Criterion A: Initial Investigation

Introduction to the problem

The Ismaili Institute of Canada (IIC) sends news letters to update Ismaili mosques in Canada. In Ontario, there is a system called, Al-Akhbar[1]. Currently, mosques in Ontario print physical copies of the weekly updates. In Brampton, many users find it inconvenient to carry multiple sheets of information, causing them to miss important details. Furthermore, not all the packages are picked up, resulting in a waste of paper. Not to mention that the information is only valid for 7 days, making all physical copies useless after the time period. Discussion of this problem was conducted through a series of emails starting December 15th 2014 with the Head of Electronic Message board, Hamida Bhimani.

Explaining the Inadequacies

Hamida explained in her emails that the Al-Akhbar has, "three main sections: 1) Quote of the week, 2) Events, 3) Information items." They must be implemented in the new solution. She also states the new solution must be tested before it can be officially used: "Will you share the final product with us, and demo it for me?"

The most important concern to Hamida was updating the information weekly. The information items change every Friday, so the users must be updated constantly. Above all, the information must be available instantly so that no user misses any important deadlines. If the Brampton mosque is to stop printing the updates, it must find a new way to connect to the users. The users need an effective medium for retrieving the news that allows instant access, weekly updates, and "better tweaks to the system." Most importantly, the new system must be free for the users.

265 words

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[1] Arabic for "newspaper"