

**Sim** SOCIÉTÉ  
ISLAMIQUE  
DE MAURICE  
NEWSLETTER MAY 2023



# AMIR MESSAGE

Asalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakaatu

Dear brothers and sisters

It's my pleasure once again to present to you all this new edition of SIM Newsletter. Ramadan has been a busy time for us at SIM, with various activities organised to meet specific objectives. We ask Allah Almighty to accept our effort.

I wish to refresh/inform you all about SIM path as a movement and its aspirations:

1. A religious movement to uphold and imbibe the society with Islamic principles.
2. An educational society to provide the necessary tools to meet today's challenges, be it leadership, parental etc.
3. A social organization encompassing territories which is aware of the evils of the society and stands against them while suggesting remedies and reforms.
4. A youth organization which provides a platform for kids to thrive till adulthood.

In order to achieve the above, the key word after sincerity is commitment. Without commitment, we will not go far. Thus, I appeal to all of you, firstly, for those who haven't yet joined us, to contact us and join us to help us accomplish our vision. In helping us, you are actually helping yourself by building your dunya&akhirah. Secondly, to all those who are already with us, please shrug the shackles of laziness and ignite the internal drive in you to commit yourself fully and unconditionally since we really need these rare pearls who are motivated and carry on with the tasks tirelessly. If you want SIM to move to the next level, impacting on the society as a movement, your continual support is sine qua non.

We are reaching eid ul adha very soon, and it reminds us of the sacrifices we have to make. Therefore, let's move away from our usual comfort zone to sacrifice for Allah's sake, giving away our time, our expertise, our wealth, our presence, our undefective support for SIM to move ahead at all levels.

Please visit our website on [www.simoi.org](http://www.simoi.org) for more details on SIM.

Jazakumullah khairan.

# YOUNG MUSLIMAH ASSOCIATION

It is clear that Ramadan is the time and opportunity for us to develop and strengthen our spirituality. It is with this goal in mind that YMA organised its "Ramadhan Spiritual Night" program during this Ramadhan on 8th-9th of April. The program comprised of a stay over in Masjid Ghulam Jilani Soobiah (Masjid Redit) from Asr till Fajr of the following day, with over 30 participants from across the Island. It was an opportunity for sisters to spend the night in worship in the house of Allah as well as share meals with each other all the while strengthening the bonds between them. A talk on "How to make the most out of the last 10 days of Ramadhan" as well as a Seerah session was also held with view to help us maximize our efforts and reap the many blessings of Ramadhan and take lessons from the life of the Prophet ﷺ.

Albeit short, the program proved to be greatly beneficial for our Muslim sisters who have heartily appreciated and expressed their keen interest to participate in future activities organised by YMA.





# WOMEN ISLAMIC MOVEMENT (WIM)

Under the approval of the Rose-Hill Soonnee Mosque committee, WIM organized 3 talks at the Rose-Hill Women Centre during Ramadan 2023. The talks were held every Wednesdays from 10.30 to 11.30am

Sr. Yasmin Jeetoo talked on importance of Swalaat, and good manners

Sr. Yasmin Diljore's talk was "Always be grateful for Allah's blessings.

And finally Sr. Amreena Khan talked on the role of Women in Islam, Right and Responsibilities.

There were around 15 women attending.

May Allah (swt) bless all women who made great effort to make this event a success

To celebrate Eid, WIM organized it's WIM Eid lunch on the 6th May 2023 at Ory View. There were 13 women present. The event started with a Quran Recitation by our little Sister Huda Ozeer. After the Qiraat, we played some games followed by a nice Lunch ordered at Tender Grill. Finally as usual we had a gift exchange among Sisters. May Allah bless our Sisterhood



# QURANIC ARABIC (QA)

There's a beginning for everything – this year, the QA Team initiated Eid celebrations with the students on the 29th and 30th of April for batches on Saturday and Sunday, respectively. It was a small get-together of around 30 minutes for the 10 classes around the island. The 2 levels in both Port Louis and Belle Rose were able to merge for a bigger gathering in their respective regions. Participants from Students Study Circles (those who have completed Level 2 but still come together to deepen their knowledge of Quran) as well as support teachers joined us for this special occasion. We were honoured by starting the event with a guest from SIM gifting all students and teachers with a set of books. After a short motivational speech from the guest, we sat together getting further acquainted with our classmates, building connections all while enjoying the various recipes from the bring and share and the drinks offered by SIM.

May Allah accept this small gathering of ours with the Quran as the centre of attraction, and may He strengthen our brotherhood. On a different note, the QA Team hopes that SIM will have gifts for us for other Eids to come insha Allah.

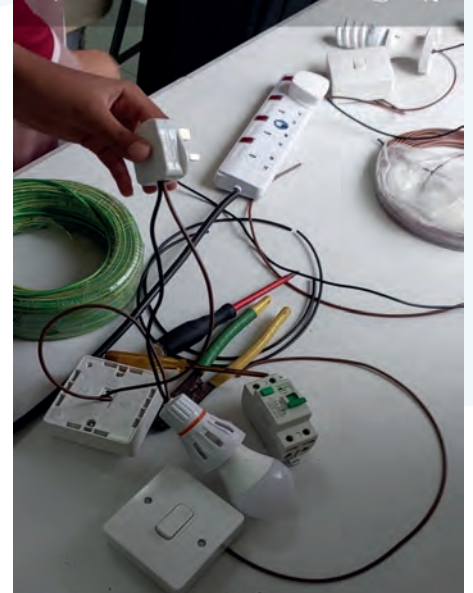
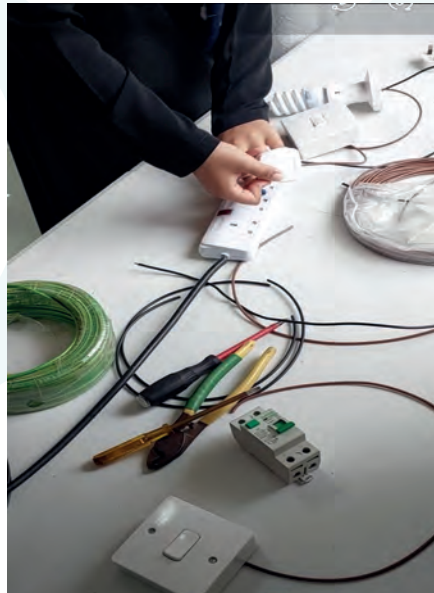


# TEENS CLUB 2023

Our Teens Club resumed this year on the 4th February 2023 with some 43 participants. Altogether with a rich set of activities planned for this year, we have come up with a theme: Random Acts of kindness. This theme will be inculcated in all our monthly activities as we are alarmed by the loss of the value of kindness in the different spheres of society. We want to raise this awareness in our participants with the hope that they internalise this value which will benefit them both in this Dunya and in the Akhirah.

This year, we are aiming more about developing good communication skills through debates and role-plays in our youngsters and to arm them with basic life skills with four modules on Basic Electricity and Safety and Basic Plumbing and Water Management. We have also worked on the blessed month of Ramadaan with our students and shared the spirit of Eid with them. In view of inculcating the importance of physical activity and sport for their good health and emotional well-being, we have introduced some basic skills of tag-archery in our club .Alhamdulillah, it is also an occasion for them to inculcate a Sunnah in their life as our beloved prophet Muhammad (PBUH) recommended the practice of archery among the sports that He used to practice.

May Allah make it easy for our team to meet all our objectives and give our best for our participants. May Allah protect all our participants and keep them on the straight path. Aameen.





# EVENTS FOR DAAWAH COMMITTEE

## **Interfaith Program**

The interfaith program was a recurrent one before the covid, which, Alhamdulillah, we were able to organize again. The main idea behind the interfaith program is to use Ramadhan as an opportunity to invite non-Muslims to give them an introduction to Islam. Our main goals are to, i) educate non-Muslims about Islam, ii) clear the doubts of non-Muslims about Islam and iii) to promote intercultural tolerance.

The first interfaith was at Razaakh Mohamed which took place on the first weekend of Ramadhan, where approximately 50 non-Muslims came to the event. In this case, we encouraged people in our entourage to invite their non-Muslim friends/colleagues. The event started with the lecture of the Quran and was followed by a talk initiated by Br. Fouad Assotally who gave a brief explanation about Ramadhan and its meaning to Muslims followed by a session of questions and answers. There was then a distribution of iftar and dinner, and the guests were invited to watch us perform the Swalaat. The event then finished with a session of open interaction between which everyone, which turned out to be received quite well by non-Muslims.



The second interfaith program was held on the third week of Ramadhan and was done at the Al Abraar masjid in petit verger. The masjid itself was in charge of inviting non-Muslims from the surrounding neighborhood. The setting was the same as the one at Razaakh Mohamed, where a talk was given by Br Fouad followed by an interactive session and dinner. Despite only 25 non-Muslims came, the event was still considered successful as all guests had better experience than expected.

## **Ramadan Talks**

During this month of Ramadhan, the dawah committee continues to take the initiative to organise talks in masjids. Orators were sent in mosques in locations all around the island where talks were held every week. This is an opportunity for SIM to engage with mussallis as well as maintain a dynamic relationship with masjids all over the island. For this year our main theme was Islamophobia as it is a topic that Muslims have to be aware of and should know how to tackle if ever faced against it. Different speakers talked about different aspect of the same theme as to their ease, this ensured to captivate the attendees but also make sure that they have an in-depth comprehension of the subject.

The WIM also committed to host talks for Muslim women in different masjids for during Ramadhan. The intention is to obviously educate the women of our society but to also use that to bring them together and feel a bond towards society. The attendance in such talks were up to 30 women in some cases.

The different masjids that were involved vary in location from north to south, counting Mahebourg, la Tour Koenig, and Coromandel only to mention a few. The topics touched were ones which would enable us to stay grounded in our Deen, such as the fasting of the tongue, acquiring Taqwa and our goal on this earth. WIM plans to continue these talks in masjids as a way to keep in contact with the masjids but also the women they have already connected to.

# NEWS FROM GHULAM JILANI SOOBIAH MASJID, RÉDUIT

## **Interfaith Program**

Every year, Masjid Réduit uses the month of Ramadhan as an opportunity to invite non-Muslim inhabitants of the neighbourhood to an interfaith program. The idea behind the event is to give them an idea of what Islam really is, and to also clear the doubts that they have on one of the most misunderstood religions. This event is also an opportunity to promote tolerance between religions, and is a way to express gratitude towards the Tamil's League for giving us parking space for jummah every week, as well as for zohr during Ramadhan. Interestingly, representatives from the Anglican Church also honored us with their presence.

The event consisted of short talks about different aspects of Islam, which was then followed by a quiz where winners were rewarded with gifts, and by a question answer session, where non-Muslims were invited to clear their doubts. The guests were then invited to have iftar with us and watch us perform the salaah, and the session ended by gifting them dinner in take aways. Alhamdulillah the event was a success with approximately 60 non-Muslims invited from the locality.



## **Medical Bed**

A medical bed was made available to masjid Réduit. We are thus now responsible to maintain, store and manage it, in such a way than it can be lent to someone in need. We pray that Allah rewards the donors, and that Allah grants Jannat-ul-Firdaus to the deceased initial user.



# KIDS CLUB



It has been 7 years since SIM has been organizing the Kids Club with annual intakes. As mentioned in previous newsletters, the club continued its activities even during COVID times (online) and this helped to keep in touch with the kids.

For this current year 2023, registration was launched in the beginning of February through SIM NEWS WhatsApp group and the invitation went viral. Alhamdulillah, this created quite an interest in the public at large. Due to limitations in terms of resources such as human, space and logistics SIM Kids Club had no choice than to accommodate a maximum number of 65 kids. We would like to highlight that the Kids Club is also supported by 15+ Helpers. The pool of helpers comprises of some parents, Quranic Arabic students and interestingly this year, we have onboarded 7 young helpers who were participants of SIM Kids Club but now have joined the teens club.



Insha Allah, twelve sessions are planned for this year and it will include indoor activities, outdoor activities and also outings. We will share more details and some pictures in the next edition of the newsletter.





# PLAYGROUND AREA AT ORY VIEW COMPLEX

A playground area has been installed at the "rock garden" in front of our main building. It includes a slide, a double seater swing, a spring rider and a trampoline. The space has become the joy of all kids attending the place alhamdulillah.

We wish to give our heartfelt thanks to all of our sponsors for making this project successful.



# QUOTE FROM A BOOK\*

"The Leadership of Muhammad: A Historical Reconstruction" by Joel Hayward -

"If a student were to ask me whether Muhammad was an effective leader I would reply without hesitation in the affirmative: yes, he was a highly gifted man and an extraordinary leader. If they pressed me further, wanting me to strip away the historical context of Muhammad's Arabia to see whether we might be able to identify from his fascinating life any enduring "lessons" of how a leader might want to consider doing things today, I would write them a list much like the one I offer here:

## **Character and Qualities**

- Personify and exemplify the best human qualities and values
- Do not be seen as ambitious or status-conscious
- Never adopt an air of superiority
- Avoid any self-interest or even the appearance of it
- Be humble, flexible and open to learning from others
- Continuously self-reflect
- Do not keep doing what does not work
- Learn quickly from mistakes

## **Strategic Vision**

- Develop a vision for creating a better situation
- If your vision is bold, be prepared for resistance
- Persevere and don't surrender that vision
- Turn that vision into a meaningful set of goals
- Create the sequence of steps needed to achieve them
- Resource each of those sufficiently

## **Strategic Communication**

- Explain your vision to everyone who will play a role or be affected
- Explain it frequently using a few carefully chosen key motifs
- Be knowledgeable and assured to establish your credibility
- But also be modest, steady and calm
- Explain clearly why the vision matters and how it will improve things
- Explain clearly how your people will benefit
- Explain clearly what you need them to accomplish
- Remember to appeal to both the intellect and emotions

## **Consensus Building**

- Identify any factions or potentially competing interests and needs among you people
- Try to find cooperative solutions that will meet all parties' interests and needs
- Keep watching to ensure as you proceed that everyone can live with the likely outcome
- Ensure that everyone will benefit
- Ensure that everyone knows that they will benefit



## **Learning from Others**

- Consult others often and with an open mind and genuine desire for the critique of your ideas
- Consult people who know what they are talking about and have proven themselves trustworthy
- Do it in a group setting, not just privately with individuals
- Create an environment in which everyone knows they can approach you with ideas
- If anyone has better ideas or plans than yours do not become defensive
- Try to establish what the majority view is and, if it is likely to move the team forward towards the goals, act upon it
- If it is less likely to do so than your own idea would, have the moral courage to explain why you will not be adopting their view on that occasion
- Give credit and praise to the person whose idea or plan you use

## **Establishing Rapport**

- Learn about your people's interests, hopes and anxieties
- Search for common ground
- Share in every difficulty that you ask your people to endure
- Work as hard as your most energetic team members
- Be empathetic
- Genuinely listen and do not interrupt or talk over anyone

## **Choosing the Right Way of Dealing with any Opposition**

- Rely on persuasion, not power
- Be prepared to compromise or surrender short-term goals if doing so will bring longer-term benefits or if the opposition at any time becomes too great
- Be prepared to apply reasonable and suitable pressure if anyone cannot be persuaded or will not compromise

## **Managing People**

- Select the right people by looking for intelligence, passion, energy and reliability
- Do this even if you do not especially like them
- Never show anyone that you do not like them
- Train them as fully as you can through example
- Trust them to undertake increasingly difficult tasks
- Tell them what you want, and why, but not how they should do it
- Reward them for accomplishment
- Let a person's success with one responsibility be the basis for receiving a larger responsibility
- Always praise in public
- Overlook imperfections
- Forgive failure if a person has done their best
- Never accept immorality "

Start reading this book for free: <https://a.co/7hWmbrV>

\*This is a new item in our Newsletter. We strongly encourage our readers to read and share with us a quote or an excerpt of their latest reading, which may be a book or an article and which the reader feels would be of benefit or interest to us or simply a quote which the reader liked.