GREENING FRIDAYS

PRESENTATION AT FAITHINVEST WEBINAR ON CELEBRATIONS

23RD FEBRUARY 2021

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ROADMAP – GREENING FRIDAYS PRESENTATION

A. What are Greening Fridays?
B. Why Greening Fridays?
C. When and How are Greening Fridays held
D. Success stories
E. Challenges
F. Way forward
G. VIDEO – 3 minutes
WHAT IS GREENING FRIDAY?

Greening Friday is an annual day set aside by the Uganda Muslim Supreme Council (UMSC) to CELEBRATE and PROTECT the environment.
WHY = KEY OBJECTIVE

- To celebrate and protect the environment through use of Islamic teachings (Ayat & Hadith)
- Started in 2010 as a pledge at an interfaith workshop on the environment for sub-Saharan Africa in Nigeria
When are they held?

- ANNUALLY during the Holy Month of Ramadhan
- Every SECOND Friday of Ramadhan
- Gazetted in the UMSC calendar

Greening Fridays held to date

1. 20th August 2010  
2. 12th August 2011  
3. 27th July 2012  
4. 19th July 2013  
5. 11th July 2014  
6. 26th June 2015  
7. 17th June 2016  
8. 9th June 2017  
9. 25th May 2018  
10. 17th May 2019  
11. 1st May 2020

Next one to be held on **Friday 23rd April 2021**
In 2012 Greening Fridays are included in the UMSC’s Seven-Year Plan

ARC Launch of Seven Year Plans in Nairobi, Kenya, 2012

Seven Year Plan certificate for UMSC
How is Greening Friday held?

**THEME:** Speaking out, improving understanding and inspiring positive action

1. Friday prayer with Khutba (sermon) about Islam and the environment
2. Talks – sensitization on environment
3. Action – distribution of seedlings
4. Planting of symbolic fruit trees at the National Mosque

H.E. the Mufti plants a tree at the National Mosque
• Workshop for clergy to develop Friday sermon guidelines

• Khutba by different Sheikhs
Friday Prayers

Distributing seedlings
Tree Planting

2010: H.E. the Mufti launches the first Greening Friday by planting a fruit tree

The Mufti’s fruit tree (Sadakatul Jaria) as it grows
Greening Friday 2019 fruit trees as SADAKATUL JARIA (Everlasting Rewards)

Fruits from planted trees

More trees given out
Greening Fridays spread to universities and schools

Secondary school, 2013

Primary school, 2014
Spreads to prisons

H.E. the Mufti Plants a fruit tree with inmates + Hajjat

Luzira Prison mosque
Spreads to 12 districts in 2013

District Khadis’ sensitization seminar

District Khadis after sensitization seminar
Mainstreaming environmental sensitization in all celebrations and activities

H.E. the Mufti harvesting Fruits

Weddings
Greening at all celebrations

HE the President of Uganda visit to UMSC

Director of Sharia donating a tree at a graduation party
Achievements

Some of the Achievements

• Gazetted as 2\textsuperscript{nd} Friday of every Holy month of Ramadhan
• Held every year as gazetted by UMSC since 2010
• About 250,000 trees distributed / planted to date

More achievements

• UNEP Certificates, UMSC, Hajjat Sebyala & others UMSC members
• Spread outside Kampala
• International attention
• National Forestry Authority Partnership
Recognition as a pioneer

2013 Muslim Achiever of the year, Environment Award

2014 MUBS Meritorious Services Award
Even held during lockdown

FaithinWater @Faith_in_Water · May 7, 2020
Uganda is under national lockdown due to #COVID19. But Greening Friday was still celebrated... albeit somewhat differently!

This year’s Greening Friday was a little different...
Greening Friday is a time for Muslims in Uganda to celebrate the environment, plant a tree at the National Mosque & distribute tens of thousands of seedlings.
Challenges and **Way Forward**

**Challenges**

- Logistics to effectively monitor the implementation, especially outside Kampala
- Some concerns about environmental impact of eucalyptus trees
- More demand for eucalyptus trees than for fruit trees
- Demand exceeds capacity

**Way forward**

- To cover the entire country in 7 years
- To ensure the idea spreads well beyond Uganda borders – 7 years+
- National Forestry Authority now supplying indigenous trees
Hill tops replanted with eucalyptus – more demand
THANK YOU & MAY GOD BLESS

3 MINUTE VIDEO

GOD’s WORKS

www.hajjatsebyala.com