



INTERNAL NEWSLETTER

9th edition - October 2021

Amir message

First of all, I wish to thank SIM members for renewing their trust in me by electing me as the President of SIM for another 3-year mandate. I pray to Allah SWT to give me the strength, time, commitment and guidance in order to bring SIM to greater heights.

One of the important aspects to reinforce is working on improving the interconnectivity of our various departments. By working in synergy, our goals and objectives would be met more efficiently. An example to illustrate how better connectivity among the departments may bring better results is shown here: The Daawa department through its activities has observed several issues within the family unit and is sensitizing the family on various Islamic values/ etiquettes to overcome difficulties. Being aware of this, the Social Engagement department decides to provide psychological support, among others, to affected families. The Zakaat department is put in the loop to help those who are in financial difficulty. The Education & Training department understands the root of the problem and organise courses on couple life, parenting, etc with an Islamic perspective. The kids Club/teens Club/Young Muslim& Young Muslima/senior citizen departments conduct events to involve the youngsters/elderly so that they perform healthy activities and are provided with tools to face the challenges of life. The positive impact of all these manoeuvres gives more visibility to SIM and at regional/national level SIM is called upon to provide its building block for a healthier society. This can be an ideal situation but by having a vision for the society and maintaining focus, we can positively influence people at large.

In this context, a workshop will be organised inshaAllah to get everyone together for the purpose of reinforcing this concept. SIM as a movement has to be able to not only provide its contribution but also direct the society to what is good, based on Islamic precepts. While doing so, the movement has to be similar to a human body where the various systems work together in synergy, feeling the pain & joy of any part of the body and providing constant support.

Barakallahu Fikum

May Allah SWT open our doors

SHURAH for Mandate 2021/2023

Following the Annual General Meeting which took place on Sunday 1st August 2021 at the IIET, Pont Souillac, Moka, the new *Shurah* for SIM has been constituted as follows:



Ozeer Yaasir
President (Amir)



Diljore Yasmin
Vice President



Jaulim Faizal
Secretary



Diljore Muhammad Sadruddin
Assistant Secretary



Assotally Mohammad Fouad
Treasurer



Pondor Mohammad Imraan
Assistant Treasurer



Hissoob Pehelvi Zaheer Abbass
Member



Ramkhalawon Sawkat Ally
Member



Sullymunjeeajee Abtaheebh
Member



Jamalkhan Amreena
Member



Abdool Cader Nazira
Member



**Rassool - Carrimbaccus Yumna
Binte Hussein**
Member

Daawah Committee

Since the last edition of Sim Newsletter published in July 2021, there has been no Dawah activity because of COVID-19 restrictions. However, the Da'wah committee was reconvened following Government Decision for partial reopening on 1st July 2021.

But, due to ongoing restrictions discussions were held mainly around the effectiveness of our da'wah efforts by virtual means, namely zoom, you tube and whatsapp. It was unanimously acknowledged that although the effort was laudable, specially during Ramadan, the number of views suggested a general weakness due perhaps to failure on our part to generate enough interest in the public or more simply due to the absence of an effective marketing and communication strategy for SIM.

Pending the formulation of an appropriate strategy by a specialist in marketing and communication, the Da'wah Committee has decided in the present context to concentrate its efforts on one project in particular which we have named Da'wah towards our friends and neighbours. The objective is to teach the Muslim community at large on how to do Da'wah to friends, neighbours and colleagues. As the project is multi-faceted, involving training of trainers, involvement of sympathisers and teachers domiciled in the particular localities identified for implementation, preparation of a teaching fresh pack and a Da'wah fresh pack, the preparation time will be fairly lengthy. But we hope in sha Allah to be ready for a pilot project when COVID-19 restrictions are further lifted.

In parallel, having noted the lack of participation of younger members in our conventional da'wah activities, the Committee has decided to carry out a survey which will try to identify the reasons thereof as well as possible methodologies which would catch the interest of the younger generation, particularly in the virtual field and involve them in Da'wah work via ways in which they excel. The survey is being conducted using Google Forms.

Virtual Conferences by SIM during Ramadan

During the month of Ramadan, Dr Najmul Hussein Rassool delivered two virtual conferences, one on zakaat and one on Islamic finance.

For each conference, four sessions on different topics were held. Details are given on the posters below.

The sessions were moderated by Br Beelal Baichoo. Participants were given the opportunity to put questions at the end of each session and this gave rise to interesting exchanges on the subjects. Each session lasted one hour and it was noted that they were followed by a few regulars.

However replays of the conferences are still available on the following links: <https://conference.simoi.org/zakaat/> and <https://conference.simoi.org/finance/>

We highly recommend that all brothers and sisters who did not have the chance to participate in those events, avail of this opportunity to listen to them.

May Allah guide us all.



Virtual Conference on Islamic Banking and Finance

Starting Sunday 18th April 2021
11:00 - 12:00 Mauritian Time Insha Allah

Presenter:
Dr Najmul Hussein Rassool

About the Presenter
Dr Najmul Hussein Rassool
- ISLAMIC FINANCE CONSULTANT
- PhD Islamic Banking & Finance
- Chartered Islamic Finance Professional (CIFP)
- MBA (Finance)

Topics:

- 1st Session: **The Islamic Economic System** (Sun 18th April)
- 2nd Session: **The Islamic Banking System & Non-Banking System** (Sun 25th April)
- 3rd Session: **Islamic Financial Instruments** (Sun 2nd May)
- 4th Session: **Islamic Insurance (Takaful)** (Sun 9th May)

• <https://conference.simoi.org/finance>

Those who eat Riba (usury/interest) will not stand [on the Day of Resurrection] except like the standing of a person beaten by Shaitan [Satan] leading him to insanity. That is because they say: "Trading is only like Riba (usury/interest)." whereas Allah has permitted trading and forbidden Riba (usury/interest). So whosoever receives an admonition from his Lord and stops eating Riba (usury/interest) shall not be punished for the past; his case is for Allah (to judge); but whoever returns [to Riba (usury/interest)], such are the dwellers of the Fire - they will abide therein.
AL-QURAN 2:275



Virtual Conference on Zakaat

Starting Saturday 17th April 2021
11:00 - 12:00 Mauritian Time Insha Allah

Presenter:
Dr Najmul Hussein Rassool

About the Presenter
Dr Najmul Hussein Rassool
- ISLAMIC FINANCE CONSULTANT
- PhD Islamic Banking & Finance
- Chartered Islamic Finance Professional (CIFP)
- MBA (Finance)

Topics:

- 1st Session: **Zakaat & Its Importance** (Sat 17th April)
- 2nd Session: **Donors & Recipients** (Sat 24th April)
- 3rd Session: **Nisaab & Zakatable Assets** (Sat 1st May)
- 4th Session: **Zakaat Calculation** (Sat 8th May)

• <https://conference.simoi.org/zakaat>

Verily, those who give Sadaqat (i.e. Zakat and alms, etc.), men and women, and lend to ALLAH a goodly loan, it shall be increased manifold (to their credit), and theirs shall be an honourable good reward (i.e. Paradise).
AL-QURAN 57:18

ZAKAT AL FITR

CHARITY DOES NOT DECREASE WEALTH



'Arabic for All' at Egyptian Embassy

A networking reception was organised on the 22nd of October 2021 at the Egyptian Embassy at Ebene. The main objective of the event was to promote Arabic language in Mauritius and promote tourism from the gulf regions.

Sr Amreena Jamalkhan attended the event to represent SIM. The event started at 5 p.m up to 22.00. Several speakers, representatives of ministries of Education and Tourism and several Directors were present for the event. Contact was established with several people in view of seeking their support for SIM activities in the future.

Effective Parenting Course

The Islamic Institute of Education & Training launched a course on parenting on 20 February 2021. The aim of this course was to empower parents to face the challenges of parenting. Alhamdulillah we concluded the course last Saturday 23 October 2021 with an Award Ceremony.

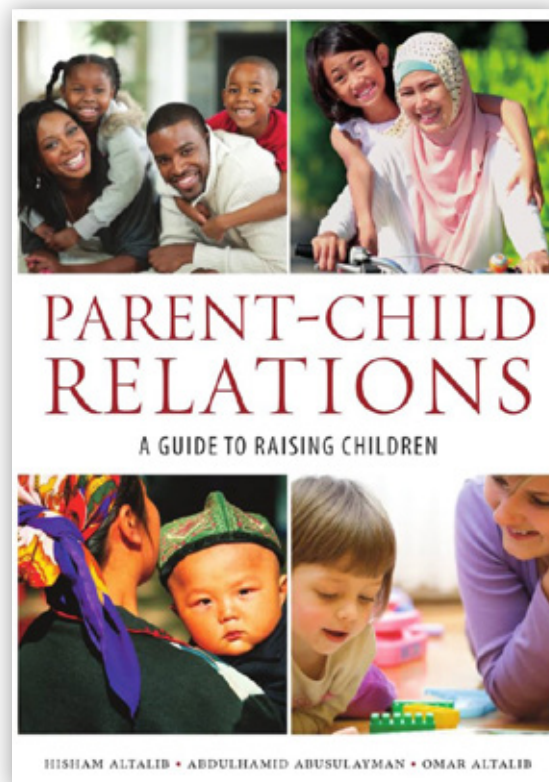
With an initial duration of 18 weeks, we had planned to complete the course by mid-July. However, because of the Covid 19 pandemic we had to resort to online teaching via zoom. The face-to-face session resumed on 31st July 21.

The course was started by a lecture from Br Abdool Gaffoor Kassim on the role of parents. Following Br Kassim, we had several resource persons, all specialized in their respective fields. We had amongst others, psychologist, sociologist, medical practitioners, social workers, nutritionist, and lecturers. We used the book 'Parent Child Relations' by Dr Hisham al Talib as main text. Participants received handouts and powerpoint presentations after the respective course.

A wide range of topics were covered. From 'Our children are an Amanah', to 'Setting the right goals', 'Addressing Common Challenges and Pitfalls', 'Character Building', 'Road to a Healthy Child', 'Sex and Sex Education', 'Destructive Nature of Television, Video and Computer Games', 'Fostering Creativity' -amongst others. This course was an eye opener for many of us and specially the parents who followed the programme. The questions were never ending and the challenges facing parents were numerous.

From the evaluation questionnaire received, we can humbly say that most of our participants were fully satisfied with the course modules and contents. They also confirmed that they learned a lot and received very good advice. Many preferred face to face session where they could interact with the resource persons.

The Future – SIM wishes to develop a platform for parenting so that this first group of parents may meet on a monthly basis to discuss about parenting issues and help and counsel parents who are facing difficulties in the upbringing of their children. It is also hoped insha Allah that another similar course will be launched early next year in a revised format that will be both accessible and meet the need of working parents.



Effective Parenting Course



SIM Study Loan

This year Alhamdulillah the SIMOI Educational Trust has selected three students for the SIM Study loan after an interview by a panel of professionals.

The criteria for selection included academic performance, financial status (needy students) and Islamic knowledge/engagement in social activities.



SIM Study Loan

Société Islamique de Maurice (SIM) registered as SIMOI, in collaboration with the IsDB is announcing the opening of application for study loan for the academic year 2021/2022.

Eligibility:	Needy Muslim students
Field of study:	Open for tertiary studies in Mauritius, except medical studies
Country of study:	Only inland study will be eligible. (No sponsorship for overseas)
Duration:	Yearly renewable for the duration of the study
Study loan:	Interest free study loan
Application:	Call SIM headquarters at Moka. ☎ 4336848. You will be sent a soft copy of the applications forms.
Closing date:	Saturday 25 th September 2021. Hard copies of the duly filled application forms to be deposited at SIM Headquarters by noon on Saturday 25 th 2021.

Candidates will be called for an interview. The number of sponsorships will depend on the amount of funds available.

Selected students:

- Tania Deenmahomed
BCOM Degree in Accounting & Finance
- Bibi Amiirah Goburdhun
Business Management & Marketing
- Bibi Rouhman Hanna Khodabocus
Fashion Technology

We congratulate the students and wish them success in their studies to become committed Muslims & competent professionals.

e-SIM Department

SIM Online Library

As mentioned in the 8th edition of the SIM newsletter, there has been a fruitful collaboration between SIM and Université des Mascareignes over a project for the IIET Library. 2 students from the aforementioned university did their internship under the guidance and tutorship of the e-SIM department for the setting up of an online library platform. Such a project, from the design phase to the deployment of the implemented system on the SIM production environment, required planning, organisation, coordination as well as hard work from all stakeholders involved in the project. As at date, the platform is almost ready and is currently being fine tuned – even though the internship is over, the students are still helping out with the project during their spare time, Alhamdulillah!

We would like to seize this opportunity to give a sneak peek of the new Online Library platform:

The screenshot displays the SIM Online Library interface. At the top, a light blue banner reads "Welcome To SIM Library" with the subtext "Grab-and-go book checkout services now available" and a green "LEARN HOW" button. Below this is a photograph of a modern library interior with tall white bookshelves. A section titled "Create an account in three simple steps!" lists four steps: 1. Register using your personal details, 2. Check your inbox for a confirmation email, 3. Click the activation link, and 4. FINISH: Borrowing books is now possible. To the right of these steps is an image of a stack of books. At the bottom, a teal and white login form titled "Please fill in all details!" includes fields for "Email" and "Password", a "Forgot Password" link, a checkbox for "I'm not a robot" with a CAPTCHA image, and a "Sign In" button. The SIM logo and a "Welcome to SIM Library" message are also visible on the left side of the login form.

Inn shaa Allah, once ready, the SIM Online Library should facilitate the rental of books and more so, there will also be e-books available, making reading accessible to one and all.

Webinars and Online Conferences

Webinars and online conferences are part and parcel of the new normal as face to face interactions are being kept to a strict minimum. With the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic (may Allah protect us all), it was important to find means and ways to conduct meetings as well as hold conferences virtually. Adapting with the available technologies was no longer of potential consideration, but instead was a must. In this context, the e-SIM department proposed the readily available Zoom platform as a virtual tool. Additionally, the team went one step further by integrating, where applicable, live broadcasting over the SIM Website as well as on YouTube or Facebook in order to attain a broader audience for public conferences. The last one was held on 22nd of October 2021:



The conference is available here: <https://conference.simoi.org/marriage/>

Internally, several departments have already been using the SIM Zoom account for meetings, trainings, courses, etc. This has ensured that the SIM departments be operational even virtually.



La sortie de secours dans le mariage

Exposée par Me. F Nooraully
Avocat d'expérience en droit civil et familial



Sur la plateforme ZOOM
VENDREDI 22 OCT 2021 @ 20.30

Veuillez joindre le lien:
<https://conference.simoi.org/mariage/>

Rénovation de l'IET

Depuis la dernière édition de notre newsletter, nous n'avons guère avancé avec notre projet. Personne ne s'est manifesté pour participer financièrement dans les projets proposés tels le terrain de foot-five, ou le préau couvert en bois et tôle à côté de la cuisine.

Or malgré cela, plusieurs familles ont loué la salle pour des réceptions diverses. Nous continuerons donc à travailler pour améliorer et rendre plus attrayantes et fonctionnelles, les facilités offertes afin d'attirer une plus grande clientèle.

Le travail qu'on prévoit n'est pas un recommencement. Loin de là ! Il s'agit bien d'entamer les prochaines phases du projet, sauf qu'en attendant que les finances soient disponibles, certaines propositions intérimaires seront mises en œuvres afin de pallier aux lacunes qui nuisent au bon fonctionnement des infrastructures existantes, en attendant la suite du projet comme conçu et dessiné. Le comité technique qui avait travaillé sur le plan est d'accord pour continuer et suivre le projet jusqu'à son aboutissement final.

Nous tenons néanmoins à souligner que certaines personnes (qu'Allah les récompense pour leur générosité) continuent leur contribution financière sur une base régulière, ce qui nous permet d'attaquer les problèmes récurrents qui nous fatiguent, tels la panne des luminaires ou les fuites d'eau persistantes. Nous avons essayé d'en identifier plus ou moins les causes et les travaux de réfection sont en cours. Le coût de l'ordre de 200,000 roupies est difficile à absorber mais les travaux sont nécessaires. En sus des recettes de location de notre salle multifonction et de nos salles de classe, nous avons pu, Alhamdoulillah trouvé des sponsors à la hauteur de 130,000 roupies pour ces travaux.

Mais plus que jamais nous comptons sur votre générosité pour avancer. En sus des thawaab jaariyaa, in sha Allah, nous vous rappelons chers frères et chères sœurs que la Société Islamique des Mascareignes et de l'Océan Indien est une institution charitable approuvée par le ministère des finances et toute donation pourra être déductible de la taxe.



Phase 1 and Phase 2

Rental of IIET Centre

Alhamdulillah, in spite of COVID 19 pandemic, and without real marketing we have so far been able to rent the multipurpose hall for events such as weddings/receptions as well as some of the other facilities for holding courses/lectures, in addition to our own kids & teens clubs and education & training events.

The hall has been booked for events during the months of November, December 2021 and January 2022 as follows:

Multipurpose Hall

Event	Date
Nikah & Reception	November 01, 2021
Nikah & Reception	December 19, 2021
Reception	December 05, 2021
Mehendi	January 14, 2022
Tarbiyyah	(Once a month on Sat – 4pm to 9.30pm)
Kids Club/Teens Club	(Saturday afternoon once a month)



Lecture Rooms

Event	Date
Institute of Arabic language	(Every Saturday 11am to 5pm)
Toastmaster Youth Leadership Program	(Sunday mornings – 9am to 11am)



The situation can even get much better with improved facilities in the pipeline and your marketing assistance, viz your sharing with families and friends that IIET Centre exists and is suitable and available for renting at affordable price.

Kids Club

Since last year, kids club face to face sessions were put on hold due to the prevailing pandemic.

We missed out on the progress and development of our pupils.

Alhamdulillah, thanks to new technological tools, we have had the opportunity to renew our classes through Zoom application.

Therefore, we scheduled a 30 minutes story time classes for all grades on a monthly basis. Our stories are from the life of Muhammad(S. A. W)

Until now, our teachers have already had two virtual sessions with their pupils. Although overall attendance is low, our participants are eager to interact and share their views about the stories.

We pray that insha Allah in a near future, Kids Club is able to hold face to face session.

Teens club 2021

Our youth program started again in January with an exposé on the Halaal and Haraam concepts. Our aim was to make the participants develop a God consciousness about their food intake while also become responsible of their actions, behaviour and way of dressing and communication.

In February, we had a Fun and Recreational journey to introduce the concepts of fairness, team spirit and healthy competition.

Unfortunately all our activities had to stop in March with the outburst of the pandemic on the island.

We resumed this September under strict observation of the sanitary protocols to complete our First Aid program.

Alhamdulillah our participants took their exams organised by the Association of Professionals First Aiders on the 23rd of October 2021. The exam is MQA approved and we are planning to have an award ceremony for them on the proclamation of their results In Shaa Allah. We hope to resume to our monthly activities next year in January 2022 if Allah wills.



Senior Citizens

Assalamualaikoum to all...all who have been confined for months and those who are still confined because OUR seniors are luckier than others...they get back on track as soon as the confinement period opens up on restrictions.

Let's see what they have been up to lately.

31/8 to 2/9:

50 members enjoyed two memorable days at "Sunset Reef" hotel.

No cooking, no house chores, no worries.

TIME is what most people lack today and when the elders meet, time seems to be very precious.

30/10:

We were out again. Around 80 of us challenged the famous virus and went out to enjoy. A visit to "Roches Noires caves" followed by lunch at Saffron grill and a very pleasant afternoon at "Bain Boeuf" made our day.

We are very grateful to Allah (swt) who blesses us with such lovely moments.

Next outing? We'll let you know.



Senior Citizens



The secretary of the association asked us to "habille nou lipieds bien" if we were visiting the caves and she gave the good example