

Islamic Center of Indiana

AL-HUDA

NEWSLETTER



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SPECIAL ISSUE: SYRIA**



Welcome

السلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته

The Prophet Mohammad (ﷺ) said: "The believers in their mutual kindness, compassion, and sympathy are just like one body. When one of the limbs suffers, the whole body responds to it with wakefulness and fever."

Guided by this profound hadith, we dedicate this issue to exploring how we can truly manifest the "one body" the Prophet encouraged us to be.

We invite each one of you to deepen your connection to our community, embodying the unity and empathy that define us as believers.



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A Message from *The Syrian Community*

Dear Brothers and Sisters,
Assalamu Alaikum wa Rahmatullahi wa Barakatuh,

With profound emotions, we address you during this historic moment for Syria. The recent events leading to the fall of the Assad regime mark a significant turning point in the journey of our beloved homeland. For decades, our brothers and sisters in Syria endured immense suffering, injustice, and hardship, yet they never wavered in their pursuit of freedom and dignity.

As the Syrian community, we extend our gratitude to our community at Alhuda Islamic Center of Indiana for its unwavering support throughout these years of struggle. Your prayers, solidarity, and generosity have been a source of strength and hope for countless Syrians. Now, as we stand at the dawn of a new chapter, we call upon you once again to walk alongside us in rebuilding our country and healing our people.



The road ahead will be challenging. Syria faces the monumental task of reconstructing its institutions, restoring its communities, and addressing the scars left by years of conflict. This requires unity, compassion, and sustained support from our brothers and sisters here in the United States.

We urge you to continue your prayers for peace, justice, and reconciliation in Syria. Let us organize efforts to provide aid to those still suffering and to support initiatives that promote stability and rebuilding. Together, we can ensure that this moment of hope leads to a future where Syria thrives as a free, prosperous nation.

We ask Allah to ease the suffering of our brothers and sisters in Palestine during this difficult time and all the Muslims around the world.

Jazakum Allahu Khairan for standing with us.

Sincerely,
The Syrian Community

The Syrian Revolution

A Struggle for Freedom

On December 8th of 2024, Syrians all over the world woke up under a new title. They were no longer Syrian refugees, just Syrians.

The opposition fighters of Syria have declared, after 53 years of persecution, their homeland 'liberated'. A historic time has befallen the future of this country. The fall of Assad's regime calls for celebration from every corner of the world. Although it is largely uncertain what's to come, there is immense joy in the hearts of the entire Ummah as our brothers and sisters rejoice in their newfound freedom.



The Syrian Revolution, which began in March of 2011, was a peaceful uprising demanding political freedoms, economic reform, and an end to decades of authoritarian rule.

The revolution was fueled by widespread dissatisfaction with the Assad regime, which had oppressed Syria for over 50 years. Despite initial promises of reform by Bashar al-Assad, the regime remained deeply repressive. Syria faced rising unemployment, corruption, and the devastation of its infrastructure. Syrians took to the streets, demanding greater freedoms and an end to political persecution.

As the Assad regime escalated the violent response against its own civilians, defections from the military formed the backbone of the opposition fighters. The conflict soon became a civil war, with multiple factions competing for control. Foreign powers, including Iran, Russia, the U.S. intervened, turning the conflict into a proxy war.



The Human Cost

14 years of war has devastated Syria, resulting in over 500,000 deaths and displacing millions of its citizens. Cities like Aleppo have been heavily bombed, and the country's foundations were largely destroyed. The war's toll on civilians was immense, with the UN estimating that over half of Syria's population had been affected by displacement, poverty, and loss of life. Humanitarian conditions are dire and Syria's political future is ambiguous, but its citizens remain hopeful.

The Syrian pound has been devalued to the point of which it is currently trading in at a little over 13,000 SYP to 1 USD. Before the beginning of the war, it had traded in at around 47 SYP to 1 USD. This drastic change is only one example of the devastation that Syria has endured in the past few decades.



By 2020, over 5.6 million Syrians had fled the country, and millions more were displaced within Syria.

Now, Syrians dispersed around the globe can finally return to their rightful homes. In recent news, families have been reunited after decades. Loved ones have been released from prisons, after years of wrongful detention. Syrians finally have the chance to rebuild their communities and reclaim the sense of belonging that was stolen from them. The prospect of returning brings both hope and healing, as they work to restore not just their homes but also their lives and identities. This moment marks the beginning of a new chapter —one where resilience and unity can pave the way for a brighter future.





The Future of SYRIA





After years of pain and perseverance, Syria stands at the cusp of a new beginning. With the tyrant ousted and the land reclaimed, the Syrian people breathe the air of freedom once again. This is not merely a victory for the Syrians; it is a triumph for the entire Ummah. Their resilience has illuminated the path for all who strive against oppression, reminding us that no night, no matter how long, lasts forever.

As the dust settles, the real work begins. The scars of war run deep, and rebuilding a nation is no small feat. Syria will need more than just bricks and mortar; it will need hope, unity, and steadfast faith. This is where we, as an Ummah, must rise to the occasion. Our collective responsibility does not end with dua and celebration. It extends to tangible action—supporting Syrian families, investing in education, aiding reconstruction, and fostering peace.

“Indeed, the believers are but brothers” (49:10)

Let us embody this bond and stand with Syria in its journey toward a brighter future.

Syria is rising, and with it, hope for a better tomorrow. The wounds are deep, but so is the strength of its people. This is a chance to rebuild—not just homes, but hearts, lives, and dreams. It’s a moment for all of us, as one Ummah, to step up.

Let’s be part of Syria’s healing, offering our hands, our prayers, and our unwavering support.

DO YOUR PART TO REBUILD SYRIA



90% of people in Syria live under poverty line



16.7 million people are in need



7.2 million are internally displaced



2.4 million are school children



2.8 million are persons with a disability



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