Social Media

A BRIEF INTRODUCTION TO THIS NEW PHENOMENON

TARBIYYAT CLASS LAJNA IMAILLAH 2016

What is Social Media?

- websites and applications that enable users to create and share content or to participate in social networking.
- The "social" part: refers to interacting with other people by sharing information with them and receiving information from them.
- The "media" part: refers to an instrument of communication, like the internet (while TV, radio and newspapers are examples of more traditional forms of media).
- Social media are web-based communication tools that enable people to interact with each other by both sharing and consuming information.

WHEN DID IT FIRST EMERGE?

- Social Media has been with us since the beginning.
- Social Media Before 1900-Various Communication Methods
- Primary method of communication: Postal, dates back to 550 B.C.
- -1992, <u>Telegraph</u> invented, This allowed messages to be delivered over a long distance far faster than a horse and rider could carry them. Revolutionary change.
- -Pneumatic post, developed in 1865, created another way for letters to be delivered quickly between recipients. Underground pressurized air tubes to carry capsules from one area to another.
- Two important discoveries happened in the last decade of the 1800s: The telephone in 1890 and the radio in 1891

Social Media in the 20th and 21st Century

- After the first **super computers** were created in the 1940s, scientists and engineers began to develop ways to **create networks between those computers**, and this would later lead to the **birth of the Internet**.
- The first social media site, **Six Degrees**, was created in **1997**. It enabled users to **upload a profile and make friends with other users**. In 1999, the first blogging sites became popular, creating a social media sensation that's still popular today.
- After the invention of blogging, social media began to explode in popularity. Sites like <u>MySpace</u> (Basically the "Father" of Facebook) and <u>LinkedIn</u> (Site for employers and employees to connect) gained prominence in the early 2000s, <u>YouTube</u> came out in 2005, creating an entirely new way for people to communicate and share with each other across great distances. By 2006, **Facebook** and **Twitter** both became available to users throughout the world. These sites remain some of the most popular social networks on the Internet.
- Others such as <u>Tumblr</u>, <u>Snapchat</u>, <u>Spotify</u>, <u>Foursquare</u> and <u>Pinterest</u>





What is Twitter?

- Twitter is an online social networking service that enables users to send and read short 140-character messages called "tweets".
- Both Positives and Negatives
- Great for Tabligh, if you are good at concise messages
- Pope loves it!
- However, major problems with Spam accounts and ISIS members main platform in recent times.





- Youtube is a great educational tool. However, like every website on the internet it contains sensitive content and must be used with caution and children using it should be carefully monitored.
- LinkedIn is mainly a tool used for employers to hunt down potential employees.
- Wordpress is a great blogging website, used to blog about your interests. It is a great tool that can be used to enhance your writing skills and write about the Jama'at. You can view people who read your writings and create a target audience.

Part of our daily lives

- Social media has no doubt become a part of our daily lives.
- Reading news, checking messages, watching videos etc.
- There are many advantages to this but one must not forget the other side to that coin.





Part of our daily lives





Advantages

First, we have the obvious: communication. We can contact anyone around the world, at any time, with just a few keystrokes. Examples of this are Skype, Viber, WhatsApp etc.

- We also have the communication between people and businesses. Since they have paved a new way for interaction between the two, customers can now tell brands exactly what they want.
- Social media has made it possible for like minded individuals to discuss important topics, widen their personal knowledge and discover things they never knew before. For example, young people around the world are now more involved than ever in their country's politics.

Disadvantages

- Allows us to hide behind screens and limited our social interaction face to face. You get the feeling of being social without having to go out and socialize.
- The amount of time wasted on social media is insanetime that could be used to do something productive.
- Wikipedia and Google have made thinking for ourselves impossible- why think when you can search it up?

Impact on mental health

- The "iDisorder": Term coined for a number of disorders caused by excessive use of Social Media.
- Depression, dysthymia, bipolar-mania, narcissism, antisocial personality disorder
- Scientific Study- Amount of time spent online directly proportional to depression
- Too involved in other people's lives, think everyone has a better life, ungratefulness, constant need for validation, ego must be fed by "likes".
- Vanity, self-importance, drives you away from real purpose-to worship the creator, small world makes you feel big.
- 45% feel anxiety when they cannot connect online- Addiction. Unsettling stats.
- Cause of huge psychological problems in young adults, since they are the population most exposed to it.
- Mental health issues increasing in young adult population since the emergence of this phenomenon.

FACEBOOK EXPLAINED

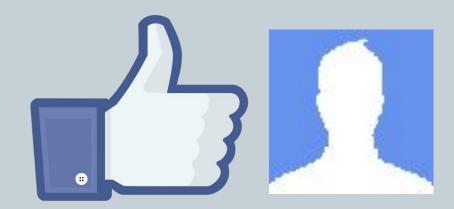




How does it work?

- Your name
- Personal profile: date of birth, city etc
- Post pictures, videos, likes etc
- Accept friend requests
- Ability to 'like' posts

Although Facebook may be a good medium for communication, the cons outweigh the pros.



Privacy

- Each time facebook has a redesign (usually once or twice a year), your privacy settings are set to default.
- Even though there are privacy settings on facebook, **there is no such thing as complete privacy** in the world of social media. Anything you put up can be grabbed, screenshotted, saved on someone else's computer and mirrored in other sites.

Hidden dangers of facebook

- Your information is being shared with third parties
- Privacy settings revert to a less safe default mode after each redesign
- Facebook ads may contain malware
- Your real friends unknowingly make you vulnerable
- Scammers are creating fake profiles

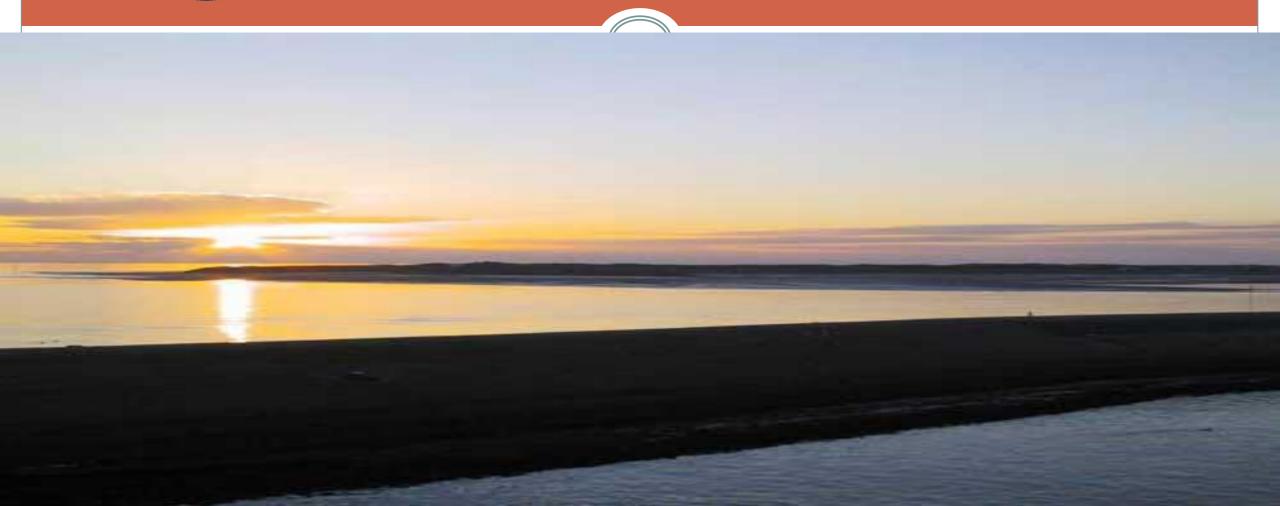


Huzur's guidance about Facebook





Islam's Teachings



Morality

Islam teaches us to be morally sound people. The online world of the internet, social networks, Twitter and mobile phones may be a necessary evil. It is however a menace to society. Ethical and moral values are under constant attack. It is a pernicious environment that incites to evil and reverts us to the animal state.

Morality

- The online environment with its pop-ups and ads is a visual manifestation of the verses of the Holy Quran when Satan was banished by God [7:17] He said:
- Now, since Thou hast adjudged me as lost, I will assuredly lie in wait for them on Thy straight path
- [7:18] 'Then will I surely come upon them from before them and from behind them and from their right and from their left, and Thou wilt not find most of them to be grateful'.

FAST

• There are valid uses of these technologies .It is the hidden use and abuse of these technologies which causes harm to individuals and society. Responsible usage demands that we respect and understand the pros and cons and do not accept lifestyle changes or deviant behaviour. Remember the acronym FAST

F.A.S.T

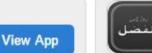
- 1) F- Fear Allah and follow the guidance given to us in The Holy Quran and by the Holy Prophet (saw) and the Promised Messiah (as) and Khalifatul Masih V
- 2) A- Be Aware, be conscious, be mindful and be on your guard of what is out there that can snare you Wa Rabaytu (3:201) Watta Qullah (3:201)
- 3) S- Be smart and safe in your online interactions
- 4) T- Time management . Manage your time. Be mindful of the times of Salat

Jama'at Apps!



The Holy Quran - Arabic/English

Easy to read hand written font in popular Yassamal Quran style with English translation of Hadhrat Maulvi Sher Ali (ra) published by Islam International Publications. iOS universal app with retina display support.



Al Fazl

One of the oldest dailies in the Indian subcontinent published in Urdu language, Al Fazl was initiated as a daily publication by second Khalifa of Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, Hazrat Mirza Bashiruddin Mahmud Ahmad^aon June 18, 1913. Until 1947 it was published from Qadian, India and then from Lahore, Pakistan up to 1954. Since then it is published from Rabwah, Pakistan.







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The Ten Conditions of Bai'at

The Ten Conditions of Bai'at, is a simple application that contains all ten conditions of bai'at, and some basic introductory information in a clean elegant style.







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