



# IOS NEWSLETTER

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## Thought for the Month

And verily the Hour will come:  
 There can be no doubt  
 About it, or about (the fact)  
 That Allah will raise up  
 All who are in the graves.  
 Yet there is among men  
 Such a one as disputes  
 About Allah, without knowledge,  
 Without guidance and without  
 A Book of Enlightenment,-  
 (Disadainfully) bending his side,  
 In order to lead (men) astray  
 From the Path of Allah:  
 For him there is disgrace  
 In this life, and on the Day  
 Of Judgement we shall  
 Make him taste the chastisement  
 Of burning (fire)

Al-Quran- 22: 7-9

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## FOCUS

The majority of contemporary Sunni scholars see Muhammad's *sunnah* as a source of law next in authority to the Qur'an. Some contemporary scholars posit that this view is mainly due to the efforts of Muhammad ibn Idris al-Shafi'i (d. 204/820), who actively taught that the Sunnah is a source of authority for Islamic law and a revelation (*wahy*) second only to the Qur'an. His *Al-Risalah*, one of the first written works on the fundamental principles of Islamic jurisprudence (*usul al-fiqh*), was the first to present a sophisticated argument supporting this view. Some scholars, however, argue that important muhaddithun (hadith scholars) preceded him and taught these concepts. According to this understanding, al-Shafi'i essentially conveyed the teachings of many of his predecessors from the second and third generations of Muslim scholarship.

His argument that obeying the Sunnah is obligatory is very effective, due to his interpretation of *hikmah* (wisdom), when it appears in a verse with the word Qur'an, as a synonym for sunnah (Q. 33:34, 62:2). Al-Shafi'i's work had a profound influence and, it can be said, provided the first sophisticated written articulation that the Sunnah was a form of divine revelation. Although his written treatises on its authority were very detailed and focused, the documentation on his predecessors' discussions is limited and not easy to access. But researching the hadith scholarship of Muhammad ibn Shihab al-Zuhri (d. 124/742), al-A'mash (d. 148/765), Ibn Jurayj (d. 150/767), Shu'ba ibn al-Hajjaj (d. 160/776) Sufyan al-Thawri (d. 161/778), Malik ibn Anas (d. 179/795), and Sufyan ibn 'Yuayna (d. 196/811) does reveal that al-Shafi'i's view was also expressed by his predecessors.

On the other hand, many Hanafi, Rationalist, and Mu'tazili scholars disagree that Islamic law should be deduced strictly based on the Qur'an and the Sunnah. They make a clear distinction between the authority attributed to a *hadith ahad* (only one or two people cited at any stage of the *isnad* [chain of narrators]) and a *hadith mutawatir* (one narrated by numerous people at each level of the *isnad*). They accept a hadith as a proof for evidence in *ahkam* (legal rulings) or *aqidah* (tenets of faith, doctrine, and belief) only if it is *mutawatir*. Much of al-Shafi'i's *Al-Risalah* is set in the form of lengthy debates between him and unnamed opponents who disagree that adherence to the Sunnah is obligatory.

Scott C. Lucas and other scholars describe the other side of this contemporary Muslim discussion as "Classical Salafi Islam" or "Traditionalist Salifis". The Salafis comprise a minority of scholars who assert that every hadith with an authentic *isnad* and *matn* (text or words) is an acceptable proof and can therefore be used as evidence for all aspects of Islam, including *ahkam* or *aqidah*. In their assessment, refusing to accept a *hadith ahad* is tantamount to neglecting a part of the Sunnah. Ibn Taymiyyah, Ahmad ibn Hanbal, and many other hadith scholars observed and propagated this methodology.

To discover how the Qur'an perceives the Sunnah, one must realize that many of its verses are general and thus give guidelines, principles, and directions in the form of broad themes. Thus one does not always find conveyed the exact specifics of how to implement some of its injunctions.

*Contd. on page-7*

## Activities of the IOS Headquarters

### IOS Lecture on Sentencing Policy

In a lecture held on January 14, 2013 Sentencing policies adopted by Judges generally reflect the historical, social, economic and psychological milieu of the societies in which they operate, Prof. M. Afzal Wani, professor of law at GGSIP University (Delhi) and member Law Commission of India remarked.

He was delivering a lecture on “Sentencing Policies in the Modern World: Suitability and Effectiveness” at the conference room of Institute of Objective Studies. The programme began with a recitation from the holy Quran by Maulana Khalid Nadwi. He put the issue in the philosophical context of crime and punishment and how different societies had been trying to cope with crime and its consequences on a legal plane.

Prof. Wani traced the rise in crime rates since the time of rise of capitalism and Industrial Revolution in Europe that spread to other parts of the world with colonial expansion. The youth began to be motivated by monetary gain alone (by fair means or foul) and jettisoned moral restraint in pursuit of money and the transient pleasures it could buy.

He put the present wave of crime in Indian cities in the context of materialism. He suggested looking into the Quran for a moral anchor and the creation of a just society.

In his comments Prof. Iqbal Hussein said sentencing policies reflected the general moral climate of a society. In his presidential remarks, IOS General Secretary Prof. Z.M. Khan said sentencing policies were founded on the ethos of a society.

The programme was conducted by Mushtaq Ahmad, advocate on record, the Supreme Court of India.

### Dr Shariff Deals increasing inclusion and creating equal opportunity

In a lecture delivered January 1, 2013 Eminent development economist Dr Abusaleh Shariff, principal author of the Sachar Report and chief scholar of US-India Policy Institute (Washington), made a scintillating presentation on “A Vision for India: Equality, Duty and Equal Opportunity” here at the India Islamic Culture Centre.

Dr Shariff, who had been ailing for sometime, presented some key points of his larger report, deciding on an abbreviated version because of his health. He focused on what held back efforts to extend inclusion of marginalised groups, particularly Muslims, in economic development.

Placing the “local” perspective within a macro picture, he pointed out three major factors that curtailed the access of the excluded to benefits,



Prof. M. Afzal Wani delivering his lecture

entitlements and the general social and economic good. Firstly, “societal factors are sustaining exclusion”, he asserted.

By “societal factors,” he explained, he meant caste formations, religious and ethnic groupings and the like to be naturally excluding. Some were, and had been, powerful for decades and centuries, while others remained dispossessed and disadvantaged. This had to be redressed for creating an inclusive economy, polity and society.

Secondly, most of the action (and exclusionary process) was taking place locally, that is in certain locations. “Panchayats and municipalities are under elite capture”, and the deprived would have to learn to act there to

address the issues. Local activism by minority groups would be of help.

Thirdly, Dr Shariff said, the local-level bureaucracy’s ineptitude and rampant corruption were also responsible for lack of inclusion. As remedial measure, he said, “Empower (formally) newly marginalised and excluded communities and help them get a place in local-level institutions.”

He also advised creating “new types of social and political leadership,” promoting civil society and helping the marginalised integrate.

Talking about post-Sachar policy initiatives he said, because of uneven and ill-conceived policies there was no measureable impact. Though there were some overall improvements in outcome measures, the earlier retarding trend for Muslims continued.

He said the Ministry of Minority Affairs had no major role to play in the inclusion of marginalised groups. This had something to do with the mainstreaming of the excluded, which was related to half a dozen significant ministries and departments, besides civil society and society itself. Mainstreaming, not ghettoisation was the answer, Dr Shariff explained.

The Muslim population in 90 districts earmarked as minority inhabited had very little access to banks, and the Minority Affairs Ministry did not have much to offer there. It happened quite often that Central funds meant for the minorities in such districts reached up to district headquarters, but there was no idea whether it reached the villages and Kasbahs (small towns) where the intended beneficiaries lived.

He stressed the need for having a diversity index for public and private sector companies, government jobs, government, legislature and state-appointed commissions and committees. The diversity of the population must be reflected in economic, social and political life of the country. For that the

establishment of an equal opportunity commission would be required.

Dr Shariff advocated a better and more rigorous monitoring of uplift programmes, more efficient mechanism for distributing scholarship funds for minorities and Muslims students and greater representation for them in local bodies.

Prof. Amitabh Kundn of JNU endorsed the views of Dr Shariff. He said the government programmes for Muslim uplift were often ill-conceived and shoddily administered. He cited the case of Minorities Finance Development Corporation, 85 percent of whose annual budget was spent as establishment cost. The rest 15 percent was of no consequence, he concluded.

Dr Shariff's presentation was part of a larger research, jointly carried out and funded by the Institute of Objective Studies (IOS) and US-India Policy Institute.

The IOS Chairman, Dr Mohammad Manzoor Alam, said that relative to other faith groups, Muslim community had been in perpetual decline since Independence. He said discrimination against Muslims on religious grounds was a constant feature of life for the community. The case of Dr Syed Hasnain was a glaring example of such discrimination.

Dr Hasnain figured twice as the prospective Chairman of the University Grants Commission at the top of the Selection Committee's list, but somebody else was finally appointed chairman and quickly handed over charge on a Sunday, Dr Alam said. In a situation like that, it was quite understandable that Muslim educational institutions were denied government recognition for years.

In his presidential remarks former Chief Justice of India, Justice A.M. Ahamdi, said that despite all difficulties Fundamental Rights were alive and well in India. He said the country was established as a socialist republic. However, over the last couple of decades

it had drifted away from that socialist anchor, which had led to so much of trouble. This has hurt the Muslims more than others.

The programme was conducted by Prof. Afzal Wani of Indraprastha University.

### Governing Council Meet

The 26<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Governing Council (G.C.) was held on 08.12.2012 at 10:00 a.m. in the Committee Room of the IOS, 162, Jogabai Main Road, Jamia Nagar, New Delhi-25.

The following were present:

1. Dr. M. Manzoor Alam in the Chair
2. Prof. Z.M. Khan Secretary  
General



Dr. Abusaleh Shariff delivering his lecture

3. Prof. Ishtiyaque Danish Finance Secretary
4. Prof. A.R. Momin Member
5. Dr. Ausaf Ahmad Member
6. Prof. Sanghasen Singh Member
7. Prof. Mohsin Usmani Member
8. Prof. M. Afzal Wani Member
9. Prof. Refaqt Ali Khan Special Invitee
10. Dr. Major Zahid Husain Special Invitee
11. Dr. Syed Shaukat Ali Special Invitee
12. Dr. Eqbal Hussain Special Invitee
13. Dr. Md. Imteyaz Hassan Special Invitee

The meeting started with the recitation of verses from the Holy Qur'an by Prof. Mohsin Usmani, who also explained the meaning and context of the verses for the benefit of all.

Adoption of condolence resolutions

Condolence resolutions on the sad demise of Mr. Mauji Khan (Treasurer, All India Milli Council); Dr. Abdul Haq Ansari (Former Amir Jamaat Islami Hind); Dr. Mazhar Imam (a renowned litterateur of Darbhanga); Maulana Riyazuddin Rahman Rishadi (an Islamic scholar of Bangalore); Janab Badiur Rahman Jehanabadi (a social activist & Member, All India Milli Council); Dr. Suhail Ahmad (a renowned Physician of Patna); Madam Mariyam Jameelah (a renowned Islamic scholar) and all others who were associated with the Institute, were adopted by the Governing Council.

Dr. M. Manzoor Alam, Chairman, IOS welcomed the members and special invitees for attending the meeting and expressed his satisfaction on the working of the Institute and its Chapters. Further, he emphasised the need for associating the young scholars with IOS.

The minutes of the Governing Council (G.C.) meeting dated 23.6.2012 were presented and confirmed.

The Follow-up Report (Action taken Report) on the last G.C. meeting dated 23.6.2012 was presented before the Governing Council (G.C.). The same was considered and after deliberations, got approved

with the following observations/suggestions and decisions:

- In regard to two awards (i.e. 'Shah Waliullah Award' and 'IOS Lifetime Achievement Award') the Chairman, IOS, informed the members that all efforts are being made to get the permanent sponsorship for the above two awards, and if we succeed for the same, the other two awards (i.e. 'IOS Award for Minority Rights' and 'Mujaddid Alf Sani Award') will also be taken up on regular basis.
- In regard to implementing the resolutions adopted in the programmes of the IOS Silver Jubilee Celebrations and which were divided into various categories, it was decided that the Monitoring Committee (constituted for



implementing all the resolutions) should not wait further for the opinion from the members of G.C. and special invitees on the notes of Dr. Ausaf Ahmad and Mr. Raju Mansukhani in this respect and start the work as early as possible.

- In regard to the volume on 'Media in a Globalizing World' the Chairman, IOS, informed the members and special invitees that the work on this volume is in the final stage of completion and hopefully this volume will be ready by March 2013.
- In regard to organising a conference in the name of Abul Qasim Zehrawi in 2013 (which marks 1000 years of his demise) for his extraordinary contributions, it was decided that the conference should preferably be organised on the same date of his demise. Further, Prof. A.R. Momin was requested to prepare the 'concept note' for this conference, who has agreed to prepare the note.
- The Chairman, IOS, informed the members of G.C. and special invitees that the programme organised on 'Peace and Progress: Role of Religions' at Aligarh on February 10-12, 2012 was participated by a number of delegates of various religions from different countries, and they desired that if the 'Centre for Dialogue' is established at Aligarh they should also be associated with this Centre.

The 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Report of the IOS (along with its Executive Summary) for the year 2011-2012 was presented before the Governing Council (G.C.) of the Institute. The same was considered with a sense of appreciation for preparing the Executive Summary, and recommended to the General Assembly (G.A.) of the IOS for its approval.

Further, the lists of books & journals etc. were presented before the Governing Council (G.C.) of the IOS, which are as under:

- i) Books & journals etc. published and released during the IOS Silver Jubilee Celebrations (2011-12): English – 22 Nos. & Urdu – 17 Nos.
- ii) Books translated from English/Arabic into Urdu during 2011-12: 111 Nos.

The members of G.C. and special invitees, after going through the lists, expressed their whole-hearted appreciation for a huge number of books published/translated by the Institute during the year 2011-2012.

#### Consideration of the Audited Report

The Audited Financial Report of the Institute for the year 2010-2011 (assessment year 2011-2012) was considered and recommended to the General Assembly (G.A.) of the Institute of Objective Studies (IOS) for its approval.



**L-R: Prof. Ishtiyaque Danish, Dr. M. Manzoor Alam, Prof. Z.M. Khan and Prof. Manzoor Ahmad**

In regard to holding the International Conference on 'India and Muslim World in 21<sup>st</sup> Century' the members of the G.C. and special invitees were informed that this conference will now be organised on February 15-16, 2013 at New Delhi. And that 10-15 delegates from outside India (preferably Muslim countries) are expected to participate in this conference.

In regard to the progress on establishing the 'Objective University' at Palwal (Haryana) a report was presented before the Governing Council (G.C.) which expressed its satisfaction. However, the G.C. members and special invitees desired that all efforts be made to resolve the issues as early as possible so that the proposed university (a long

cherished goal of the IOS) may take a concrete shape.

Further, keeping in view for engaging young scholars in the activities of the Institute, other than annual meetings, a list of such persons was presented before the Governing Council to be endorsed for being associated members of General Assembly (G.A.) of the IOS. The members and special invitees, appreciating this idea, endorsed the list.

Consideration about establishment of specialised centres

The progress report of all the three existing centres of the IOS i.e. Centre for Arabic & Islamic Studies; and Centre for Computer Learning for Girls (both functioning through the Headquarters), as well as Knowledge Resource Centre (functioning through the Patna Chapter) were presented before the Governing Council of the Institute of Objective Studies (IOS). The members of G.C. and special invitees, after going through the report of all three existing Centres, expressed their satisfaction.

The members of the G.C. and special invitees considered a proposal to

set up specialised Centres in different parts of the country and approved the

same.

As regards the 'Drive for the Eradication of Illiteracy' at New Delhi the Chairman, IOS informed that the work on this project has already begun.

In regard to preparation of special volumes (eight in number) based on the IOS Silver Jubilee Celebration Programmes, the GC was informed that the work on the volume entitled 'Media in a Globalizing World' is in progress and it is expected that the same will be completed by the end of March 2013.

The work on other seven volumes will also start soon.

In regard to seeking collaboration with other like-minded NGOs of the country for promoting academic interaction and exchange of ideas within

Islamic perspective, the G.C. discussed the matter in length and after deliberations it was decided that a list of such NGOs be prepared and a meeting of these NGOs may be held. For this purpose a blue-print should also be prepared by the IOS.

In regard to the programmes organised by the Headquarters after Silver Jubilee Celebrations of the IOS, a report was presented before G.C. that expressed its satisfaction.

In regard to the programme for eradicating illiteracy in the Muslim community particularly in rural and far flung areas, a detailed report was presented before the Governing Council. The G.C. discussed this matter in length and after deliberations approved the creation of a Centre named as the 'Drive for Eradication of Illiteracy' at the Headquarters.

Further, it was decided that the IOS Chapters will also open a unit with them for this purpose. And that this Centre will have a separate organisational structure consisting of mainly youth and have its separate account to be operated by the authorised signatory/signatories. The detailed structure for this purpose should be worked out at the earliest.

In regard to the 5<sup>th</sup> Lifetime Achievement Award (for the year 2011) the unanimously resolved to confer it on Maulana Saeedur Rahman Azmi, a renowned

Islamic scholar and author of a numerous books written in Urdu and Arabic), who is presently Chancellor of the Integral University of Lucknow and Principal of Darul Uloom Nadwatul Ulema, Lucknow.

In regard to Scholarship Scheme the G.C. was informed that the scheme will become operative from the next academic session (i.e. 2013-14) under which scholarship will be provided (on loan basis) to deserving students admitted in Ph.D. but not getting any scholarship from any agency (U.G.C./other autonomous bodies of the government).

The Scholarship Committee will work out the details in respect of areas

and the amount of scholarship as well as the mechanism for getting back the loan.

In regard to preparation of text and reference books as well as translation of the books already available, to support academic programmes in Islamic perspective, the Chairman apprised the G.C. members that as per discussion with Prof. Omar Hasan Kasule of Faculty of Medicine at King Faisal Medical City, Riyadh (KSA) the project will be taken up.

In regard to the progress of work done in respect of IOS Data Bank a detailed report (from March 2011 till December 2012) was presented before the Governing Council (G.C.), which after going through the report expressed its satisfaction and encouraged to continue this work.

In the end the Secretary General of the IOS proposed a vote of thanks.

### General Assembly Meet

The 26<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the General Assembly (G.A.) was held on



A view of the G.A. members

09.12.2012 at 10:00 a.m. in the Committee Room of the IOS, 162, Jogabai Main Road, Jamia Nagar, New Delhi-25.

The following were present:

1. Dr. M. Manzoor Alam in the Chair
2. Prof. Z.M. Khan Secretary General
3. Prof. Ishiyaque Danish Finance Secretary
4. Prof. A.R. Momin Member
5. Dr. Ausaf Ahmad Member
6. Prof. Sanghasen Singh Member
7. Prof. Mohsin Usmani Member
8. Prof. M. Afzal Wani Member
9. Prof. M. Muqim Member
10. Prof. M.G. Husain Member
11. Prof. Faizan Mustafa Member
12. Mr. I. H. Khan Member
13. Dr. Syed Abdul Bari Member
14. Prof. S. Jamaluddin Member

15. Mr. Mushtaq Ahmad Member
16. Prof. Khalid Mirza Member
17. Prof. Naushad Ali Azad Member
18. Dr. Fakhruddin Mohammad Member
19. Dr. Syed Shaukat Ali Member
20. Dr. Md. Imteyaz Hassan Member
21. Prof. Refaqat Ali Khan Member
22. Dr. Major Zahid Husain Member
23. Mr. Shahabuddin Ansari Member
24. Prof. P. Koya Member
25. Dr. E. Abu Backer Member
26. Dr. K.M. Mohammad Member
27. Prof. (Ms.) Haseena Hashia Member
28. Mr. Salar M. Khan Member
29. Dr. Eqbal Hussain Special Invitee
30. Ms. Farhat Azad Special Invitee
31. Mr. Musharraf Hussain Special Invitee
32. Dr. Zafar Habib Special Invitee
33. Mr. Pervez Bari Special Invitee
34. Dr. Zafar Mahfooz Nomani Special Invitee
35. Mr. M. Serajuddin Khan Special Invitee
36. Dr. Fazal Ahmad Special Invitee
37. Dr. Saad Bin Hamid Special Invitee
38. Dr. Shakeel Ahmad Tamanna Special Invitee
39. Mr. Mohammad Alam Special Invitee
40. Mr. Ibrahim Alam Special Invitee
41. Ms. Rizwana Mushtaq Special Invitee
42. Mr. Sanjay K. Rai Special Invitee
43. Ms. Shabnam Ara Special Invitee
44. Dr. Tariq Ashraf Special Invitee

The meeting started with the recitation of verses from the Holy Qur'an by Prof. Mohsin Usmani, who also explained the meaning and context of the verses for the benefit of all.

Adoption of condolence resolutions

Condolence resolutions on the sad demise of Mr. Mauji Khan (Treasurer, All India Milli Council); Dr. Abdul Haq Ansari (Former Amir Jamaat Islami Hind); Dr. Mazhar Imam (a

renowned litterateur of Darbhanga); Maulana

Riyazuddin Rahman Rishadi (an Islamic scholar of Bangalore); Janab Badiur Rahman Jehanabadi (a social activist & Member, All India Milli Council); Dr. Suhail Ahmad (a renowned Physician of Patna); Madam Mariyam Jameelah (a renowned Islamic scholar) and all others who were associated with the Institute, were adopted by the General Assembly (G.A.) of the IOS.

Before taking up the main agenda and starting the business, Dr. M. Manzoor Alam, Chairman, IOS welcomed the members and special invitees for attending the meeting and expressed his satisfaction on the working of the Institute and its Chapters. Further,

he emphasised the need for associating the young scholars with IOS.

Thereafter the main agenda of the meeting was taken up.

The minutes of the General Assembly (G.A.) meeting dated 1.10.2011 were presented and confirmed.

Consideration of the Follow-up Report

The Follow-up Report (Action taken Report) on the last G.A. meeting dated 1.10.2011 was presented General Assembly. The same was considered and approved with the following observations/suggestions and decisions:

- In regard to two awards (i.e. 'Shah Waliullah Award' and 'IOS Lifetime Achievement Award') the Chairman, informed the members that all efforts are being made to get permanent sponsorship for the above two awards, and if we succeed for the same, the other two awards (i.e. 'IOS Award for Minority Rights' and 'Mujaddid Alf Sani Award') will also be taken up on regular basis.
- In regard to implementing the resolutions adopted in the programmes of the IOS Silver Jubilee Celebrations and which were divided into various categories, it was decided that the Monitoring Committee (constituted for implementing all the resolutions) should not wait further for the opinion from the members and special invitees on the notes of Dr. Ausaf Ahmad and Mr. Raju Mansukhani in this respect and start the work as early as possible.
- In regard to organising a conference in the name of Abul Qasim Zehrawi in 2013 (which marks 1000 years of his demise) for his extraordinary contributions, it was decided that the conference should preferably be organised on the date of his demise. Further, Prof. A.R. Momin was requested to prepare the 'concept note' for this conference.
- The Chairman, IOS, informed the G.A. that the programme organised on 'Peace and Progress: Role of Religions' at Aligarh on February 10-12, 2012 was participated by a number of delegates of various religions from different countries,

and they desired that if the 'Centre for Dialogue' is established at Aligarh they should also be associated with this Centre.

The 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Report of the IOS (along with its Executive Summary) for the year 2011-2012 was presented before the G.A. of the Institute. The same was considered by the General Assembly (G.A.) of the IOS with a sense of appreciation for preparing the Executive Summary, and approved.

The Audited Financial Report of the Institute for the year 2010-2011 (assessment year 2011-2012) was considered and approved by the G.A.

The Annual Budget for the year 2012-2013 was also presented and approved.

In regard to holding the International Conference on 'India and Muslim World in 21<sup>st</sup> Century' the members of the G.A. and special invitees were informed that this conference will now be organised on February 15-16, 2013 at New Delhi. And that 10-15 delegates from outside India (preferably Muslim countries) are expected to participate in this conference.

In regard to the progress on establishing the 'Objective University' at Palwal (Haryana) a report was presented before the General Assembly (G.A.) which expressed its satisfaction.

In regard to increasing the number of G.A. members of the IOS, as per resolution adopted in the Governing Council of the Institute, a list of persons was presented before the General Assembly (G.A.) for endorsement. After going through the list, the G.A. endorsed the list of persons as members of the General Assembly of the IOS.

The progress report of the three centres of the IOS i.e. Centre for Arabic & Islamic Studies; and Centre for Computer Learning for Girls (both functioning through the Headquarters), as well as Knowledge Resource Centre (functioning through the Patna Chapter) were presented before the G.A. The G.A. after going through the report expressed its satisfaction.

The G.A. also considered the list of specialised Centres to be established in different parts of the country (as per resolutions adopted during Silver Jubilee Celebration Programmes of the IOS),

and after deliberations, approved the same.

The specialised Centres are as given below:

1. 'Centre for Media and Regional Studies' at Bangalore
2. 'Centre for Media and Regional Studies' at Kolkata
3. 'Centre for Women's Studies' at Calicut
4. 'Global Council for Youth Development' at Chennai
5. 'Centre for Dialogue' at Aligarh
6. 'Drive for Eradication of Illiteracy' at New Delhi

Note: For all the above Centres the 'IOS' will be used as an Icon, and that each Centre will function as an autonomous body.

In regard to Scholarship Scheme the General Assembly was informed that the scheme will become operative from the next academic session (i.e. 2013-14).

After the meeting of General Assembly (G.A.), Hon'ble Justice A.M. Ahmadi (Former Chief Justice of India) delivered a special lecture on "**Increasing Impunity and Declining Rule of Law**". Dr. M. Manzoor Alam presided over the lecture. Prof. Faizan Mustafa (Vice-Chancellor, NALSAR University of Law, Hyderabad) and others congratulated Justice A.M. Ahmadi for delivering his thought-provoking lecture, which was followed by a lively and lengthy discussion.

In the end, Prof. Z.M. Khan, Secretary General of the IOS, acknowledging the full cooperation and active support by all the members of the General Assembly (G.A.) and special invitees, extended thanks to all of them.

## Activities of the IOS Chapters

### CALICUT CHAPTER

#### Discussion on Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act

Institute of objective studies Calicut chapter conducted a discussion on Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) in association with Kerala Chapter of All India IDB Graduate Association on 26-01-2013 at Islamic Youth Centre Auditorium Calicut, Kerala. Br. A A Vahab, Secretary IOS, Calicut Chapter welcomed the



audience. AIGA National president Engg. Muhammed Musthafa presided over the meeting. Adv. K.P.Muhammed Shareef All India Vice President of National Confederation of Human Rights Organisation (NCHRO) presented the topic of the discussion. He gave a brief history of constituting Acts, Rules and regulations against the unlawful activities in India. Majority of those acts mainly aiming to safeguard the interest of the ruling class. In this latest Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act passed in our Parliament also we found the negligence of constitutional rights of the citizens in the country. There is every possibility of misuse against suppressed, oppressed classes and human rights activists.

### PATNA CHAPTER

#### National Workshop

A 5-Day National workshop cum training program on ICT Application for strengthening library services and e-Granthalaya : A Digital agenda of NIC (December 17-21, 2012) was inaugurated by Prof. Ram Bachan Rai, Chairman, Bihar state Library authority on 17<sup>th</sup> Dec. 2012. This national workshop has been organized by the institute of Objective Studies (Patna Chapter) in collaboration with A.N.Sinha Institute of Social Studies, Patna and the National Informatics Centre (NIC), Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, Govt. of India, New Delhi.

Shri D.N. Sahaya, Chairman, ANSISS and Ex-Governor, Chattisgarh and Tripura presided over the function. Prof. Shamshad Hussain, Chairman, Advisory Committee on Education and former Vice Chancellor, NOU and Magadh University was the Chief Guest. Prof. Qamar Ahsan, Ex Vice Chancellor Maulana Mazharul Haque Arabic and Persian University, Dr. D. M. Diwakar, Director ANSISS, Patna, Mr. Santosh Kumar, State Information Officer (SIO) of NIC, Patna and Mr. Shayam Narain Kunwar, Director, Library authority, Govt. of Bihar were special guests of honor on this occasion.

Dr. P. K. Upadhya, Technical director (NIC) delivered the key note address.

Around 60 participants from different parts of the country including Bihar, Jharkhand, Orissa, Nagaland, Delhi, Haryana are attending this workshop.

At the outset Dr. S. F. Rab, Director IOS(Patna Chapter) welcomed the participants and the guests while Prof. Nil Ratan, Registrar ANSISS, Patna proposed vote of thanks. The programme was conducted by Dr. B. L. Sharma the course Co-ordinator.

#### *Contd. from page-1*

For example, the description of *salat* (the daily ritual congregational prayer) is incomplete, although the Qur'an mentions it sixty-seven times as an act of worship comprised of standing in prayer (Q. 22:26, 37:165), bowing (Q. 9:112, 39:9), prostrating (Q. 3:111, 9:112, 22:26, 39:9, 48:27), glorifying God (Q. 18:28, 24:58), and submitting to the Creator (Q. 23:2).

Likewise, although the Qur'an states that each prayer must be performed at a fixed time (Q. 4:103), it does not give very precise details: "early dawn" (Q. 17:78) and "at morning" (Q. 33:42), "when the day begins to decline" (Q. 30:18), "in the afternoon" (Q. 33:42), "at the rising and setting of the sun" (Q. 50:39), and "at the two ends of the day" (Q. 11:114). Clearly, this obligatory daily ritual's somewhat vague images have to be made more specific so that nothing will be left to chance. But where can the necessary information be found if not in the Sunnah? A vast number of hadiths narrate the specific details on the how, when, and where of the *salat*.

*(From The Authority of the Sunnah by Ahmad Eldridge Cleaver in AJISS, pp. 50-51)*

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## **Chaos in UP** by Ishtiyaque Danish

The views expressed in the article do not necessarily reflect the editorial policy of the Newsletter (editor)

The murder of the police officer, Ziaul Haq, speaks volumes about bad law and order situation in UP. Ever since the young Akhilesh Yadav has assumed office as Chief Minister, the anti-social elements are on the prowl. They are bold and intelligent; they commit crime openly and get the innocent people arrested in their place. As a result, the situation has become too depressing, even suffocating for common people. If someone has to see and realize the misery of being a common Indian, he would be well-advised to spend some time in U.P.

Some 20 communal riots, both big and small, have taken place after Samajwadi Party came to power in Lucknow. In most or in almost all the riots Muslims were at the receiving end. They suffered loss of lives and property comparatively more than the majority community. The role of police almost every where has been biased against the Muslims. In fact during many a riot the police was caught napping as they reacted to untoward happenings either late or lazily. The police have also been found wanting in investigating riot-related cases. Almost everywhere real culprits have been at large and either innocent or people who played minor roles in riots were arrested. This kind of policing naturally

emboldened the anti-social elements.

Sometime in late October or early November 2012, the Samajwadi Party “think tank” decided to be tough with the culprits and send a message to the prospective rioters. In cities and towns where riots had taken place, the Districts Administration was asked to arrest the persons who had indulged in rioting, looting, arsoning and murder. Unfortunately the police acted neither fairly nor efficiently.

Take the example of Kosi Kalan where riots had occurred on June 1, 2012. Four people were killed and properties and businesses were looted and set on fire on a very large scale. Of the four persons killed, three were Muslims and one belonged to the Hindu community. The relatives of Muslim victims lodged FIR in which they named the persons including politicians who had carried out the crimes. But the police arrested no big fish and picked up those who had played relatively lesser role or happened to be by-standers at the time of the crime. Almost all the FIRs were weak, and as a result, the arrested persons were out on bail within a month. The rulers in Lucknow and the District officers in Mathura realized that some of the arrested persons ought to be detained under National Security Act in order to send a message

to the anti-social elements. As a result Mr Khalid Ali and Mr. Mukesh Giroria were detained under NSA. The police deliberately allowed errors in detention order of Mr. Mukesh, for instance, his home address was wrongly stated in the detention order and as a result the Advisory Board did not confirm his detention and he walked out of jail. On the contrary no such mistake was made in the detention order of Mr. Khalid Ali and he is still languishing in jail.

Khalid Ali happened to be in the mosque where the riot first broke out. The police dropped him at his house, though a part of it had already been set on fire. Everyone in Kosi Kalan knows that he had played no role in riots, though the local Hindi media had launched a vicious propaganda against him in order to save the real culprits. Both the political class and the police have to think that it is their inefficiency, bias and shortsightedness which are responsible for bad law and order situation in UP. The Samajwadi Party should not miss the point that Muslims suffered not only during the riots, they are also being arrested and tried on false charges, even detained under NSA. The real culprits are smiling in their homes at the foolish and short-sighted approach of the UP government.