

Darul Iftaa Report 2021

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

نُحْمَدُهُ وَنُصَلِّي عَلَى رَسُولِهِ الْكَرِيمِ

Respected Muftis, Respected Ulama, Honourable Guests, and all those that are listening to this program:

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكُمْ وَرَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ وَبَرَكَاتُهُ

All praise is due to Allah alone, Who has granted us the 'Tawfeeq to engage in the field of learning and imparting the knowledge of Deen.

The engagement of learning and imparting the knowledge of Deen is a very great bounty of Allah. Almighty Allah chooses whoever He wants to bear this sacred knowledge and impart this sacred knowledge.

Hadhrat Ali Radhyallahu Anhu has encapsulated the essence of the knowledge of Deen in the following few couplets:

رَضِينَا قِسْمَةَ الْجَبَّارِ فِينَا

لَنَا عِلْمٌ وَلِلْجُهَّالِ مَالٌ

فَإِنَّ الْمَالَ يَفْنَى عَنْ قَرِيبٍ

وَإِنَّ الْعِلْمَ بَاقٍ لَا يَزَالُ

We are happy with the decree of Jabbar (Allah), regarding us.

For us is the knowledge of Deen, and for the unlearned, is wealth.

Verily, wealth will soon decrease,

and knowledge will remain forever.

During the battle of Hunain, when Rasulullah (Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam) was distributing wealth to some people who newly accepted Islam, some people felt that they should be more deserving of the booty. Rasulullah (Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam) gathered the Ansaar in a tent and told them,

أَلَا تَرَضَوْنَ أَنْ يَذْهَبَ النَّاسُ بِالشَّأْءِ وَالبَعِيرِ ، وَتَذْهَبُونَ بِالنَّبِيِّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ إِلَى رِحَالِكُمْ

Are you'll not happy that people are taking wealth (sheep and camels) to their homes, and the Rasul of Allah is returning to Madinah with you? (Sahih Al-Bukhari- 4330)

The Ansaars returned home, to Madinah Munawwarah with the physical presence of Rasulullah (Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam). Similarly, a student of Deen returns home with the spiritual presence of Rasulullah (Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam) in the form of the knowledge of Deen.

I always advise students that a businessman conducts an audit at the end of his business term. When he observes that his wealth has increased, he becomes proud and happy with the increase of wealth.

When a student of Deen conducts an audit upon the official completion of his studies, he returns home with something more superior than the wealth of a businessman. A student of Deen actually returns home with the inheritance of Rasulullah (Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam).

Alhamdulillah, this year 23 Ulama, students of the Darul Iftaa will graduate as Muftis. They will receive certificates for completing the two-year Iftaa course. They will also receive certificates for completing the Islamic Finance and Economic course.

Alhamdulillah, every officially qualified student has passed with distinction. The names are called out in alphabetical order. The names of the graduating students are:

- 1) Mufti Abdullah Noorgat
South Africa
Graduated from - Darul Uloom Hameediyah
- 2) Mufti Abrar Habib
USA
Graduated from – Darus-Salaam, Chicago
- 3) Mufti Ahmed Patel
South Africa
Graduated from - Darul Uloom Azaadville
- 4) Mufti Ahmad-Ur-Rahman Patel
South Africa
Graduated from - Darul Uloom Azaadville
- 5) Mufti Aker Uddin
USA
Graduated from – Darul Uloom Azaadville

- 6) Mufti Bilal Yusuf Pandor
Zambia
Graduated from – Darul Uloom Bury
- 7) Mufti Ebrahim Ahmed Dadan
South Africa
Graduated from - Madrasah Taleemuddin, Isipingo
- 8) Mufti Fayyaadh Cassim
South Africa
Graduated from – Darul Uloom Azaadville
- 9) Mufti Hammad Jogiat
Canada
Graduated from - Darul Uloom Azaadville
- 10) Mufti Hasan Ahmed Razzak
USA
Graduated from - Darul Uloom New York
- 11) Mufti Ikraam Gangat
Zambia
Graduated from - Darul Uloom Zakariyya
- 12) Mufti Mahmood Suliman
Botswana
Graduated from - Darul Uloom Azaadville
- 13) Mufti Mirza Zain Baig
Canada
Graduated from - Darul Uloom Canada
- 14) Mufti Mohamed Ebrahim Abdulla
South Africa
Graduated from – Madrasa Taleemuddin, Isipingo
- 15) Mufti Mohammed Ahmed Saleh
United Kingdom
Graduated from – Jamiatul-ilm wal-Huda

- 16) Mufti Mohammed Akhtar Abdul Gaffar
South Africa
Graduated from - Darul Uloom Numaaniyyah

- 17) Mufti Mudassir Peeron Benish
USA
Graduated from - Darul Uloom Azaadville

- 18) Mufti Muhammad Bayazeed
United Kingdom
Graduated from – Jamiatul-Ilm Wal-Huda

- 19) Mufti Muhammad Bin Zayn Patel
South Africa
Graduated from - Darul Uloom Hameediyyah

- 20) Mufti Naved Akhtar Sohtun
India
Graduated from – Darul Uloom Deoband

- 21) Mufti Shakib Labibul Alam
USA
Graduated from - Darul Uloom New York

- 22) Mufti Usaamah Suleman Dadipatel
South Africa
Graduated from – Darul Uloom Azaadville

- 23) Mufti Zaakir Ismail
South Africa
Graduated from – Darul Uloom Hameediyyah

Every student is also required as part of his graduation to present two theses on some contemporary Fiqhi issues that have not been discussed before or requires further research. All the theses will be uploaded on the Darul Iftaa website after review for the benefit of the Ulama. The theses of the previous students are also on the Darul Iftaa website. All the theses make for beneficial academic read.

It is my heartfelt Dua that Allah accept the efforts and sacrifices of these graduating Muftis. Ameen. I take this opportunity to congratulate and offer Mubarak Baad to you for such a great achievement.

Alhamdulillah, you have done extremely well and you made a great investment for your hereafter. You have spent almost eight years of your youth in the path of Allah sacrificing to acquire Ilm-e-Deen for the pleasure of Allah.

Rasulullah said,

(سَبْعَةٌ يُظِلُّهُمُ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى فِي ظِلِّهِ يَوْمَ لَا ظِلَّ إِلَّا ظِلُّهُ: وَشَابٌّ نَشَأَ فِي عِبَادَةِ اللَّهِ، (صحيح البخاري-1423)

Translation: “Seven people will get the shade of the throne of Allah on the day of Qiyaamah when there won’t be any shade but the shade of the throne of Allah.” One will be a youth who nurtured himself in the worship of Allah. (Sahih Al-Bukhari-1423)

One of the greatest forms of worship is acquiring the knowledge of Deen which comes with great amount of sacrifices.

Beloved Students,

Allah is As Shakur. Allah is All Appreciative. He appreciates your sacrifices. May you excel in this world and in the Hereafter. Ameen.

I take this opportunity to congratulate the parents, the mothers and the fathers of the qualifying Muftis. This is indeed a great day of happiness and joy for you. Allah chose your flesh and blood through your child to carry this sacred knowledge.

I often tell my students that it is possible that Allah blessed you with this sacred knowledge of Deen because of some virtue in your parents. You, as parents of such a child are very special in the sight of Allah.

Respected Parents,

You too have made a great investment for your Hereafter.

Rasulullah said,

(إِذَا مَاتَ الْإِنْسَانُ انْقَطَعَ عَنْهُ عَمَلُهُ، إِلَّا مِنْ ثَلَاثَةٍ أَشْيَاءَ: صَدَقَةٌ جَارِيَةٌ، أَوْ عِلْمٌ يُنْتَفَعُ بِهِ، أَوْ وَكَلَدٌ صَالِحٌ يَدْعُو لَهُ (سنن الترمذي -1376)

May Allah accept all your sacrifices and May Allah accept your child for the services of Deen. May Allah make them a great Thawaab Jaariyah for you and your entire family. Ameen.

Respected Muftis, Ulama and Guests, the Covid-19 period has been very emotionally challenging upon the Ummah. We sympathize with all those people that have lost their near and dear ones during the Covid period. May Allah grant all the Marhumeen Jannatul Firdous. May Allah make their Qabr a garden of Paradise. May Allah grant their families Sabr Jameel. Ameen.

The Darul Iftaa has been extremely busy with Covid-19 related questions ranging from,

1. Contagious diseases
2. Wearing the face masks
3. Social distancing

4. Covid and economic related issues
5. Disputes between landlords and tenants
6. Low returns on property investment schemes
7. Disputes between travel agents and clients due to Haj and Umrah bookings and cancellations.
8. The Vaccine issue, conspiracies, efficacious etc.
9. Cii related queries

Our approach in addressing such issues is the following Hadith:

إِبْرَاهِيمَ بْنِ عَبْدِ الرَّحْمَنِ الْعُدْرِيِّ قَالَ: قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ: يَحْمِلُ هَذَا الْعِلْمَ مِنْ كُلِّ خَلْفٍ عُدُولُهُ يُنْفُونَ عَنْهُ تَحْرِيفَ الْعَالِيْنَ وَائْتِحَالَ الْمُبْطِلِيْنَ وَتَأْوِيلَ الْجَاهِلِيْنَ (مشكاة المصابيح)

Translation: Just people will carry this knowledge of Deen from the pious ancestors,

- 1) They will reject the changes made by extremists.
- 2) They reject wrong attributions of false claims.
- 3) They will reject incorrect interpretations of ignorant people.

We have observed from the rulings of the Illustrious Fuqahaa and our Akabir Muftis that whilst they adopted Taqwa in their personal lives, they adopted a moderate and practical approach in guiding the Ummah.

We advise one and all to tolerate differences of opinion and not let the differences pollute and contaminate our Imaan and spirituality.

Whilst there was much discussion on the vaccine issue against the virus, there should now be more discussion on vaccinating ourselves against extremism, against intolerance, and against engaging in backbiting, gossiping, and referring to Ulama and Muftis with derogative names and terms.

Remember, the Deen of the general masses lie in respecting the Ulama. If the masses lose and respect for the Muftis and Ulama, that will corrode their Iman. It is also the responsibility of the Ulama themselves to display and promote mutual respect for Ulama.

When we differ with each other, it should be done with decorum and honour and without compromising in presenting what we believe to be the correct view.

Respected Guests,

Alhamdulillah, Darul Iftaa Mahmudiyyah has completed 10 academic years. Thus far, 80 Ulama have graduated as Muftis from Darul Iftaa Mahmudiyyah.

Alhamdulillah, Darul Iftaa Mahmudiyyah has its branches in the form of physical Darul Iftaas in the US, UK, Canada, Mozambique, Mauritius, Malawi, Zambia, Russia, Australia, Jamaica, Trinidad, and the Netherlands. The Darul Iftaa has approximately 20 affiliate websites managed by the students of Darul Iftaa.

We encourage our graduates to establish Darul Iftaas and Fatawa websites and serve the Ummah through that. There are many people misleading the Ummah in the cyber world through false titles and corrupt rulings. There is need for reliable Ulama to combat the Fitnah in the cyberspace.

Respected Ulama, Honourable Guests and Listeners,

The AskImam website run by the Darul Iftaa is now revamped and launched with new facilities.

The IdealWoman website is also run by the Darul Iftaa and has been very useful in guiding women in feminine related issues.

The IdealWoman Fatawa are compiled in three volumes and will be published soon Inshallah.

The Darul Mahmood website is an Islahi website. All the Islahi talks are uploaded on that website. The Duroos of Bukhari Shareef and the discourses on Al Heelatun Naajizah are also on the Darul Mahmood website.

One Humanity

The Darul Iftaa operates the One Humanity welfare Foundation.

I personally oversee the running of One Humanity activities.

One Humanity has been very active during Covid-19 in various places in South Africa, Jordan, Syria, Gaza, and Malawi.

One Humanity will be publishing its newsletter with all its activities soon Inshallah. We appeal to one and all to contribute to the welfare projects of One Humanity.

Mediation and Arbitration

Alhamdulillah, the Darul Iftaa also provides the services of commercial mediation and arbitration. In the past two years, we have successfully mediated and arbitrated many commercial related disputes worth many millions of Rands. Most of our interventions are resolved through mediation. This is well known in the business sector.

We humbly advise our business community to resolve their business disputes according to Shariah and avoid referring the disputes to the courts. This is a wastage of money and resources. Besides that, the ruling of the courts are not according to Shariah.

Investment Schemes and Shariah Compliancy

The Darul Iftaa has designed the Al-Mabroor Buffalo, Al-Mabroor Property, and Al-Mabroor Cattle Investment Schemes to be Shariah compliant. We have been receiving queries about new cattle investment schemes in some places in Natal and other places. The Darul Iftaa have approved only the Al-Mabroor Cattle investment schemes and no other cattle investment schemes. No other cattle investment scheme should be attributed to the Darul Iftaa.

The Darul Iftaa also oversees the Shariah compliancy of HBZ Islamic Branch.

Al-Ansaar Foundation has requested Darul Iftaa to oversee its Zakat activities and have given the Darul Iftaa complete mandate over its Zakat portfolios. Al-Ansaar has many noble welfare projects and the Darul Iftaa is committed to assist Al-Ansaar in their welfare projects through its Zakat portfolio.

The Darul Iftaa has designed Mega Rewards, a Shariah compliant Halal rewards programme which will be launched soon.

The Darul Iftaa wishes to point out that anyone dealing in any investment scheme or business activity overseen by the Darul Iftaa does so according to their own risk.

The Darul Iftaa does not take any credit for any profit nor does it take any responsibility for any loss.

Shukriyah

We live in this inter dependent world. We cannot do everything by ourselves. We only rely on the support and assistance of our near and dear ones. There are many silent and sincere soldiers behind the services of the Darul Iftaa. If we were to name them, the list will be too long. They are the donors, doctors, food outlets, plumbers, electricians, etc. they would not want to be named and acknowledged in public and prefer preserving their anonymity and hope for **قبولية** and reward by Allah.

May All Mighty Allah reward every one of you from His infinite treasures and most importantly, reward you with His pleasure.

ورضوان من الله الأكبر

Yes, of course, I have to acknowledge the sincere efforts and sacrifices made by Mufti Husain Kadodia Hafizahullah for taking out his precious time and teaching the students. May Allah accept his sacrifices and reward him on our behalf. May Allah reward his parents and his family, and may Allah make his children the coolness of his eyes and grant him more than his expectations. Aameen.

I wish to express my deepest Shukriyyah to my most beloved Ustad, Hazrat Moulana Suleman Choksi Saheb Madda Zilluhu for always favoring me with his special love, care and affection. It is my heartfelt Dua, Allah grant Barakah to Hazrat Moulana Suleman Choksi Saheb in his life and health and may Allah make his Khidmat a means of great Sawaab-e-Jaariyah for him and his entire family.

Ebrahim Desai

March 21, 2021