



MALAY NEWS LETTER

# TERANG



**SURAT KHABAR MELAYU SRI LANKA**

Quarterly

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## **"SHARING HERITAGES INTO THE NEXT MILLENNIUM"**

*(In our Global Village)*

By Kartini Mohamed (Researcher / Communicator)

Its 2000! At this historic point in time, as the world's communities (including the Sri Lankan Malay Community) are ZOOMING into the New Millennium; many decided that it was now "high time" to collectively pause and see how the many New Challenges of the New Era could be met --- THROUGH EFFECTIVE, CONCERTED & SUSTAINABLE ACTION.

Amongst the many Challenges facing our Sri Lankan Malay Community in this Era of "Globalization" & "Hectic-Struggle-for-Survival", is that we are fast losing our Identity. Even our UNIQUE ELEMENTS OF SRI LANKAN MALAY HERITAGE (UEoSLMH) seem to be inexorably disappearing into the dustbin of time, with the problem being - HOW MUCH OF THESE UEoSLMAH WILL STILL BE A "LIVING HERITAGE" DURING THE NEXT MILLENNIUM OR EVEN THE NEXT CENTURY ?

Saudara Saudari, what ACTION CAN BE TAKEN TO ASSIST IN THE IDENTIFICATION, DOCUMENTATION, PRESERVATION, PROPAGATION & DEVELOPMENT OF THESE UEoSLMH -- so that they could still be "Living Heritages" to be Shared / Communicated into the Next Millennium; is something which we all could collectively give our attention to, isn't it?

TO BE CONTINUED IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF "TERANG"

Till then - here are some DATES OF UNDECALRED SPECIAL OBSERVANCES FOR 2000 & THE 1ST QUARTER - that could assist us in PLANNING GROUP ACTIVITIES that could be held in conjunction with the UN OBSERVANCE. As this is being done by Special Interest Groups to FOCUS ATTENTION Strategically using Policy to "THINK GLOBALLY & ACT LOCALLY")

### THE YEAR 2000

"INT. YEAR FOR THE CULTURE OF PEACE"  
& "INT. YEAR OF THANKS GIVING"

### March 08th 2000

"U.N.DAY FOR WOMENS RIGHTS & INT. PEACE"  
(WOMENS DAY)

### March 21st 2000

"INT.DAY FOR THE ELIMINATION OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION"

### Above Date (21st) Also Begins

"WEEK OF SOLIDARITY WITH THE PEOPLES  
STRUGGLING AGAINST RACISM & RACIAL  
DISCRIMINATION"

**"TERANG" WISHES ITS READERS A  
HAPPY & PEACEFUL - ID - UL - FITR  
LET US UNITE**

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## MARRIAGE PROPOSALS

Malay mother seeks for her 28 year old daughter Malay bridegroom between 30 and 38 years with religious background. Reply to Sdri. G.F. Mohamed, 553/88, Wickremasinghepura, Jayawadanagama, Battaramulla 10120.

MP/07/99

Brother seeks suitable marriage partner for 5' 2" fair sister aged 33 years. Suitable financial assistance and jewellery will be assets. Please reply to Sdr. T.R.S. Miskin 155/B, Ambagamuwa Road, Nawalapitiya.

MP/08/99

Father seeks suitable partner for 20 years old daughter 5' 3" in height, fair in complexion with short hair working as Secretary in a leading company. Please contact on Telephone No. 075 - 510950

MP/09/99

Uncle seeks suitable partner for 25 years old niece 5' 6" in height, fair in complexion with long hair in the teaching profession. Please contact on Telephone No. 075 - 510950

MP/10/99

Brother from down south seeks suitable partner for sister divorcee 27 years with substantial assets homely religious and non-working. Please Reply c/o The Editor.

MP/11/99

Friend seeks for a 40 years old Urban Council member and Co-ordinating Secretary to a Minister from down south a homely, religious and pleasant bride above 30 years. Please reply c/o The Editor.

MP/12/99

Mother seeks suitable partner for her 24 year old daughter employed as a receptionist in a leading mercantile firm. Please Reply c/o The Editor.

MP/13/99

Father seeks a suitable partner for his daughter 27 years employed in a reputed establishment. Please Reply c/o The Editor.

MP/14/99

Parents seek a suitable partner for their son 24 years holding sound and lucrative employment and well furnished large house of their own. Please Reply c/o The Editor

MP/15/99

Friend seeks a suitable partner for 29 year old bride employed as a Secretary in a large Organisation. Please Reply c/o The Editor

MP/16/99

Family with good background seek a simple and friendly partner for bride 29 years fair, thin and tall. Highly qualified and employed as an Executive. Please Reply c/o The Editor

MP/17/99

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### MARRIAGE PROPOSAL

Recently I observed, in the Sunday Observer two marriage proposals by Malay parents.

In one, the Malay parents do not want dowry hunters to apply. I think this is correct and appropriate method to stop the Dowry System at least among Malays.

In the other advertisement it was stated that Moors will be considered. I do not think that this statement is appropriate. Generally Moors are dowry hunters, having borrowed the custom from Hindus from India, and their out look towards religion is quite in contrast to that of the Malays. Malays are not fanatics and if there is any, it is because he or she had been influenced by the Moors. A marriage between Malays and moors will not be a happy one.

M.Zain Rahman - Rajagiriya.

### *To Readers and Well Wishers of "Terang"*

It is my humble suggestion that as 2000 is the UN Designated "INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THANKSGIVING": we could all begin this Special Year by demonstrating our "SINCERE THANKS" to those painstakingly devoted to compiling / publishing and circulating this valuable "TERANG" by GIVING IN OUR SUBSCRIPTIONS EARLY, POSSIBLY ALONG WITH ANY EXTRA CONTRIBUTION, OR BY INTRODUCING NEW SUBSCRIBERS.

Such support would surely convey our sincere appreciation, which is surely due to all those who initiated, carried-on and saw to the continuation of "TERANG" for over a decade and into this New Era !

Is this not something we need to collectively act on. Certainly, to start with, the S.L.A.M.A.C. Secretariat should be duty bound to meet at their earliest and thereafter communicate with its affiliated organization, accordingly.

Mrs. Kartini Mohamed - Colombo.

### CORRECTION .....

The article titled 'The Malays of Sri Lanka's - Terang issue Volume 2 No. 4, 4th quarter Oct- Dec. 1998 was contributed by saudara Fazeer Radin in memory of Chandra Putra S. Laxana

### PENPALS CORNER

Maas Husna Usuf - 16 Years  
C/O M.H. Usuf  
Investment Section  
P.O. Box 77,  
Abu Dhabi  
Hobby - Reading



# 

Oleh : Nizam Samath (Kandy)

**Dakrina Burah-** is the daughter of the late Baba Askin Dane Suhood and Dane Engsie Sukhla. She is the sister of B. D. Suhood, the First Malay Commercial Pilot (1958) Armond Sukhla, Wita Rahim, Teruni Goonetillaka and Roshan wijesinghe, she is the wife of the late Hadjie Burah and mother of Tarini.

She had her early education at the Presbyterian Girls School where she excelled in sports becoming the senior champion (1948 - 1950) Games Captain and the First Malay to be Head Girl and then Captain of the School "Do You Know Contest Team" She joined Bishop's College in 1951 and became Senior Champion in that year and

the first Malay Prefect of that School. She was selected to represent the Muslims in Colombo to read a message of goodwill in Arabic at the Colombo Plan Exhibition. She was also the first Malay Montessori Trained Teacher (1954) and the first Malay President (1981) of the Housewives Association of Kandy, where she organized a raffle in aid of the Intensive Care Unit, luncheon for the Home for the Aged, distribution of dry rations and clothing's for the refugees of the ethnic disturbances and the flood victims in Kandy. She has also trained Muslim girls in house-keeping, sewing, cookery and English and found them jobs abroad.

As the President of the Kandy Malay Association Women's

Bureau she organized a raffle in aid of the Cancer Ward and drugs, wheel-chairs and kitchen sinks were donated to this ward.

She happened to be the first Asian to be employed at Revlon, London.

After the demise of her husband, she left Kandy to settle down in Colombo permanently. She is the present General Secretary of the S.L.M.A. Rupee Fund rendering a dedicated and devoted service to the Malay community especially the poor children, youth and the aged. She is 67 years and still takes an active part in the welfare of the Malay Community in Colombo and suburbs.

## 

Oleh : B. D. K. Saldin

I wish to thank Saudara Farook Thaliph for providing us with a list of Malay words for items found in the household. I entirely agree with his sentiments that if we do not do something to preserve our language we will surely lose whatever we have. Kalau hilang Bahasa nanti hilang Bangsa.

At the moment the Terang is the only source of information available to our children who aspire to sit the GCE Ordinary level Examination. As such we should as far as possible avoid misleading them. I noticed several spelling mistakes in the list of words in Saudara Thaliph's article and I wish to give a list of corrections. In doing this I do not in any way intend to disparage all that Saudara Thaliph has done and is doing to preserve our language. I fully agree that we should preserve the Malay that we speak in Sri Lanka. But this should be only for purposes of speech. Sri Lankan Malay has never been written in the Roman Script before. All our manuscripts which our ancestors pro-

duced have been in the Gundul script. Therefore when we adopt a new script let us follow the procedure adopted by our cousins in the rest of the Malay world.

I give below the correct spelling of the words in Saudara Thaliph's article that have been inadvertently misspelled.

### 

Fennel Seed	jintan halus
Washing pan	cobek
Cooking pot	periuk
Dried ginger	jahe kering
Knife	pisau
Cup	cangkir
Tamarind	asam jawa
Jug	mangkok
Mirror	kaca
Fan	kipas
Bed	katil
Grinding stone	batu giling
Spittoon	tempat luda
Betel tray	tempat siri
Red onion	bawang merah
Karapincha	daun wangi
Dried chillies	cabe kering
Garlic	bawang putih
Cooking pan	kuali
Coriander	ketumbar

Ginger	jahe basah
Green chillies	cabe basah
Tumeric	kunjrit
Lemon grass	serai
Fire	api
Smoke	asap
Cloves	cengkih
Mat	tilak
Pillow	bantal

Please remember that the letter **T** in Bahasa is always soft such as *tulis*-write, *taruh*-place, *tidur*-sleep. It is not necessarily to use *th* for the soft *t*. Therefore it is wrong to say *theekar*. The letter *i* is pronounced as in "*pin*" and not as in "*find*" and therefore it is not necessary to use *ee* to say plate "*piring*" and not peering. The English sound **ch** as in "*church*" is rendered by the letter **c**. Therefore to wash is *cuci* and not *chuchi* or *choochi*.

The letters **oo** is not used in bahasa and its sound is rendered by the use of the letter **u**. *Bagus* - good and not *bagoos*. *Pukul* to hit and not *pookool*.



# Do Mosques Today Play a Pivotal Role ?

By Saybhan Samat.

If one studies the role of mosques at the time of Prophet Muhammed (SA) and compares, it with the role played by present day mosques, one will surely observe a big difference. In the time of the Prophet (Sal) the mosque was not only a place of worship, but also a place for performing all duties which are performed in the way of God. All social, cultural and political activity even Jihad (war) was initiated and launched from the mosque. No Muslim familiar with the history and traditions of the Prophet (Sal) can deny this.

However today it is common knowledge that mosques which were centres for social movement of upward mobility have become bases for reactionary and anti-social elements to obstruct the growth of the community and keep it in a state of poverty, ill education, ignorance, backwardness, bigotry, obscurantism in fact in darkness. Even the sermons on Fridays which were meant to invigorate the faith of the community of believers have been reduced to inept, stereo-typed, lifeless and hollow phraseology which put the congregation to sleep due to utter boredom. The Imams who deliver the sermons cannot relate the Quran to the present day situation when in fact the Quran is relevant for all times till eternity.

The reason for the present impasse are many indeed. According to the Quran there are strict qualifications for a person to be a trustee of a mosque as enunciated in chapter 9 verse 18 of the Quran - "The mosques of God shall be visited and maintained by such as believe in God and the Last Day establish regular prayers and practice regular charity and fear none (at all) except God."

However it is very common knowledge that very anti social ele-

ments like black-marketeers, employers who exploit labour, known smugglers and other corrupt businessmen are trustees in mosques. They aspire for this sacred post and like to remain in this post for ever to get social recognition, it is a form of social climbing. Obviously if they feared God as annunciated in chapter 9 verse 18 they would not indulge in unjust anti-social activity. The writer was reliably informed that in a north western coastal town a notorious drug dealer, out of funds earned by selling drugs had built a mosque!

In mosques there are presently groups propagating Islam to the gullible masses by replacing the Quran with publications of their own version and interpretation of Islam. This is in stark opposition to Prophet (Sal) order that he fell behind firstly the Quran and secondly his traditions for the guidance of the Muslim community. Worse still mosques have also now become the battleground to settle increasing sectarian difference in the once united Muslim community.

Despite these atrocious happening in the houses of God, it is a common sight to see that mosque building are flourishing and more mosques are being built with expensive decorative styles. However every Muslim knows that it is only on Fridays that mosques are filled to capacity on other days in most mosques there are hardly two rows of worshippers.

Sincere and discerning Muslims are perturbed, bewildered and disgusted with what is happening in mosques and have chosen to pray at home and organize religious knowledge classes at centres other than mosques and in their homes. Their sincere attempts to change the present order of things in mosques have resulted in them being abused chased away and even threatened, with death!

In conclusion I would like to quote two authentic traditions, one from

Prophet Muhammed (Sal) and the other from Hazrath Ali (AS) the fourth Caliph of Islam. The Prophet (S) with his prophetic vision some 1400 years ago is reported to have said " There will come a time when only the name of Islam will remain in my community. Believers will only do a few Islamic customs and they will not have any iman (faith) left. The Quran will be read only. They will not even know the commands and prohibitions. Their only thought will be about eating and drinking. They will forget Allah (God). They will worship money only. They will become women slaves. Mosques will be many, jamaaths (congregations) will be few, men will be women like, dresses thin (transparent), women domineering. They will not be contented with earning little they will not be satisfied with earning much."

The Prophet (S) also said, "I am the city of knowledge and Ali is the gate" Ali (AS) on the subject of mosques of the future is reported to have said, "A time will come when nothing will remain of the Quran except its script and nothing of Islam except its name. The mosques in those days will be flourishing with regard to construction but desolate with regard to guidance. Those staying in them and those visiting them will be the worst of all on earth. From them mischief will spring up and towards them all wrong will turn. If anyone isolates himself from it (mischief) they will fling him back towards it and anyone steps back from it they will push him towards it."

The prophesies of Prophet Muhammed (S) and Ali (AS) have come to pass, May God protect the devoted and sincere Muslims from corruption and may the expected saviours Isa (Jesus) (AS) Mahdi (AS) Khidr (AS) and Illyas (AS) come soon to save the world from injustice, sin and corruption from both in and out of the mosques.



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**(PERSATUAN MELAYU - SRI LANKA) (Estd. 1922)**  
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		4. Al Haj. T M F Dole	10. Sdri Rowena Ahilip	
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<b>HONY ASST GEN SECRETARY</b>	:	Sdr Mashood Ahamat		
<b>HONY TREASURER</b>	:	Sdr M Irfan Allang		
<b>HONY ASST TREASURER</b>	:	Sdr Thaj Lantra		
<b>CHAIRPERSON SOCIAL SERVICES</b>	:	Deshabandu Sdri Chasnyn Musafer JP		
<b>SECRETARY SOCIAL SERVICES</b>	:	Sdri Haleema Booso		
<b>CHAIRPERSON RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS</b>	:	Sdri Kumala Assen		
<b>SECRETARY RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS</b>	:	Sdri Zreena Jaffar		
<b>CHAIRPERSON WOMEN'S AFFAIRS</b>	:	Hajianin Fazeela Cuttilan		
<b>SECRETARY WOMEN'S AFFAIRS</b>	:	Sdri Shirley Amit		
<b>CHAIRPERSON LIT. &amp; CUL. AFFAIRS</b>	:	Sdri Jayrine Iyne		
<b>SECRETARY LIT. &amp; CUL. AFFAIRS</b>	:	Sdri Shanaz Bohoran		
<b>CHAIRPERSON DOCUM &amp; RESEARCH</b>	:	Sdri Karthini Mohamed		
<b>SECRETARY DOCUM &amp; RESEARCH</b>	:	Sdr Noor Samsudeen		
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		3. Sdri Mazeena Aher	7. Sdr Raju Abbas	
		4. Sdr Ashfaq Sariffodeen	8. Sdr Iqbal Hamidon	
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		2. Sdr Uvaiz Samsudcen	- Hony Gen Secy C M CC	
		3. Sdr Fazal Burah	- Hony Ground/Pavilion Secy C M CC	
		4. Deshabandu Chasnyn Musafer	- President S L MA Rupee Fund	
		5. Sdri Dalrina Burah	- Secretary S L MA Rupee Fund	
<b>AUDITORS</b>	:	Tudor V Perera & Co.		

**NAWALAPITIYA MALAY ASSOCIATION**  
**(PERKUMPULAN MELAYU DE NAWALAPITIYA) (Estd. 11 - Oct. 1964)**

The 32nd Annual General Meeting of the Nawalapitiya Malay Association (NAMA) was held on the 21st of August 1999, at the residence of Al Haj. T.K. Samath, 'Riverine' Estate, Ulapane.

**THE UNDERMENTIONED WERE ELECTED AS OFFICE BEARERS FOR 1999 / 2000**

<b>PATRONS</b>	:	Al Haj. H. A. T. Naseem	Mr. Tuan M. Seenar	Mr. T. Haaris Salim
		Al Haj. T. K. Samath	Al Haj. M. Shiraj Sheriff	
<b>VICE PATRONS</b>	:	Mr. T. S. Muthaliff	Ms. N.K. Nawas	
		Mr. T. N. S. Samahin	Ms. Sabrina Camal	
<b>PRESIDENT</b>	:	Mr. F. T. Ousmand.		
<b>VICE PRESIDENTS</b>	:	Mr. T. A. Salim	Mr. M. Kamoordeen	Mr. T. Rameem Abbas
		Mr. T. A. A. Sinnen	Mr. T. H. B. Cader	
<b>HONY GEN SECRETARY</b>	:	Mr. M. H. Moovie		
<b>HONY TREASURER</b>	:	Mr. T. S. Kamiss		
<b>RELIGIOUS SECRETARY</b>	:	Mr. C. M. M. Faleel Marikkar		
<b>SPORTS SECRETARY</b>	:	Mr. T. S. Salim		
<b>SOCIAL SECRETARY</b>	:	Ms. G. B. Moovie		
<b>GENERAL COMMITTEE</b>	:	Al Haj. T. C. Camal	Al Haj. T. K. Samad	Ms. S. F. Muthaliff
		Ms. N. B. Salim	Ms. Fareeda Refeek	Ms. Ruby Abbas
		Ms. Fouziya Passella		
<b>HONY AUDITOR</b>	:	Mr. T. M. Salim		

**NAWALAPITIYA MALAY ASSOCIATION**  
**(PERKUMPULAN MELAYU DE NAWALAPITIYA)**  
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		3. Al Haj. M. Shiraj Sheriff	
<b>VICE PATRONS</b>	:	1. Mr. T. S. Muthaliff	3. Ms. N.K. Nawas
		2. Mr. T. N. S. Samahin	4. Ms. Sabrina Camal
<b>PRESIDENT</b>	:	Mr. F. T. Ousmand.	
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		2. Mr. T. Rameem Abbas	5. Mr. T. A. A. Sinnen
		3. Mr. T. H. B. Cader	
<b>HONY GEN SECRETARY</b>	:	Mr. M. H. Moovie	
<b>HONY TREASURER</b>	:	Mr. T. S. Kamiss	
<b>RELIGIOUS SECRETARY</b>	:	Mr. C. M. M. Faleel Marikkar	
<b>SPORTS SECRETARY</b>	:	Mr. T. S. Salim	
<b>SOCIAL SECRETARY</b>	:	Ms. G. B. Moovie	
<b>GENERAL COMMITTEE</b>	:	1. Al Haj. T. C. Camal	2. Al Haj. T. K. Samad
		3. Ms. S. F. Muthaliff	4. Ms. N. B. Salim
		5. Ms. Fareeda Refeek	6. Ms. Ruby Abbas
		7. Ms. Fouziya Passella	
<b>HONY AUDITOR</b>	:	Mr. T. M. Salim	

## A HISTORY OF THE PHILIPPINES

*By M. Farook Thaliph*

The history of Philippines is the story of a nation of many different groups of people living in more than 7000 Islands and Islets. For most of the country's history, these groups were geographically isolated from each other. They were separated not only by sea, but also by rivers and mountains ranges. Most of the land is mountainous and volcanoes are ded through out the country, and the settlements are on the plains between the mountains along the coast. The busy port of Manila on Luzon is the capital and largest city. Mindanao is the second largest island containing the highest mountains in the Philippines.

The new theory that Malays were the original inhabitants indemic to the Malay World or Malayo - Polynesian World, as now been substantially confirmed and proved beyond doubt by the precious discovery of the fossil of the "Java Man" and other evidential criteria. Therefore writings based on the old theory will have to be

treated as dismissed. The earliest known people on the Philippines lived in the Tabon caves on Palawan during pre historic times. The earliest known migrants to the Islands were the Negritos, who arrived about 50,000 years ago. But most modern Filipinos are descended from Indonesians and Malays, who began to settle in the Philippines about 3000 BC pushing the Negritos in to the forests and the mountains. The rest of the population is descended from recent immigrants. They include Chinese, Spaniards, Americans, Indians and Japanese. In the Philippines the Malays settled down in almost all the Islands. They had a systems of administration based on the social unit called "Barangay" from the Malay term "Barangay" meaning a boat. The "Barangay" were generally small and most villages boasted of only 30 to 100 and their population varied from 100 to 500. Most communities were

coastal or reverine in orientation. This was due to the fact that the principal sources of protein came from the seas and the rivers, the people relying more on fishing than on hunting for sustenance.

Each "Barangay" or community was independent and had its own ruler called Raja or Datu. The "Barangay" Chieftain was not only a ruler but also the judge and legislator, advised by a council of elders. Most members of the community were

related to one another by blood or marriage. Besides kinship, common economic interests and shared rituals formed the bases for community cohesion. The "Barangay" was a social rather than a political union, each one a separate entity with only informal contacts with one another. Although they lived in fragmented society the people of these island belonged to the same Malay race. They spoke different dialects belonging to the Philippines branch of the Malayo - Polynesian language family.

to be contd...



# THE SLENDANG

OLEH M. A. SOURJAH

Three decade ago the 'Slendang' was in vogue and was considered as the 'Status Symbol' of a maiden, pure and innocent. The Slendang which was originally meant to cover the head, shoulder and developing breast, over the years, with modernity in dress styles came down to the shoulder level to be draped in round the neck or slung across the shoulder rather haphazardly.

The Slendang is not fashionable although it was a cultural and religious obligation for a woman to have her head and shoulder covered. Alas today the Slendang has together with other essentially important Malay cultural practices faded into oblivion.

The Slendang, a gracefully used long strip of cloth, either hand embroidered, sequined or plain was an essential part of the attire of a young girl from the moment signs of development of her breast was noticed.

The Slendang was not only respected, admired and used as a status symbol of purity and innocence but taken roots on some women that it continued to be used even in old age. Such is the acquired 'Status' of the Slendang. Unfortunately today the Slendang has been replaced with sleeveless, low neckline, backless and slim-line jackets, or blouses.

Some critics may say that the Slendang has been disposed with, due to the wearing of the saree which is more graceful and satisfies all the essential requirements of a woman's attire in keeping with Islamic and Malay Cultural patterns. Yes, indeed, but with the ever changing 'Saree wearing style'; the length of the saree has been reduced (probably due to the cost or being excessive to cover so little).

Why this aversion to wearing the Slendang by our Malay sisters? Why subscribe to 'Body Exposure' western styles of dress?

Why help or induce others to fornicate with their eyes? (Fornication is a grave sin whether by its implied physical act or by secretive thoughts arising by sight, smell, sound or touch perceptions).

Encouragingly we see little girls, especially those attending Muslim Maha Vidyalyas and the not so little, gracefully attired in their spotless white uniforms together with their Slendangs. Unfortunately this is only for school wear.

The Slendang is not only a decent dress for all time, seasons and occasions, suiting any form of style of dress, but an 'all purpose' accessory in a woman's attire.

Cultivate the Slendang habit, there is so much grace and goodness in it and help revive a meaningful cultural linkage.

SUARA SLUMA

(Reproduced from Terang / Nov. 1988 Vol 2 No : 11)

## NEGOMBO MALAY ASSOCIATION

The 14th Annual General Meeting Of The Negombo Malay Association Was Held Recently And The Following Were Elected As Office Bearers For The Year 1999/2000

Patron	- Mr. T.H. Jainudeen
Vice Patron	- Mr. A.H.M. Farook
President	- Mr. T.N. Hamid
Vice Presidents	- Mr. Imran Mohamed Mr. T.M.Z. Drahien Mrs. A. Samidon
Hony. General Secretary	- Al. Haj. T.B. Dulapandan
Asst. General Secretary	- Mr. M.S. Ahlip
Hony. Treasurer	- Mr. T.M. Amith
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## LETS LEARN ISLAM

by Maas L. Usuf

### PERSONALITY

"Say, everyone acts according to his personality (disposition)" (17/84)

Each person acts according to his thoughts, his beliefs and the state of his or her soul. This necessarily means that there will be differences in opinion and in conduct. So long as such differences are within the fold of Islam every muslim should practice tolerance. One should never feel that the other person also should follow what he thinks is right. Let each individual be entitled to his opinion and thinking. DO NOT FORCE YOUR IDEAS ONTO ANOTHER. If you feel strong about what you think then through the exchange of knowledge try to convince the other person. Otherwise, to impose yourself on another only to make him conform to your way of thinking without reasonable justification would reflect badly on your disposition.



# Muslims and the Millennium - 2000

Oheh M.A.Sourjah

The world is rife and hotting up with its thoughts and multifarious preparations to welcome the Christian computed millennium-2000. What significance has the new millennium to the Muslims? Nothing special could deem of-as the Islamic computation which concerns us begins with the Hijra. Only perhaps, that the muslims are part and parcel of the Modern Global Village and have to get in to the scheme of things and be up-dated.

From the Islamic standpoint, Almighty Allah's ways are just wondrous, most incomparable and more than exemplary to meet the most inexplicable situations. This beautiful aspect manifests itself in consideration of the momentous threshold of the new millennium in a sacred way for the muslims. Allah, Almighty has ordained that Muslims of the Universe keep their fast in tact in the Holy Month of Ramazan which this time precedes the ushering of the new millennium. In reality, the new millennium will be innocuously ushered in with the spiritual force of islamic sanctity. Could it not be that the spiritual content of the sacred fast down the succeeding ages - from its very inauguration by the Holy Prophet (Saw), have its cumulative effect in cleansing the world in the new Millennium? Thus many a "Muhsin" one who practices "Ihsan" - would have transmitted his spiritual content down the generation line to his descendants who would possess that motivation in him/her to strive in doing what God enjoins and avoiding what He forbids.

It could be said further that the new mil-

lennium has every prospect of being ushered in a mode or manner (amal - ul - Khair) beneficial to humanity - in a way that pleaseth Allah. The most glorious way is when the Brotherhood of Islam calls out the dim-dawn Subhu Azan "Allahu Akbar" from the mane glistening turrets of all the Mosques of the world - creating a chain-echo effect of reverberation of the declaration of the unshakable faith on the "Oneness of the Creator of All the Worlds".

Such a spiritually charged phenomenon is absolutely unique and unparalleled in religious history of man-which would continue to enliven the sprite of the Muslim Brotherhood of the world in the millennium 2000 and also in those that follow ever after.

Perhaps, the poet-through a quick flashback might irresistibly be prompted to put forth :

## A THOUGHT FOR THE MILLENNIUM 2000

### World Peace

*"If you want peace , prepare for war"*

*Is a maxim of obsolescence,*

*" Process of conflict resolution"*

*Is today's answer for war and violence*

*Highly trained are human beings*

*In the ' art of waging war and violence'*

*Sadly lacking are these beings*

*Of ' waging peace and non-violence'.*

*Let them begin by slashing arsenals*

*Of weapons-nuclear and chemicals,*

*Increasing U.N.'s Peace-keeping Forces*

*Checking, monitoring ceasefire excesses.*

*Striving for better economic stability*

*Alleviating world - health and poverty*

*Penetrating the world - the glorious message*

*Of "Non-violence, Peace and Prosperity".*

*"Peace hath her victories no less renowned than war"*

*The inalienable right of man-both rich and poor,*

*A new vision for a secure, "Morrow arise"*

*A "New World Peace Order" Islam - wise !*

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