

Issue No.10 | November/December 2024

# EVERGREEN

THE BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF DAWOODI BOHRAS-MISSISSAUGA



## UMOOR SPOTLIGHT



*“Maula’s profound love, care and compassion can only be felt and cherished when you are part of the jamaat.”*

Sh. Oanali bhai Jivanji

READ INSIDE . . .

## AEF MISSISSAUGA’S YEAR IN A REVIEW

# CONTENTS

DECEMBER  
2024

## Amil Saheb's Desk

3

## Humans of Sauga

4

### Interview

Shaikh Oanali Bhai Jivanji

## Umoor Spotlight

6

### Umoor Talimiyah

**Professional Development:**  
Empowering Madrasah Teachers

**How Impactful is Peer Pressure**

## Current Affairs

12

**AEF Mississauga**  
A Year in Review

**Jamali Madrasah**  
Stage Program

**Toloba's**  
Golf Event

**BGI-Mississauga**  
Bowling Event

**Umoor Sehat**  
Table Tennis Tournament

## Current Affairs

**Shabab's**  
AGM

**Farewell**  
To a Revered Head Moallim

**Shitabi**  
In the Saja of Moulatena Fatema AS

## Talent SpotLight

23

**Mississauga Jamaat's**  
Rising Star

## Humor

24

**Living the Festive Life**

## Cuisine

25

**British But Better**  
Sticky Date Toffee Pudding





## From Amil Saheb's desk

قال امير المؤمنين ع

أَوْضَعُ الْعِلْمَ مَا وَقَفَ عَلَى اللِّسَانِ، وَأَرْفَعُهُ مَا ظَهَرَ عَلَى الْجَوَارِحِ وَالْأَرْكَانِ

“There is little value in [a person's] knowledge when it is limited to the tongue (to words). The most valuable knowledge is that which manifests itself in the limbs and parts of the body (in actions).”

Maulana Ali ibne Abi Talib AS.

This kalam summarizes the foundation of the Fatemi philosophy of learning. Knowledge is incomplete without its manifestation in action.

Our Hudaat Kiraam AS have always guided us to seek knowledge with the sole purpose of leading our lives in accordance with it.

When our children begin their journey of talabul ilm in madrasah they are taught these verses from the nasihat of Syedna Taher Saifuddin RA:

علم ناساڻه لازم عمل ڇهه \* ڀيوءَ سي حاصل هر ايك امل ڇهه

“Action is obligatory with knowledge; you can achieve whatever you want when both come together.”

When our children are brought up with this philosophy, they understand the true purpose of seeking knowledge that no longer remains confined to only text books and curriculums. It becomes intertwined with upbringing, a process that starts at birth and continues till death and beyond. This knowledge ultimately prepares our spirit for the eternal life hereafter.

The need to send our children to madrasah is imperative. By sending our children to madrasah we are not just facilitating them to learn namaz and the recitation of al Quran al Kareem. Madrasah provides them with the foundation of systematic learning that will enable them to become good human beings, succeed in whatever they endeavour to do in their lives, and ignite the quest to pursue that knowledge which will nurture their souls for an eternal life in Akherat.

We are blessed to have a Madrasah in Mississauga where our children not only make strong bonds that will last them for their lifetime, but are also nurtured with the Ilm of Aale Mohammed AS and love for our Maula TUS.

May Allah Ta'ala guide and protect our children, surrounding them with love and light, so they may navigate this world with wisdom, courage and compassion.



Abde Syedna TUS

Behlah Ayman

Today we are extremely proud to present the larger-than-life story of Sh. Oanali bhai Jivanji in his own words. He is one of the pioneers of the Mississauga jamaat and has played a pivotal role in the establishment of Madrasah in Mississauga. This interview is a tribute to his legendary life and his immense contribution to the community.

# SH. OANALI BHAI JIVANJI HUMANS OF SAUGA



## 1. Please tell us something about yourself.

Alhamdulillah, I express my profound gratitude to Almighty for the invaluable gift of life. I was born on September 05, 1944, in Chake, Pemba, Tanzania, and adopted at the age of 4 by my Masaji and Masiji in Mombasa, Kenya. I excelled academically, consistently ranking in the top three at Burhaniya Bohra Primary School, and grew up strong-willed, often standing up to bullies. My upbringing was deeply rooted in community service, beginning in mawaid at a young age and later through scouting in Kenya. After excelling in high school at Alidina Visram and earning scholarships, I pursued higher education in London. Despite financial struggles, I completed a Higher National Diploma in Electrical and Electronics Engineering in 1970 and became a Chartered Engineer in 1972. My career spanned designing test equipment, managing computerized typesetting systems, and working in medical imaging technology in Canada until retiring in 2015.

## 2. Can you share your journey in Canada with our readers?

After completing my studies in London, UK, I was granted permanent residency in 1973, and my life took a joyful turn when I married Hanim, my life partner. She brought happiness, prosperity, and her lively, fun-loving family, the in-laws, into my life. In 1974, we purchased our first home in Harrow, and in 1975 and 1978, we were blessed with two wonderful children, Jauhara and Mufaddal. Life was good, but by the late seventies, racism in Britain became more overt, with groups like the Skinheads and National Front openly targeting immigrants of color. Concerned for our safety, we decided to migrate to Canada, arriving in Toronto in 1982, where I was fortunate to have a prearranged job with General Electric Medical Systems. Despite the recession, I managed to settle down with support from family and friends. My job as a field service engineer was challenging, especially during harsh winters, but my strong connection to the jamaat and with Aqa Maula's dua it helped us find stability. I also found immense satisfaction in jamaat khidmat, and we began enjoying the natural beauty and outdoor adventures Canada had to offer.

## 3. Were you present during the Safar Mubarak of Syedna Mohammed Burhanuddin RA?

Since I moved to Canada in 1982, Muqaddas Maula Syedna Mohammed Burhanuddin has blessed the Mumineen of Canada three times with his momentous visits. Before I arrived, the Toronto jamaat had already purchased a 1.1-acre lot for a Masjid in Richmond Hill. During his 1986 visit, Aqa Maula laid the foundation for the Toronto Masjid, a milestone event that expedited its construction. In 1990, after Ashara Mubarak in Dar-es-salaam, Aqa Maula arrived in Canada for the Iftetah of the Masjid. As a member of the Toronto jamaat committee, I was deeply honoured to be involved in masjid khidmat from its inception to its completion in 1990, with Aqa Maula's dua and ehsaan.

During this visit, I had the privilege of utaro of Shahzada Ammar BS at my humble abode in Brampton. With Zahabia Baisaheb's guidance and encouragement, all our anxieties about managing the event eased, and our joy in this Mubarak Khidmat knew no bounds.

We also got the azeem nemat of Ziyafat at our home and, Aqa Maula arrived almost half an hour earlier than expected, causing a brief panic. However, calm was quickly restored. Upon entering the home, Maula immediately asked for a masallah to be laid for him in the living room. My son and I stood beside Maula, humbled by his presence as he engaged us in conversation.

After namaaz, Maula invited us for arzi in private, upstairs in the master bedroom. My daughter Jauhara and my wife Hanim conversed in Arabic, proudly claiming "Our Yemeni Heritage."

In 2001, during Muqaddas Maula's last visit to Canada, Shk. Naeem bhai Bhujwala and I, along with key khidmat guzaars, introduced the use of walkie-talkies to improve communication during the programs. It was the first time Toronto utilized this idea, and it worked extremely well.

Maula has bestowed countless blessings upon the Mumineen of Canada. Personally, my strong religious roots, nurtured since my childhood in Mombasa, have kept my faith unshaken. With Aqa Maula's dua, I have remained steadfast through life's adversities and stayed connected with the jamaat wherever I am.



#### 4. What significant changes have you observed in the Jamaat over the years?

Since my arrival in Canada in 1982, I have witnessed our jamaat population in the Greater Toronto Area grow from around 60 to over 1,200 families. Initially, religious activities were held in rented facilities, but the completion of the GTA Toronto Masjid in 1990 marked a turning point. As the community expanded, the need for a separate jamaat in Mississauga arose, leading to the establishment of Anjuman-e-Fakhri Mississauga with Aqa Maula's raza and dua. In 2006, we purchased a 1.6-acre plot, later acquiring adjoining plots including the 18,500 sq. ft. industrial unit which was converted into a well-equipped jamaat facility.

Under the leadership of Janab Huzefa Bhaisaheb and with significant contributions from Mulla Aziz bhai Rakla and other families and khidmat guzaars, the Mississauga Masjid became a hub for religious, social, and cultural activities. Guided by Aqa Maula's vision, our jamaat has implemented innovative ideas, such as the 12 Umoor Committees, fostering efficiency and youth engagement in Madrasah and khidmat. The recent darees by our young dynamic committee showcased the progressive and vibrant spirit of our jamaat.

#### 5. You have played an important part in running Madrasa in the past. Please elaborate.

Madrasah plays a pivotal role in the tarbiyat of our fazando, who represent the future of our community. Since arriving in Canada in 1982, I have been privileged to serve in Madrasah khidmat. Initially led by Sh. Hakimuddin bhai and Farida ben Shakir, the madrasah and the committee was formally formed after the arrival of the first Head Moallim saab Janab Sh. Juzer bhai.

Following the formation of Mississauga jamaat, the industrial unit was converted into a markaz with dedicated classrooms and facilities. As Secretary of the first Mississauga Madrasah committee, supported by donations from families, we adhered to a structured mandate set by the Education Department. Later, as Treasurer, I worked to make the Madrasah financially self-sufficient, increasing fees and enhancing provisions like nourishing lunches for fazando, with the unwavering support of the then Amil saheb and many other khidmat guzaars. Madrasah continues to thrive, ensuring the spiritual and educational growth of our children. Jazakallah to all who contribute to this noble endeavour.

# SH. OANALI BHAI JIVANJI HUMANS OF SAUGA



#### 6. How do you view the importance of staying connected to the community?

There are many important reasons for staying connected with the jamaat but the most fundamental reason is to stay connected with Aqa Maula TUS through the jamaat. Maula's profound love, care and compassion can only be felt and cherished when you are part of the jamaat. Maula's constant hidayaat, guidance and the core values instilled in us through his waaz and bayaan mubarak strengthen our imaan.

The entire nizam of Dawat is structured towards mumineen's progress, but more importantly it protects us from the vile influences of the world. Aqa Maula's teachings help us to mingle, mix and respect everyone and at the same time protect us by keeping our identities and values intact.

We need constant revision! We tend to forget. The fort that we have built around us with the help of our Maula's teachings needs constant maintenance otherwise it can weaken and deteriorate. It is important that we follow His farmans and keep praying for His healthy life ta Qayamat.

#### 7. Do you have any advice for our readers, particularly for those with younger families?

Stay connected! Integrally being connected with the jamaat brings in many advantages, Madrasah, especially for families with young children. Tarbiyat of farzando in madrasah builds a strong religious foundation. It also works in other ways where children encourage parents to come to masjid. Similarly, fosters the idea of doing *khidmat* of Aqa Maula TUS in the hearts our children.

INTERVIEWED BY:  
MUSTAFA BHAI KUBBAWALA



# UMOOR TALIMIYAH

by Dr. Hassan Ali bhai Peshawarwala

Umooor Talimiyah (UT), the educational department of the Dawoodi Bohra community is part of the 12 Umooor. It is responsible for providing education to learners of all ages to enable them to face the challenges of the current times. Umooor Talimiyah ensures that education aligns with both religious values and modern advancements.

Our vision is as per farmaan from Aqa Maula TUS:

”بيجو۔ امور تعليمية: هر گهر ما ايک تو هوئي که جرنے پورا قران حفظ هوئي ، انے سگلا ديني انے دنيوي تعليم برابر حاصل کرے ، انے هر علم ما Top پر پہنچے سگلا“



UT is responsible for Tilawat ul Quran, Tahfeez, Asbaaq, Primary Higher education, Minhat Talimiyah and Madrasa. Additionally, career counselling and skill development workshops equip mumineen to thrive in a competitive world. Scholarships and financial aid programs ensure education remains accessible to all community members.

UT has made significant contributions recently, the most significant among them are, the starting of the Tahfeez (Hifz ul Quran) program at Mississauga Masjid, the HIVAAR event (Q&A Session) with Shehzada Hussain BS DM, Dr. Kalim Khan session for parents, facilitating international students with housing and Markaz in Kitchener - Waterloo, and Madrasah Professional Development from Ontario Certified Staff.

Besides the above, UT regularly holds Aqa Maula TUS milad darees by madrasah farzando, hifz ul Quran and taleem ul Quran barnamaj, annual qunuz (Iqtebasaat) program, collection of minhat talimiyah funds, one day FMB niyaz by Madrasah farzando, outdoor camping and extracurricular activities for students, Google classroom platform for madrasah students, conducting mustafeeden Imtehaan, Raza for deeni and dunyawii taleem, and establishment of online and in-person library access to Dawat published books for reading and gaining knowledge.

Looking ahead, Umooor Talimiyah plans to expand its digital learning platforms, educational trips to maqamat muqadasa for madrasah students, and mentorship and counselling programs for high school and university students. As well as a Lisan ud Dawat barnamaj for mumineen and an establishment of early childhood centre for mumineen farzando. Through its commitment to both deen (faith) and dunya (worldly knowledge), Umooor Talimiyah continues to empower the Dawoodi Bohra community, ensuring a legacy of wisdom and progress.

# PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT: EMPOWERING MADRASAH TEACHERS

By Sarah ben Hamdani

The recent professional development session for our Madrasah teachers was a remarkable opportunity to reflect on the values that Maula TUS instills in us as mumineen and to enhance the skills needed to support our children's success in their deen. Conducted by Ontario Licensed Teachers, our Madrasah teachers explored ways to create a positive and supportive classroom environment that fosters both engagement and a love for learning deeni ilm. They were introduced to new strategies designed to encourage active learning, deepen understanding, and improve retention. Teachers also had the opportunity to engage in hands-on activities using Attalim resources, fostering collaboration and the exchange of ideas among each other.

This program beautifully showcased our teachers' dedication and commitment to their khidmat and the children they nurture. It also highlighted the vital partnership between parents and teachers. The ongoing support and involvement of parents are essential to achieving Madrasah's shared goal of fostering student success. By reinforcing classroom teachings at home, parents help create a seamless connection between home and Madrasah, empowering students to excel and thrive.

To our teachers, your unwavering commitment to our children's growth is deeply appreciated. And to our parents, your dedication to this journey is equally invaluable. Together, as partners, we are building a future rooted in knowledge, values, and community. Let's continue to work together, ensuring every child's success both in deen and duniya.



# HOW IMPACTFUL IS PEER PRESSURE?



The recent farman to ban the use of cellphones for children under the age of fifteen has left parents seemingly worried about their children's ability to manage peer pressure. They are also concerned about being confronted with questions from their children ranging from "most of my friends at school have cellphones!", "how am I going to do my schoolwork?", "how do I talk to my friends?", and to top it all, "I feel excluded".

To begin with, peer pressure creeps in earlier than we think. In fact, it starts right after children begin to observe other children. In the words of Brett Laursen, "peer pressure is the influence to behave differently, that's exerted by peers." As a teacher, I have been able to observe and interact with adolescents and pubescents. Peer pressure does not affect their choice in fads and trends. Thinking thus would be like focusing on a small scrape on your skin when you have difficulty breathing. Children face larger issues due to peer pressure, it pushes them to do things that are illegal or hazardous to their health like vaping and smoking. Cellphone usage is not promoted by peer pressure contrary to common notion.

One of the best ways to counter peer pressure is to develop a value system in our children, stronger than the intensity of external influences. Peer pressure can only impact us as much as we allow it to do so.

Along with peer pressure, parents also need to be equipped to tackle the reasonings that are often brought up by their children to advocate cellphone usage. As regards to the education system, cellphones are banned in all schools in the province of Ontario. High school students are only allowed to use them for academic purposes.



Teaching children not to feel entitled by the resources they have will also help them stay grounded and promote equity in tune with the Canadian educational policy. For instance, students can use Chromebooks instead of cellphones or if a device is not available, a student can advocate for an alternative task that might not involve technology.

It will always pay to honour the child's curiosity with adequate responses. For example, parents can talk about the ban of major social media platforms in many states in the US and in some reputed universities around the world. When something is said well, it is heard.

Enabling children to lead a life without cellphones and tablets had always been a dream for many parents and today Maula TUS has turned it into reality.

By Mustafa bhai Kubbawala





# LIVA™

## Date Sugar + Date Syrup

Natural, Organic Sugar and Syrup  
made from 100% pure dates.  
Nothing else.

Available at these fine stores



...and online



amazon.ca



# Jones Autos

JONES AUTOS | 1310 DUNDAS ST EAST, MISSISSAUGA, UNIT 16B  
647-(294)-5596

USED CAR SALES

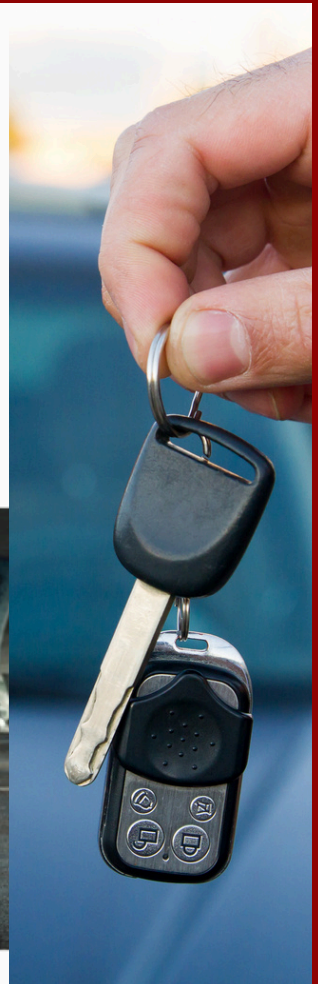
AUTO REPAIRS

TIRES

COLLISION REPAIRS & BODY SHOP

DETAILING SERVICES

INSURANCE CAR RENTALS





# Anjuman-e-Fakhri Mississauga *A Year in Review*

*M. Mohsin bhai Yamani*

On Saturday, November 30th, 2024, Anjuman-e-Fakhri Mississauga proudly hosted its inaugural "Year in Review" presentation, marking a momentous milestone for the Mississauga Dawoodi Bohra community. The event, along with a Shukur ni Darees, was an opportunity for the trustees to reflect on the past year, celebrate achievements, and share future aspirations with the community.

With approximately 650 households and over 2,100 Mumineen, our growing jamaat came together for this event where we saw enthusiastic participation, glowing feedback, and a surge of interest in volunteering for future initiatives.

## **Celebrating a Year of Growth and Service**

The presentation opened with heartfelt remarks from Janab Amil Saheb followed by the trustees who expressed gratitude for the community's unwavering support and trust including the guidance from the previous trustees to the new team during their first year of khidmat. The event highlighted the jamaat's mission to foster a spiritually enriching environment and provide meaningful support to the community.

### **Key achievements from the year included:**

- **Religious Gatherings:** Events such as Muharram majalis, weekly Jumoa ni raat matam majlis, and Imam Hussain AS commemorations served as spiritual anchors for the congregation. These gatherings were a nemal vasila for Aqa Maula TUS tashreef avri.
- **Community Programs:** Initiatives like Quran classes, youth mentorship through TNC events, and health & awareness campaigns educated and strengthened community bonds.
- **Charity & Outreach:** Huzurala's TUS historic gift to Food Banks Mississauga will provide 250,000 meals over five years, showcasing a commitment to addressing food insecurity in the broader community.

## **Financial Transparency and Volunteer Contributions**

The trustees presented a transparent financial overview, highlighting a 49% increase in monthly sabeel EFT contributions. While donations reached a substantial level in 2024, significant expenses such as HVAC system upgrades and structural repairs underscored the challenges of maintaining the masjid. Volunteer efforts and prudent financial management ensured that these projects were completed efficiently, including recouping HVAC upgrade costs within a year.



# Anjuman-e-Fakhri Mississauga

## A Year in Review

### Investing in Community Well-Being

The jamaat made strides in enhancing community welfare with projects like:

- Establishing the Kitchener-Waterloo markaz and housing for mumineen students, allowing them to stay close to the deen while pursuing higher education.
- Supporting entrepreneurial growth through Souq al Sabt and a Shark Tank-style initiative, which nurtured new and expanding businesses.
- Social and sports events, including cycling and table tennis competitions, fostering camaraderie among members.
- Technological enhancements, such as the new raza application system, improving transparency and efficiency.

### Challenges Faced and Lessons Learned

Challenges such as aging infrastructure, space constraints, and rising operational costs were met with innovative solutions, including preventative maintenance programs and exploring new revenue streams. These efforts laid the foundation for continued growth and sustainability.

### Looking Ahead

The trustees shared an ambitious vision for the future:

- Short-term goals include creating a reserve fund, supporting new businesses, and implementing more educational campaigns.
- Long-term plans focus on building a new madrasah and FMB kitchen, as well as establishing a sports and community center to cater to future generations.

### A Heartfelt Thanks

The trustees extended their deepest gratitude to the mumineen, donors, and volunteers for their unwavering support. "Together, we continue to uplift the spiritual and temporal lives of our members," they shared, ending with a prayer for continued blessings and unity.

The "Year in Review" was not just a reflection on the past but a celebration of the journey ahead. Anjuman-e-Fakhri Mississauga remains steadfast in its commitment to faith, service, and compassion.

For more information about Anjuman-e-Fakhri Mississauga's initiatives or to get involved, please visit the jamaat office on any Saturday between 10am and 3pm.





By Dr. Hassanali bhai Peshawarwala

Aqa Maula TUS 81st Milad celebrations by the Jamali Madrasah Mississauga Farzando were presented through a stage program on selected amthaals (امثال) from this year's 1446H Ashara Mubarak waaz. The central theme of the program was based on the concept of the honeybee. Farzando from Atfaal Sagheer to Ashera participated in the stage program.

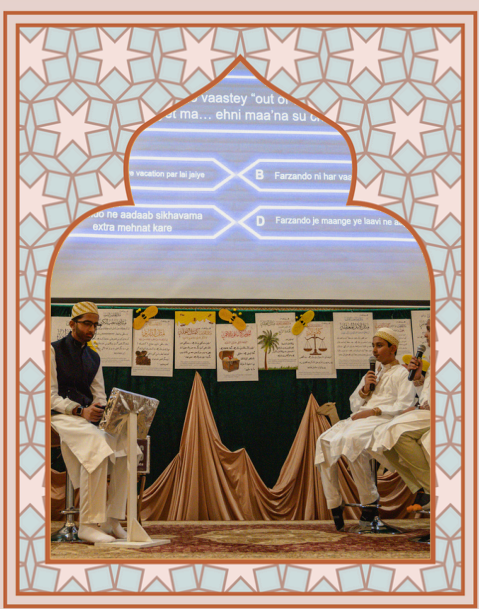
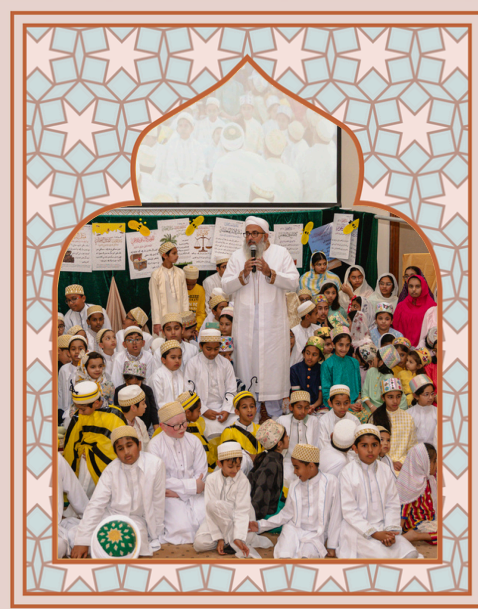
Farzando passionately portrayed the meanings and message of these amthaals through skits, embodying the values of sacrifice, unity, and gratitude. Through eloquent recitations and creative skits, they brought these teachings to life, bridging the wisdom of the past with the aspirations of the present. The program ended with zikar of Imam Hussain AS.

Below are a few of the amthaal based on which Farzando performed their skits:

- The example of the obligatory namaz is like a scale; whoever fulfills it completely will be rewarded fully
- A mumin in his faith is like a horse hitched to a post; it will always return to its post
- A mumin is like a honeybee; that which it consumes is pure and that which it produces is also pure
- A mumin is like a virtuous companion to a merchant of musk in Dari, even if he doesn't offer you his perfume, his fragrance will remain with you.
- My ummat is akin to rain, it is indeterminable if the first drops are better or the last
- The companion of the Quran (one who commits the Quran to memory), is akin to the keeper of a tied camel; if he continues to keep it secure, it will remain in his possession. If he unfastens it, the camel will bolt away.







The stage program was an enormous success and farzando were praised by everyone in the audience. The program's success was a result of guidance from Head Moallim Janab Sh Mustafa Bhai, support from Madrasah teachers and committee, and above all, support from parents. May Allah Ta'ala grant Syedna Mufaddal Saifuddin TUS a long life in pristine health till the Day of Qiyamat.

Ameen.



# TOLOBA'S GOLF EVENT



Toloba Mississauga recently organized an engaging golfing event at Golf On, a golf simulator venue, extending invitations to all Toloba members and community members from Mississauga. The event offered participants a chance to bond, compete, and enjoy the game in a modern indoor setting.



A big congratulations to Seifuddin bhai Esmailjee, who won the trophy for the farthest shot with an impressive 232 yards! 🏆👏 Shoutout to the 2nd and 3rd place winners, Anwar bhai Bawangaonwala and Shk. Oanali bhai Jivanji, who also showcased outstanding skills, making the event a memorable experience for all.



With great enthusiasm, camaraderie, and a touch of rivalry, the event was a resounding success. Toloba Mississauga looks forward to organizing more events that bring the community closer.



**MOIZ BHAI KHARODAWALA**



# BGI MISSISSAUGA BOWLING EVENT - A STRIKING SUCCESS!



The bowling event organized by BGI Mississauga on a pleasant Sunday morning was a fantastic success, bringing members of the Mississauga jamaat together for a fun filled few hours of laughter, bonding, and friendly competition. Participants of all ages hit the lanes, showcasing their skills and cheering each other on.

Many attendees expressed their joy at reconnecting with familiar faces and making new friends in a relaxed setting.

Thank you to everyone who joined us and contributed to the vibrant community spirit. We look forward to more events that foster such meaningful connections!

**ALIASGAR BHAI LAKDAWALA**



# TABLE TENNIS TOURNAMENT

The 2nd Annual Doubles Table Tennis Tournament was held on October 27, 2024, hosted by Umoo Sehat Mississauga. This exciting event brought together participants from across our community for a day filled with competition, camaraderie, and the spirit of sportsmanship.

This year, we had participation from both men and women for the tournament. Each game demonstrated incredible skill, strategy, and teamwork. Congratulations to the winners of the men's tournament, Ali Hussain and Arif Hussain, who showcased remarkable coordination and resilience in their matches. Their hard-fought victory was truly well-deserved. In the ladies' tournament, Zahra Mustafa and Alefiyah Petiwala emerged as champions, displaying impressive technique and teamwork throughout the day.

Fans participated, supported, and cheered on their teams, making this event memorable. "We are proud of the community spirit and enthusiasm that filled the venue and are already looking forward to more fantastic tournaments in the future. Let's keep this momentum going as we continue to promote health, wellness, and active living together."

Dr. Juzar bhai Jafferji  
Umoo Sehat Mississauga



# SHABAB AGM - FUN REDEFINED

-MOHAMMED DIVASALI

Being a part of the organizing team for the **2024 Annual General Meeting (AGM) of Shabab Mississauga** was a truly remarkable experience, showcasing the strength and spirit of the SEZ members. The event, attended by over 40 members and invitees, was a celebration of the hard work and achievements of our members throughout the year.



The evening began with addresses and words of inspiration by Janab Amil Saheb and our umoor head, followed by Member Appreciation Awards, a heartfelt recognition of individuals who had gone above and beyond in supporting Shabab's mission. This was followed by the highly anticipated People's Choice Award, where members voted for their peers who had made a significant impact in the community. It was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the dedication and passion of our members.

Our officers took to the stage next, sharing insightful reports about the successes of the past year and outlining exciting initiatives for the year ahead. The upcoming projects promise to continue building on our community's success, with a focus on strengthening bonds, expanding our outreach, and ensuring a positive impact within the Mississauga area.

To add a fun and engaging element, we incorporated team-building games that encouraged interaction and collaboration among members. Laughter and friendly competition filled the air as everyone participated in light-hearted challenges that fostered teamwork and unity.



The highlight of the evening was the much-loved treasure hunt, where members worked together in teams to decode clues and uncover hidden treasures. The treasure hunt was an exciting way to build camaraderie and add an element of adventure to the event. No AGM is complete without great food, and this year's spread was nothing short of spectacular. The mouthwatering biryani and sizzling grills were a hit, leaving everyone satisfied and eager for more.

Looking ahead, we're excited to take the AGM to new heights next year. With more engaging activities, innovative initiatives, and even more delicious food, we're confident that the coming year will be even more successful than the last.

# FAREWELL TO A REVERED HEAD MOALLIM

By Rashida Ben Gandhi



Farzando with tears in their eyes, teachers making heartfelt speeches and an air of gratitude - it was a sight to behold on Saturday, November 30th when Jamali Madrasah Mississauga gathered during tilawat-ud-dua to bid adieu to the beloved Janab Head Moallim Shk. Mustafa bhai Talib and his wife, Zainab Ben Talib.

Over the 4 years of his leadership, Janab Head Moallim has made an impact on many lives not just farzando and teachers, but also other sanstha and umoor heads. “Janab and Zainab ben's amiable personalities were their most endearing traits. In four years, they had immersed themselves and built a bond with our jamaat and became a part of our family,” said Arwa Behn Rasheed.

As a head moallim, Janab Shk. Mustafa Talib was known to be very personable, approachable and empathetic. One teacher, Mulla Hatim bhai Sidhpuri, commented, “Three words sum up Janab saab’s interaction with us: respect, recognition and maintaining our dignity. That’s why we never felt we were under an authoritative administration, rather we felt like we had a great mentor all these years.”





# FAREWELL TO A REVERED HEAD MOALLIM



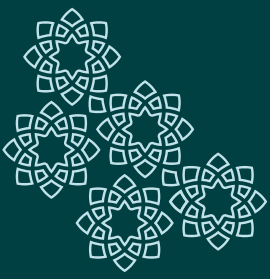
Dr. Hassanali bhai Peshawarwala also agreed on Janab's strong quality being his approachability. "Janab's ability to listen actively and lead with empathy was a key quality that made him a strong, effective leader in our Madrasah community." Janab Saab's motto as a head moallim was to put the children first. His co-leader, Janab Shk. Abizer bhai Unwala emphasized this one key quality about Janab Saab: "He is a very student-centric head moallim. I have seen myself that at times he would sit with the younger kids from Atfaal and Ibtedayah during lunch time to learn more about them."

What's more, Janab would always come forward to help any mumineen who needed help regardless of whether or not they were a part of madrasa. A teacher of Jamali Madrasah, Mulla Hussein bhai Karimjee, praised that he learned to be a better khidmatguzar from Janab. "I learned from Janab how to always help mumineen. There was not a time that a mumineen called him and he did not pick up and finish their work."

Anjuman-e-Fakhri jamaat and Jamali Madrasah is blessed to have had a caring, kind, gentle and loving Janab like Janab Shk. Mustafa bhai Talib. Anjuman-e-Fakhri jamaat and its mumineen wishes Janab much health and a lengthy life to continue doing impeccable khidmat as per Moula's TUS farmaan.







# IN THE SAYA OF

Maulatena Fatema AS's Shitabi



As the blessed month of Maulatena Fatema AS embraced us, it brought with it a downpour of barakaat and sweet anticipation. The air buzzed with excitement, especially amongst the ladies, as it marked the arrival of shitabis—that were cherished with the soulful kalaam of Maulatena Fatema (AS), sweet gol rotis, and sweet conversations.

The November 3rd shitabi, jointly hosted by SWA and BWA, stood out as a celebration of unity, with committee members gracefully adorned in elegant blue ridas. But it wasn't just the attire that captivated; the program, themed around the seven planets, took the audience on a celestial journey. Each speaker unraveled the wonders of the planets and their influence on humankind, starting from their role in shaping a child in the mother's womb. The presentation was both enlightening and engaging, with interactive kahoots ensuring everyone stayed hooked.

This unique blend of knowledge and spirituality left attendees in awe, introducing concepts many had never encountered before. The evening wrapped up on a high note with a sumptuous meal that delighted every palate. The shitabi wasn't just an event—it was an experience that left a lasting imprint of joy, unity, and newfound wisdom.



By: Fatema ben Khokhar



# MISSISSAUGA'S YOUNGSTERS SHINE BRIGHT IN

# NOVEMBER'S SHITABI

By: Fatema ben Khokhar



On November 23rd, the young ladies of BEZ and TKM proved that the apple doesn't fall far from the tree, hosting a vibrant shitabi that combined creativity, coordination, and camaraderie. Dressed in perfectly matched purple and pink ridas, they radiated teamwork and style.

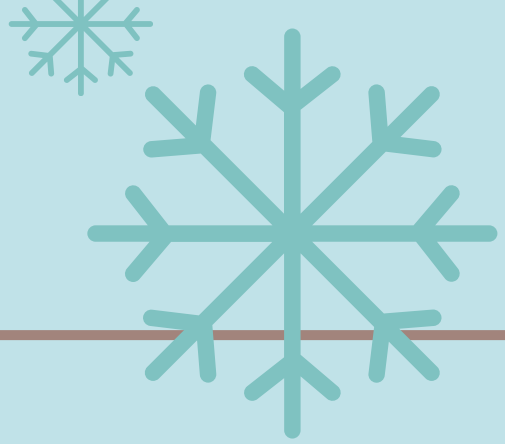
The highlight of the evening was the Al Qurano Noorun program, in which SWA, BWA, BEZ, and TKM were assigned relatable life topics based on their stage in life— leading a life according to our Maula's khushi, mastering parenting, fostering healthy marital relationships, and lending a helping hand to others. Each group brought their A-game, presenting their topics through hilarious skits, practical props, and bursts of creativity. While BWA ultimately snagged the trophy, the competition was neck and neck, with all groups leaving the audience thoroughly entertained and inspired.

The cherry on top? A delicious dinner featuring Mexican rice and soup that had everyone asking for seconds.

Here's to the young ladies for hosting a night filled with barakaat and learning. And may Allah Ta'ala grant our beloved Aqa Maula TUS a long, healthy life till the day of Judgement—Ameen!



# MISSISSAUGA JAMAAT RISING STARS



## MEHLAM HUSEIN SHAMSHUDIN

*10 years old  
Goes to Newton's Grove School*

### **Family**

Husein Shamshudin - Father  
Rashida Shamshudin - Mother  
Batul Shamshudin - Sister

### **Favorite Food**

Masjid's Butter Chicken

### **Favorite Vacation Destination**

The Caribbean

### **Favorite Sport**

Soccer

### **Favorite Athlete**

Jude Bellingham

### **Athletic accomplishments**

*Top goalscorer for Etobicoke FC Boys U10 soccer team in summer 2024  
PSAA U12 Soccer Championship winners & Tournament MVP with his  
school in September 2024  
School Soccer MVP for 2022/2023 season*

*School Knight in Shining Armour Award for Floor Hockey for 2022/2023  
Intramural Soccer Team Champions at school in 2021/2022*

### **Academic accomplishments**

*Straight A student for many years*

*Finished 1st in Ontario in Nov 2023 Caribou math contest*

*Certificate of Distinction in the Beaver Computing Contest*

### **Future Goals**

*"To become a professional soccer player. If that doesn't work out, then  
something in the medical field, like a dentist."*



# Living the Festive Life

It's that magical time of year here in Canada. You know, the air is crisp, the lights are twinkling, and every third person is asking me, "Hey, what are you doing for... you know?" And I'm over here, toggling between, "Oh, just keeping it low-key," and the slightly more honest, "Well, I don't really celebrate it." which is inevitably followed up with more questions than a toddler with a new box of crayons.

Don't get me wrong—I love the festive season. It's like being a grandparent to someone else's holiday. I get to enjoy all the shiny, twinkly bits while skipping the stressful parts, like shopping for gifts or hosting a dinner that inevitably ends with someone passive-aggressively critiquing the gravy.

And speaking of gravy, Donald Trump became president and decided he might just annex Canada? My cousin joked that he'd do it to take over our maple syrup industry, saying, "Make pancakes great again!" Naturally, this will become our dinner-table discussion. Maybe we will label the food at the next family gathering; the chicken is "seasoned with freedom" or get T-shirts with DJT's face on saying "just here for the healthcare."

In most big Desi families, the season is about togetherness, not theology. It's one of the rare times we all sync up, unlike Eid, where someone's rushing off to work before you've even finished the Eid ka nashta. And let me tell you, our holiday spread is the stuff of cinematic dreams: Our stuffing comes in samosas, Biryani in lieu of brussel sprouts and gulab jamuns much more enticing than stale hard cookies left on Santa's sad little platter.

Meanwhile, my kids are thrilled. They love the festive cheer, the cheesy films, and the fact that as parents, we are too distracted by snacks to enforce chores. They know their own holidays are coming, complete with fasting and 500 samosas to fry. Until then, we feast and joke, living vicariously through someone else's holiday—Trump-free, for now.

By Hunaid Bhai Vahanvati



# BRITISH

**BUT  
BETTER**

BY TASNEEM BEN RAKLA-ANASWALA

**STICKY. DATE. TOFFEE. PUDDING.**

**ALL OF THESE WORDS ARE A YES FOR ME WHEN IT COMES TO A SWEET TREAT. BUT ONE THING YOU MAY HAVE ALREADY NOTICED – I WILL ALWAYS BE IN SEARCH OF A WAY TO JUSTIFY A TREAT BY MAKING IT EVEN JUST A BIT HEALTHIER IN SOME WAY. AND MY FAVOURITE WAY IS DATES!**

**ASIDE FROM THEIR TREMENDOUS NUTRITIONAL PROFILE AND THE ENDLESS HEALTH BENEFITS, AS MUMENEEN, DATES ARE A PART OF OUR CULTURE, AND THE PROPHET MOHAMMED (SAW) IDENTIFIED THEM AS A SUPERIOR FOOD. DID YOU KNOW THAT THE DATE PALM TREE IS ALSO MENTIONED IN THE HOLY QURAN 22 TIMES? WHILE WE CONSUME DATES DAILY DURING SHERULLAH, THEY SHOULD REALLY BE A PART OF OUR DIETS ALL YEAR LONG.**

**NOW BACK TO THIS STICKY TOFFEE DATE PUDDING. I PERSONALLY LOVE VISITING THE UK TO VISIT FAMILY, AND TEA TIME IS ALWAYS MY FAVOURITE AS THE CAKES AND BISCUITS THERE ARE TRULY SUPERIOR. I KNOW, I KNOW - WHY AM I DOING CHAM-CHA-GIRI TO THE BRITS??? I'M NOT, BUT... I WILL GIVE CREDIT WHERE ITS DUE!**

**WHILE DENTAL HYGIENE IS QUESTIONABLE, THE BRITS KNOW THEIR SWEETS, AND A STICKY TOFFEE PUDDING IS DEFINITELY IN MY TOP 3! IT'S WARM, SWEET, AND JUST SUCH A DECADENT FLAVOUR. BEST EATEN WARM WITH SOME THICK DOUBLE CREAM (WHICH BY THE WAY IS ANOTHER WIN FOR THE BRITS BECAUSE – ALL THE CREAM!) NEVERTHELESS – IT IS NOT HEALTHY OR NUTRITIOUS FROM ANY ANGLE, AND I WOULD LIKE TO JUSTIFY HAVING IT MORE THAN ONCE A YEAR AND NOT HAVING TO FLY ACROSS THE OCEAN FOR IT!**

**ENTER STICKY TOFFEE DATE PUDDING, SWEETENED WITH DATE SYRUP AND DATE POWDER, GIVING THAT BEAUTIFUL TREACLE FLAVOUR THAT THE TRADITIONAL STICKY TOFFEE PUDDING IS KNOWN FOR. IT'S SO SIMPLE TO MAKE, DELICIOUS TO SHARE, AND USES DATE PRODUCTS FROM A COMPANY FOUNDED BY MY SISTER. AM I BIASED? YES, OF COURSE. BUT AM I LYING WHEN I SAY THIS IS DELICIOUS AND YOU NEED TO MAKE IT RIGHT NOW? NO!**

# STICKY DATE TOFFEE PUDDING

**\*This recipe makes 6 mini cakes using a muffin pan.**

## INGREDIENTS:

### FOR THE MINI CAKES:

- 1/2 CUP ALL-PURPOSE FLOUR
- 1/4 CUP DATE POWDER
- 1/2 TEASPOON BAKING POWDER
- 1/4 TEASPOON BAKING SODA
- 1/4 TEASPOON SALT
- 1/4 CUP UNSALTED BUTTER, SOFTENED
- 1/4 CUP DATE SYRUP
- 1/4 CUP MILK (ANY KIND YOU PREFER)
- 1 LARGE EGG
- 1/2 TEASPOON VANILLA ESSENCE / FLAVOUR

### FOR THE TOFFEE SAUCE:

- 1/4 CUP DATE SYRUP
- 2 TABLESPOONS HEAVY CREAM (OR COCONUT CREAM)
- 1 TABLESPOON UNSALTED BUTTER
- 1/2 TEASPOON VANILLA POWDER
- PINCH OF SALT



### 1. Preheat the oven to 350°F (175°C).

Grease a muffin pan and set aside.

### 2. Prepare the batter:

- In a medium bowl, whisk together the flour, date powder, baking powder, baking soda, and salt.
- In a separate large bowl, cream the softened butter and date syrup until light and fluffy (about 2 minutes).
- Beat in the egg and vanilla essence / flavour.
- Gradually add the dry ingredients to the wet ingredients, alternating with the milk. Mix until just combined.

### 3. Fill the muffin pan:

- Divide the batter evenly among the 6 muffin cups. Each cup should be about 3/4 full.
- Bake for 15-18 minutes or until a toothpick inserted into the center of a cake comes out clean. Let the cakes cool for about 5 minutes before removing them from the pan.

### 4. Make the toffee sauce:

- In a small saucepan, combine the date syrup, heavy cream, butter, vanilla essence / flavour, and a pinch of salt.
- Heat over medium heat, stirring constantly, until the sauce thickens slightly and the butter is fully melted (about 4-5 minutes).

### 5. Serve:

- Once the cakes are out of the muffin pan, place them on a serving plate.
- Drizzle the warm toffee sauce over each mini cake.

Note: If you have double cream...you know what to do.





EVERGREEN  
CONNECTING  
HEARTS

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2024

Issue 10



Your feedback is valuable for us. Please scan to give us your feedback.

<https://forms.gle/X1MMEANUP8d1ibTXA>

 evergreen.mississauga



**OPTION ONE - \$53**

Logo / Brand Image / Brand  
Slogan

**OPTION TWO - \$153**

Half page advertisement  
7.5" by 5"

**OPTION THREE - \$253**

Full page advertisement  
7.5" by 9"

Published By: AEF-Mississauga

Ismail Bhai Raja  
*Graphics Designer*

Zahra Ben Taha Ali  
*Creative Director*

Tasneem Ben Rakla-Anaswala  
*Linguist*

Taher Bhai Khetty, Habiba Ben Salem, Fatema Ben Khokhar, Moiz bhai Gittham  
*Graphics*

Mustafa Bhai Kubbawala  
*Editor*

**ISSUE 10**



NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2024