

Islamic Center of Indiana

# AL-HUDA

## NEWSLETTER



**MAY 2025**  
**VOLUME 2 ISSUE 5**

# السلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته

In this issue, we want to highlight the incredible dedication of our volunteers. Their hard work, creativity, and commitment have made this edition possible, and we are truly grateful for everything they do.

This issue reflects their passion and the spirit of teamwork that drives our community forward.

May Allah reward them all for their efforts and bless our entire community with continued success and unity.

- The Editorial Team



**Omar**  
Editor In Chief

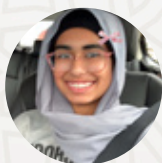


**Ziad**  
Director of Visuals



**Amal**  
Editor

## Thank you to our amazing volunteers



Zainab

### Favorite Verse



Joud

### Favorite Verse

وَتَوَكَّلْ عَلَى اللَّهِ ۖ وَكَفَىٰ بِاللَّهِ وَكِيلًا

And rely on Allah,  
for Allah is enough to rely on  
33:3



Maya

### Favorite Verse



Muhanad

### Favorite Verse

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا إِن تَنْصُرُوا اللَّهَ  
يَنْصُرْكُمْ وَيُثَبِّتْ أَقْدَامَكُمْ

O believers! If you stand up for Allah  
He will help you and make your steps  
firm 47:7



Abdullah

### Favorite Verse

وَسِيقَ الَّذِينَ اتَّقَوْا رَبَّهُمْ إِلَى الْجَنَّةِ زُمَرًا ۖ حَتَّىٰ  
إِذَا جَاءُوهَا وَفُتِحَتْ أَبْوَابُهَا وَقَالَ لَهُمْ خَزَنَتُهَا  
سَلَامٌ عَلَيْكُمْ طِبْتُمْ فَادْخُلُوهَا خَالِدِينَ ۝٧٣

And those who were mindful of their Lord will  
be led to Paradise in 'successive' groups.  
When they arrive at its 'already' open gates,  
its keepers will say, "Peace be upon you! You  
have done well, so come in, to stay forever."  
39:73

# THE IMPORTANCE OF *Family* IN ISLAM

Family is one of the greatest blessings Allah has given us. Islam commands us to maintain close ties with our relatives. Allah says: "And fear Allah, through whom you ask one another, and the wombs (that bore you). Verily Allah is ever an Observer over you." (سورة النساء ١:٤) ﴿وَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ الَّذِي تَسَاءَلُونَ بِهِ وَالْأَرْحَامَ إِنَّ اللَّهَ كَانَ عَلَيْكُمْ رَقِيبًا﴾

The Prophet Muhammad ﷺ said:

"Whoever would like his provision to be increased and his lifespan to be extended, let him maintain the ties of kinship."

مَنْ أَحَبَّ أَنْ يُبَسِّطَ لَهُ فِي رِزْقِهِ، وَيُنْسَأَ لَهُ فِي أَثَرِهِ، فَلْيَصِلْ رَحِمَهُ» (رواه البخاري ومسلم)

Goodness starts at home. The Prophet ﷺ said:

"The best of you are those who are best to their families, and I am the best of you to my family."

«خَيْرُكُمْ خَيْرُكُمْ لِأَهْلِهِ، وَأَنَا خَيْرُكُمْ لِأَهْلِي» (رواه الترمذي)

Strong family ties bring real blessings: when facing financial hardship, illness, or emotional stress, family is often the first to support and assist. Their advice and presence provide security and stability that no one else can replace.

Moreover, severing family ties is a major sin. The Prophet ﷺ warned:

"The person who severs the bond of kinship will not enter Paradise."

«لَا يَدْخُلُ الْجَنَّةَ قَاتِعٌ» (رواه البخاري)

Islam teaches us that maintaining family ties is not simply a kind gesture – it is a duty that protects our faith, strengthens our communities, and brings endless blessings. No matter how busy life becomes or how difficult relationships may seem, keeping these bonds alive is a path to success in this world and salvation in the next.

# Strengthening



## *Sibling relationships*

By Maya Abd Rabbou

Today, we're living in a world where injustice surrounds us—where we see suffering at every corner we turn: in Gaza, Kashmir, Sudan, in our own communities, and the list goes on. We make du'ā, constantly asking Allah SWT to give us strength. But the truth is, we are currently living in a society where Western culture and influence have fragmented our Ummah. Our time is being consumed by what distances us from Allah and each other.

We must first address this question: how can we hope for unity abroad when we are not even united within our own homes? True unity begins with our families—more specifically, our siblings. We may choose our friends and our spouses, but our siblings are not random companions; they are maktoob—decreed by Allah and placed in our lives as a blessing, a trust, and a test. Allah commands us, "And fear Allah, through Whom you demand your mutual rights, and do not sever the ties of kinship. Surely Allah is Ever an Observer over you." (Surah An-Nisa 4:1). Prophet Muhammad ﷺ warns us with terrifying clarity: "The one who severs the ties of kinship will not enter Paradise." (Bukhari and Muslim). Yet today, we live in a world that glorifies cutting off family and calls abandonment "self-care." We chase connections across oceans but neglect the ones Allah Himself chose for us. We answer texts from strangers but ignore the brother or sister Allah tied to our soul through blood.

Maintaining strong ties with our siblings is not optional—it is a duty we owe to Allah first and foremost. And this duty does not end when they wrong us, when they become distant, or even when they stray from the path of Islam. We are responsible for not just loving them but also guiding them. Maybe your kindness, your patience, your sincere du'ā, and your presence will be the reason they find their way back to Allah. Maybe Allah placed you in their life not just as a brother or sister—but as their lifeline to guidance and mercy. Distancing ourselves from them now only widens the gap that Shayṭān already works to create. Every effort you make to stay close, every moment of ṣabr you practice, every prayer you whisper for them, is written with the ink of sincerity before Allah. And perhaps it is through you that Allah saves an entire soul.

***May Allah take our souls only when our hearts are united, our bonds repaired, and our grudges buried. May he reunite us as brothers and sisters under His shade on the Day when no shade remains but His.***





# Recognizing ZAC NASSIMI

## About Zac Nassimi

My name is Zac Nassimi and I am currently getting my masters in business management at IU's Kelley School of Business. My family is local and we have lived in Indiana most of our lives. My sister Lyla is a dentist, my mother Fariha is a nurse, and my father Qaseim works in business and Real Estate

## What Inspires Him

As I started to become closer to my deen I found myself spending a lot more time at our beautiful masjid, Alhamdulillah. I began volunteering for events and helping out where I could, and found fulfillment in doing so. We have an incredibly dedicated community here and I have more role models than I can count, who inspire me daily.

## Lessons from the Youth

Though there are many challenges that come with working with the youth, the one skill I've developed more than anything is patience. I try to put myself in their shoes and remember that I was once a kid with a similar mindset, and that all these challenges are just part of the growth and learning process for them and for me.

## Role at Alhuda

My role at Alhuda is taking care of the gym and lobby operations, managing setups, overseeing events, supervising the youth, and locking up the building to make sure the masjid stays secure. I also coach the middle school basketball team, running practices twice a week, year-round and leading them into Muslim tournaments against other Masaajid.

## Coaching the Youth

I played basketball for a lot of different teams growing up, and had many great coaches. I try to implement the best qualities from each. Alhamdulillah, I'm very grateful for the opportunity to help these kids grow and learn as players, and more importantly, as men. I'm very strict and hard on my players, but I treat them like my little brothers, on and off the court.

## Hopes for the Future

I'm always looking for ways to help the community grow stronger. We have everything we need to launch basketball and soccer leagues, run training camps, and organize more fundraisers; not just for international causes like Gaza and Sudan, but also local projects like providing Qurans and prayer mats for reverts. It's all about stepping up, doing the work, and leaving a lasting impact, inshaAllah.

**We appreciate Zac's work and commitment with the youth at Alhuda and hope this helped you get to know him better.**



# Recognizing WALI MUNIR

## About Wali Munir

Wali Munir is an undergraduate at the Kelley School of Business, actively managing several online businesses and projects. While his family is rooted in medicine—his parents run Harmony Medical Associates in Fishers, and his brothers study at IU in medical fields—Wali is focused on building his own path in business and entrepreneurship.

## What Inspires Him

Wali grew up noticing the lack of Pakistani representation in leadership at Alhuda. This early experience motivated him to get involved, not just for himself but to create space for others who felt overlooked. He's driven to ensure every kid—regardless of background or ability—feels seen, supported, and valued, a passion that continues to shape his community leadership.

## Lessons from the Youth

Working with youth has shown Wali how much they reflect his own younger self—the same energy, personalities, and dreams. Now in a leadership role, he's learned the value of patience and understanding. His goal is to give them the support and opportunities he didn't always have, and to create a community where they feel believed in and empowered.

## Role at Alhuda

Wali has been part of the Al-Huda community for as long as he can remember, with early memories like Ramadan activities at the old 96th Street warehouse. Over the years, he's served in various roles—on the interfaith team, as a player, coach, and now as a tournament coordinator. Since 2023, he's led major events like the Ramadan Overnight Tournament, handling everything from logistics to day-of execution. His goal is to grow these events each year, bringing the community together through meaningful and enjoyable experiences, in shā' Allāh.

## Coaching the Youth

What started as a simple game of basketball has grown into a major annual event that fosters unity, healthy competition, and lasting bonds across the community and Midwest. Each year brings more teams, better talent, and deeper connections, alhamdulillah. Wali looks forward to building on that success and hopes to have the Al-Huda board's support for another impactful AICI tournament, in shā' Allāh.

## What the Future Holds

Wali works daily behind the scenes to make events more inclusive, welcoming, and fun. With exciting tournaments and programs planned—especially this summer—he's focused on bringing the entire community together and giving kids of all backgrounds a chance to grow and connect. He hopes to have the Al-Huda board's support for youth initiatives and asks for continued du'ās as the community builds forward, in shā' Allāh.

**We appreciate Wali's work and commitment with the youth at Alhuda and hope this helped you get to know him better.**



# Recognizing MARWAN HALWANI

## About Marwan

My name is Marwan Halwani, and I'm studying Neuroscience at IU Indy on the pre-Med track. I am very passionate about sports and was blessed with the opportunity to relay my skills and knowledge to the upcoming youth.

## Role at Alhuda

I coach the high school basketball team, leading practices for around 4 hours a week in preparation for our annual basketball tournaments. Additionally, I, along with many of the youth in my age group, strive to set a good example as a role model for many of the youth at the masjid.

## What Inspires Him

What motivates me to keep going is not only the opportunity to fulfill my passion for the sport, but also the means for giving back to a community that has done so much for me. A sheikh once said, "If you're not there for your ummah, they will not be there for you." I try to apply this to my everyday endeavours at the masjid and beyond.

## A Memorable Moment

My most memorable moment as a coach was when we made a comeback win after being down at halftime in the AICI tournament. It really showed the player's willingness to listen and adjust through adversity, and it was a strong bonding moment for the players.

## Lessons from the Youth

This experience has taught me what it takes to be a strong leader, not only vocally, but also by setting an example for them, because respect is never given. I strive to continue to hone in on this skill not only as a coach, but as a Muslim.

## How this applies to our faith

Basketball aside, this is an opportunity for us Muslims to create a shared space for connection through teamwork and competition. Community building is a cornerstone of our deen and is emphasized through many facets, which is why I strive towards building a tight-knit community.

**We appreciate Marwan's work and commitment with the youth at Alhuda and hope this helped you get to know him better.**



# Events at Alhuda!



ISLAMIC RELIEF FOOD PACKING



ICGC TOURNAMENT



WATCH PARTY

## OTHER EVENTS

- **Sisters Handles and halaqa**  
April 18
- **Islamic relief food packing**  
April 26
- **Basketball Playoffs watch party**
- **Miftaah caliphs and conquests lecture**  
May 2nd
- **Seerah night**  
Saturdays after Maghrib
- **And so much more**  
Follow our Social Media
- **Tafseer with Dr. Nasser**  
Tuesdays after Maghrib

# Sunnah

## *of Family relationships*

By Joud Abdelhafez

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In our busy lives, we sometimes forget the importance of valuing and treating our families with care. One of the best ways to be reminded is by learning about the sunnah of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ within his family. Even though it was short, Prophet Muhammad's bond with his mother Aminah (RA) was so strong, and he continued to honor her until he passed away. His love was beyond biological ties, and he teaches us to honor every single person who helped raise us.

The Prophet's relationship with his children, especially Fatima (RA) and Zainab (RA), reflected his compassion and tenderness. He honored Fatima by standing up for her and kissing her hand when she entered a room, and he showed emotional depth when Zainab sent Khadijah's necklace as ransom for her husband. His actions highlight how important it is to cherish and respect family ties.

In his marriage, the Prophet ﷺ treated his wives with kindness, humor, and respect. He emphasized that the best people are those who are best to their families, reminding us that our behavior at home should reflect the same compassion we show to others outside.

Finally, the Prophet taught that family ties are one of the most necessary things in life, by saying, "Whoever would like his provision to be increased and his life to be extended, let him uphold ties of family." (Sahih Muslim). This hadith shows that family is so important, and when treated properly, barakah (blessing) will be added to your life, in shā' Allāh. May Allah help us embody the beautiful character of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ and navigate our life with his sunnah.

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