



# EVERGREEN

## CONNECTING HEARTS

SEPTEMBER EDITION • THE BIMONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE DAWOODI BOHRAS OF MISSISSAUGA • VOLUME 13

### A Lifetime of Giving

A familiar face, a foundational force: for many years, his hands have shaped the very heart of our community. Turn the page to step inside the life and legacy of a local icon.

**Page 05.**



From the office of Umoor Kharejiyah - our correspondent brings the updates on

-  Environmental Efforts
-  Women Empowerment
-  Beehoot
-  Food Bank

More on Page 13.

### ORANGE RICOTTA CHEESECAKE



Recipe and its origins, turn to page 12.



#### WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

Wisdom of Maula Ali (AS) on Valuing Women

**Page 15.**

### Making Waves

It was a welcome summer after a winter that seemed determined to stay forever, and now the cool evening breeze reminds us that another season is coming to an end.

As long summer days give way to the first hints of fall, we look back on a season filled with sunshine, community and moments worth celebrating.

And among those making waves this summer is a young athlete whose accomplishments in the pool have given us plenty to celebrate.





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VALUING WOMEN



## FROM AMILSAHEB'S DESK

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ  
قال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وآله

الخلق كلهم عيال الله واحبهم اليه انفعهم لعياله

“All creation is the family of Allah, and the most beloved among creation to Allah are those who are most beneficial to His family.”

This profound teaching of Rasulullah ﷺ beautifully captures the spirit of Islam and the essence of true khidmat. The word “عيال الله” (the family of Allah) refers not only to one’s immediate family or community, but to all of humanity — every person whom Allah Ta’ala sustains with His mercy and compassion. Rasulullah ﷺ teaches us that nearness to Allah Ta’ala is attained through service, compassion, mercy, and sincere care for His creation.

Our beloved Aqa Maula, His Holiness Syedna Mufaddal Saifuddin TUS, continuously reminds us that a mumin’s life should be one of benefit to others — irrespective of creed, caste, colour, or background. Under his divine guidance, the Dawoodi Bohra community across the world has embraced khidmat not merely as an activity, but as a way of life. Through initiatives focused on food security, education, environmental stewardship, healthcare, and humanitarian aid, the community strives to embody the Qur’anic principle of mercy for all mankind.

It is in this spirit that Umoor Kharejiyah serves as a vital umoor within our Jamaat. The philosophy of Umoor Kharejiyah is rooted in strengthening ties with the broader society around us, fostering goodwill, building bridges of understanding, and ensuring that the values of our faith translate into meaningful action within the communities in which we live. We believe that our masjid and should not only serve as a centre of ibadat, but also as centres of service, compassion, and civic contribution.



By the raza, guidance, and mubarak encouragement of Aqa Maula TUS, Mississauga Jamaat Anjuman-e-Fakhri has been blessed with numerous opportunities in recent years to serve the wider community across Ontario. One such meaningful initiative has been our ongoing partnership with Food Banks Mississauga, through which volunteers from our Jamaat have regularly assisted in food sorting, packaging, and distribution efforts for families facing food insecurity. These efforts reflect the broader Dawoodi Bohra commitment to combating hunger and reducing food waste — values deeply emphasized by our faith and by community initiatives worldwide.

In addition to these efforts, our Jamaat has continued to participate in environmental clean-up initiatives, interfaith engagement programs, support for first responders, neighbourhood outreach, and charitable activities during times of local and global hardship. These initiatives allow us not only to contribute positively to Canadian society, but also to strengthen the bonds of friendship, harmony, and mutual respect with our fellow citizens.

As Dawoodi Bohras living in Canada, we are deeply inspired by Aqa Maula's guidance to remain loyal, responsible, and contributing members of the societies in which we reside. Through every act of service — no matter how small — we hope to reflect the values of kindness, humility, and compassion that are at the heart of our faith.

I pray that Allah Ta'ala continues to grant our beloved Aqa Maula TUS abundant sehat, long life, and prosperity until Qiyamat. May He continue to guide us in serving humanity with sincerity and ikhlas, and may He accept even our smallest efforts.

والسلام  
Abde Syedna Sh. Shabbir Bundiwala



# INTERVIEW - SH. ABY BHAJ BHAGAT

## Question 1

Shk. Aby Bhai, you truly need no introduction. You are among the fortunate mumineen blessed to hail from the revered town of Sidhpur. We would be honored if you could share your cherished memories of Sidhpur—especially if you had the privilege of being present during Syedna Taher Saifuddin Maula's Safar Mubarak or Syedna Mohammed Burhanuddin Aqa's Ashara Mubarak.

## Answer

Sidhpur being my birthplace I visited after my high school final exams. At that time Syedna Taher Saifuddin Moula RA was in Sidhpur with Burhanuddin Moula. I had the most honorable privilege of my Misaaq being taken by Burhanuddin Moula in a private bethak with a couple of other children. After the Misaaq and qadambosi of Burhanuddin Moula I went for qadambosi of Taher Saifuddin Moula, and he asked me my father's name and gave me the tashreef. I am honoured to get Mafsuhiyat from Burhanuddin Moula when he visited Kuwait. I am much honored and blessed to get Hadiyat Sharaf from Burhanuddin Moula in Karbala 1430 H during his visit when he did tasneef of Fulkul Hussain Marasiya.





## Question 2

You are one of the pioneers and a strong pillar in the Mississauga Jamaat. Can you take us back to those early days and share one of your most cherished memories from that time?

### Answer

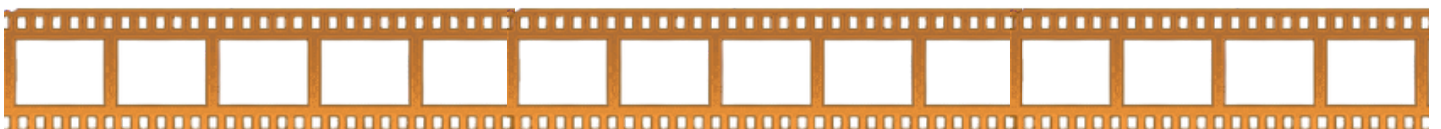
When our jamaat was formed in 1427H 2006 we bought a warehouse to use as a Markaz. As Ashra 1428H was approaching, we were working fast to transform the warehouse into Markaz. We had a few minor deficiencies which were obstacles for passing. Luckily the city inspector who came to inspect was my colleague once upon a time and based on my responsibility to complete the deficiencies he gave approval for the use of the Markaz. It was on the Pehli raat of Moharram 1428 that we got occupancy for the Markaz.

## Question 3

Starting a new life in a new country is never easy. What were some of the biggest challenges you faced while settling down in Canada?

### Answer

We came to Canada in July 1995 from Kuwait. It was a recession time and it was very difficult to find a job. I had to leave my wife and daughter alone here and went back to Kuwait for my job as a Construction Engineer. I used to make 2-3 trips in a year to be with my family . Finally in 2000, I came back to Toronto and struggled to find a job. Everywhere I tried for a job they will ask me if I have any Canadian experience. Without working in Canada how can I get Canadian experience. Finally, I got a break in a small municipality as a Building Inspector. The Director who hired me told me that although there were other experienced candidates, he chose me as I had an engineering qualification and I would pick up fast. I proved him right and picked up fast. I appeared for 16 different exams and got my self qualified as a successful Building Inspector and working at present in a municipality for over 23 years.





#### Question 4

You're not only a respected figure in our Jamaat but also someone who managed the procurement and resources during major events like Ramadan and Ashara. Please share your valuable experience to train our new age khidmatguzars.

#### Answer

As a khidmatguzar I used to arrange for every requirement for all Miqaats. With a handful of persons, I used to prepare for bethak, Qasidas, Ashra Mubaraka, Sherullah, tapes for namaz saff for entire Markaz, Misaaq majlis, Silatul Imam, Najwa, Suyum Sipara ect. Till date I have safely kept all the resources procured for all Miqaats. I used to keep exact count of Niyaz thals for all the Miqaats which used to give a heads up for upcoming Miqaats. I would suggest that after the Miqaats to windup and keep back all the resources properly so that it is available for future miqaats.

#### Question 5

Everyone holds fond memories of Burhanuddin Moula (RA), and we're always eager to hear more. Could you share a personal experience with Moula during one of his visits to Canada—something close to your heart, perhaps even a moment few people know about?

#### Answer

Although I was here in Canada on Burhanuddin Moula's last visit, I don't have any fond memories of that time; however I did get a very good opportunity of being close to Burhanuddin Moula and Mufaddal Moula at Kuwait airport once, as I was the only mumín having a video camera in those days and was allowed to be in the VIP LOUNGE with Moula. At that time Mufaddal Moula had specifically asked me lots of questions about Kuwait and mumíneen in general.

Interviewed by: Mustafa Kubbawala

**EVERGREEN TEAM IS THANKFUL FOR  
SHARING YOUR EXPERIENCES WITH US.**



## LIMITED TIME ONLY

Every year around the holidays, something strange happens. No, not the inflatables multiplying on front lawns like creatures escaping The Cat in the Hat—only with zoning approval.

I'm talking about sales. That miraculous season when everything is "70% OFF," yet costs exactly what it did in October—only now it's wearing tinsel and shouting at you in capital letters, with Maria Ben and George Bhai's melodious voices playing softly (and persistently) in the background.



Holiday sales are less about saving money and more about participating in a shared, almost spiritual illusion: capitalism. A communal hallucination. Like believing the raisin plum cake will be eaten this year. Or that batteries, this time, truly are included.

It begins innocently. You walk into a store "just to look." You are composed. Rational. You have a list. Your *niyat* is to stick to it. Then it appears: WAS \$199.99. NOW \$99.99. TODAY ONLY. Your palms are sweaty, knees weak, arms are heavy. You are about to lose yourself. You don't know what the item does, but you know—deep in your bargain-hunting soul—that you would be sinning financially by not buying it. You are now saving a hundred dollars on something you had never previously desired or even did *duā* for. This is the holiday sales paradox: the more you save, the more you spend. A fiscal hamster wheel in a Santa hat, gently whispering, "Trust me."

Retailers, illusionists that they are, know this well. Prices rise discreetly in November, only to be dramatically "slashed" in December with the flourish of a Vegas magician. The product remains unchanged, but the font grows larger, redder, and more emotionally manipulative.



Online shopping adds its own layer of psychological theatre. You are informed that "17 people are viewing this item right now." Seventeen impulse-buying souls, scattered across the earth, all locked in silent combat over a novelty waffle maker shaped like a snowflake and that's okay. Because the illusion was never really about the discount. It was about hope. And hope, like holiday sales, is something we eagerly buy into every year—no receipt, no returns, and absolutely no regrets. And besides, the toaster was 70% off.

**M. HUNAID VAHANVATY**



# MONASABA

**monasaba®**  
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**HANEETH**

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Instagram: @monasabacanada

*Inquire about  
**Ramadan  
Catering!***

## A New Monasaba Serving Yemeni Cuisine Opens in Ridgeway Plaza

This new Monasaba was born out of a simple intention: to create a welcoming space where families and friends can come together over familiar, comforting flavors that remind us of home. Rooted in our Dawoodi Bohra traditions of hospitality, quality, and service, the restaurant aims to be more than just a place to eat—it's a place to connect.



Yemen has a special place in our history, culture and community, and we are excited to display a part of this identity through our flavours. Our Mandi (flavoured rice with slow cooked, tender meat) is always a crowd pleaser. A hidden gem is our succulent Fahsah (pulled beef) which is packed with rich, savoury flavour. Desserts like Lotus Kunafa are best enjoyed with a steaming cup of hot chai!

The journey of opening this restaurant has been filled with ardour, adventure and passion. This venture is a partnership between mumineen who have previously been in a business relationship for twelve years. That trust and confidence has materialised in this new venture. Ridgeway is one of North America's most vibrant and colourful food scene and we can't wait to welcome our friends, family and community members to visit us at our location!

May Allah Ta'ala grant barakat, and continued success to all our community members in their endeavors, and grant our Aqeeq-ul-Yemen Moula Mufaddal Saifuddin a long life until the day of Qayamat. Ameen.

**Contributed by Mohammed Essaji and Adnan Kamdar**





# RIISING STAR OF MISSISSAUGA JAMAAT

## BURHANUDDIN MANDVIWALA

**Name:** Burhanuddin Mandviwala

Age: 12

School: Mentor College

Family:

Mom : Fatema Mandviwala

Father : Yousuf Mandviwala

Sister: Zahra Mandviwala

Favourite food: Pakistani food plus  
Ramen & Steak

Best vacation destination: Japan

Sport: Swims for Mississauga Swim  
club 'MSSAC'

Favourite athlete: Michael Phelps and  
Cristiano Ronaldo

Athletic accomplishments:

Swims for Junior Jets team of MSSAC  
Awarded "Swimmer of the Month" X 2.  
Mentor College Swim Team MVP 2026  
Won Gold, Silver and Bronze medals  
at various meets.

Continues to beat his personal best  
times each month and secures first  
positions in his heats every month.

Academic accomplishments:

Maintaining A grade average  
consistently.

Hobbies: Swim - Eat - Lego - Repeat

Future goals: To swim professionally  
and be recognised as a renowned  
swimmer by name by our Moula TUS  
Inshallah. Complete Hifz journey.  
Currently I am contemplating and  
choosing between becoming a lawyer  
or doctor or an IT professional. But I  
still have about 5 years to decide this!





## THE VIRAL PROBLEM

### TASNEEM RAKLA-ANASWALA



### IT'S VIRAL! IT MUST BE GOOD RIGHT???

The idea that essentially is a modern day rendition of the concept “word of mouth” bombards our social media feeds and Whatsapp chats wherever we turn. Viral hacks, viral trends and the most popular - the viral recipe. The one that pops up on your feed turning a daunting creation into a 2 minute DIY with amazing results that laughs in the face of all those foolish culinary geniuses who spent hours if not days, creating the same thing. Haha in your face talent - I have a viral hack! For the sake of this article let's come back to early 2026 - the viral Japanese cheesecake. Greek yogurt, Lotus Biscoff biscuits and 6 hours in the fridge and boom! Greek yogurt with soggy biscuits!



The Japanese cheesecake, if my memory serves me correct, is a luscious, velvety, jiggly creation that tastes and feels like clouds melting in your mouth, with delicate notes of vanilla and cream. It's science meets sensation with a visually entertaining jiggle. Dense greek yogurt, served cold, with soggy spiced biscuits has nothing in common with Japanese cheesecake. One takes effort and one requires delusion. They are not the same, yet all we saw were millions upon millions of videos of people sticking biscuits and jams into a little container of greek yogurt and posting themselves having a most euphoric reaction, making you feel like you must feel this way too while hitting all your protein goals! So easy! And that's the key right there - EASY. In a dopamine driven, instant gratification world, anything goes as long as it hits that need to feel a sense of accomplishment, that dopamine hit.



But don't get me wrong, I sympathize. These people aren't completely wrong. The need to enjoy something delicious in a simple manner is perfectly warranted, but let's find a middle ground. The real Japanese cheesecake is complex, and the viral Japanese cheesecake is disappointing, but what if I told you that you can make a delicious cheesecake simply and get the best of both worlds? Delicious flavour, simple method - and a real cheesecake!

Enter the Orange Ricotta Cheesecake - clean simple ingredients, a blender, an oven and voila! It brings you that creamy tart flavour that we look for in a good cheesecake, while making it accessible to even the most novice baker!

Once in a while, that viral recipe comes along that truly delivers something novel, but if you want a cheesecake, just have the cheesecake and save that greek yogurt for leg day.



## Orange Ricotta Cheesecake

### Ingredients:



450 g / 16 oz - Whole-milk ricotta  
225 g / 8 oz - Cream cheese, room temp  
150 g /  $\frac{3}{4}$  cup - Sugar  
3 Large eggs  
Zest of 2 oranges  
80 ml /  $\frac{1}{3}$  cup - fresh squeezed orange juice  
1 tsp Vanilla bean paste  
2 tbsp Cornstarch  
Pinch of Kosher salt  
Powder sugar for dusting

### Method:



Prep the pan  
Wrap the outside of the springform tightly with 2 layers of foil (water bath insurance).  
Preheat the oven to 325°F and boil a kettle of water.  
Add everything to the blender and blend until silky smooth  
Don't overblend—stop as soon as smooth.  
Pour batter into the pan and place the pan in a larger roasting pan. Pour hot water into the larger roasting pan covering the cheesecake pan no more than 1 inch around it to come up the sides.  
Bake 60–70 minutes until edges are set and the center gently jiggles like soft custard.  
Turn oven off, open the door partially and rest 30 minutes.  
Remove cheesecake from water bath and let it cool completely.  
Refrigerate at least 4 hours (overnight best).  
Dust with powdered sugar before serving.



## DRIVING COLLABORATION AND IMPACT THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF UMOOR KHAREJIYAH

Umoor Kharejiyah (Department of Community Outreach) was established with the vision of fostering a positive identity for the community by cultivating meaningful public relations and actively contributing to the well-being of both mumineen and society at large. Over the past five years, Umoor Kharejiyah in Mississauga has successfully built a strong network of relationships at the local level, engaging with political leaders, community organizations, and public institutions to promote collaboration, mutual understanding, and civic engagement.



This growing network has strengthened the Umoor's capacity to drive action in various areas focused on promoting women's advancement, encouraging environmental sustainability, and addressing food insecurity. Umoor Kharejiyah has launched a range of initiatives to support these causes. In 2022, it introduced SheSeries—a platform created to bring together Dawoodi Bohra women and women from the broader community to exchange insights and foster mutual support. In 2023, the Umoor took a lead in environmental advocacy by adopting a local park to raise awareness about ecological responsibility. That same year, Beeyoot, a campaign to conserve Ontario's native honey bees, was initiated to support the adoption of bee hotels to promote pollinator-friendly practices.

Last year, in response to the City of Mississauga's declaration of food insecurity as an emergency, Umoor Kharejiyah spearheaded a five-year flagship partnership between the Dawoodi Bohras of Mississauga and Food Banks Mississauga to help address this critical issue. With generous funding from Syedna Mufaddal Saifuddin (TUS) and inspired by his unwavering commitment to the welfare of all individuals, the community has pledged 250,000 meals. Through the dedicated volunteering efforts of community members, over 150,000 pounds of food have already been distributed to individuals and families across the city. This enduring collaboration not only helps alleviate hunger but also reflects the community's deep-rooted commitment to the collective well-being of society.



Looking ahead, Umoor Kharejiyah remains committed to deepening its engagement in these focus areas while exploring new opportunities for valuable contribution. A key priority is to engage more community members, especially the youth, to participate and contribute with their skills and passion. By expanding its local network of partners and leaders, the Umoor aims to strengthen its role in leading the community in driving collective impact.



# VALUING WOMEN

SAKEENAH NUMBERDAR

Moulana Ali AS states, that women are like flowers, they should be treated gently, kindly, and with affection. Women, when shown care and love will reciprocate with the same love and care if not more. We often undermine women for their sentimental qualities assuming that men are superior for their courage and strength. However, Khuda Ta'ala has created each with unique qualities to create equilibrium in society and fulfill their individual purpose, making them the best version of themselves when paired together as husband and wife. During Asharah Mubarakah 1446H, Aqa Moula TUS addressed mumimeen with Rasulullah SAW's hadith shareef:

مَثَلُ الْمَرْأَةِ كَالضِّلْعِ إِنْ أَرَدْتَ أَنْ تُقِيمَهُ كَسَرْتَهُ، وَإِنْ  
اسْتَمْتَعْتَ بِهِ اسْتَمْتَعْتَ بِهِ وَفِيهِ أَوْدٌ

**The example of a woman is that of a rib; if you try to straighten it, you will break it.**

**You can only benefit from it if you leave it as it is.**

Aqa Moula TUS emphasized that women, like a ribcage protecting the vital organs in a human body — protect their families from all harm. (Majlis 8, 1446h) Their role in society is capable of protecting themselves, their loved ones, and provide crucial support — only if you nurture and respect a woman as she was created. The value and capabilities of women can be seen in the example of Moulatana Hurat ul Maleka RA who dealt with matters of deen and duniya without compromising her modesty. In the same waaz mubarak Aqa Moula TUS narrated Moulatana Hurat ul Maleka RA's consistent efforts to uplift Yemen by providing resources, building infrastructure, and encouraging the establishment of trade industries (Majlis 8, 1446h).

A woman in society is not just inferior to a man, she is made in equality to stand next to a man and thrive with her own gifted qualities, because she with her inherent soft-hearted nature can care, protect, and lead with grace and modesty which ultimately grows tomorrow's generation.



In Asharah Mubarakah 1447H, Aqa Moula TUS highlighted seven things that are wajib on a man to do for his wife. These things include taking the utmost care of her and respecting her, providing for her, and 'husn us samat'—staying silent where needed instead of trying to change her by constantly correcting her needlessly. (Majlis 6, 1447h) Aqa Moula TUS ended this bayaan stating that indeed a woman should respect her husband, but her husband should respect Khuda Ta'ala first. If further pondered upon respecting Khuda Ta'ala, committing to 'ta'at' would be to respect and value his creation by deeply appreciating its qualities, such as that of a woman.



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