



Imam

DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

Jumada Al-Awwal-Rajab 1436 | March-April 2015

SUPPORTING
IMAMS
TO BE BETTER
LEADERS



FULL UPDATE

Everything that has been happening

See how the Imams are benefitting

PICTURES

ARTICLE

The life of the (Black) Imam in South Africa

Answer to all your questions **FAQs**

www.imamdp.org | info@imamdp.org



- 1.1. IDP Imams of Kwa-Zulu Natal met on the 28th of March to discuss challenges and strategies.
- 1.2. IDP Imams of Cape Town met on the 29th of March to discuss challenges and strategies. A braai with the Imams was also arranged.
- 1.3. All Imams continue to sit monthly exams on the book Bulugh al Maram.
- 1.4 Imams attended the AlKauthar Worst of the Worst course in Durban on 25th April & in Cape Town on 27th.
- 1.5 Imam Yahya Bakri of Savannah Park, Durban was chosen as the best Imam of Jan-Feb and his kids school fees for 2015 were paid in full.
- 1.6 Total number of Imams on the project as of 30th April: 22 [Kzn 6, CT 16]
- 1.7 Our trailer on Youtube
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IVHTiGRV6II&feature=youtu.be>
- 1.8 The Imam Development Project hosted Sh Moutassem al Hamedy of Jordan.

PICTURES

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IDP Imam meeting CT & braai – 29th March 2015

PICTURES



Cape Town Imams at the AlKauthar Worst of the Worst course with Sh Moutassem al Hameedy – 27 April 2015

PICTURES



Imam Yahya Bakri & Imam Shaffy Duwa at the AlKauthar Worst of the Worst course, Durban 25th April | Imam Bakri Yahya, best Imam for Jan & Feb

LIFE OF THE (BLACK) IMAM IN SOUTH AFRICA

It was in 2010 that I arrived in the Republic of South Africa. I left for greener pastures and a better life but when I arrived here things soon turned sour.

My first town was Pietermaritzburg, where I worked with different people of different races and religions. I was doing some small jobs with different people while I hoped that one day things will be better. I applied for jobs with different Islamic organizations.

Fortunately I was called to be the Imam in Durban by a big, rich family. They were millionaires Durban but they told me that my salary will be R1,300-00 per month. My main job was to be the Imam but unfortunately I was ordered to also wash the cars and clean their beautiful houses up and downstairs.

I worked only for a month then I was offered another Imam position in Pietermaritzburg. When I reached there they informed me that according to the Islamic certificates that I had the management was pleased to offer me the Imam and the Madarassah teacher positions. Allah be my witness, they told me that they will be giving me R800-00, not only that but also I have to use the same money to rent and buy food. I could not complain & I just accepted the offer because I had nothing to do but also nowhere to go. I worked for two weeks as an Imam residing outside the masjid complex and received R400-00 as my fortnight wage.

Then I was offered work with a popular Islamic organization which offered me R2,000-00 a month with a house to stay. Alhamdulillah under all circumstances.

In nutshell most of the black imams in the South Africa are under

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paid even though they do more than five peoples jobs. Some of the jobs that we do as imams include cleaning the masjid and toilets, giving adhan and leading daily salat, teaching madarassah and visiting the muslim community, washing the deceased and conducting nikahs. In spite of the fact that these Imams do so much they always receive limited salaries.

We have no allowances nor bonuses. The Imams salary can take upto two or more years to be increased yet life is becoming more expensive day by day. Trustees and bosses expect the Imams to produce wonders and miracles from the children and the community at large. Most Imam have no access to internet, don't own houses, have no vehicles yet the masjids and organizations that they work for collect huge amounts of donations.

Condition are even worse when it's a foreign black imam because he will not be allowed to apply for a work permit incase he will ask for a higher salary. Allahul Musta'an

What must I do for me as a foreign black imam to be regarded as a human being?????

That is the question that always comes to my mind. Most of the black imams are always given houses but the houses have only one or two rooms. Does this mean imams should not have children or what????? May Allah put love and care in our hearts for any human being regardless of the gender, race and religion.

Aameen

Imam ##### is an Imam on the Imam Development Project

Q.1. What is the Imam Development Project?

A.1. The Imam Development Project aims to assist currently employed Imams and Religious leaders to empower, develop and refine their skills.

Q.2. Why the need for an Imam Development Project?

A.2. Many complain about Imams and many Imams complain about their state. All agree on the importance of the Imam but very few try to remedy the situation.

The Imam is supposed to be a confident, strong, passionate individual but unfortunately due to circumstances the Imam is usually underpaid, undeveloped, overworked and lacking in passion.

The IDP aims to assist them financially as well as providing medical, educational, training, clothing, media and counseling assistance.

Q.3. How does the Imam Development Project aim to develop Imams?

A.3. The IDP will provide a package to the value of R50 000 per Imam per annum and support these selected Imams in refining their skills.

The IDP will provide financial, medical, educational, training, clothing, media and counseling assistance to the Imams.

Q.4. Will the IDP be hiring Imams?

A.4. No, the IDP will only assist currently employed Imams with a Top Up Package.

Q.5. What are the criteria for selection?

A.5. Imams will have to fill in an application form, an Indemnity form of employer and provide letters of recommendation.

We will then interview the applicant and then make our selection.

Some of the criteria that we consider:

Age

Level of Education

Salary

Realm of influence

Speaking ability

Passion

Q.6. Is the IDP open to Non-South African passport holders?

A.6. The IDP is open to all legal residents of South Africa. Foreigners will legal residential documentation may apply.

Q.7 What is the R50 000 package breakdown?

A.7 Annual Package Breakdown

Cash (24000)

2000 Rands monthly

Kind (26000)

Medical 3000

Educational 4000

Clothing 2000

Laptop and Internet 6000

Books /media 2000

Leadership training 4000

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Cellphone 3000
Counseling and mediation training 1000
Networking 1000
TOTAL 50 000

Q.8. Are there other incentives for the Imams?

A.8. Yes, the best performing Imam monthly will receive a due incentive. We have allocated R500 & R1000 monthly grocery vouchers & bursaries and hajj trips as annual incentives for best performing Imam.

Q.9. Where can one obtain the application form?

A.9. The application form is available on the website www.imam-dp.org

Q.10. How will you track the progress of the Imams?

A.10. Each Imam has to fill in a 1 page monthly progress report & we review their progress quarterly and review and renew if applicable annually.

Q.11. What are the code of ethics for an Imam?

A.11. The code that we feel Imams should abide by:

Purpose

Linking the creation to the Creator

Honesty

Embrace truthfulness, fairness, with all others with whom they interact.

Integrity

FAQs

Implement a code of behavior which reflects Islamic values, beliefs and always fulfill any commitment, promise and obligations made to the Muslim community.

Respect

Treat all others regardless of their background with regard for their value as human beings and to speak up against any discrimination and disrespect that they encounter.

Responsibility

Become responsible and accountable for actions and all consequences that might arise from all decisions.

Empathy

Strive to understand the feelings, thoughts and emotions of others in order to show compassion and fairness to all.

Fairness

To always hear every person's perspective and treat everyone with respect.

Q.12. How can one contact the Imam Development Project?

A.12. We can be contacted via

Website: www.imamdp.org

Email: info@imamdp.org

Mobile: +27844147184

Tele: +27329441106

Postal address: PO Box 94, Maidstone, 4380

FAQs

Q.13. Who are the partners in the IDP

A.13. The IDP is primarily a project of Mercy Mission World and the partners are WAMY, IPCI, IDM, SANZAF, DEENCLASS & ALKAUTHAR INSTITUTE.

Q.14 How can one contribute towards this project?

A.14 We welcome any and all assistance from dua to a good work, from moral to financial.

If one would like to assist financially our bank details are:

Mercy Mission General

FNB Bank

AFC/no: 6224 0868 581

Branch: Fordsburg.

Branch Code: 252505 or FNB suffices

You can also donate online here: www.imamdp.org

Zakah & Lillah funds acceptable.

PARTNERS



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