

ISSUE 01 | APRIL 2015

THE MEMON



WORLD MEMON ORGANISATION NEWSLETTER

WMO VISION 2020

Solly Noor: I have a dream

ZINDA HO TUM

Youth Wing Pakistan Chapter roars at ThinkWise

A NEW BEGINNING

Middle East Chapter launches Abu Dhabi Youth Wing

YUNUS SULEMAN
MR.KPMG

AN AFRICAN AMBITION WITH **SOUL CURRY**

“ I drove a five ton mobile food truck to pay for my education at the university ”

THE MEMON



INTRODUCTION

I stood steadfast with Nelson Mandela in a revolution to eradicate apartheid.

I walked with the Mahatma to the salt lakes of Gujarat to strengthen a nation's resolve for Independence.

I was a pillar on which a nation's economy rested when Quaid E Azam formed a Muslim State.

I am a revolutionary, a liberator and a patriot.

I am a scholar, an educationalist and a reformist.

I am a visionary, a pioneer and a stalwart of industry.

I am a philanthropist and a humanitarian.

.....I am **THE MEMON**.

In the coming editions of the WMO newsletter, eminent members of our community shall grace the cover page. We will learn about their distinguished life and share their journey to the heights of greatness. We shall showcase to the world, our pride, our inspiration, the sublime..

THE MEMON.



WMO VISION 2020

A-Salaam-u-Alaikum

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I HAVE A DREAM

I have a dream that all future generations are educated and self reliant.

The power to mould the future will be in the hands of the next generation. It is up to us to live up to the legacy that was left for us, and to leave behind that is worthy of our children.

Our legacy should be an educated heart and mind.

I have a dream that all my brothers and sisters have a roof over their head.

A simple, decent shelter is a basic human right and a primary need for all.

The key dimensions of a modest home are a roof and four walls where one is essentially kept safe and dry but for the less fortunate and underprivileged it's much more. It is their treasure chest. A vital, starting point from where they begin their long and arduous journey to break the shackles of poverty.

To own a home helps them travel that road with their heads held high. It lights up their faces and their lives.

I HAVE A DREAM THAT ONE DAY MY BRETHREN WILL RISE UP AND LIVE OUT THE TRUE MEANING OF OUR CREED: TO UNITE, UPHOLD AND UPLIFT.

You can't eat with two hands. You have to eat with one hand and give with the other.

I implore my brothers and sisters to start by doing what's necessary; then do what's possible; and soon, together we will all be doing the impossible.

Have faith in Allah SWT, believe in yourself and dare to dream.

I dream that all Memons will be transformed from Zakat receivers to Zakat donors. The same hands that are out stretched to receive, will soon turn over and give.

That my brothers will be our finest hour and we can truly take the next step to EMPOWER MANKIND.

Best Regards,

Solly Noor

President - World Memon Organisation

Dubai 12th January – Report



On the 12th of January 2015, WMO VISION 2020 was conceptualised in the city of Dubai. Most of the Office Bearers of WMO along with the Vice Presidents and Assistant General Secretaries of every chapter gathered at the Grand Hyatt for a series of meetings.

A SWOT analysis was conducted to strengthen the organisation and targets were set to be accomplished in the years leading upto 2020.

Our President Mr. Solly Noor's inspired "**I have a Dream**" is an accurate rendition of WMO VISION 2020.

During the Gala Dinner, WMO's vision 2020 was initiated when WMO signed a scholarship program with the Skyline University of Dubai. The Gala dinner was also an iconic event as it helped raised more than AED 600,000/- for the students program run by WMO.

Apart from the achievement this event was by far the biggest held by the WMO Middle East Chapter in terms of sheer number of invited guests. We can assume that the future of WMO seems to heading the right way and the vision for 2020 is on its way to reality.



WMO President Mr. Solly Noor signs scholarship program with the Skyline University of Dubai

Celebrating in a traditional UAE way Dhow Cruise



In the land of dates and mountain high sand dunes, Dubai has grown to become a hub of architectural highs. Known as the modern London of this decade, the Burj Khalifa stands as a beacon of pride and ego. In the middle of all the highs that UAE has achieved in the last 10 years, the Dubai Youth Wing has stood as a beacon of light for the World Memon Organisation. Into existence for more than 2 years now, Dubai Youth wing has conducted more projects than the other chapters combined.



Dubai Youth Wing team along With
Mrs. Shabana Razzak Mussani

The dhows were the most common sights of the 70s 80s 90s and early 2000s, making Dubai the city it has become through its trade on land and via sea. The Dubai Youth Wing celebrated its 2 years anniversary in the best way known to Dubaians, but they had other plans. Along with celebrating their 2 years anniversary they set goal to launch a **Youth Wing in Abu Dhabi**. The guests from Abu Dhabi were received with great love and harmony. During the cruise, the chief guest for the night



Mrs. Shabana Razzak Mussani gave a very strong emotional speech describing her journey in WMO since the inception and also her father's role in WMO. She stressed upon raising awareness to help the poor and needy & also stressed upon memons living for each other and strengthening the community. During the cruise, Salmaan Hussain (Chairman – International Youth Wing) spoke passionately about being a member of WMO and also spoke briefly about #iCare (Project by the Int.Youth Wing). After a brief session of networking, dinner was served.

They say, if you want to delegate a matter do it when dinner is served and that's exactly what happened. During the dinner, the Dubai Youth Wing sat and delegated to the Abu Dhabi guests and spoke at length to start a youth wing in Abu Dhabi.

After much chit chat, the Abu Dhabi guests agreed upon starting a youth wing and also agreed to host an event and invite the Dubai youth wing so that communication between the two states would be formed.

Dubai youth wing since inception has set many benchmarks and reached many goals but this was perhaps the biggest of them all. The pride with which the Youth has worked in Dubai and in UAE as a whole is a testimony of the great future of WMO.



In the sublime corridors of immortality, the upper echelons are reserved for the most ambitious. A steely resolve to overcome formidable challenges and an insatiable appetite for glory.

Mr. Yunus Suleman is Ambition personified but with Soul.

Helen Adams Keller, distinguished American author, political activist and lecturer who was the first deaf blind person to earn a bachelor of arts degree in the early nineteenth century famously quoted.

"Character cannot be developed in ease and quiet. Only through experience of trial and suffering can the soul be strengthened, ambition inspired, and success achieved."

In the 1960s, Racial segregation was the most devastating aspect of the South African policy of apartheid. The government forcibly relocated Indians and Yunus bha's father's general dealership store shut down. During those agonising times of hopelessness and despair, the Suleman family stuck together with solidarity.

" I drove a 5 ton Mobile Food truck to deliver groceries to the Indian townships along with my father and brothers to make ends meet and pay for my education at the university "

Yunus Suleman once again faced discrimination when he received his degree in accountancy but struggled to find a job in Durban. He was forced to relocate to Johannesburg in the 1970s. During those antagonising days of White Supremacy in South Africa, the colour of a man's skin took precedent in job allocation over his qualifications and capabilities.



KPMG family for literacy launches Parktown Public School Library



The KPMG family for literacy is an endeavour to eradicate illiteracy in the continent of Africa

After his initial struggles, Yunus Suleman got a job and worked at the Accounting and Audit firm of Arthur Andersen for 20 years. Later on he became a Senior Partner before the integration of Andersen and KPMG in 2002 but not before another trial by fire. In 1998 to prove his leadership credentials, Yunus Suleman took up the challenge to head the Nigerian Audit and Consulting division of the Andersen conglomerate and shifted with his family from Capetown to Nigeria .

" I distinctly recollect those years when infrastructure was poor in Nigeria and basic amenities like uninterrupted electricity, water and telephone communications were unavailable to most. There were many days when we sat in darkness for long hours without electricity as there was no diesel available for the generators as well. Those were very tough times for my wife too as she had to teach our six year old to read under candle light. The telephones never worked and she felt isolated in a new country away from her family and friends in South Africa."

Undeterred, Yunus Suleman went about his job and in just two years he was recalled to South Africa to head the Audit Function of Andersen in his home country. A clear endorsement of his leadership abilities.

True to the words of Hellen Keller, Yunus Suleman's unending trials and tribulations only strengthened his resolve and he rose like the phoenix to stake his claim for the top executive's post at KPMG.

As Chairman of one of the finest audit and accountancy firms in the world. Yunus bha has been the "Trusted Business Advisor" to many stalwarts of the Telecommunications, Oil and Gas, retail and media industry. He has spoken at various prestigious platforms including participation at the World Economic Forum for Africa and has been extensively interviewed for his perceptive thoughts and views on global finance. Yunus Suleman has collaborated on projects relating to the National Development Plan (NDP) for South Africa as an important member of Business Leadership South Africa and served on the "Beyond Advocacy" BLSA working group driving the role of business in implementing the NDP.



At a KPMG event

Recipient of many accolades and laurels including Leading Business Personality and Special Recognition award from the Minara Chamber of Commerce, Yunus Suleman is now endorsing and acknowledging business accomplishments in Africa.

KPMG has supported CNBC Africa to honour the giants of African industry by awarding the prestigious All Africa Business Leadership Awards(AABLA) in recognition of their achievements.

Yunus Suleman is Chief Judge on the jury that selects the recipients of the AABLA. He was previously the Chairman of the Judging panel for the FNB Islamic Finance Business Awards in South Africa.

"We cannot seek achievement for ourselves and forget about progress and prosperity for our community... Our ambitions must be broad enough to include the aspirations and needs of others, for their sakes and for our own."
Ceaser Chavez (civil rights activist)

Yunus Suleman deserves a badge of honour for his selfless services towards the community, country and humanity. This includes serving on the board of ENACTUS,(ENterprise in ACTus for US) . It is an organisation that promotes the involvement of university students in business projects to gain invaluable experience, encourages entrepreneurship and builds leadership skills.

Yunus Suleman is also former chairman of Association for the Advancement of Black Accountants of Southern Africa (ABASA) in the Western Cape.

As Chairman of the KPMG Foundation, Yunus Suleman has always been on the forefront of many worthy causes like the KFFL initiative in Africa which was launched on International Mandela Day in 2014.

The KPMG Family For Literacy is an endeavour to eradicate illiteracy in the continent of Africa and promote education amongst the younger generation

The KFFL was launched with the opening of the KPMG Family for Literacy library at Parktown Public School in Johannesburg, Gauteng. It represented the culmination of KPMG's 2014 book drive that saw reading material donated at KPMG offices from across the country for the School library.

Outgoing Vice President of WMO Africa Chapter, Trustee and current Treasurer of the organization, Yunus Suleman is an integral part of the World Memon Organisation. An invaluable contributor to the admirable causes of promoting education and rehabilitation in the Memon community.

A devout Muslim, caring father, loving husband and a generous human being.



Yunus Suleman with WMO delegates

As Yunus Suleman retires from KPMG this year we can only stand up and applaud his journey from the humble beginnings in Durban to the pinnacle of success. A glorious career spanning over thirty five years peppered with hardships, fueled by ambition and rested in greatness.

If any youngsters are looking for inspiration and a role model look no further. Take your first step towards the hallowed halls of immortality where they just might engrave your name if you achieve a fraction of this great man's legacy. tttt



Think Wise - 2015 sequel- "Zinda Ho Tum"; A 2 day event was organized by WMO Youth wing Pakistan chapter which was attended by more than 265 students of Memon youth of age bracket 17-24yrs. This was the first event of the newly elected Chairman Mr. Khurram Shehzad, Vice Chairman Mr. Waqar Mamdani and General Secretary Miss. Reeda Sheikhani.

The **First Day** was a Theatre night was held at Rangoonwala hall on Saturday evening in which renowned young artists (Dramaculas) performed a play highlighting current situations of Pakistanis in the most humorous way leaving a positive message of optimism, courage and livelihood for the youth. Memon character in the play was specially scripted for the audience to relate to their problems and find the solutions. It was further added for a reason to create association, promotion and practicing memon culture (specifically language) and norms amongst the youth of memon community. The name of the play was 'Pey say Pakistan'. This event marked a mile stone in the history of memon community as for the first time WMO Pakistan Chapter brought a theater to the general audience.

The chief guest of the event was Mr. Saleem Shakoor Javawala; Managing Director of Standard Textiles Mills, who honored our event with his utmost generosity. He received a guest of honor from Mr. Shoaib Ismail Mangroria General Secretary WMO International. Mr. Salmaan Hussain Chairman International Youth Wing also attended this event for WMO Youth Wing Pakistan's support. Token of appreciation were presented to Advisory committee of WMO youth wing Pakistan chapter by Mr. Shoaib Ismail Mangroria (Secretary General WMO International) after being inspired by the performance and the ambiance of the evening, chief guest Mr. Saleem Shakoor Javawala sponsored the entire expense occurred on the day. Night ended followed by a dinner.



The **Second Day** began at Dareecha conference hall in Arena with an interactive session conducted by Mr. Waqar Mamdani, Vice Chairman of youth wing Pakistan chapter. Mr. Waqar invited Umair Jaliawala a renowned youth turner to interact with the participants. He gave the motivational session to the youth to challenge the life paradigms. After Umair's session, participants were motivated with zeal and patriotism. Soon after that, Presentations were given by WMO Youth Wing members for new projects initiatives that they have taken.



- 1- Memon Student Internship Program (MSIP) (A project for youth to help get good internship programs and job).
- 2- I-Care Pakistan Chapter. (A general fund raising program with a minimum contribution of Rs 50/- per month). USD 1,500 was raised during the launch of I-Care Pakistan Chapter.
- 3- Membership drives (An invitation to the youth to join hands with WMO).

Ms. Sabina Khatri, Founder of Kiran Public School was extremely delighted to attend this event of youth wing and spoke a few words of appreciation for youth wing Pakistan chapter to sponsor 35 students of Kiran Public School for this event to provide a learning platform for them. A big Thank you to ARY Jewelry, AKD Investments, Rivo Mobile, Standard Textiles and Cars Club for sponsoring this event. Lastly, certificates in shape of souvenirs were handed over to the participants as the sign of appreciation and motivation. Lunch was served followed by tokens of the game were given to each participant to enjoy the day. A successful event completed under a new chairmanship.

WMO WOMENS WING INTERNATIONAL PROJECT With JAMA'ATUN NISAA At PRINCE MSHIYENI MEMORIAL HOSPITAL UMLAZI



The medical staff from Prince Mshiyeni Memorial Hospital in Umlazi, Durban sent an appeal for food hampers for children in the hospital's malnutrition unit. These were children who came from impoverished homes and were suffering from severe malnutrition.

A list of specified items of food was given to us by doctors from the Prince Mashiyeni hospital.

Doctors wanted to hand out these hampers to the parents of these children on discharge, so that once they at home these kids are given proper nutrition to regain their strength.

As part of our International Project for Children of Special Needs WMO Womens Wing together with Jama'atun Nisaa went on a drive to raise funds for these hampers and Alhumdulillah a cash amount of R50 000 was collected and paid towards purchase of food items to make up these hampers.

Many other items of food and other necessities were also sponsored by various memon business houses for us to include in the hampers.

Drop off point for collection of items by sponsors was at our Jama'atun Nisaa offices at NMJ.

500 hampers were physically packed by our Memon Ladies assisted by our house maids and NMJ staff and delivered direct to the hospital by transport arranged and paid for by us.

Distribution at the hospital was personally supervised by the Muslim doctors who originally made the appeal to us.

May Almighty Allah SWT accept our efforts and reward all our sponsors who contributed in cash or kind and every sister who participated in raising of these funds and physically helping to pack these hampers as many of our Memon ladies from affluent homes were so touched on hearing of this situation right at our doorstep, that they were hands on assisting with packing of these hampers.

It just took us few days to co - ordinate this effort because we as mothers could not go to bed knowing that there were children who could die due to lack of food.



India Ladies Wing – Marriages by WMO for the underprivileged. The WMO ladies wing of India made meaningful contributions towards the mass wedding ceremony held on the 14th of February in the YMCA grounds of Mumbai.

51 underprivileged Muslim couples tied the knot that day. They were gifted purses, jewellery, cutlery and other household items by the ladies wing to get their marriages off to a good start.



“ May Allah SWT bless the newlyweds with a long and happy married life. “

WMO DIVA



Her innovative and nifty jewelry designs adorn many celebrated film personalities, royalty and the creme de la creme of the Memon community.

She is assisting her dad Mr. Shehzad Zaveri who heads the MINAWALA JEWELRY brand. The MINAWALA brand has a proud lineage. It is a world leader and winner of many international awards for their stunning craftsmanship and scintillating designs.

There is an essence of glamour in Saima's contemporary designs and her sparkling creations conjure a radiance which reveal her true brilliance.

When I hear about women liberation and emancipation of Muslim women around the globe, I suggest they take a look at the WMO divas.

As we applaud the innumerable accomplishments of these distinguished ladies, the only thought that comes to my mind is the men need to catch up because these charismatic, dynamic, resplendent ladies have already conquered the skies and we have a pilot in our midst to firmly stake that claim.

Highly qualified professionals including doctors and lawyers, pioneering educationalists, gifted fashion designers, a fascinating pilot, innovative entrepreneurs, islamic scholars, brilliant academicians and spirited sportswomen are all part of our WMO ladies and youth wing.

To add to that we have **"A Flawless Diamond"** in our midst.

According to Tiffany's, "A stone is said to be "flawless" if, under 10-power magnification, no external imperfections or internal flaws are visible. A truly flawless diamond is extremely rare and priced accordingly."



The sublime **SAIMA ZAVERI** is truly a rare breed and a luminous embellishment of WMO.



The piece de resistance of the MINAWALA jewellers and our treasured friend SAIMA ZAVERI.

The WMO is so proud to have you all on board.

If you still think Muslim women are regressive....I don't think you have met our MEMON firebrands.

Take a bow, ladies.

UPCOMING EVENTS

WORLD MEMON ORGANIZATION
PRESENTS

**MD. GHAZI VAHEDNA
SPORTS FESTIVAL 2015**

SEASON III
PRIZES

WINNER TROPHY | RUNNER UP TROPHY
PLAYER OF THE TOURNAMENT | CASH PRIZES

ENTRY FEE - Cricket AED 900 | Football AED 600

CRICKET - APRIL 10TH | APRIL 17TH - FOOTBALL

For more information 050 356 0996 | 055 143 6969 | wmwome.youthwing@gmail.com

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After a thrilling first week of the month long MGV 2015 Tournament, the Middle East Youth Wing will be hosting the Football tournament under the banner of Md. Ghazi Vahedna Sports Festival.

Forming the backbone of the Middle East Youth Wing's calendar, the sports festival is an iconic event which happens every year.

The Youth Wing has also decided to form a team of the tournament which will later feature in domestic tournaments held across the UAE during the year.

Also featuring this year is the male badminton championship which will run parallel to the football tournament at the Pakistan Association Dubai grounds on the 17th Of April 2015.

Edited by:
Zubair Chashmawala & Salman Hussain

WMO delegation to visit the Indian subcontinent in April 2015

Date: 16th April - 26th April 2015

16th - 20th. Karachi, Pakistan
20th - 22nd. Mumbai, India
22nd - 24th. Bangalore, India
24th - 26th. Chennai, India

Correspondence with the Prime Minister of Pakistan

Date: 17th April 2015

WMO delegation to Pakistan will meet the honorable Prime Minister of Pakistan
Mr. Nawaz Sharif

Middle East Youth Wing to Host Ladies Badminton season 2

Date: 25th April 2015

Under the banner of MD Ghazi Vahedna Sports Festival 2015, the Youth Wing has organized ladies badminton season 2

MPL song and logo design competition

Last Submission

Date: 30th April 2015

A Competition organized by the Far East chapter for the upcoming Memon Premiere League

Designed & Published by:
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