



THE BAITUSSALAM BULLETIN

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Judge yourself before you are judged.

Regardless of what people think or say about you, just remember that the only one you have to please is Allah (SWT.)



NEWS & VIEWS

Boston to fight Islamophobia with viral 'how to' transport cartoon

Now the city of Boston has followed suit, with Maeril's cartoon at the center of a new public service campaign.



A viral online illustrated guide on how to respond to Islamophobic harassment has been adopted by US cities in a bid to make commuters more confident to intervene if they witness abuse.

Marie-Shirine Yener's step-by-step guide in response to what she described as "wave of Islamophobic hatred" in France. In it, the Paris-based illustrator, who goes by the alias Maeril, suggested supporting the victim by engaging them in conversation.

"It can be anything: a movie you liked, the weather ..." she wrote. "Keep eye contact with them, and don't

acknowledge the attacker's presence: the absence of response from you two will push them to leave the area shortly." She concluded by urging her followers on Tumblr to share the how-to guide: "it could push a lot of people to overcome bystander syndrome."

The cartoon quickly went viral, garnering more than 200,000 responses and came to the attention of four San Franciscans who were seeking to make the city's Bay Area Rapid Transit (Bart) system more inclusive. With Maeril's permission, they crowd-funded a run of 40 posters and displayed them *Page 2*

Campaign to highlight Hajj message of peace

The number of pilgrims who arrived at King Abdul Aziz International Airport reached about 95,000 by early on Sunday, the 6 of August, 2017, an increase of 7.6 percent on the same period last year.



A five-stage campaign begins on this month to highlight that "Hajj is a message of peace."

It is the 10th year of the "Hajj is Worship and Civilized Behavior" campaign, launched by Prince Khaled Al-Faisal, adviser to King Salman, Prince of Makkah Region and Chairman of the Central Hajj Committee.

The five phases of the campaign are to honor Makkah, to stress the importance of welcoming pilgrims, to raise awareness of the importance of issuing Hajj permits, to warn pilgrims of possible negative

behaviors during Hajj, and finally, thank-you for Hajj employees and to pilgrims for their commitment to guidance.

The number of pilgrims who arrived at King Abdul Aziz International Airport reached about 95,000 by early on Sunday, the 6 of August, 2017, an increase of 7.6 percent on the same period last year.

The number of pilgrims remaining in Madinah until Saturday the 5th of August'17, evening reached 194,005, compared to 164,896 on the same day of the pilgrimage last year.

BAITUSSALAM UPDATES Baitussalam Welfare Trust: Eid-ul-Adha animal sacrifice for Syrian refugees

BSWT has undertaken an agreement to carry out sacrifice of goat/cow on behalf of the Syrian refugees in Pakistan.

You can also contribute towards this noble cause by giving a part of your sacrificial funds to the trust.

Baitussalam YOUTH Club: The Baitussalam Girls' Youth Club is here!

With a mission to provide a platform for young girls to achieve their potential in accordance with the Islamic Shari'ah and Sunnah, the Baitussalam Girls' Youth Club (BGYC) is the first of its kind to introduce such a fun-filled approach to preparing young Muslimas for success in both the Deen and the Duniya.

workshops on various different topics of interest, emphasizing on interaction between the instructors and the participants.

Youth Counseling Sessions

dedicated experts specialized in youth-related issues will offer their valuable advice to the youth.

Motivational Speakers

A highly trained team of motivational speakers will groom the participants of *Page 2*

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Hajj Travels Tips 

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FACTS, EVENTS & BELIEFS

PILGRIMS
The pilgrimage to Makkah (Hajj) is a once-in-a-lifetime experience for many Muslims. The responsibility for organizing this massive gathering falls on the government of Saudi Arabia. Over a period of a few weeks, intensified over a mere five days, the government hosts over 2 million people in one ancient city. This is a huge logistical undertaking, and the Saudi government has dedicated an entire government Ministry to provide for the pilgrims and ensure their safety. As of the 2013 pilgrimage season, here are some of the statistics:
1,379,500 INTERNATIONAL

800,000 LOCAL PILGRIMS
From within the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Muslims must apply for a permit to perform Hajj, which is only granted once every five years due to space

HAJJ PILGRIMAGE STATISTICS

The delivery of your monthly aid for the Syrian refugee brothers is ongoing Alhamdulillah.

The bread Plant installed by Baitussalam Welfare Trust continues to produce 3.6 million breads monthly.

You can submit your monthly donations to the following account numbers.

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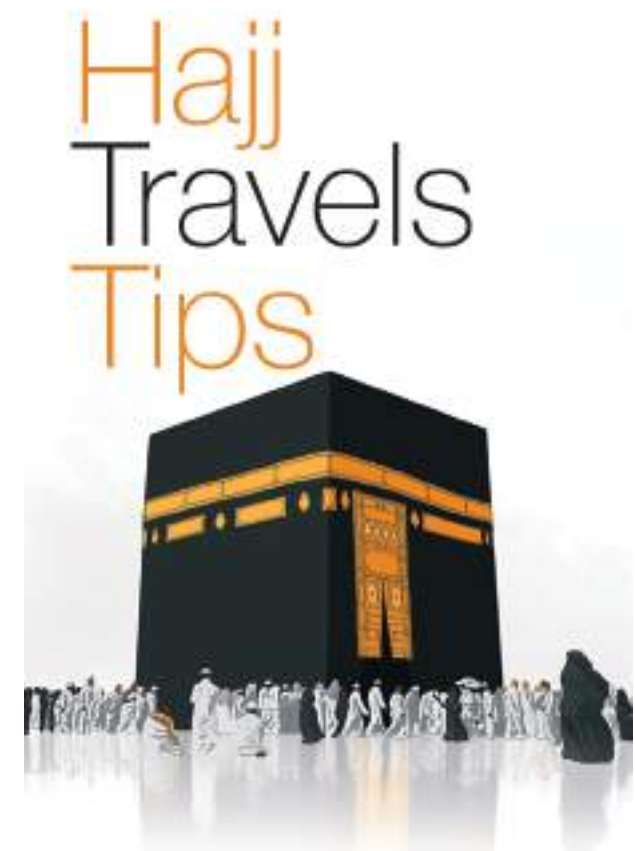
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Hajj Travels Tips

Hajj is one of the five pillars of Islam. All Muslims who fulfill certain conditions must perform Hajj at least once in their lifetime. What are these conditions? Are there any prerequisites of Hajj? The answers to these and many other similar questions can help you in making decisions, and in planning for Hajj in a better and more efficient fashion.

Who Must Perform Hajj
 Every Muslim who fulfills the following conditions must perform Hajj at least once in his lifetime:

- He must be of sound mind, and in full control of his mental faculties.
- He must be old enough, and mature enough to understand the full import, and significance of what he is setting out to do.
- He must be financially sound enough to be able not only to bear all of his expenses for Hajj but also to provide adequately for his dependents during his absence and until his return.

for forgiveness from those you may have hurt in any way in the past. This is based on specific instructions of Prophet Muhammad (SAW) and must be followed for the Hajj to be meaningful.

Preparations for Hajj
 Since Hajj is a once-in-a-lifetime experience for most people, the importance of early and adequate preparation cannot be over-emphasized. There is a considerable investment of money, time, and physical effort required for the Pilgrimage to be fulfilling and meaningful. Information has to be collected, itineraries must be worked out, and documents have to be readied. The purpose of these preparations is not only to minimize physical discomfort, emotional aggravation and monetary expenses, but also to enable you to perform Hajj in relative peace of heart and mind. Therefore, it makes sense to be as ready as possible for this momentous journey of self-discovery, self-appraisal, and spiritual enlightenment.

Prerequisites of Hajj
 Since Hajj is an act of worship, it must be performed in peace, and with single minded devotion. There are a number of simple, yet important, things you can do to get in the right frame of mind for this unique experience. All of these are self-evident and are based on common sense. They are reiterated below for completeness of the discussion and as a reminder:

Your intention must be to perform Hajj solely for the sake of Allah (SWT). Considerations of pleasing or impressing others with your show of piety should never be a factor.

All Hajj expenses must be paid out of money obtained through legitimate (Halal) means. Money obtained through illegitimate or doubtful means is not acceptable.

All of your debts and financial obligations must be fully discharged before you start your journey and, where necessary, a written acknowledgement of the transaction obtained for future use.

You must make an honest effort to resolve your outstanding differences with others and seek

Arrangements must be started early enough so that you are not rushed for time in the few days before your voyage commences. The paperwork, shopping, finalizing your travel and residential arrangements inside Saudi Arabia etc., consume a great deal of time. Three to four months ahead of your actual date of departure is a good estimate for starting your preparations. Your travel agent, or a knowledgeable friend who has performed Hajj recently, can also guide you in your preparations. Be sure to apply a "factor of safety" to their recommendations and allow yourself a somewhat greater period of preparation than they advise!

Travel Agent
 Choose a travel agent who offers a wide selection of "packages" for Hajj. There are a large number of travel agencies all over the country that offer Hajj services, and not all of their products are of equal quality and value. Choosing the right agent is of crucial importance. Hopefully, a representative of your travel agent will be your constant guide and trouble shooter during Hajj. Invest

time and effort in this essential phase of your preparation.

Talk to friends and acquaintances that may have recently used the services of various companies and ask them for recommendations. The quality of service and commitment to the comfort and well-being of the pilgrims vary significantly among travel agents. Whereas a good and responsible agent can "make" your Hajj, a bad one can just as easily "break" it.

Be sure to ask the travel agent specific questions and have him give you specific answers:

What will be the duration of your stay in Mecca and Medina? What dates? Is the program flexible or will it allow no changes once it is made? Is there any additional cost to such changes? If so, what is it?

How far away will you be staying from Haram ash Shareef, both in Mecca and in Medina? If your place of residence is not within easy walking distance (10-15 minutes), what type of transportation to and from Haram ash Shareef will be made available? How often during the day will it be available?

Will a representative of the travel agent who is fully conversant with the rites of Hajj, and Saudi rules and procedures for customs, immigration, and travel be with you at all times? Will he stay in Saudi Arabia for the duration of your visit? You do not want to be left in Saudi Arabia without adequate guidance and assistance. The laws and procedures there can be very difficult, frustrating, and time-consuming.

Will the representative of the agent be conversant with the Arabic language? If not, will an interpreter be provided in Saudi Arabia? Most Saudi authorities do not speak English, and your command of Arabic is likely to be limited.

Will you have the option of travelling within Saudi Arabia, (for example from Mecca to Medina), in a taxi hired by you at your own expense instead of the prepaid bus provided by your muallim? How about possible return by air from Medina to Jeddah on your way out of the country instead of the usual prepaid bus? Get a good idea of this additional expense.

You may want to use the above options in view of the fact that the bus journeys during Hajj season can be nerve-racking. For example, a bus journey from Mecca to Medina (approximately 400 km or 250 miles) can take as long as twenty to thirty hours, whereas a taxi will cover the same distance in three to four hours. The small additional cost you will incur is well worth the money in terms of time saved and physical discomfort avoided.

If you choose to use any of the alternate travel options (and it is highly recommend that you give them very serious consideration), be sure to redeem your unused bus coupons at Jeddah airport on your way out. Your travel agent should be able to help you in this.

What kind of arrangements will be made for your stay in Mina and Arafat? How about

the food arrangements in Mina, Arafat, and Muzdalifah?

Does the price of your package include meals? See if the agents make an effort to vary the menu. You may have to supplement your meals with milk, fruits etc. Food supplied by the agents tends to be monotonous, and the lack of variety is likely to kill your appetite after a couple of days!

Will the agent arrange for a sacrifice on your behalf on the 10th of Zul Hijjah? This is a common service agents often provide for a small fee. They will inform you of the time of the sacrifice so that you may perform other rites accordingly.

Vaccinations
 You will need certain vaccinations for the issuance of a Hajj visa. The World Health Organization (WHO) issues annual guidelines and requirements concerning vaccinations for travel to various countries including Saudi Arabia. Your physician will have the necessary information or will be able to access it readily.

Check either with your travel agent or the Saudi Arabian Embassy for additional requirements. The Saudi Government requirements are usually stricter than the WHO recommendations.

General
 You will be exerting considerable physical effort during Hajj. All Hajj rites (Tawaf, Sai, Rummy etc.) require a great deal of strength and endurance. The constant crush of hundreds of thousands of other pilgrims, each trying to perform the same rites at the same time in limited spaces and very hot weather, compounds the demands on your physical conditioning and mental toughness.

In order to be prepared for the rigors expected of you, you must be in good physical shape. To achieve this, start a program of brisk walking and jogging for twenty to thirty minutes a day about three to four months before your departure. Gradually increase this regimen to an hour every day or every other day.

Facts, Events & Beliefs

limitations. In 2013, local officials turned away over 30,000 pilgrims who tried to enter the pilgrimage areas without a permit.

188 COUNTRIES
 Pilgrims come from around the world, of all ages, with varying levels of education, material resources, and health needs. Saudi officials interact with pilgrims who speak dozens of different languages.

20,760,000 LITERS OF ZAMZAM WATER
 The mineral water from the well of Zamzam has been flowing for thousands of years, and is believed to have medicinal properties. Zamzam water is distributed by cup in the pilgrimage areas, in small (330 ml) water bottles, medium-sized (1.5 liter) water bottles, and in larger 20-liter containers for pilgrims to carry home with them.

45,000 TENTS
 Mina, located 12 kilometers outside Makkah, is known as the Hajj tent city. The tents house pilgrims for a few days of the pilgrimage; at other times of the year it lays bare and abandoned. The tents are neatly arranged in rows and grouped into areas labeled with numbers and colors according to nationality. Pilgrims each have badges with their assigned number and color to help find the way back if they get lost.

To resist fire, the tents are constructed of fiberglass coated with Teflon, and are fitted with sprinklers and fire extinguishers. The tents are air-conditioned and carpeted, with a hall of 12 bathroom stalls for every 100 pilgrims.

18,000 OFFICERS
 Civil defense and emergency personnel are visible throughout the pilgrimage sites. Their job is to direct the flow

of pilgrims, assure their safety, and assist those who are lost or in need of medical assistance.

200 AMBULANCES
 Pilgrim health needs are met at 150 permanent and seasonal health facilities throughout the holy sites, with over 5,000 hospital beds, staffed by over 22,000 doctors, paramedics, nurses, and administrative personnel. Emergency patients are immediately cared for and transported, if needed, by ambulance to one of several nearby hospitals. The Ministry of Health stores 16,000 units of blood to treat patients.

5,000 SECURITY CAMERAS
 The high-tech command center for Hajj security monitors security cameras throughout the holy sites, including 1,200 at the Grand Mosque itself.

700 KILOGRAMS OF SILK
 Silk, along with 120 kilograms of silver and gold thread, are used to make the black covering of the Ka'aba, called the Kiswa. The Kiswa is hand-made in a Makkah factory by 240 workers, at a cost of 22 million SAR (USD \$5.87 million) each year. It is replaced annually during the Hajj pilgrimage; the retired Kiswa is cut into pieces to be given as gifts to guests, dignitaries, and museums.

770,000 SHEEP AND GOATS
 At the end of Hajj, pilgrims celebrate Eid Al-Adha (the Feast of Sacrifice). Sheep, goats, and even cows and camels are slaughtered, and the meat distributed to the poor. To reduce wastage, the Islamic Development Bank organizes the slaughter for Hajj pilgrims, and packages the meat for distribution to poor Islamic nations around the world.

Boston to fight Islamophobia with viral 'how to' transport cartoon

in the advertising spaces on Bart trains. A spokeswoman for the transit system, said the project inspired the network to its own poster campaign for inclusivity, which launched in March on the theme of "the Bay Area rides together".

But not all of the response to the campaigns was positive,

Baitussalam YOUTH Club: The Baitussalam Girls' Youth Club is here!

the Baitussalam Girls' Youth Club to identify their different areas of strength and focus on increasing their potential, for success in both the Deen and the Dunya.

Competitions
 Competitions will be held between the participants and prizes awarded to the winners.

Short Courses
 Various different short courses will be available for the girls, and classes will be given via multimedia projectors, aiming to provide the participants with an in-depth understanding in specific areas of Al-Islam.

Join us in creating a fun, learning experience; aimed at succeeding both in the world and in the eyes of Allah (swt).

For more details on the Baitussalam Girls' Youth Club (BGYC), contact: 0323-2970320

Jamia Baitussalam Talagang: Olympiad September' 2017

Olympiad 2017 will be held in the month of September at Jamia Baitussalam Talagang and is being organized by the department of conventional education. Registration are open. Schools can visit the facebook page for details.

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Crossword Puzzle August'17-2

ACROSS

- Hazrat Luqman (AS) was from which African Country?
- The Surah which is also called the Umm-ul-Quran
- Arrogance

DOWN

- Eternal Life
- One of the cities of Makkah also mentioned in Quran
- Ruling orders of Quran and Surnah

Answers Puzzle August'17-1
 Down: 1-Ibrahim; 2-Shaibah; 3-Second
 Across: 4-Persians; 5-Eight; 6-Adam

Note: Answers will be published in the September 2017-1 issue of TIB

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