

AMSA Newsletter

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 2

JANUARY 2006

Ahmadiyya Muslim Community celebrates Eid

Contact info:

amsa@utoronto.ca
http://amsa.sa.utoronto.ca

President:

Mahmood Mirza

Chief Editor:

Adeel Ahmad

Mailing address:

c/o AMSA
7 Hart House Circle,
University of Toronto.
M5S-3H3

If you'd like to contribute to the newsletter, please submit your articles via email.

Inside this issue:

Ahmadiyya Muslim Community celebrates Eid	1
Schedule of regular events	1
Humanity First issues urgent appeal for help	1
World Religions Conference to take place at the University of Toronto	2
Sports sessions	2
Election scheduled for January 23	2
University of Toronto marks World AIDS Day	2

The festival of Eid-ul-Fitr was celebrated in Canada on November 4, 2005, marking the end of the holy month of Ramadhan.

A congregation numbering in thousands offered Eid Prayers at the Toronto Congress Centre and afterward listened to the sermon delivered by Amir Sahib.

The festive celebration was subdued this year as a result

of the devastating earthquake that struck Pakistan on October 8, just days after the beginning of Ramadhan.

Volunteers representing the Community's charity, Humanity First, were present to accept donations and to urge those present to further raise money for the needy.

Amir Sahib's sermon also touched on the matter that dominated the minds of so



many, urging Ahmadis to donate generously.

Schedule of regular events

Event	Time	Location
Juma (Friday Prayers)	Friday 1:20 pm	International Student Centre (ISC), Third Floor
Zuhr (Afternoon) Prayers	Daily, 1:30 pm	International Student Centre (ISC), Third Floor
Maghrib (Evening) Prayers	Daily, timings on website	International Student Centre (ISC), Third Floor
Qur'an Sessions Semester II	Friday, 12:40 pm to 1:20 pm 2:00 pm to 2:40 pm	International Student Centre (ISC), North America Room
Viewing of Huzur's (a.a.) Friday Sermons	Friday, 3:10pm	TBA on website

Humanity First issues urgent appeal for help

Humanity First is a non-profit Canadian charitable organization offering relief to the needy around the world.

After a massive earthquake struck South Asia in October, at least 80,000 people were

killed, with a further 100,000 injured and more than 2.5 million left homeless by the disaster.

Humanity First is also providing aid to the victims of Hurricane Katrina in the United

States.

Donations can be made at www.humanityfirst.ca

World Religions Conference to take place at the University of Toronto

The World Religions Conference will be taking place on Thursday, January 19 at 6 pm in the JJR MacLeod Auditorium. The theme of the conference will be “Reconciling the Existence of God and Human Suffering,” regarding which speakers will offer the Hindu, Jewish, Christian and Muslim perspectives.

The event is organized by the Ahmadiyya Muslim Students Association (AMSA) at the University of Toronto. The wider Ahmadiyya Muslim Community has approximately 200 million members around the world in 170 countries.

According to organizers, the purpose of the conference is to create interfaith interaction that will lead to both education and unity.

“Learning about other faiths is a great way to bring together the wider community, including both students and non-students,” said AMSA president Mahmood Mirza, a fourth-year engineering student. “Interfaith dialogue is something that the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community takes great pride in facilitating.”

The conference will be taking place from 6 – 8:30 pm, after which refreshments will be served. For more information, visit the AMSA website at <http://amsa.sa.utoronto.ca>.

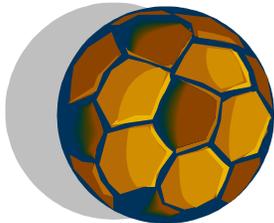


Above: Amir Sahib speaks at the 2003 World Religions conference. Taken from gmatstudies.com

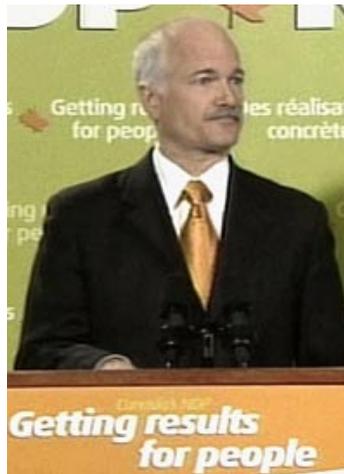
Above: Amir Sahib speaks at the 2003 World Religions conference. Taken from gmatstudies.com

Sports sessions

Monthly sports sessions are being organized on campus and depending on interest level, the frequency of these sessions will be increased. Sports will include **indoor cricket, squash, table tennis, basketball, and soccer**. Please feel free to email any suggestions regarding these events.



Election scheduled for January 23



Following the collapse of the federal Liberal government on November 28, parliament has been dissolved and an election called for January 23, 2006.

The Trinity-Spadina riding, encompassing the bulk of the University of Toronto campus, is expected to be a hotly riding between former city councilor Olivia Chow, a New Democrat, and incumbent Liberal Tony Ianno.

Left: NDP leader Jack Layton speaks at Hart House on November 30. Picture from utoronto.ca

University of Toronto marks World AIDS Day

World AIDS day was marked at the University of Toronto on December 1 by a series of events that noted both



the progress that had been made in combating the disease and the challenges that lay ahead.

Twenty-five events took place on all three University of Toronto campuses, co-ordinated by the Faculty of Medicine's Centre for International Health.

In the Great Hall of Hart House, a keynote address was delivered by Dr. Philip Berger, medical director of the Inner City Health program at St. Mi-

chael's Hospital. Berger spent seven months at an AIDS clinic in Lesotho earlier this year.

Forty million people around the world live with AIDS, eight thousand of whom die everyday, approximately one person every ten seconds.

Left: a flyer circulated as part of World AIDS Day at the University of Toronto. From utoronto.ca