

QUARTERLY UPDATES NEWS LETTER



Bilal hall majaalis in Muharram

At Bilal Hall in Mombasa, daily Majaalis were held for gents and ladies during the first nine days of Muharram. The central theme for the gents' sessions was Kerbala – Paragon of Struggle and Resistance, with an average attendance of 185 individuals. Four different lecturers offered insights, covering topics such as the proper upbringing of children and lessons from the events of Kerbala. For the ladies' Majaalis, the theme was Woman and Liberation, focusing on spiritual growth through the examples of the women of Ahlulbayt. These sessions saw around 100 women and children in attendance each day.

Majaalis at rural centres in Muharram

Majaalis were held daily at 15 Bilal Centres in Kwale, Makueni, and Taita Taveta counties as well as and 38 independent centres supported by the Mission.

LABBAIKA YA HUSSEIN!!!

Several sessions were organized – children only, ladies only and larger community sessions at which niyaz was served. Ashura Day prayers and processions attracted large numbers of attendees exhibiting the enduring influence and growing reach of Imam Husain's legacy in rural Kenya.



Online zoom sessions in Muharram

Sister Ruiya Salim from the Tabligh Department conducted daily Zoom sessions for women at the rural centers, benefiting an average of 350 participants. The sessions emphasized the role of women in uplifting their families, focusing particularly on child upbringing and instilling Husaini values.



A visit from Tanzania

During Ashara Zainabiyah, Sheikh Mulabah Saleh of Tanzania was invited to recite majalis for ladies and gents at Bilal Hall in Mombasa. Additionally, he visited Al Hujjah Centre in Chengoni and Ahlulbayt Centre in Shimoni, where he lectured and interacted with the respective local communities. The theme of his majalis was the rights and responsibilities of women in Islam.





Blood drive

Ar-Ridha Bilal Centre in Mtongwe held a blood donation drive in commemoration of the martyrdom of Imam Hussain (a.s), on the 24th August. A total of 23 units of blood were collected after donors registered and underwent health screenings conducted by Red Cross pharmacists. The centre has been conducting this program for three consecutive years now.



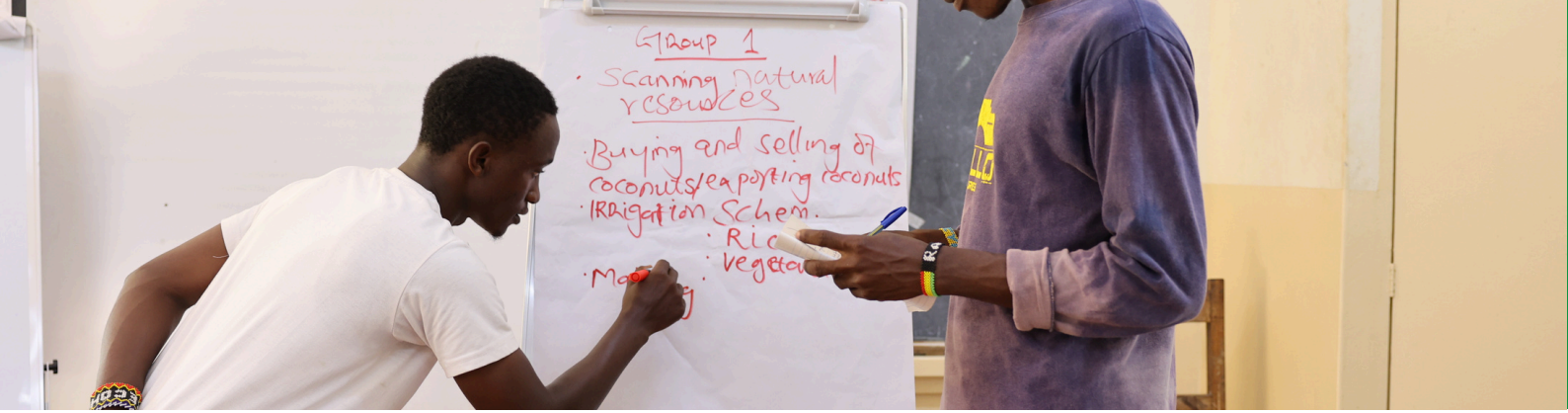
Centre renovation

All facilities at the Husayni Centre in Bahakanda are being fully renovated. Work on-site began on 15th July 2024. Significant progress has been made, including the completion of ceiling and painting works, as well as electrical installations in the Mosque and classrooms. All washroom works have also been finalized. We have recently begun renovating some facilities at The Al-Hujjah Centre in Chengoni.



Bahakanda tailoring class

The construction of the tailoring classes at Husayni Centre in Bahakanda, which began on 24th May 2024, is now in its final stages. With plastering, electrical wiring and ceiling works completed, the structure is almost ready to serve the community. Once finished, this new facility will provide a much-needed dedicated space for tailoring education. Construction of classes in Nzavoni is also underway and will serve communities in Nzavoni, Kilungu and Masogaleni.



Fostering entrepreneurship

In July 2024, Sheikh Hassan Rocky and Sheikh Khamis Chimvatsi of Bilal Muslim Mission of Kenya attended the International Labour Organization's (ILO) Start and Improve Your Business (SIYB) Training of Trainers (ToT) in Dar es Salaam. On their return to Kenya, they held a series of comprehensive workshops whose target groups included youth and women.



Those who were thinking of starting a business or growing and improving their businesses found these sessions very helpful. The program included hands-on outdoor sessions and interactive indoor classes. The sessions were held at the Al-Mahdi Centre in Burani.

Solar lamp distribution

On September 12th, we delivered solar lamps to four women-run businesses at Mackinnon Road. These lamps are a perfect solution for the area's frequent blackouts and lack of reliable power. The dedicated hardworking businesswomen will greatly benefit from this initiative, as they continue smooth operations despite power outages. This initiative was also carried out in Miamba, where high-achieving Madaris students were rewarded with solar lamps and in Moyeni, where a businesswoman and widows with school-going children received lamps.





Installation of solar lighting at dokata traders – business run by sister khadija

Water projects

A solar-powered water purification plant complete with its housing was installed at Ahlukisa centre in Kichakamkwaju during August and September. The system is now ready to serve the community. Once launched, the plant will provide clean, safe water to over 600 families, greatly improving their access to potable water and overall quality of life.



Water Kiosk in conjunction with Bilal Kenya reached out to the Burani and Moyeni communities in the month of September. The communities were sensitized to Water Safety. This included practical demonstrations on how one can check their water using bacteriological kits.



Wafat of the Holy Prophet (S) and Imam Ridha (A)

The wafats of the Holy Prophet (S) and Imam Ridha (A) were commemorated at all our centres. Community members gathered to pay tribute to these holy personalities and gain valuable insight into their lives and teachings.



Madaris examinations

End-of-term 2 examinations were successfully conducted at all 15 of our Madaris in September, providing an essential opportunity to assess and evaluate the quality of teaching and learning achieved throughout the term. These evaluations serve as a cornerstone for continuous improvement as we ensure that students are meeting educational objectives whilst simultaneously growing in their spiritual and academic journeys.



Environmental and outdoor activities

At all our pre-primary schools, creativity and an appreciation for the environment are actively fostered through engaging activities that promote hands-on learning. In the month of September, pre-primary children at Al-Mahdi Samburu spent some time outdoors in the school's kitchen garden, exploring and learning.



These hands-on experiences not only foster a deeper understanding of nature but also reinforce important concepts that seamlessly translate into classroom learning, enriching the children's overall educational journey.



Student life in Mtongwe

At the Mtongwe Vocational Training Centre, students are immersed in a well-rounded educational experience that combines vocational training with Islamic studies. Courses offered include carpentry, electrical installation, motor vehicle mechanics and comprehensive computer classes three times a week, equipping students with valuable skills for their future careers. They have made remarkable progress in acquiring both professional expertise and Islamic knowledge including reciting the Quran and understanding Islamic practices.



Beyond the classroom, students have demonstrated strong social responsibility by forming a charitable group to help those in need, further enriching their personal growth and development.



From Trees to Forests

In September 2024, the Bilal Muslim Mission of Kenya continued its environmental conservation efforts with successful tree planting and seedball initiatives at Samburu Centre. The initiative, guided by the efforts of dedicated volunteers, saw students from the Samburu Environmental Club—formed under the guidance of the Mission—taking an active role in planting and nurturing neem, passion, and pawpaw seedlings, using innovative methods like charcoal dust to improve growth.



The project also extended to Chengoni Centre, where students and community members participated in creating a mini forest and planting avocados. These activities are part of BMMK's ongoing commitment to promoting sustainability and environmental awareness across its centers.



Milad un nabi

We participated in the annual Milad-un-Nabi procession in Mombasa and hosted celebratory programs at Hussaini Masjid in Mombasa and at all our centres where meat was distributed to community members. Additionally, we supported events in Malindi and Lamu. Several larger intrafaith gatherings were organized at the rural centers, attracting a significant number of attendees.



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