

THE MOSQUE

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

MASJID AL-SABRIEEN

101 W WINDSOR STREET. READING. PENNSYLVANIA 19601

Welcome

Assalaamu 'Alaikum, Brothers and Sisters welcome to the Islamic Society of Berks County newsletter. A quarterly newsletter to connect with our Masjid. We ask Allah Ta'ala to bless our Masjid and use us all in ways that attract His Pleasure and Mercy, Ameen!

Jumu'ah Mubarak

Jumu'ah Prayer: Friday's 1:00pm
يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا إِذَا نُودِيَ لِلصَّلَاةِ مِنْ يَوْمِ الْجُمُعَةِ فَاسْعَوْا إِلَىٰ ذِكْرِ اللَّهِ وَذَرُوا الْبَيْعَ ذَلِكُمْ خَيْرٌ لَكُمْ إِنْ كُنْتُمْ تَعْلَمُونَ - 62:9

"O you who have believed, when [the adhan] is called for the prayer on the day of Jumu'ah [Friday], then proceed to the remembrance of Allah and leave trade. That is better for you, if you only knew." The Qur'an, Al- Jumu'ah 62:9

Hadith

Narrated Abu Qatada Al-Aslami: Allah's Apostle said, "If anyone of you enters a mosque, he should pray two Rakat before sitting."

'Prayers (Salat)' of Sahih Bukhari Hadith 435

Qur'an Verse

يَوْمَ تَرَىٰ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ يَسْعَىٰ نُورُهُمْ بَيْنَ أَيْدِيهِمْ وَبِأَيْمَانِهِمْ بُشْرَاكُمُ الْيَوْمَ جَنَّاتٌ تَجْرِي مِنْ تَحْتِهَا الْأَنْهَارُ خَالِدِينَ فِيهَا ذَلِكَ هُوَ الْفَوْزُ الْعَظِيمُ - 57:12

"On the Day you see the believing men and believing women, their light proceeding before them and on their right, [it will be said], "Your good tidings today are [of] gardens beneath which rivers flow, wherein you will abide eternally." That is what is the great attainment." The Qur'an, Al-Hadid 57:12

Can A Muslim Celebrate Birthdays?

Islam is a religion I have chosen, you have chosen. Have you chosen it? We've chosen it. Is it from you or from Allah? Are you happy that it's from Allah? So, if the dunya tells you something, and Allah tells you something else, which one is more important, the first or the second? What Allah has said, so even if the whole world is doing something, and we are taught that this is not suppose to be done in the deen. We should not be feeling it hard in our hearts to say "Allah, if I die today I know that I chose to be a Muslim and I chose to worship you, and I know it's your rules." You know, it's so difficult today to talk because you're talking to a secular world. And sometimes they will pick on a small point of yours, and they will make it a big issue for nothing. But not realizing that we do believe you are free to chose whether you're a Muslim or not. But the fact that you chose you're a Muslim you are not free to change Islam. That's what we are saying, you cannot come and say "No, you know what? Islam needs to be modified." Well then, tell yourself you're a modified Muslim. Someone says "Are you a muslim?" Say "No, I'm a modified Muslim." So people know but if you want to call yourself a Muslim, you've surrendered. So you need to know there are certain things that people might say and you might think "Ah, this guy is backwards, man. How could he say that." It's not from me or my pocket. My children would like to also go to birthday parties and celebrate and so on. I sit them down and I explain to them, what the candles are all about. Do you know what the candles on the birthday party are all about? In ancient Europe, the winter were so bad the people use to go into literal hibernation to keep themselves warm in whatever way they had. And when they would come out they would count the dead. Did you know that? They would count the dead, and in order to celebrate the fact that those who are alive have passed through

From Our Imam

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Announcements

For information about:

Zakat distribution

Marriage Ceremonies

Please contact us at:

Phone: (610) 507-0529

Email: information@isbcpa.org

For information about:

Funeral Services

Please contact us at:

Phone: (610) 507-0529

Email: information@isbcpa.org

Qur'an Classes

The *Islamic Society of Berks County* offers Sunday School classes to children ages 4 – 16.

Subjects covered include: Arabic, Quran, Islamic History and Islamic Fundamentals.

School Year: September – June

Timing: 10:30am – 2:30pm

Tuition: \$25 per child per month, (this covers lunches, books, and supplies)

(discounts are available for multiple children enrolled from same household)

Address: 101 W. Windsor Street, Reading, PA 19601

For more information about Sunday School:

Please contact Imam at:

Phone: (610) 507-0529

Email: information@isbcpa.org

Halal Near Me

Afghan Chicken & Gyro

44 Lancaster Ave, Reading, PA 19611

(610) 743-3436

Bar-B-Q-Delight 16 S 4th Street

Reading, PA 19601

(610) 374-1155

the winter and survived. And fought nature, which means nature came to kill us in the form of cold. And because we fought nature and we stayed alive, now we need to defy it by blowing out candles. So, they would put how many ever candles of their age and blow them out to show we can defy it. It's something that we believe is rooted in the medieval Europe and it comes with its own satanic origins and so on. But, people they say "What's wrong? I'm blowing the candles?" But, you don't realize it's like an act of worship of the pagans. People have made it a culture and a tradition. The same applies to so many other things, Valentine's and so on. People start saying "But, what's wrong? You're not allowed to show your love?" To be honest, were being fooled by believing that you need to celebrate the fact you are one year older, by throwing a big party, everyone must come. But you don't know that now you're closer to your grave. For example, there are more responsibilities on your shoulder. I'm not saying that when your age turns, that you must not make dua to Allah, may Allah grant me good age and so on. Firstly, we have a Hijri calendar. Secondly, these teachings are foreign to Islam. They are actually incorrect, invalid. If I had it my way, and you had it your way. We would be throwing parties because our kids put pressure on us, so do mine. But we have to speak to them, address them, try and explain to them and get to the origins of it. The sad reality is people take part wholesale, they'll tell you "They did it, but these people did it." That's the peer pressure, sadly we are leaving an age. A person who wants to hold fast to the deen is someone similar to he who's holding fast a red hot coal. So, you find even families which are supposedly religious, have these big birthday parties and so on. Whereas it is Islamically incorrect, Allah knows best. I've given you an introduction before I given you the answer. There are more important things we could do, than that. We could throw a party on a different occasion altogether, in order to celebrate other things. Than to do it the pagan way, I would prefer a graduation party than to have a birthday party, any day.

Islam only allows us to celebrate two festivals - Eid-UI-Fitr and Eid-UI-Adha.

Speech by: Mufti Ismail Menk

Transcribed by: Lina Karima

Original can be found: <https://youtu.be/mGFo-8G2XMs>