



ICM 2024 End-of-Year Newsletter

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكُمْ وَرَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ وَبَرَكَاتُهُ

Dear Respected Community Members,

The year 2024 has been filled with both challenges and opportunities. Our hearts remain heavy due to the ongoing crisis in Gaza since October 7, 2023, marked by devastation and loss. We urge everyone to remain steadfast in supporting our brothers and sisters in need—through prayers, charity, and advocacy for justice.

We also reflect on 10 years of growth since acquiring this 88,000 sq. ft. facility. With Allah's guidance, we have worked to make it a Muslim Family Life Center grounded in the three core pillars of:

- 1. Faith**
- 2. Education**
- 3. Community Services**

This update outlines our collective efforts to build a stronger future for generations to come.



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1. FAITH

Faith-Based Programs

Faith forms the foundation of our efforts at ICM. Our programs are designed to strengthen Iman, nurture spirituality, and promote Islamic values.

Regular Faith Programs:

- Tafsir Sessions
- Seerah Programs
- Youth Halaqas
- Family Spiritual Circles

Regular Weekly Educational Programs:

(Tafsir & Seerah)

Spiritually uplifting programs for youth, families, & seniors by respected scholars:

- Shaikh Ousaama Hafid
- Sheikh Shoaib Wardak
- Imam Hafiz Qasim
- Sheikh Hamza Khan

Ramadan 2024 Highlights:

- Daily Tafsir Programs – by Shaykh Mohammed Nabil and Shaykh Ousama Hafid.
- Qiyam-ul-Layl Prayers – during the last 10 nights.
- Special visits from Mishary Rashid Alafasy and Qari Bakeer.
- Eid Salah and Festivities – Over 4,000 attendees.

Parenting and Family Support Workshops:

Focused on strengthening relationships within families and communities:

- Islamic Parenting Tips with Facilitators Dr. Zaihan Rashid & Br. Kaiser G. Hossain.

Special Scholarly Visits:

We hosted renowned scholars & Qaris, including:

- Mishary Rashid Alafasy (Kuwait)
- Qari Bakeer (U.S.)
- Qari Sadaqt Ali (Pakistan)
- Ustad Hamza Andreas Tzortzis (U.K.)
- Mufti Tariq Masood (Pakistan)
- Dr. Mahmood Chandia (U.K.)
- Sheikh Rafiq Sufi (U.K.)
- Ustad Nouman Ali Khan (U.S.)



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2. EDUCATION

Building Islamic Knowledge

Education remains a key responsibility at ICM, enabling growth through Islamic learning and character building.

Qur'an Hifz Program:

- 12 Students (10 boys & 2 girls) completed memorization of the Qur'an this year.
- Honoured during the Hifz Graduation Ceremony.

Islamic Education Programs:

- Weekly Tafsir & Seerah Classes – Focused on understanding the Qur'an and Sunnah.
- Youth Halaqas – Strengthening Islamic identity among youth.
- Guest Scholars – Sessions by Shaikh Ousaama Hafid, Sheikh Shoaib Wardak, and others.

Summer Camp 2024:

- 150+ Children participated.
- Activities included Islamic Studies, STEM projects, and field trips.
- Olympics Week and an End-of-Camp Jalsa celebrated their achievements.

Educational Infrastructure Projects:

- Renovation of classrooms and upstairs facilities completed.
- Accessibility Upgrades – Elevator project underway for seniors and differently-abled community members.



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3. COMMUNITY SERVICES

Serving the Community with Excellence

ICM remains committed to supporting families and fostering unity through diverse programs and services.

Enhanced Security Measures:

In light of rising Islamophobia, we have implemented advanced security systems to safeguard our community:

- Automated East Entrance Gate.
- License Plate Reader (LPR) Cameras at both gates.
- Expanded Video Surveillance with longer storage capabilities.
- Security Film for Windows – Protection against break-ins.
- Video-Enabled Intercom System – For controlled access.
- On-Demand Security Personnel and Police Support.

Sports Complex Upgrades:

- Renovated Change Rooms and modern lighting systems.
- Youth Programs – Volleyball leagues, FitNisa programs, and tournaments.
- Annual Sports Festival – Promoting health and teamwork.

Community Events:

- Graduation Jalsa 2024 – Recognizing student achievements.
- Workshops and Seminars – Covering parenting, finances, and mental health.



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Report on Finished, Active & Planned Projects

This comprehensive report outlines the progress and financials of our projects, reflecting our dedication to enhancing the ICM community's facilities and services. Thank you for your continued support and generosity.

Project #1: Brother's Wudu Area and Washrooms Remodeling & Renovations

Scope: Remodeling of the Wudu area and washrooms, including renovations to five additional washrooms across the 1st and 2nd floors.

Present Estimate: \$160,000

Funds Collected & Source: \$163,000 (Community & other Masajid contributions)

Funds Used: \$150,000

Status: Completed

Project #2: Sister's Wudu Area and Washrooms Remodeling & Renovations

Scope: Remodeling of the Wudu area and washrooms on the 1st floor.

Present Estimate: \$90,000

Funds Collected & Source: \$41,800 (Community contributions)

Funds Used: Work just started

Status: In Progress

Project #3: Upstairs Renovation Including Paint

Scope: Painting and general renovations.

Present Estimate: \$25,000

Funds Collected & Source: \$21,132 (Community contributions during Ramadan)

Funds Used: \$22,625

Status: Completed



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Report on Finished, Active & Planned Projects

Project #4: Additional Security Measures together with Security Infrastructure Program (SIP)

Scope: Enhancements to physical security, including surveillance systems, protective barriers, lighting, intrusion detection systems, security-grade window film, anti-graffiti spray, physical access controls, and more.

Total Project Cost: \$220,000

Cost Covered by SIP: \$93,512 (Government contribution)

Funds Collected & Source: \$126,488 (Community contributions)

Status: Completed

Project #5: Elevator and Accessibility for Seniors and Special Needs

Scope: Renovation of four existing doors, installation of one new accessible exterior door, and an elevator.

Present Estimate: \$160,000

Funds Collected & Source: \$100,000 (Government grant)

Funds Used: \$54,812

Status: In Progress (Design drawings, lift selection, & architect permit drawings completed. Quote under review. Delays due to City & Fire Department involvement.)

Project #6: Complete Funeral Facilities

Scope: Establishment of funeral facilities at southeast corner of the building.

Present Estimate: \$300,000

Funds Collected & Source: \$108,579 (Community contributions)

Funds Used: \$1,149

Status: In Progress (Design drawings completed & submitted to City - awaiting approvals)



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Project #7: Accessible Doors and Website Accessibility

Scope: Renovation/installation of six accessible doors and making the website accessible.

Present Estimate: In process

Funds Collected & Source: \$92,000 (Government grant)

Status: In Progress

Conclusion

As we reflect on the past year, we are grateful for the support and dedication of our Imams, scholars, volunteers, and community members.

Despite global challenges, including the ongoing crisis in Gaza, we remain committed to being a beacon of faith, education, and service.

May Allah (SWT) continue to bless our community, strengthen our bonds, and guide us toward peace and unity.

Du'a and Gratitude

“Indeed, Allah is with those who fear Him and those who are doers of good.” (Surah An-Nahl: 128)

We ask Allah (SWT) to bless this masjid, protect our children, and reward every contribution made for His sake.

جزاكم الله خيراً وبارك الله فيكم
والسلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته

Board of Directors & Majlis-e-Shura,
Islamic Centre of Markham