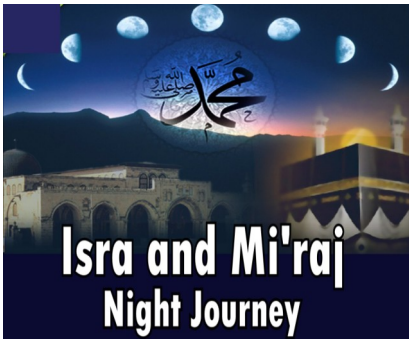
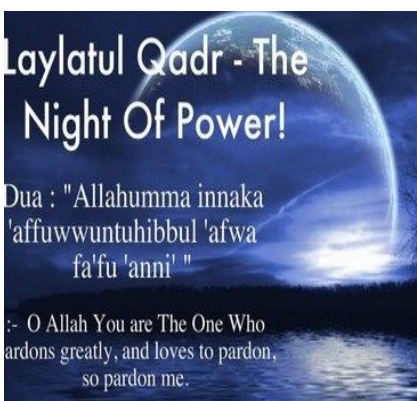


Quarterly Newsletter

Embracing the Spiritual Months: Preparing for Allah's Grace and Mercy



Whoever does something good in this month, Allah multiplies it by **70**.
- Al-Tirmidhi



اللَّهُمَّ بَارِكْ لَنَا فِي رَجَبٍ وَشَعْبَانَ وَبَلِّغْنَا رَمَضَانَ

"Allahumma baarik lana fee rajabin wa sha'bana wa ballighna ramadaan"
"Oh Allah! grant us blessings in the month of Rajab and Shabaan, and make us reach the month of Ramadhaan" (Shu'abul-Imaan & Ibnus-Sunni)

All Praise is due to Allah who has granted us another opportunity to begin our journey towards purification, forgiveness and grace. Rajab has ushered in again the period of spirituality which will end with the celebration of Eidul Fitr. A year of negligence and heedlessness, of growing egotism and pride can and will successfully come to an end if we choose to pursue this new opportunity given to us in the month of Rajab.

Rajab begins with Lailatul Raghayib: the Night of Wishes, when we can present our wishes to Allah. By presenting us with this night, we prepare for Lailatul Mi'raj, the night of elevation, of gifts, the night that opens our direct communication with Allah, and the night that promises forgiveness and salvation. It is our opportunity to reflect and make a commitment to establish regular prayer, to become conscious of our duty to Allah, and to hope to experience the elevation and spiritual upliftment of Mi'raj in our Salah. We have 18 days in which to test our commitment and discipline

Ourselves before we encounter the benefits of Nisfus Shaban– 18 days of reflection, of questioning our priorities, of objectively looking at our actions, goals, relationships and dreams of the past year.

On the 15th night of Shaban, the Night of Atonement, Allah gives us another opportunity to turn into a new leaf– to begin our Book of deeds with His forgiveness and Mercy. A night that allows us to fix what has gone wrong previously, to make amends with those we have disputed, to build bridges which we have destroyed because of anger and envy, to address our own shortcomings, to dispel the darkness of evil that lurks within us, and to beg for Allah's forgiveness. What a golden opportunity to cleanse ourselves before the beautiful month of Ramadan ! Subhanallah!

Ramadan begins with fasting, Taraweeh and the communal gathering of Iftar. A month of new commitments, new priorities, new friends. A month of regular visits to the Masjid, a month of continual recitation of the Holy Qur'an, the month of generosity and the time of giving Zakah. Lailatul Qadr, the Night of Power, the Night of Revelation gives us another opportunity to become better human beings, the night that allows us to transform. Then comes the final gift–



Human Trafficking

“Surely We have created man for a strenuous struggle... And pointed out to him two paths, but he does not attempt the steep path. And what will make you comprehend what the steep path is? It is to free the slave.”

Reports of sexual trafficking from schools, popular restaurants, and shopping malls is becoming a regular occurrence here.

Rohida Khan, U.S. Department of Homeland Security Victim Assistance Specialist graces us with her insightful presentation every year. Her spontaneity and well-researched strategies makes her a favorite among our community and our interfaith family.



Rasoolullah (SAW) said: “Very wicked are those who purchase human beings, and those who trade in human bodies.”

Inspired by these teachings, IIT has been for a number of years hosting a “Human Trafficking Awareness Night”, to educate and create awareness for this heinous crime that exists in our society today. We often look at this issue as a global or foreign problem, but the reality is it’s right at our door-

Among the many guests, we had Father Alexie Smith, Interreligious and Ecumenical Officer of Archdiocese of Los Angeles who pledged his support in any effort made by IIT to combat this vile act. Imam Ashraf Carrim thanks all members who supported us.

Mark Your Calendar

IIT will be celebrating the following Auspicious Nights and Programs in the following weeks. Please note all dates are tentative Depending on MOON SIGHTING. Please check our website for updates and weekly Announcements at the Center.

- Lailatul Miraj: Sunday 23rd April beginning at 7:45pm - CONFIRMED
- Nisfus Shaban : Thursday 11th May beginning with 3 Yaseens after Maghrib
- First Taraweeh: Thursday 26th May.
- Interfaith Iftar: Sunday 4th June 7:00 pm
- Dua-e-Jameelah: 15th Ramazaan
- Battle of Badr: 17th Ramazaan
- Hazrat Ali (RA): 21st Ramazaan
- Lailatul Qadr : 27th Ramazaan
- Eidul Fitr:

Iftar Dinners will be served at IIT. Please contact Imam Ashraf / Sister Athia at (310) 323-3786 to book your dinner. Thank you for your support.

IIT Updates

- IIT feeds the homeless every 2nd & 4th Sat of the month at LA Mission. Please join us or make a donation for this cause.
- IIT conducts Adult Quran class every Thursday evenings from 7:00-7:45pm. Please join us.
- On 10th Jan Imam was invited to the Swearing in ceremony of Mayor Robles in Carson
- On 21st Jan Imam was invited to Cathedral of Lady of Angels in Los Angeles
- On Fri 27 Jan Allama Liaqat Hussein from Pakistan delivered Khutba at IIT.
- On 7th March Athia was invited to Womens Day Forum by Hon. Consul of Senegal in Santa Monica.
- On Mar 5th & Apr 2nd IIT held the monthly Ladies Moulood from 1-3 pm.
- On 28th Mar Athia Carrim attended Faith Council meeting at DCFS office in Torrance, and the Bullying Prevention Commission at Carson City Hall.
- On 30th March IIT celebrated Lailatul Raghaid
- On 6th April IIT celebrated Life of Khaja Ghariieb Nawaz- Champion of the Poor
- On Fri. 7th April IIT held monthly Egyarwie.
- On Fri 14th April Sheikh Ali Elsayed performed Jumma Khutbah at IIT
- Lailatul Miraj; Sun 23rd April.



Imam & Father Gomez



Hunger Heroes:

“He who helps to remove the hardship of another, will have his difficulties removed by Allah in this world and the hereafter. “He is not a Muslim who goes to bed satiated while his neighbor goes hungry”

Prophet Muhammad {SAW}

IIT has began its new community project by supporting Hunger Heroes with non-perishable food drive. We contributed last Ramadan, and this year we are pairing with the Faith Council of Dept. of Children and Family Services to feed low income children who do not have food to sustain them during the weekends. Each child is given a bag of food to take home every Friday afternoon so the family has food. This year the Madressa children and families are actively participating. On Saturday, 22nd of April IIT will deliver its food to Hunger Heroes at their carnival at DCH Toyota . Special thanks to IIT Family. May Allah Bless You for your generosity. Ameen

Hunger Hero Carnival
 ONE IN EVERY FOUR CHILDREN IN THE SOUTH BAY ARE HUNGRY AT HOME. LET'S MAKE A CHANGE IN THEIR LIVES.
SATURDAY APRIL 22, 2017
 10-2PM

What: BOUNCER - FOOD - CRAFTS - GAMES - AND FAMILY FUN!!!
Where: DCH TOYOTA OF TORRANCE - 2909 PCH
Entry: ONE BAG OF NON-PERISHABLE FOOD TO FEED HUNGRY KIDS IN TORRANCE

Further call us!
 YOU CAN VOLUNTEER OR ATTEND TO SHOW YOUR SUPPORT
 CALL US FOR MORE INFO - 310-534-0400 EXT. 301

COMMENTED BY HUNGER HERO
 SPONSORED BY: DCH TOYOTA OF TORRANCE

The Holy Prophet Muhammad (SAW) said:

1. "Whoever builds a Mosque for Allah, Allah will build for him likewise in Paradise/Jannah." [Sahih al-Bukhari and Sahih Muslim].
2. "Whoever builds a Mosque for Allah - be it Large or Small - Allah will build for him a house in Paradise/Jannah." [Sunan al-Tirmidhi].
3. The building of a Mosque is a way for a person to continue to earn blessings after death. The Holy Prophet Muhammad (SAW) also said: "One of the things that continues to accrue for a believer of his good works after death is: A Mosque that he built." [Sunan Ibn Majah and Sunan al-Bayhaqi]

IIT Services

IIT offers a variety of programs, religious, educational, and social, to advance the well-being of our community. These programs include Jumah Salah/ Friday Khutbah, daily congregational prayers, Taraweeh, observance of all Big Nights, Nazira classes, **Saturday Islamic classes**, Adult Qur'an reading classes, Professional Counseling, and fortnightly Qadri Khatam and Zikr. , Funeral rites and arrangement, performance of Marriage, Darud Nariya every Thursday night after Isha prayer, Spiritual nights, and participation by invitation of the community to various events. **Professional Tajweed classes offered Tues/Wed. 4-5:30 pm.**

Community Billboard

- DO not forget to Contribute to IIT's Building Fund . Earn your Castle in Jannah & become part of the Masjid Program.
- For all your Tax contact Mohamed Jalloh at E-Tax Resolutions at (310) 502-2174
- For all Real Estate needs please contact Ameena Haseeb at 310-972-0387.
- For Individually Tailored Suits & Italian Fashion contact Jaffer 310-539-8788 at Facia Facia.

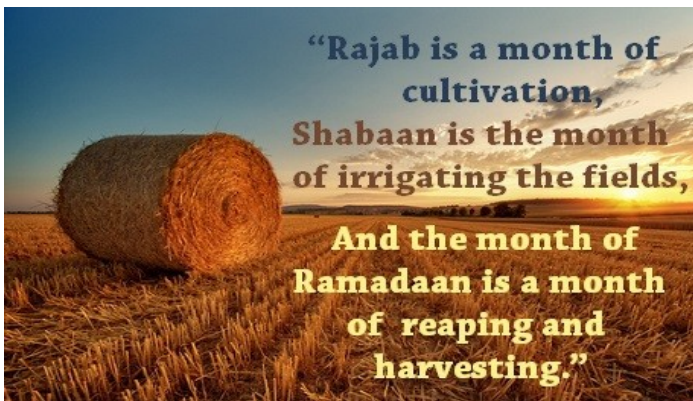
As the Holy Months approach we humbly appeal to your Generosity for the months ahead to continue our work. Thanks for ur Support



305 W Torrance Blvd. Unit G
Carson, CA 90745

Phone: (310) 323 3786

The International Institute of Tolerance was founded on the principle of Justice and Equity. Its services are religious and charitable, and grounded in the Islamic faith. One of the principle aims of the Institute is to integrate Muslim Americans into our pluralistic American society. The Institution is focused on working in harmony with other faith groups and civic organizations to enhance our collective futures. The Institute provides religious, educational, and social services to advance justice and promote compassion. Outside its religious services, the Institute's charitable intent can be found in its outreach program. This is the essence of the Islamic value system which drives the Institute's role and functions.



“O you who believe! Fasting is prescribed to you as it was prescribed to those before you, that you might guard yourselves against your passions. It was in the month of Ramadan (1st revelation of) the Quran was delivered, a Guidance for man, and a criterion (to distinguish between right and wrong). As soon as you observe the month, begin fasting.”



***It is a month whose beginning is Mercy, middle is Forgiveness, and whose end is freedom from Hell.
Holy Prophet Muhammad (SAW)***

Message from the Imam

Preparing for Ramadan

These words of inspiration from the Blessed personality of Rasulallah (SAW) gives us enough premise to prepare and welcome Ramadan. On the last day of Shaban he is reported to have said: ***A great month, a blessed month, a month containing a night better than a thousand months has approached you people. Allah appointed observance of fasting during it as an obligatory duty, and the passing of its night in prayer as a voluntary practice.***

As Ramadan approaches, we need to prepare for it—mentally, spiritually, physically and learn to manage time. Fasts will be long during the hot summer, so we must choose carefully the foods we eat and be well hydrated. Good food choices will ensure that we endure the fast and remain focused for Taraweeh prayers

at night. Set aside enough time for rest and travel to come for Taraweeh since it will end late at nights. Encourage family members and friends to join you in prayer—its extra reward and company.

Days are long, so allow your self a nap during lunch break. This will refresh you for the evening. Bad habits are quickly erased, and new habits easily formed. Begin praying Esha at the mosque so Taraweeh becomes easy. Start reading the Qur'an so it becomes easier when you fast—at least listen to it while driving to and from work. Prepare yourself for being overtly generous in Ramadan, plan for feeding others for Iftar, and look at your Zakah dues. By planning ahead you are not overwhelmed in this month. It's a great way to tackle health problems, give up bad habits, and discipline yourself. May Allah make it easy and blessed for all of us during Ramadan. Ameen