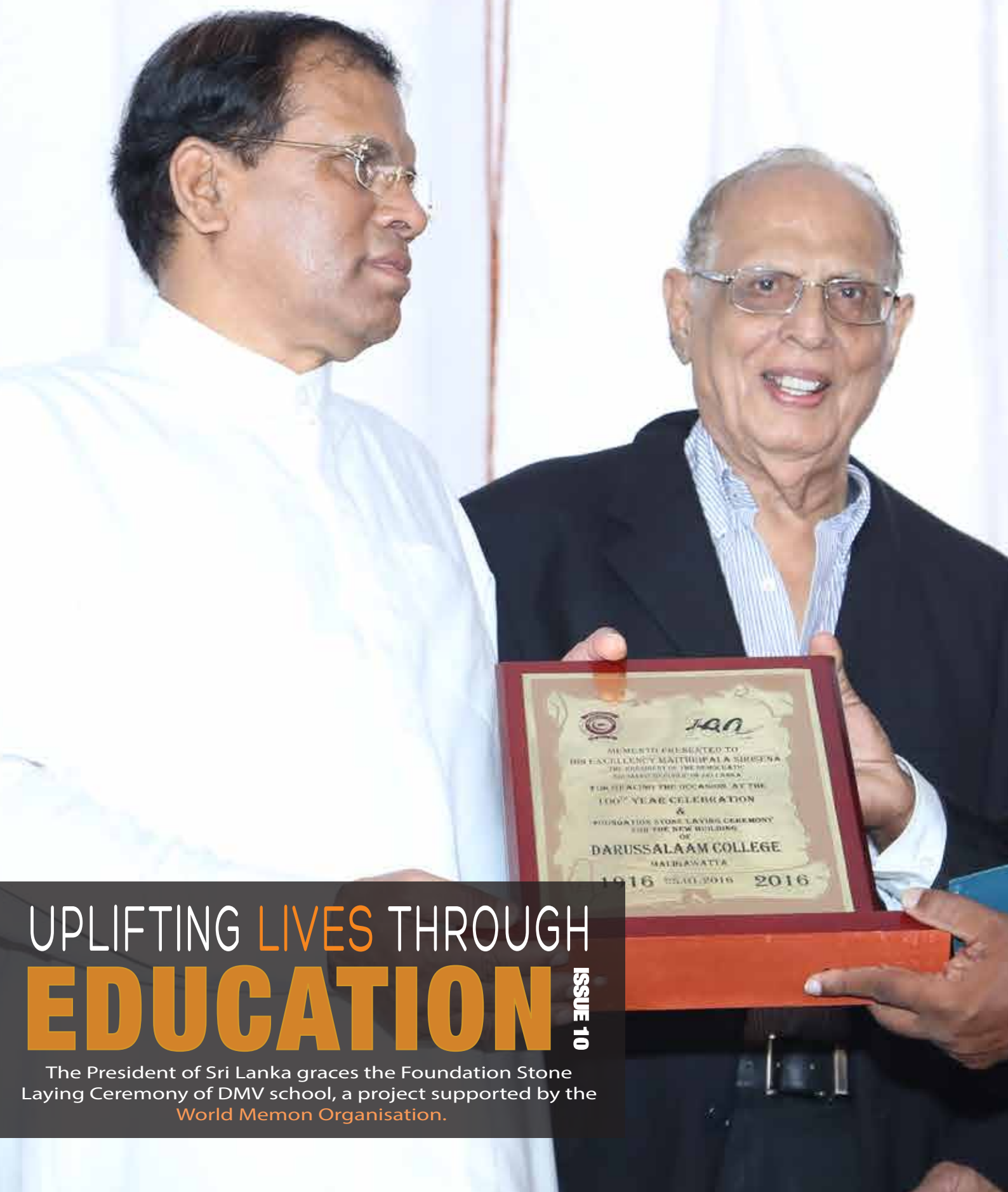


THE MEMON



WORLD MEMON ORGANISATION NEWSLETTER



UPLIFTING LIVES THROUGH
EDUCATION

ISSUE 10

The President of Sri Lanka graces the Foundation Stone
Laying Ceremony of DMV school, a project supported by the
World Memon Organisation.

INTRODUCTION



We express our sincere gratitude to His Excellency Maithripala Sirisena, President of Sri Lanka, for gracing the Foundation Stone Laying Ceremony of Darussalaam Maha Vidyalaya in Colombo.

The construction of the new wing of this historic educational institution at the cost of Forty Million Sri Lankan Rupees reaffirms WMO's commitment towards the furtherance of education across the globe.

Education is our greatest weapon to fight poverty. Our objective of Uplifting Lives Through Education is realised through your invaluable contributions.

We thank all the generous benefactors of the World Memon Organisation who have contributed towards our mission of spreading the light of education to the far corners of the world.



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YOUR VOTE YOUR RIGHT

A DEMOCRACY

The term Democracy originates from the Greek word *dēmokratía* - rule of the people. The most important aspect of a Democracy is your Right to Vote. Your power to choose.

It is your basic right to elect a representative of your choice to the House of Government. In a Democracy, Governments have the authority to govern, only because they represent the will of the people.

If you turn back a few pages in History, this wasn't always the case. Great men have spent a lifetime in servitude, often in dark prison cells, many have even lost their lives to establish the Democratic Republic of South Africa. The power which you possess today, and often take for granted was built on tears, toil, sweat and blood.

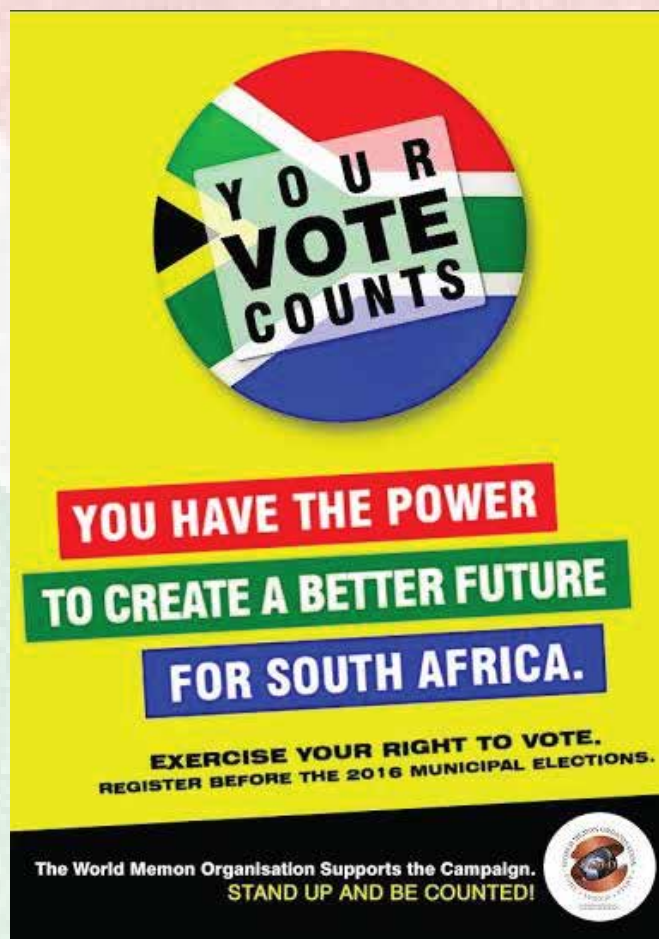
Don't let their sacrifice go to waste. Exercise your Fundamental right. Your Right to Vote.

SHAPE SOUTH AFRICA'S FUTURE REGISTER to VOTE

The politically changing landscape, both nationally and internationally compels us to play a vital role as responsible citizens. As accountable citizens, our participation in elections ensures we place those who represent our values and aspirations in the Houses of Government.

Within a few years the Muslim Community will grow to 5 million, making us 7 to 8 percent of our country's population. In this fractious political environment, an organised voting block could make the difference in providing stability and growth for our country.

If we want to make a difference we have to establish voter registration of 100% from the current low levels of just 15% in our Community.



Every VOTE must ENSURE:

- Better Municipal Services
- Better Education
- Better Health Care
- Safety and Security

We can make a difference by:

- 1) Registering our families to vote
- 2) Asking of all our community organisations and mosques to encourage every individual of 18 years and above to register and vote.
- 3) Requesting our NGO's to join this campaign.

"GOD WILL NOT CHANGE THE CONDITION OF A PEOPLE UNTIL THEY CHANGE THEIR OWN CONDITION." – AL QURAN (Sura 13:11)

You have the power to bring about a change and create a better future for South Africa. Exercise your right to vote. Register before the 2016 Municipal Elections.

The World Memon Organisation supports the Campaign and urges all Citizens of South Africa to join this Movement.

Khalid Jussab

Man on a Mission

The President of the World Memon Organisation, the honourable Mr. Suliman Noor Mahomed, in a recent letter of appreciation, acknowledged the extensive endeavours of Mr. Khalid Jussab towards the Refugee Crisis in Europe.

Mr. Khalid Jussab's untiring efforts to provide assistance to our less fortunate brothers and sisters, fleeing death and destruction to seek asylum in Europe is truly commendable. He has single handedly kept the WMO flag flying and has visited various refugee camps in France, Croatia, Macedonia and Greece.

The **World Memon Organisation** has contributed one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) towards the Refugee Crisis and raised another fifty thousand dollars from donors across the globe, thanks to the efforts of Mr. Khalid Jussab.

More importantly, Mr. Khalid Jussab has displayed remarkable leadership, leading from the front, by example, being the first man on ground zero, he inspires and motivates the entire Memon Community around the world.

He spoke to us about the reasons, why this cause is so close to his heart, the improving conditions of camps in Europe, his upcoming plans to visit the Turkey/Syria border and his relentless appeals to the global community to contribute funds towards this worthy cause.

"Alhamdulillah we were blessed to be chosen to support the refugee crisis. We had set out with a simple intention which was the example of our beloved Prophet Muhammad SAW (PBUH) who himself was a refugee during the Hijra the beginning of the Islamic calendar.



Our Prophet Muhammad SAW (PBUH) along with a small group of select followers fled Makkah and migrated to Madinah. Upon their arrival, as refugees in Madinah, the people of Ansar welcomed them and gave them food and shelter. The people of Ansar went to the extent of giving up half their homes to accommodate our Prophet and his companions. It was this example that prompted us at WMO to go out and assist the Ummah of our Prophet who were fleeing both war and persecution.

May Allah accept our humble efforts.

Having been on the ground in various European countries we have now reached the conclusion that those that have made it to Europe are the "fortunate" ones. The need is now further towards the epicentre of the problem. There are areas in Turkey, Lebanon and Jordan where the refugees are living in dire conditions, made worse by the onslaught of winter. Insha Allah, we plan to go to South Eastern Turkey next, where a number of official and unofficial camps have sprung up along the Turkey/Syria border.



We are collaborating with various aid agencies to provide medical items, food packs, warm clothing, blankets, tents and sleeping bags to the displaced along the border. We ask of you to remember our less fortunate brothers and sisters in your prayers and join us in our humanitarian endeavours to assist the suffering."

Khalid Jussab makes us all proud by his continuous, selfless acts towards humanity. WMO provides its steadfast support and firmly stands by him in his future endeavours to serve Mankind under the banner of the World Memon Organisation.



The Alma Mater

The World Memon Organisation firmly believes that your Alma Mater plays a vital role in shaping you into the Person you become in Life. Your teachers impart the important lessons for life, you are introduced to your life long friends, you get a taste of your favourite sporting activity, you realise if you are inclined towards theatre and can become the next super star or you are enticed by technology to become the next Bill Gates.

In a nutshell your school is your breeding ground and the world is your stage. You build a foundation in your early years to shape the future and chart your destiny. That is the reason why WMO pays a lot of attention towards the development of this important institution of learning during the formative years of life.

The story of this school began a 100 years ago in the city of Colombo.

The year was 1916 when Mr. M.A.C.Mohamed inaugurated the school. It was named and based on the Denham English School with just three teachers and 8 children.

As the years passed by and the number of students increased, the school was conducted over 2 sessions. The institution grew in prominence as the students excelled in education, sports and other extra-curricular activities.

Unfortunately by 1933 there was no one to look after or maintain the school. The government stepped in, renamed it Dharussalaam Maha Vidyalaya and changed the medium of instruction to Sinhalese and Tamil.



However with time and a multitude of reasons including the parents' lack of interest, local issues and bad administration, the standard of education and discipline dropped. The government was unable to provide a new building and classes were conducted in a temporary shed.





In 2012 the Past-Pupils Association was formed and they collaborated with the Serendib Schools Development Foundation (SSDF) to improve the precipitously deteriorating condition of the school. A blue print was designed for the development of education and infra-structure for the school

On the initiative of Mr Majid Ali Mohamed of Eurochairty, the World Memon Organization arrived on the scene in 2013. Together, they organised extra-classes in core-subjects, sports activities and even conducted a breakfast programme for 140 needy children. They also provided the bulk of the funds for the construction of a new three-storey building to house class rooms.

A computer lab with 35 computers was added in June last year.

On the 100th anniversary, a new wing comprising of classrooms with modern amenities and an auditorium will be built with the support of the WMO and SSDF. The project will cost over Forty Million Sri Lankan Rupees.



On the 25th of January 2016, the foundation stone laying ceremony of the new wing was graced by his Excellency, the President of Sri Lanka, Mr. Maithripala Sirisena. Accompanying him were WMO trustees Mr M.H. Omar, Mr Eliyas Kareem along with all prominent members of the WMO Far East Chapter.

In the future there are plans for a library and a science laboratory. With the Grace of Allah we hope to provide an excellent education balanced with appropriate extra-curricular activities to make the students, responsible citizens of the motherland.

Fittingly the theme for the centennial year is "Uplifting Lives through Education".



Working on this firm belief, the World Memon Organisation has contributed millions of dollars for over a decade towards educating thousands of students across the globe.



The Dharussalaam Maha Vidyalay is yet another example of WMO's endeavours to spread the light of education to the far corners of the earth.

The World Memon Organisation, Africa Chapter has made a notable contribution and donated a truck load of bottled water to bring some relief to the drought affected regions of South Africa.

Due to the scorching summer and lack of rains, many areas of South Africa are severely affected. WMO has contributed to Operation Hydrate, an initiative as the name suggests to provide water to the afflicted residents of those regions.



Mr. Moosa Carrim, prominent member of WMO (Africa Chapter) handed over a cheque of Seventy Three Thousand South African Rands (Zar 73,000) to Mr. Fayyaz Moosa of Operation Hydrate.

We pray the Weather Gods smile soon on South Africa and bless the region with bountiful rains. Our thoughts and prayers are with those who have been affected.



International 8 Ball Championship Dubai

WMO International Youth Wing Sports Division lead by Salmaan Hussain organised An International Billiards Competition which will be played across all chapters to determine who will be part of the international tournament which will run parallel to the Annual General Meeting in 2016.

The tournament's first leg was played on 22nd of January in Dubai at Golden Hall Club.

The winner of both local tournaments organised by the Middle East Youth Wing were won by Faisal Memon. Starting as a tournament favorite, Faisal was suprisingly knocked out in the first round by Shehzad Memon.

Talha Zaveri & Talha Wahid made it to the finals after closely fighting out in the initial 3 rounds. Talha Wahid was tipped to win the tournament once Faisal was knocked out and he did not disappoint the fortune gurus by defeating Talha Zaveri 3-2 to clinch Gold.

Results

1st Position : Talha Wahid

2nd Position : Talha Zaveri

3rd Position : Ismail Zaveri



Debaters today, Leaders tomorrow

"A good leader can engage in a debate frankly and thoroughly, knowing that at the end he and other side must be closer, and thus emerge stronger. You don't have that idea when you are arrogant, superficial and uninformed"- Nelson Mandela

Debate competition instills in youth a great sense of poise and confidence. It encourages the ability to think strategically, develops effective speech composition and delivery and improves critical thinking skills; all of which are essential ingredients of creating transformational leaders.

Far East chapter has accepted the challenge of bringing out their most talented youth to represent Sri Lanka in International Debate Championship. Orientation Day was conducted at Edulink International campus Colombo on 24th January to educate the youth about parliamentary style of debating.



Annum Anjum encouraging the youth to participate in WMO DC to help diminish the fear of public speaking"

WMO IYEP is trying to induce a culture of debate and dialogue, to replace dogma with thoughtful discussion between people of varying views to bring about a positive change in our society.

Ms. Annum Anjum; Lead of WMO DC (FE Chapter) and her team are doing all efforts to execute a successful tournament and they have raised the bar high by selecting an adjudication core of the most proficient and adept debaters.

Mr. Shan Dantanarayana; Chief Adjudicator of WMO DC (FE Chapter) is the Chairman of Debaters' Council of Sri Lanka. He has participated in various debate competitions in USA and other countries and have been a coach of WSDC (World School Debating Championship). The benign presence and scholastic guidance of Mr. Shan will not only benefit FE Chapter but will greatly benefit all other chapters of WMO World.

They say "Leaders don't create followers, they create more leaders" and under the effective leadership of Mr. Yunus Suleman (Chair International Youth Wing) in which such productive youth activities are being conducted, it is only evident that WMO is on the journey of creating more leaders!