# IHTHIHAAD AHLISSUNNATHI WAL JAMAA-ATHI

# **NEWSLETTER**

The above Association was inaugurated on the 13<sup>th</sup> of June 2010 in the presence of a representative gathering of Muslims. The objectives of this Association are as follows:

- To foster greater understanding and to bring about unity and harmony among the Thareeqas
- To support Thareeqas in their efforts to encourage youth and their recruitment into Thareeqa activities
- To promote religious knowledge specially pertaining to Sunnath Jamaath teachings and practices
- To support mosques, zaviyas and thackckiyas to encourage participation of youth through provision of recreational facilities, internet/computer use, reading rooms, gymnasiums etc



The inaugural meeting of the Association



During this short period the Association has received the blessings and support from a large section of the community. We have great pleasure in inviting members of the community to join us and extend to us the much needed support and co-operation to achieve our objectives, Insha Allah.

## The Meaning of Sunna and Ahl al-Sunna Wal-Jama'a.

### **SUNNA**

The Sunna in Islam is more rare and precious than Islam is rare and precious among the rest of the faiths.

- Abu Bakr ibn Ayyash.

Sunna means the path that is trodden (al-tariq al-masluk), which entails holding fast to whatever the Prophet and his rightly guided Successors held of doctrines, deeds, and saying. This is the perfect and complete Sunna. That is why the Salaf of old refrained from applying the name of Sunna to anything that fell short of this.

-Ibn Rajab

The Sunna is Wisdom and Wisdom is to place each thing in its right context. – Isma il al-Ansari

The Sunna is whatever the Prophet and Sunna and the rightly – guided Caliphs after him.

#### The Term Ahl Al- Sunna wal- Jama'a

The literal translation of the term Ahl al- Sunna wal- Jama'a is "the people of the Prophetic way and the congregation of the Muslims". The term denotes the people who follow the Prophetic Sunna and adhere to the largest mass of the Muslims beginning with the congregation of the Companions of the Prophet . Its antonym is Ahl al- Bid'a wal-Dalala which means the people of the innovation and misguidance, i.e. Non-Sunni Muslims.

Muhammad ibn Sirin(d.110) said: "We used to accept as true what we heard, then lies spread and we began to say: Name your transmitters. If they belonged to Ahl al—Sunna, their Hadith would be accepted while Ahl al Bida' were identified and their Hadith was rejected", Confirming this is al-Hasan al-Basris (d.110) reaction to someone who requested his isnad "O man! I nether lie not was ever called a liar!" Sufyan al- Thawri (d. 161) said:" When certain used lies, we used history against them "and Ibn al-mubarak (d. 181) declared:" the isnad is an integral part of the religion, otherwise anyone can say anything" All this is based on the saying of the companions and Successors: "Truly this knowledge is our religion, therefore let each of you look carefully from whom he takes his Religion".

The Prophet said "My community shall divide in to seventy thee sects, all of them in Fire except one: [those that follow] that which I and my companions follow". Another version states: "My Community shall divide in to seventy – three sects all of them in the Fire except one: the congregation (jama'a)".

In the same sense, the Prophet also said: "My companions are trustees for our community" and Mankind makes up one portion (hayyiz) and I and my companions make up one portion [counter-balancing it].