيف لا أعشق مُحَمَّداً وهو:

حين يرحم فهو أشفق راحم أو جاد كان الأجود غريباً وإلى هرقل أتى رسول محمد برسالة دوت هناك دوتاً فانظر وأخبرني بأي شجاعة بعث الرسول إلى هرقل أخياً ومحمدي قد مات ومحمدي في قبره لكن لم يزل في قبره في أرض طابئة حياً

أحبائنا الكرام، إنَّ حُبنا وعشقنا لمُحَمَّدَ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ يدفعنا في كل زمان ومكان إلى الالتزام بالشرع الحنيف وهو القائل في حديثه الشريف: "كل عمل ليس عليه أمرنا فهو رد"، أي مردود. فالأعمال لا تقبل إلا أن توافق الشريعة وموافقة الشرع وعدم موافقته لا يعرف إلا بالعلم، والعلم لا يؤخذ إلا من أفواه العلماء، ولا تكفي مطالعة الكتب بغير تلق من أفواه العلماء بل كثير من الناس الذين يضلون سببه أنهم لا يتلقون علم الدين من أفواه العلماء بل يعتمدون على المطالعة في مؤلفات العلماء فكيف الذي يطالع في الكتب التي حشيت بالأحاديث المكذوبة والأخبار المغلوطة والمدموم والكذب على الدين والتجسيم والتشبيه أي تشبيه الله بخلقه والعياذ بالله تعالى.

ومن أشهر هذه الكتب المدسوسة الكتاب المسمى مولد العروس الذي قيل فيه إن الله قبض قبضة من نور وجهه فقال لها كوني محمداً فكانت محمداً، وفي هذه العبارة نسبة الجزئية لله تعالى وهو تبارك وتعالى منزّه عن الجزئية والاتحلال. قال تعالى: (لَمْ يَلِدْ وَلَمْ يُولَدْ) الإخلاص / 3.

فهو لا يقبل التعدد والكثرة ولا التجزء والانقسام والله منزّه عن ذلك لا يشبه شيئاً من خلقه ولا يشبهه شيء من خلقه: (ليس كمثله شيء وهو السميع البصير) الشورى / 11.

وحكم من يعتقد أن محمداً أو غيره جزء من الله أنه ليس بمسلم عند الله.

الحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ لَهُ التَّعَبُّ وَلَهُ الْفَضْلُ وَلَهُ الشَّاءُ الْحَسَنُ صَلَواتُ اللَّهِ الْبَرِّ الرَّحِيمِ وَالْمَلَائِكَةِ الْمُقَرَّبِينَ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ أَشْرَفِ الْمُرْسَلِينَ.

أما بعد عبد الله فإن الله عزَّ وجلَّ أرسل محمداً بالهدى ودين الحق ليظهره على الدين كله وكفى بالله شهيداً الذي رحمنا ببعثه محمد وأنزل على قلب حبيبته محمد: (وَلَا تَطْعُ الْكَافِرِينَ وَالْمُنَافِقِينَ وَذَعْ أَذَاهُمْ وَتَوَكَّلْ عَلَى اللَّهِ وَكُفَى بِاللَّهِ وَكِيلًا) الأحزاب / 48.

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ وَتَبَارَكْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى عَالِ سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ الْمُنَزَّلِ عَلَيْهِ: (لَقَدْ جَاءَكُمْ رَسُولٌ مِّنْ أَنْفُسِكُمْ عَزِيزٌ عَلَيْهِ مَا عَنِتُّمْ حَرِيصٌ عَلَيْكُمْ بِالْمُؤْمِنِينَ رَءُوفٌ رَّحِيمٌ) التوبة / 128.

إخوة الإيمان ها نحن في شهر ربيع الأول، الشهر الذي شيع فيه نور النبي محمد عليه الصلاة والسلام، ففي الثاني عشر من شهر ربيع الأول كان مولد خير الكائنات محمد عليه الصلاة والسلام. والاحتفالات تتوالى والخطب في مدح نبينا عليه الصلاة والسلام تتكاثر، والأناشيد والأشعار في مدح خير البرية تتعالى، تعلق بها حناجر الممشدين رغم أنوف نفاة التوسل المشبهة، رغم أنوف المجسمة مبغضى رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم، يقول الله تعالى في القرآن الكريم: (مَا كَانَ مُحَمَّدٌ أَبَا أَحَدٍ مِّن رِّجَالِكُمْ وَلَكِن رَّسُولَ اللَّهِ وَخَاتَمَ النَّبِيِّينَ) الأحزاب / 40.

هو محمد الذي جعل الله خُلُقَه القرآن، هو محمد الذي يرضى بما يرضاه القرآن ويتأدب بأدابه ويتخلق بأخلاقه ويلتزم أوامره ولا يقضب لنفسه إلا إذا ارتكبت محارم الله. هو محمد الذي بعثه الله الرحمن بالإرفاق أي رفقا بهذه الأمة لكي يتم مكارم الأخلاق، هو محمد الذي هو أشجع الناس أي أقواهم قلباً وأكثرهم جرأة لملاقاة العدو، هو محمد الذي ما سئل عن شيء قط يعني عن أي حاجة من متاع الدنيا يباح إعطاؤها فقال لا إلا إذا كان شيئاً لا يجده، هو محمد الذي كان أصدق الناس لهجة وأوفى الناس ذمة وأحسن الناس معايشرة. فآله تبارك وتعالى أعطى نبيه صلى الله عليه وسلم من محاسن الأخلاق أعلى رتبة.

نَظَرُهُ لِلْأَرْضِ مِنْهُ أَكْثَرُ إِلَى السَّمَاءِ خَافِضٌ إِذْ يَنْظُرُ كان نظره إلى الأرض أكثر من نظره إلى السماء، يعني نظره إلى الأرض حال السكوت وعدم التحدث أطول من نظره إلى السماء، أما حال التحدث يرفع طرفه إلى السماء (أي إشارة إلى أن السماء قبلة الدعاء ومهيأ للرحمات والبركات والوحي)، وكان لا يثبت بصره في وجه أحد لشدة حيائه، هو محمد الذي كان أكثر الناس تواضعاً وكان أشد الناس لأصحابه إكراماً لهم ومن ذلك أنه كان لا يمدّ رجله بين جلسائه احتراماً لهم، وكان أرحم الناس بكل مؤمن، ولا يختص برحمته من يعقل فقط بل تعم رحمته حتى من لا يعقل كالوحش والطير، حتى الهرة تأتيه فيصنعي لها الإناء (أي يميله) لتشرب (حتى يشبه عليها أن تشرب منه) وكان يفعل ذلك غير مرة بل كل هرة أنته يفعل بها ذلك، هو محمد الذي كان يمشي مع المسكين والأرملة إذا أتياه في حاجة ما.

وكان صلى الله عليه وسلم يمزج مع أصحابه مؤانسة لهم وتألّفاً لما كانوا عليه من شدة، فكان يمازجهم تخفيفاً عليهم لكنه لا يقول إلا حقاً لأنه معصوم عن الكذب.

وكان صلى الله عليه وسلم يجلس في الأكل مع العبيد الأرقاء ويتشبه بهم في الجلوس للأكل فلا يترفع عليهم ويقول: "إنما أنا عبد أأكل كما يأكل العبد وأجلس كما يجلس العبد". وقد دلّت الآية الكريمة على أخلاقه، قال الله تعالى: (وَإِنَّكَ لَعَلَى خُلُقٍ عَظِيمٍ) سورة القلم / 4. وعن عائشة رضي الله عنها قالت عندما سئلت عن خلق رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم: "فإنَّ خُلُقَ رَسُولِ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ كَانَ الْقُرْآنَ"، رواه مسلم في الصحيح.

وعن عائشة رضي الله عنها عندما سئلت عن خلق رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم قالت: "لم يكن فاحشاً ولا متفحشاً، ولا سخياً في الأسواق، ولا يجزي بالسينة السينة، ولكن يعفو ويصفح أو قالت: يعفو ويغفر"، شك أبو داود.

أما أخبار كرمه وسخائه فعديدة منها ما رواه مسلم عن أنس رضي الله عنه أنه قال: "ما سئل رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم على الإسلام شيئاً إلا أعطاه، فاتاه رجل فسأله، فأمر

وهذا الكتاب المسمى مولد العروس ليس من تأليف ابن الجوزي لأن ابن الجوزي من كبار علماء أهل السنة والجماعة عقيدته أن الله ليس جسمًا كثيفًا يجس باليد كالشجر والحجر والبشر وليس جسمًا لطيفًا لا يجس باليد حتى يضبط كالضوء والظلام والريح ولا يوصف بصفات الأجسام كالحركة والسكون.

في هذه الأيام يحتفل المسلمون بذكرى مولد سيد العالمين وخاتم الأنبياء والمرسلين سيدنا محمد صلى الله عليه وسلم الذي أتانا بشرع عظيم بين فيه الحلال والحرام، بين فيه الواجب والمندوب والمكروه والباطل والصحيح، فطوبى لمن تعلم دين الله وطبق على نفسه وعلم والديه وزوجته وأولاده وأحبابه وجيرانه ممن يسمعون النصح، أليس الله تعالى يقول: (قُلْ هَلْ يَسْتَوِي الَّذِينَ يَعْلَمُونَ وَالَّذِينَ لَا يَعْلَمُونَ) الزمر / 9.

فواظبوا على حضور مجالس علم الدين والزمو أحكام دين الله تعالى تكونوا حقيقة ممن يتبعون الرسول النبي الأمي الاتباع الصحيح الكامل، أما مجرد حفظ الأناشيد وتوزيع الحلوى والأطعمة ونشر الزينة هنا وهناك من غير أداء الواجبات واجتناب المحرمات فهذا لا يرضاه رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم إنما الذي يحبه رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم لنا أن نؤدي الواجبات ونجتنب المحرمات التي نهى الله عنها، وإظهار هذه الشعائر مجرداً عن أداء الواجبات واجتناب المحرمات لا يعني، بل لا بد من أداء الواجبات واجتناب المحرمات، فلسنا نقر الطائفة الوهابية التي تحرم على المسلمين الاحتفال بمولد النبي صلى الله عليه وسلم ومع ذلك لا نقر أولئك المطربين الذين ينشدون ويغنون الناس بأصواتهم ولا يؤدون الواجبات ويجتنبون المحرمات فاتباع النبي صلى الله عليه وسلم يكون بأداء الواجبات واجتناب المحرمات.





## Celebrating the Prophet's Birth an Innovation of Guidance

All praise is due to Allah The Exalted, and may Allah raise the rank of our beloved Prophet Muhammad peace be upon him, his kind relatives and companions, and protect his nation from that which he feared for them thereafter;

Among the great innovations of guidance is the annual celebration of the Prophet's birth (Mawlid un-Nabiyy). This event is commemorated by Muslims all over the world who join together for such rewardable deeds as reciting from the Qur'an, chanting Islamic praises, telling the story of the Prophet's birth, teaching Religious Knowledge, slaughtering animals to feed to the poor, and gathering to thank and praise Allah and ask Him to exalt the honour of Prophet Muhammad, sallallahu alayhi wa sallam.

The honorable, knowledgeable, and righteous ruler: al-Mudhaffar, the King of Irbil {1}, initiated this practice about 900 years ago, and he was praised by Muslim scholars of Islam—among them the Egyptian hafidhs: Ibn Hajar al-Asqalaniyy and Jalal ud-Din as-Suyutiyy. The famous scholar of hadith, Abul-Khattab Ibn Dihyah, wrote a book for the king especially to be read during the mawlid celebration, and there are no great Muslim scholars who dispraised this innovated celebration.

The basis for commemorating honourable events repeatedly every year is evidenced in the Sunnah of the Prophet. As related by al-Bukhariyy, when the Prophet emigrated to al-Madinah he found the Jews fasting, so he asked them why they fasted on the 10th of Muharram{2}.

They told the Prophet they do so to commemorate the day Allah saved Prophet Moses (Musa) and the Tribes of Israel (Isra'il) from the tyranny of the Pharaoh.

It was revealed to the Prophet what the Jews said was true, so Prophet Muhammad told them: "We are more deserving of Moses (Musa) than you." He said this because Prophet Moses (Musa) was Muslim. Prophet Muhammad ordered the Muslims to fast 9 and 10 Muharram, and this Sunnah is still practiced today.

To celebrate the birth of the Prophet by doing rewardable deeds— that can be done on any day of the year—is considered an innovated practice because this was not done at the time of the Prophet.

Although this innovation was praised by the Muslim scholars of Islam, some people consider any innovation an innovation of misguidance. Those who consider any innovation an innovation of misguidance have been misled, because there are two sahih hadiths which support celebrating such an event. Imam Muslim related, through the route of Jarir Ibn Abdullah, the Prophet said what means:

<<The one who innovates a good innovation in Islam has its reward and a reward similar to those who follow him in it—until the Day of Judgment—without lessening their reward. The one who innovates an innovation of misguidance would be sinful for it and has sins similar to those who follow him in it—until the Day of Judgment—without lessening their sins.>>

There are two types of innovations mentioned in this hadith: the innovations of guidance and the innovations of misguidance. What complies with the Qur'an, the Sunnah, the Ijma' (scholarly consensus), and the sayings and practices of the Companions is an innovation of guidance, and what contradicts the Qur'an, the Sunnah, the Ijma', and the sayings and actions of the Companions is an innovation of misguidance.

This definition of the two types of innovations was given by many knowledgeable and trustworthy scholars of Islam; among them Imam ash-Shafi'iyy, Imam an-Nawawiyy, al-Bayhaqiyy, and the Hafidh, Ibn Hajar al-Asqalaniyy.

It is apparent Muslims have not gone astray in celebrating the birth of the Prophet, based upon the aforementioned hadith, because the deeds practiced during this event are considered rewardable by the standards of the Religion, and in line with the definition of innovations of guidance.

Unfortunately, there are some people who misinterpret a sahih hadith related by Abu Dawud:

[Kullu bid'atin Dalaalah] Which means: <<Most innovations are innovations of misguidance.>>

Those who are misguided interpret the word (kul) as 'every' and thus claim this hadith means: "Every innovation is an innovation of misguidance."

Their claim is unfounded for two reasons. Linguistically, this hadith is similar to the hadith related by al-Bayhaqiyy:

[Kullu Aynin Zaaniyah] which clearly does not mean: "Every eye gazes the look of the adulterer;" rather, "Most people are guilty of the forbidden look." The person blind since birth would surely not have the forbidden look, and it is known the Prophets would never commit such an abject sin. The word (kul) as used in both hadiths refers to 'most,' although it can mean "every" it does not mean this in all cases.

As a matter of fact, in the explanation of Sahih Muslim, an-Nawawiyy said: "The saying of the Prophet, sallallahu alayhi wa sallam, [Kullu Aynin Zaaniyah] is among the terms which are (^Am makhsus) i.e., a general statement giving a specific meaning; which is a known field in Islam, and the meaning of the hadith is "most innovations are innovations of misguidance."

To accept the meaning: "Every innovation is an innovation of misguidance," as the meaning of the sahih hadith related by Abu Dawud would negate the sahih hadith related by Imam Muslim which specifies two types of innovations: the innovations of guidance and the innovations of misguidance. In the rules of the Religion it is not permissible to interpret two sahih hadiths in contradiction to one another, therefore we know the true meaning.

Although most innovations are innovations of misguidance, there are numerous examples of Religiously acceptable innovations. During the Caliphate of Umar Ibnul Khattab, Umar initiated the gathering of people in Ramadan to pray the Tarawih Prayer in congregation. When he saw the people performing this prayer in congregation he said: [Ni^matil Bid^atu Haathihi]

which means: "What a good innovation that is!" The high status of Umar Ibnul Khattab is known, thus it is important to point out Umar used the explicit term [Bid^ah] "innovation" in his praise. If all innovations were misguided—as some claim—Umar would not have innovated this practice, nor expressed this praise, yet both al-Bukhariyy and Muslim related this incident. During the era of the followers of the Companions of the Prophet, another praise-worthy innovation took place. Initially, letters like the ba, ta, tha, and ya, did not have dots above or below them. This practice of distinguishing between the letters by using this notation began after the time of the Prophet.

Since the time of the Prophet, many innovations have been adopted. Remembering the birth of the Prophet by doing rewardable deeds is a praise-worthy innovation. It is an honourable event and special to Muslims throughout the world. We rejoice in being members of the greatest nation of Islam—the nation of Muhammad—who was the best Prophet and the best creation of Allah. Ayah 110 of Chapter Ali Imran means:

[You are the best of nations brought forth to the people; bidding the lawful (ma'ruf) forbidding the unlawful (munkar), and believing in Allah.]

This verse means this nation is the best of nations by virtue of its Prophet," as explained by the scholars of Islam. Muslims are thankful to Allah for the blessings of Islam and for being among the followers of Muhammad.

Ayah 31 of Chapter Al Imran means: [If you love Allah, then follow the Prophet, and Allah will love you.]

It is fitting to honour the Prophet. The Mawlid (the celebration of his birth) has a great benefit: it inspires the heart to have a more profound love for the Prophet.

## Choosing Nutritious Foods

Everyday we have lots of choices about what to eat and drink. Discretionary foods are higher in saturated fat, added salt, added sugar and kilojoules. The *Australian Dietary Guidelines*, recommend that we choose widely from the Five Food Groups and limit discretionary foods that are higher in saturated fat, added salt and added sugars.

Discretionary foods have become easier, cheaper and more attractive choices than ever before. Recent surveys of Australian eating patterns tell us that we are choosing discretionary foods and drinks too often and this means we are also getting too many kilojoules and missing out on getting enough nutritious foods from the Five Food Groups.

### Where are you now?

The first step to ensuring a balanced healthy diet and to control your weight, is to take a look at how you are going now. Use the tables (the site below) to find out how many serves you need from the five food groups for your age and gender.

The 'Are you eating for health?' quiz in the Dietary Guidelines Summary book will also give you useful clues about where to direct your efforts for best effect.

### Too many discretionary foods and drink

Swap discretionary snacks for snacks from the five food groups.

Choose desserts based on fruit and low fat milk or yogurts.

Instead of takeaway or instant meals for lunch take leftovers from dinner either the night before or out of the freezer.

### How to limit foods and drinks high in saturated fat, added salt and added sugars

The Australian Dietary Guidelines recommend that we limit how much saturated fat, added salt, added sugars and alcohol we eat and drink.

Swapping discretionary foods for foods from the Five Food Groups will reduce how much saturated fat, added salt and added sugars you eat and give you more fibre. It will also help you limit your kilojoules and lose weight.

Reading labels to compare products is also a great way to limit saturated fat, added sugars, added salt and kilojoules.

It can also be useful to plan ahead for eating out.



Another strategy to limit discretionary foods and drinks and avoid extra kilojoules when you're trying to lose weight is to be selective, focus on smaller portion sizes and eat more 'mindfully'.

Most people have their favourites amongst discretionary foods and drinks. Some people have a sweet tooth and might love chocolate, others prefer savoury. Some people enjoy a glass of good wine more than anything else. This first step to reducing discretionary foods is to be selective, only have the discretionary choices you enjoy most and buy the best quality you can afford.

Secondly, think about how small a portion we could have and still enjoy it. It is the first few mouthfuls that are the best and our enjoyment starts to decline after that. So often we do not need a large portion. We still enjoy a smaller portion. Sometimes just a taste is all we need. Being able to have small tastes of more discretionary foods, more often can be better than a large serve only very occasionally.

But the key to enjoying smaller portions is to eat 'mindfully'. This means removing other distractions or waiting until they go away, focussing on just eating and using all your senses to enjoy the food. Eat slowly, thinking about how a food looks, smells, tastes and feels in our mouth.

For more information: [www.eatforhealth.gov.au](http://www.eatforhealth.gov.au)



## IF YOU WERE IN CHARGE...

Liverpool City Council is now reviewing its Community Strategic Plan, which sets Council's directions and strategies for the next ten years. We need your ideas!

Whether you live, work or play in the Liverpool area, Council wants to know what

is important to you. We are talking to residents, workers, businesses and agencies to inform the future directions of Liverpool.

Do not miss the opportunity to have your say on the future of your city.

Visit: [listens.liverpool.nsw.gov.au/ifyouwereincharge](https://listens.liverpool.nsw.gov.au/ifyouwereincharge) to take our survey and tell us what you would do if you were in charge of Liverpool.

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