



IOA Newsletter

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

From the Editor's Desk	1
Latest News	2
Voluntary Spirit	3
Volunteer with IOA	4
Interview	5
About IIm-o-Amal	6

Editorial Team

- Saif Manzoor
- Nadia Tariq

Editorial Policy

http://ilmoamal.org/insight/?page_id=

14

From the Editor's Desk

Assalam-o-Alikum,

I hope you all read this second newsletter of the year 2009 in good health and are doing great in your lives. I would like to welcome new members of IIm-o-Amal and hope that you find this newsletter informative and thought provoking. The newsletter team is continuously working to provide concise yet innovative ways to convey the message. This is why, from this issue, we have decided to set a theme for every newsletter. The first theme we have chosen is 'Volunteerism' and you will find related articles and information in this issue. If you have any suggestions for future themes, kindly write us to info@ilmoamal.com

Recently a personal change in my life forced me to ponder a lot of things which I would have otherwise clearly ignored. We shifted our house this month and while packing up things and winding up home, a thought continuously drifted through my mind. It was us who decided to move and naturally we had lot of affiliation with our old home. What will happen when we move from this temporary world to eternal with HIS wish? How will we feel? Have we done enough preparation? Unlike moving home, there will be no movers and no hassle, what we have to take are our deeds. Are we doing enough to take something substantial

with us?

If I can write this editorial and you can read this, we are already among the people who are blessed, blessed with sight and sanity not to mention physical worldly bounties like access to computer and internet, shelter, food etc. Aren't we taking all this for granted, as our right? Think again. We are not created equal but the blessed ones are given more responsibility. So, why not reach out and extend our hands to those who need support, even your 5 minutes a day can do wonders.

Happy reading!

Nadia Tariq

**Editor and Marketing
Coordinator, IIm-o-Amal**

Our Progress over the quarters

	Apr .09	Jan .09	Oct .08
Applications	398	313	245
Members	232	213	173
Education Scholarships	140	125	100
Family Help	95	78	60
Income Loan	24	21	18

Latest News (Feb 1 to April 30, 2009)

Marketing Efforts

A new section Join Us is added on the website. It includes detailed presentations on different volunteering opportunities.

Resignation of Coordinator

Nausheen Ahmad left Ilm-o-Amal. We wish her success in her future endeavours.

New Donors

We have received many new donations including sponsorship for particular cases. Most of these sponsors are through the face of the week campaign which proved to be a success.

KMPG Jeddah team led by **Naved Shoaib** did a remarkable effort to sponsor a number of family help and education applications.

Chapter Activities

North Karachi chapter led by Shaikh Haleem was the most active chapter.

Sadia Sultan joined the North Nazimabad Chapter. She referred a number of family help cases mostly for widows.

Gadap Chapter led by Siraj Memon is now active.

Work in progress on Bin Qasim, Gulshan and Liaquatabad Chapters

Campaign for Laptops

We received 5 laptops from Nokia Siemens. We wish to thank their CEO Viqar Islam and our member Salman Khan for their efforts in this regard.

New Features in BMS

- **Discussion forum** added to allow user to participate in discussions
- **Things to do** section added in the Personal Page to show the outstanding actions for the user
- A new status **DRAFT** is added to allow the coordinators to complete an application before submission to management committee for approval
- **Guest book** added in BMS

Poll of the Month

We posted a poll on our website www.ilmoamal.org
The question for Jan 2009 was "Poverty is a social issue in Pakistan . Can we make a difference through Web-based programs?"

The answer was

Result:



Marathon for a cause

Mukhtar Murtaza successfully completed 42 KM marathon on March 6, 2009 and raised **SAR 13 thousand** for blind students.

<http://www.ilmoamal.org/slideshow/phpslideshow.php?directory=marathon>

Student Volunteer Visit

Two new student volunteers Asif Raza and Noman Kiyani joined the team. We welcome them aboard.

New Members

In alphabetical order

1. Abdulrahman Akbar
2. Adeel Anwar
3. Asif Raza
4. Azam Hussain
5. Fatima Ajmal
6. Furrukh Sohail
7. Mohammad Irfan
8. Mohsin Anzar
9. Muhammad Ashfaq
10. Naved Shoaib
11. Ovais Shahab
12. Owais Ansari
13. Riffat Rukhsana Ullah
14. Saad Afzal
15. Saeed Amjad Ali
16. Shazia Zafar
17. Syed Ishaq
18. Syed Mohsin Raza
19. Yawar Sarfaraz

Voluntary Spirit: our Tradition by Saif Manzoor

The year was 622 A.D and the place was a small city called Yathrib in the desert of Arabia. Under the hot desert sun, a group of men and women were erecting a building. Their resources were meager but they were doing their work with complete devotion. They were neither employees of a builder nor contractors. In fact, they had no expectation of any immediate reward at all. Instead they were building a center for their nascent community and their motivation was common good. This group was the companions of Prophet Mohammed (PBUH), the refugees from Mecca and their supporters from the city of Yathrib, and the building was what we reverently call the "Masjid Nabawi". This is a beautiful page from our history on our tradition of voluntary spirit.

The example of our Prophet and his companions show that an active community with voluntary participation is a significant force in enhancing the level of social integration and bringing about social change. Individuals in the community choose to

become involved in voluntary action only when they care enough about an issue or activity and to want to give their time, energy, efforts, skills, talent, knowledge and money to make a real difference and without the expectation of any immediate rewards. Such voluntary spirit has been the tradition of believers from the beginning.

Voluntary effort is the commitment of time and energy by one's own free will, without any money or other consideration in return. The scale of voluntary work crosses cultural boundaries and political systems making it one of the most powerful elements in social development. There are numerous organizations which are fuelled by voluntary work. But the common factor shared by all types of volunteers is a commitment by the individual to the common good, in that they work not merely for their own interests but for the benefit of others.

In the Quran The word for voluntary effort is "Jahada" – which is a struggle for goodness

and against evil.

This concept is very broad and involves all the efforts which are done for the community and for the sake of common good.

Challenge - Voluntary work brings many different challenges. Volunteers:

- Have to attend to increased personal and professional demands in their private lives.
- Need continuous motivation.
- Need to be careful in accepting assignments if they have no time and resources to successfully finish them.

Those in the governance need to

- Raise awareness in the community about voluntary spirit and benefits of its contribution.
- Provide advice and practical help to those teams who are undertaking voluntary assignments.



In our communities we must revive the spirit of voluntary efforts by taking time out of our busy lives and professions and volunteer with our energy, efforts, skills, talent, knowledge and money to make a real difference."

“You can volunteer as a Sponsor, Guardian or Office Volunteer”

FAMILY HELP SINCE Jan 09

312 Ismail Qasim Bapuria
315 Firdous Begum
317 Shehzad Humayun
318 Omar Rahim
319 Noor Jahan Hanif
320 Saira Manzoor
321 Shahzaib Naseem
322 Farah Naz
323 Samia Naseem
324 Zainab Abdul Karim
325 Rubina Nadeem
326 Mohammad Hasan Khan
327 Saima Khan
328 Abdul Ghafoor
329 Abdullah Sheikh
332 Farzana Jawaid
337 Zainab Ismail
338 Asif Raza
346 Zaheer uddin
347 Muhammad Shahid Rafiq
349 Mohammad Naseem Sheikh
350 Sajida Parveen
351 Sakina Begum
352 Seema Salim
353 Saeeda Mukhtiar
360 Hira Nadeem
361 Nida Nadeem
362 Haris Nadeem
363 Muhammad Asif Ameer
364 Robina Ameer

How can you volunteer at Ilm-o-Amal? by Nadia Tariq

We have written enough about volunteerism and why anyone should get involved. Lets get down to business on how you can get involved. To facilitate this and give you clear understanding on what you can expect regarding your role and responsibility as an Ilm-o-Amal volunteer, a series of presentations has been created.

Basically you can volunteer in several ways, by becoming a sponsor, a guardian or office volunteer. In all cases, transparency and credibility in maintained through online Beneficiary Management System.

Become a Sponsor

A sponsor can be an individual or corporation who willingly supports various cases of education, family help and income opportunity. A

sponsor can financially help Ilm-o-Amal in a timely manner by sponsoring one or more cases. A sponsor can either log into BMS (Beneficiary Management System) - virtual office of Ilm-o-Amal or can appoint a coordinator for selecting, reviewing and following up a case. For more information, please check complete presentation on [“Becoming an ilm-o-Amal Sponsor”](#)

Be a Guardian

Ilm-o-Amal has come up with a unique process to ensure transparency at every level and to enable the funds reach the right person. In this respect, role of a guardian is very important. A guardian is a volunteer who looks after one or more families of his/her town/area by identifying, visiting, counseling and updating Ilm-o-Amal regarding their

status. For more information, please check complete presentation on [“Becoming an ilm-o-Amal Guardian”](#)

Become an Office Volunteer

Since Ilm-o-Amal is not a traditional brick and mortar office, all our records, data, information, communication and collaboration is held via our virtual office known as BMS. It's a relatively new, flexible and convenient model to maximize production while minimizing cost. That is why, computer and internet savvy volunteers, writers, coordinators, marketing and PR managers are always required by Ilm-o-Amal. If you think you can contribute in any way please contact at info@ilmoamal.org.

Some of the Scholarships awarded to Students during Feb – April 2009



Owais Ilyas
Grade 1
Ida Rieu
Karachi



Rubina Yasmeen
Grade 3
Ida Rieu
Karachi



Sobia Kanwak
Grade 6
Ida Rieu
Karachi



Hira Nadeem
Grade 5
Zainab Academy
Soldier Bazaar



Farah Naz
Grade 1
Millenium School
Orangi, Karachi



Samia Naseem
Grade 1
Millenium School
Orangi, Karachi



Shahzeb Naseem
Grade 1
Millenium
Orangi, Karachi



Nida Nadeem
Prime Public
School



Haris Nadeem
Zainab Academy



Asif Ameer
Class 5
Bright Vision



Robina Ameer
Class 5
Bright Vision



Noreen Nazir
Class KG1
Iqra School



Ashi Nazeer
KG2
Iqra School



Aqsa Shah
KG2
Iqra School



Junaid Shah
Class 5
Iqra School



Syhria Sattar
Class KG1
Lukes School

Interview with an IOA Volunteer

Interview with Mr. Abdullah (his pen-name) who is the manager of Yasmeen Khidmat-e-Masakeen Trust and a member of IIm-o-Amal volunteer community

1. Tell us about yourself, you family and profession?

My name is Abdullah. I was born in Bangalore (India) now settled in Karachi, married with one daughter who is blessed with 4 children. A retired banker who served international banks outside Pakistan and now totally devoted to serve humanity and alleviate human suffering.

2. When did you start your social welfare work? And what inspired and motivated you?

Social welfare work has been in my blood from the time I was in school. My late mother was a motivating factor to encourage me to do good to other fellow members who are in distress and need help and assistance. While studying Quran with meaning, I read Allah's ordain: "Be kind to those who are on earth – the one in skies (meaning Allah) will be kind to you."

3. Tell us about your organization, the social work you do, the challenges you faced.

Yasmeen Khidmat-e-Masakeen Trust is totally dedicated to help humanity. It consists of a small group of

people who have joined hands to help poor people in charitable hospitals by providing them, as far as our financial resources permit, medicines, medical supplies, fresh fruits, milk, washing/bathing soap, ¼ liter milk packs, arrange lab tests, renovating wash rooms and maintaining cleanliness by employing a team of sweepers and look after the general needs of the ward under our care by employing lady managers.

The biggest challenge we face is lack of funds to fulfill our needs. But Allah has been kind to send donors who voluntarily join hands with us and provide things we need.

4. What have you learned while doing volunteer work?

I have learned that by helping others who are need of help and assistance we are actually cleansing our souls. The satisfaction we get after a hard days social welfare work cannot be expressed in words. It can only be felt. I feel as if I are very near to our Creator Allah.

5. How did you join IIm-o-Amal and why?

I was introduced to IIm-o-Amal by my friend Adil Abrar who works for a bank in Riyadh, KSA. Since the aims/objects of IIm-o-Amal were very much similar to

those practiced by us i.e. service to humanity, I became a member to learn more about this aspect because I believe the process of learning in our lives never stops.

6. Your thoughts about the work IIm-o-Amal is doing?

IIm-o-Amal is doing a superb service by providing family help such as ration/groceries etc. to those who are not fortunate in matching their earning with their bare necessities of life. Their education help program has enabled parents to send their children to schools which they could not have done with their meager financial resources.

IIm-o-Amal is doing a pioneering work in the sense that they are setting a good example for others to follow. IIm-o-Amal motivates others to share with others who are less fortunate what Allah has given them. It does not matter if the contribution made by a donor is small because oceans after all are collection of drops of water in the last analysis but collectively they are huge and big.

7. Any message you wish to give specially to our young generation?

I am myself a student and learning everyday. I can only beseech the young generation to thank Allah for the bounties showered on them and share with others what they have so that others who are not so fortunate may also enjoy a life of happiness. The real fun is by making a small sacrifice in giving to others what they need.

8. Many people see from the perspective of half glass empty, what will their 10 minutes a day can make a difference? Do you think this is right?

A glass half full can either be termed half empty or half full. The former term is classified as negative attitude and the latter term is called a positive one. Negative attitude gives rise to hyperacidity and stomach ulcers whereas positive attitude spreads smiles on faces which increase face value. 10 minutes contributed by 6 devoted people constitute an hour's social welfare work in which a lot can be accomplished.

-- Interviewed by Saif Manzoor & Nadia Tariq

Ilm-o-Amal

Pakistan headquarters
address:
202, F-88, Block B, North
Nazimabad,
Karachi 74700, Pakistan

Pakistan customer
service mailing address:
PO Box 12494
Karachi, Pakistan

Phone: +92 (0)334 3967699

Email: info@ilmoamal.org

Cooperation for Welfare

We're on the Web!
www.ilmoamal.org

Some of the
Income Loans
given
Feb – April 2009

About Ilm-o-Amal

Vision

To be a leading community of volunteers in Pakistan

Mission

Develop and manage programs to help the poor and the needy

Goals and Objectives

- Creating awareness and recognition of the value and contribution of volunteerism
- Creating awareness on the social message of our religion
- Creating social welfare programs
- Providing a forum for knowledge sharing
- Identifying the required skills and competencies for a volunteer
- Defining training and professional development standards
- Disseminate the message through all possible channels of communication



315.
INCOMELoAN
Firdous
Begum
(Income loan
for Firdous
Begum)



347.
INCOMELoAN
Muhammad
Shahid Rafiq
(Income loan
for
Muhammad
Shahid)



369.
INCOMELoAN
Noor Jahan
Hanif (Chips
Cabin Loan -
Noorjahan
Hanif)