



# Husseini Islamic Center

A Registered 501(c)(3) Not For Profit Organization

## **Eid-ul-Fitr Address by the President of Husseini Islamic Center**

As Salamun Alaikum Wa Rahmatullahi Wa Barakatu,  
All praise is due to ALLAH (SWT), the Lord of the Universe, Him only we worship and from HIM only we seek guidance. We pray that HE keeps us on the right path, on Sirat-ul-Mustakeem and may His choicest blessings be on Muhammed and A'ale Muhammed.

On behalf of my family and myself as well as all the members of the Managing Committee, I take this opportunity of wishing you all and your families – Eid Mubarak and pray that ALLAH (SWT) accepts all your duas and hajaats. Ameen  
I am also thankful to ALLAH (SWT) for giving us the opportunity to serve HIM and our Ahlul Bayt (A.S.)

As with any joyous occasion, we look around our families and we remember all the family members who were here in the past Eids and are no longer here with us. So lets us remember all our family and friends who are no longer with us and pray that ALLAH (SWT) who is Rahman and Raheem, forgives them and has mercy on their souls and lets us recite one Sur-e-Fateha for all of them.... – AL-FATEHA

The Muslim Ummah is today celebrating this auspicious day of Eid-ul-Fitr and some celebrated it yesterday. Whether it was yesterday or today, our HIC community is proud to be part of those celebrations. There are many of us who are fortunate to have the luxury of going home from here and celebrating this day with our families and friends, exchanging presents and gifts and ofcourse eating all the delicious foods, but we would not be doing justice if we forget our fellow Muslims who are in dire need of our help in Somalia and in other places throughout the world. No shelter, no food, families lost, and children who have become orphans overnight. On this joyous day, lets not forget them and pray that ALLAH (SWT) eases their burden and removes their pain and helps them out of this turmoil. We have all been blessed with income and wealth and whilst some have more than others, we for sure have more than what the people of Somalia have. ALLAH (SWT) has entrusted this wealth to us and it therefore becomes mandatory for all of us to help these people in any way possible. Let us all make the niyyah tonight, right now, that we will give whatever we can to assist these poor and desperate people and in turn help ourselves, because in giving charity there is a great reward for ourselves.

Locally, we are faced with challenging times. So called MUSLIMS have created and still continue to create havoc in our peaceful country by falsifying the teachings of Islam and carrying out acts of terrorism that is condemned by the true teachings of Islam. We as Shia Muslims have to get together and reflect on the true message of Islam, which is Peace. In fact, time has come for us as a community to finish our “reflecting” and carry out



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this message of peace. As proud American citizens, we are thankful of the religious freedom that this country has availed us and the opportunities it has provided for us. As a community, we have to get together and realize that our identity, our foundation and our culture together with the true teachings of Islam is the formula that has gotten us where we are today. From a handful of families 20 years ago to over 200 families today is quiet an achievement. Despite early challenges, it is Islam that has managed to keep us together as brothers and sisters in common faith and our foundation and culture eventually recreated and will continue to recreate the bond that was needed to become a successful community.

The HIC community, Alhamdulillah added a few more families to its membership this year and I welcome all of them to our community. This trend will continue for years to come as those who have moved here always say good things about Florida to others in the North, who eventually give in!

As our numbers grow, change will come and change is inevitable. It is up to us to be able to adapt to it. The time is now to ensure that we build a concrete foundation that will help us become the trendsetting community in the Shia Ithnasheri world, as well as put us on the path to be the largest community in North America in the coming future InshAllah. In order to build that foundation, the community needs to re emphasize on the basic moral codes such as respect, patience and struggle. Each and everyone of us here whether we like it or not, are role models for the young ones in our community who watch our every move and learn from it. If we want them to be better Muslims and better leaders, we have to train them from today by our actions.

We as a community also have a responsibility to this wonderful nation that we live in. Most of our fathers and grandfathers brought us here from Africa or India, to achieve the American dream. Today, in this country, we are allowed to practice our religion freely, anywhere at anytime.

We have to all thank our parents for taking the bold step over 30 years ago to move to a country such as this. They gave up all they had for a better future for us. After arriving here, they found jobs, started businesses, put us through schooling and set up Islamic organizations so that we have an avenue whereby we can acquire our Islamic Education. Unfortunately, today, the name of Islam has been tainted by a few who believe that killing innocent people is a service to God. We as a community and as Shia Muslims condemn these acts of terrorism here and throughout the world. We have condemned them in the past; we will continue to condemn such horrific acts NOW and in the FUTURE! As a community, and as proud Citizens of this country, we have a duty to aid the local and federal authorities in the best possible way, to protect the entire Community and in turn protect our religion and our country.

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The message here is clear, we are not terrorists and we are not extremists!! We have never been and we never will be! We respect the faith of others and look forward to living in a community that promotes peace and harmony. We look toward our Youths who have a better education than we have, to come forward and to take up the challenge and defend our 'mazhab' and our faith and speak up every time and anytime there is an attack on our religion. We cannot afford to keep quiet.

Alhamdulillah, the programs at the Center were successful and I would like to personally thank Shaikh Jaffer Ladak and Shaikh Jaffer Jaffer for leaving their families during this holy month of Ramadhan and coming here and sharing their knowledge with us. May ALLAH (SWT) continue to shower them with his blessings and we look forward to seeing them again Inshallah.

The preparation for this month of Ramadhan requires a lot of behind the scene work, and therefore I thank all the cooks and the volunteers in the ladies and gents as well as the workshop teachers who took time off their busy schedule to come to the Center and prepare for our programs.

Inshallah, going forward, there are a few projects and ideas that we will be embarking on soon and once these projects are finalized on our end, we will be presenting them to you for approval and again we ask for your whole hearted support on them, for it is by the Will of ALLAH (SWT) that we serve this community with clean intentions and actions.

Before I close, I also wish to draw attention to all of you that we have people and families in our community who are quietly suffering and hardly able to meet their ends during these dire economic times. I feel it is our religious duty to assist these people, whether by referring them to any jobs available, or if you have a business, by providing them with employment. It is a great embarrassment for anyone to extend his or her hand to a fellow human being. Let us ease their hardship by coming forward and allowing them to apply for jobs, as this way, they will have their dignity in place. And if we are not able to provide any jobs to them, then lets not forget them and make contributions to the Welfare and Sadaqa funds that are open that will help them ease some of their financial burdens. And if you cannot even do that much, then please remember them in your daily duas that Oh ALLAH, please help those who are in need today and everyday, here and everywhere.

Was Salamu Alaikum Warahmatullahi Wa Barakatu.

**Riyaz Jivraj**  
**President**  
**Husseini Islamic Center**