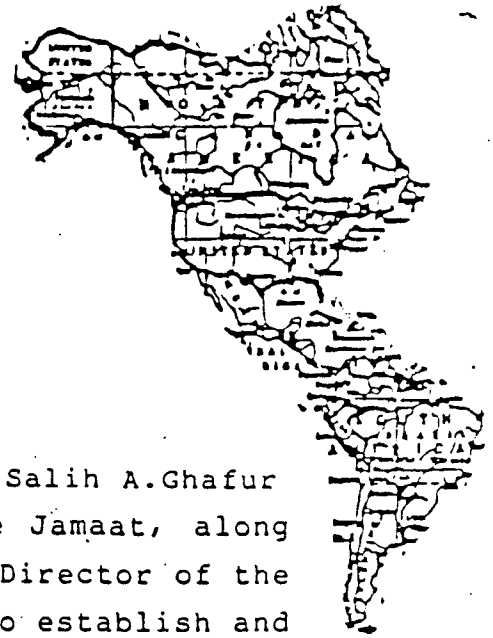


MUSLIMS of the AMERICAS



Att: EDUCATION SUPERVISOR/PRINCIPAL

As Salaamu Alaikum Jamaat

I have assigned Yasmin B.A. Ghafur wife of Naib Salih A. Ghafur Denver, Colo. as EDUCATION COORDINATOR of the Jamaat, along with Nazim Yahya A. Hakim, upstate New York the Director of the Education Department. Together they will work to establish and develop a strong secular and Islamic Education Dept. throughout the Jamaat.

Please forward upon receiving this package the following information to the Education Coordinator in Denver.

- a) A roster of all children will be required between the ages of 5 and 18 years. (if still in H.S.)
- b) For all male children who are/aren't in school:
 - 1- Age and grade level
 - 2- Address where instruction takes place (school etc.)
 - 3- Progress report or report card
 - 4- Instructors names
 - 5- Subject matter taken; Both Islamic and Secular
 - 6- Dates classes started and when they will end
- c) For all female children:
 - 1- Age and grade level
 - 2- Address where instruction takes place (school etc.)
 - 3- Progress report
 - 4- Subject matter taken; Both Islamic and Secular
 - 5- Instructors names
 - 6- Dates classes started and when they will end
- d) Detailed outline of existing methods of instruction or planned methods and constructed by whom.

Please note that this is only the introductory letter and that the educational package will arrive from the Coordinator with further instructions and information. Any questions that you may have or suggestions to make; any pertinent information that will be helpful, please forward .

IN THE NAME OF ALLAH, MOST GRACIOUS,
MOST MERCIFUL

As - Salaamu Alaikum Brothers and Sisters,

The Islamic Classroom Learning Center was established in 1989 and is located at 2634 Lafayette Avenue, Denver Colorado 80205. It was developed to aid our children in their sometimes difficult and confusing observances of the muslim and non-muslim worlds. It was designed as an anchor for families who, due to circumstances, needed more Islamic influence in their surroundings. At present our enrollment consists of young brothers and sisters ranging in ages 5 to 13 years of age.

The discovery that we can lose our children and ourselves to a life of dishonor has hard hit our foundation, which was shaken, but not destroyed. As we know, not everyone is fortunate and able to live near others in our Jamaat. Being isolated is often very difficult on our family members. But we are Muslim, and we are fighters! We will not let this separation defeat us. The education of our children has greatly been neglected; taking a second seat to our marital and social problems. Discontent and loneliness have created feelings in some of us that are almost unbearable! These feelings weigh on us heavily.

When observing the children, we notice that they like what we like, dislike what we dislike. They are mirrors of what we hold important. They lack what we lack. Only ALLAH's mercy will lift us. Only our sincere faith will gain us that mercy.

Islam is such a beautiful way of life. But its beauty is overshadowed by us. We cover our beauty; noone else does. We are responsible for letting the beauty show. This is one of our goals in the "Islamic Classroom". Our theme is "Let your Islamic Beauty Show". That there is nothing more valuable than our beliefs. That Islam is more attractive and appealing than any other way of life, with much, much more to offer. We make a big thing of Islam in our classroom. Islam's the greatest thing on earth. It means smiles and laughter, freedom and pride. We teach the children that hardships are expected but that the ability to find perserverence of those hardships is pure mercy. We learn in detail things non-muslim children will never learn. But most of we are learning to be thankful and proud of what we are. For some of our children have not learned this great lesson form their parents.

X

One child is too many to lose to the life of the unbeliever because sometimes crave the other life and think it doesn't show!
Or maybe our family problems lure us to think there might be a better way of life...one that's more fulfilling.
We're teaching, but more importantly, showing our children...
There is nothing better than being a Muslim, and nothing greater than ALLAH.

We need the aid of the Jamaat in getting this important message across to all of our children. We would like more communication amongst the children. Addressing letters and announcements to children make them feel part of the Jamaat. Yes... many of the adults receive mail from different locations, but the children don't. Many of our children have never known the joy of seeing the large family to which they belong! They've never experienced a large Eid Celebration or even a Friday Juma gathering. Many of them only know their siblings or maybe the children of 1 or 2 other families in their location.

Some of the older children feel they've been abandoned and their lives ripped apart by separation. All they know of and the companions they loved are only memories now. Coupled with the financial problems associated with living conditions leave them to befriend others and breed confusion within themselves.

We would like children in other locations to communicate with our Denver children like pen-pals. They can send pictures to each other so that when they meet in person, it is looked forward to with excitement and familiarity. This method of communication should with ALLAH's Mercy keep children up on current events of each location. This method should not prove a financial burden since no travel is required. Only the price of a stamp.

And all the other Jamaats

Educational and entertaining subjects can be shared, such as new types of dress and the present "Praises" or "Nats" that are being enjoyed. These things keep our children interested and in touch with the realities of their existence. It also keeps them from being so unaware that they become uncomfortable when in the company of others in our Jamaat who are "Up on what is Happening" in our Jamaat. It is up to us to supply what is needed for our children to keep them Islamically healthy. And also to keep relations good amongst us! We here in Denver will start this Mass-Communication to and from the children. Our first letters will go out on May 1st, 1989, InshaAllah.

We will send them to every location that we know of. This cover letter may be included to serve as a form of introduction.

Please encourage your children to respond! We must do all we can to keep our children together!

"IT IS NOT SO LONG A ROAD TO THE END,
HOLD ON TO THE PATH OF TRUTH"

Give this to the Education Coordinator in your area and start communicating

Nasib Aliq

Yours In Islam,
Yasmin B.A. Ghafur
Yasmin B.A. Ghafur
"The Islamic Classroom Learning Center"