**DREAMS OF HONOURS**

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**ABSTRACT**

**This paper is meant to fit in with the other titles on aspects of 'dreams' which I have produced: ROMANTIC DREAMS [also on this site], for example.  I consider myself very lucky to have experienced, and to be able to recall, so many dreams of worldly honours!**

**DEFINITION**

**'Dreams of Honours' is taken to mean 'dreams of worldly rewards': awards, trophies, success in competitions, robes, medals, caps, gowns, degrees [and other qualifications] as well as miscellaneous other tokens of appreciation and recognition.**

**INTRODUCTION**

**The dreams of wordly honours which follow now reveal that I will get *worldly*rewards for my Islamic work as well as the celestial ones described in DREAMS OF REWARD IN PARADISE [now on this site].  For seventeen long years, 1984-2001, I received no worldly plaudits for my solitary, intensive Islamic work [please see ARCHIVAL ISLAMIC WORK -also on this site- for the results of those efforts].  The dreams of honours I experienced every now and then informed me that my striving was worth much recognition in the form of awards and prizes.  So I have been *encouraged*by such dreams to maintain my aspirations: an important 'carrot' when one is working alone and needs constant self-motivation.  Most of these dreams have come about *after*I had received my first Website Awards, and are fairly recent.**

**THE DREAMS OF HONOURS**

**DREAM NO 1          15 NOVEMBER 1995**

**I dreamt that I went to an important official with a document and he signed it and his signature was v. important.......the document entailed me having to spend more than £500 to register for a [higher] 'degree' or some special and unknown qualification, as well as more than another £500 to order academic robes, cap and related ceremonial attire.  I was worried in the dream about how I was going to raise the money for these two costs!  This dream acknowledged that I had accomplished something very special and significant: something so prestigious and rewarding that it involved [what was for me] considerable expense for ceremonial purposes!\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**DREAM NO 2     SUNDAY 5 JANUARY 1997**

**I was given the message that my youngest sister could see [in her visions in worldly life] my trophies in Paradise.**

**DREAM NO 3           18 AUGUST 1997**

**I had a dream that I deserve a special award for tutoring so hard for so many years [even tutoring when Ihave been ill], and helping to support my parents and siblings financially over these years.**

**DREAM NO 4                                 FRIDAY 15 MAY 1997**

**I dreamt that there were lush-green meadows near Exeter University which resembled gardens with a river flowing through them.  I saw an exhibitionary table on which lay University memorabilia: a graduation cap and framed portraits of past University Chancellors, or Vice-Chancellors, were the only  items I could recall when I woke up.**

**Context**

**This was a very emotional dream which conveyed an atmosphere of blessing and honour.  Just the day before, Paul Auchterlonie, Librarian of the Dept. of Islamic and Middle-Eastern Studies, had acknowledged receipt of the copy of VISIONS OF PARADISE, by Zaheer Azam, which I had posted as a gift.  Mr Auchterlonie had used the word 'delighted' in his letter to me: that he was 'delighted' to receive the publication for the Library of Exeter University.**

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**DREAM NO 5                    FRIDAY 20 DECEMBER 2002**

**I dreamt that the top 6 multi-national, multi-billion dollar companies of the world granted me funds.  The postman came to collect my signature for some important document [ie. for the acceptance of funds] and I signed on an advanced magnetic pad with a stencil.**

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**DREAM NO 6                       FRIDAY 6 DECEMBER 2002**

**I  dreamt that I received an e-mail which conveyed the news that I had won an Award for my Website (http://www.dr-umar-azam.com)  This message included another two contacts for awards, so that all three awards were inter-linked: if I contacted any organisation, the other two organisations would be aware of our dealings.**

**Interpretation**

**This dream foretold the future: in the next few weeks, I received another nine awards.**

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**DREAM NO 7              SUNDAY 8 DECEMBER 2002**

**I dreamt that I should display on my Website the Awards of the top two of the higest-placed twenty individual Islamic websites.**

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**NO 8                    SATURDAY 7 DECEMBER 2002 **

**I dreamt that Babar Javed of HEXA WEB STUDIO [**[**http://www.hexaweb.tk/]**](http://www.hexaweb.tk/%5D)**withdrew my trophy - THE HEXA WEB AWARD!  But then a new Award code was sent to me.  This second award carried more value than the first one because the award badge now had important, or influential, writing accompanying it.**

**Context**

**I was worried when the initial HEXA WEB AWARD badge disappeared from my the Home Page of my Site.  Even so, I was rather confused because Babar Javed had not informed me of his intention, perhaps wishing to give me a surprise [a pleasant one!].  This dream told me what was happening and advised me not to worry.  It was a true dream: the new badge appeared in due course.  It is identical to the old one but, beneath it, in large writing, are the words, *'This site is awarded by Hexa Web Studio'*[please see the *home page*of my site].**

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**DREAM NO 9                        MONDAY 2 DECEMBER 2002    [THE HOLY MONTH OF RAMADHAN, 1423]**

** I had a dream that my Website was ranked No.1 in the world.  Then it was relegated to No. 2 by a corporate website.  Then it slid further down to No. 3.  But at position No. 4 there was also THE DR UMAR AZAM WEBSITE.  So there were now *two*Dr Azam Websites: one third best in the world and the other fourth best.  Finally, I received the message that my Website is definitely amongst the best 20 sites in the world!**

**Context**

**I experienced this dream at a time when I was applying for the world's best website awards.  After two inspections, DOUG'S WORLD [**[**http://www**](http://www/)**] gave my Site the red light: no award!  I felt cross and frustrated. But this dream told me that my Site is indeed one of the best in the world*, even if it is not recognised officially as such!***

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**DREAM NO 10                      SUNDAY 1 DECEMBER 2002 [THE HOLY MONTH OF RAMADHAN 1423]**

** I dreamt that a Muslim girl looked at my Website and saw my Awards. Then she was so impressed that she fell in love with me, and covered her hair with her *dupatta*[head scarf].**

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**DREAM NO 11                          THURSDAY 29 NOVEMBER 2002 [THE HOLY MONTH OF RAMADHAN 1423]**

** An extremely pleasant *vision* came into my head, when I was very relaxed and almost asleep, of my pupil, Ainee [Noorain Zahid], reading printouts of congratulatory e-mails which I had received.  These were informing me that I had been successful in my various applications for website awards.**

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**DREAM NO 12                 SUNDAY 24 NOVEMBER 2002 [THE HOLY MONTH OF RAMADHAN 1423]**

** I dreamt that I received a website award from China.  The award badge seemed to be rather solitary on the computer screen, and there was an evil, *kuffar [unbelieving]*atmosphere surrounding it.  But I was comforted by the knowledge that this award had been*approved*by a Muslim organisation.**

**DREAM NO 13                          FRIDAY 29 MARCH 2002**

** I dreamt that my friend, Waseem Haque, and I were sitting an intensive examination [like in the gym for school and University exams!].  When we had finished, I found out that this exam. had been the first step to a prestigious degree [higher doctorate, for instance] for which Waseem and I had been given a substantial grant such as £30,000 or £800,000. *[When I woke up, I couldn't recall the exact figure but I knew that it was something substantial].***

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**DREAM NO 14                              MONDAY 29 JULY 2002**

**I dreamt tht Iwas wearing the official blazer of the University of Oxford.  I definitely belonged to Oxford University. There was an atmosphere of great achievement and reaching the pinnacle of success in the dream: I had reached my goal!**

**Context**

**When I had telephoned to ask if I should donate THE DR AZAM ARCHIVE [1984-2002\*] the Librarian of the OXFORD CENTRE FOR ISLAMIC STUDIES had expressed an interest in acquiring it for the Library collections.  I drove from Manchester to Oxford to deliver 13 boxes of documents in person.  But, after a few weeks, I received a letter from Professor Piscatori, Library *Fellow*, informing me that, due to constraints of space, it was not possible to hold my Archive and that I should come to collect it.  I felt deceeived and that this was unfair: after all, I had only delivered my Archive after getting the go-ahead from the Librarian.  As far as I know, the Archive is *still*in the Library of the Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies. This dream informed me that I do have a close connection with Oxford, even though Professor Piscatori was trying to treat me like an outsider.**

**\* The DR AZAM ARCHIVE is still ongoing.**

**DREAM NO 15                    SATURDAY 14 DECEMBER 2002**

**I dreamt that my pupil Atia Jabeen sent me an award code by e-mail, for placement on my Website.**

**Context**

**Later that day, I received the 'GOLDEN WEB AWARD' from the *INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WEB MASTERS AND DESIGNERS*and showed all six pages of the congratulatory e-mail to Atia.**

**DREAM NO 16                       TUESDAY 22 NOVEMBER 2002[THE HOLY MONTH OF RAMADHAN 1424]**

**I dreamt that Faisal and Atia, my pupils, carried the badge of an Award on their Website. There was only this badge on their Website - nothing else! It was a very prestigious award and had something written on it which indicated 'NO. 1' or 'THE BEST'.  A kind of moving visual accompanied it, and this seemed to make the Award complicated as well as prestigious.  I was trying to copy the Award badge, to paste it onto my site! But I was having problems with the mouse: it was not copying the image, or even recognising the image when I rolled the mouse.  Then, in the next scene, I saw *something*on their Website, which was all natural!  The pages of their Site were like the pages of an atlas: only the atlas contained *live*geographic relief and scenery!  I saw a vast ocean, very calm and very blue, whose water was placid.  On another page, I saw lofty mountains and deep valleys.  The scenery was awesome and spectacular!**

**Context**

**In this Holy Month, I had given Atia photocopied sheets of prayers from *PANJSURA SHAREEF*to read: *DAROOD TAJ, THE SEVEN HAIKALS, DUA-E-GANJ-UL-ARSH, as well as other DUAS [ e.g. DUA-E-AMN*, *DUA-E-DAFA-E-WABA*].  Atia had then asked me to show Faisal a set of these sheets too [the two families were close:Faisal's mother had recommended me as a tutor to Atia's mother].  I went to Faisal's house, *gave*him a set and explained the material to him briefly too.  He was very impressed by the SAWAB [CELESTIAL REWARD] that a person can receive, from Allah Most High, after reading them.**

**Interpretation**

**Because my Website contains material which praises Allah Almighty, such material is 'natural' since all nature glorifies the Majesty of God.**

**DREAM NO 17      WEDNESDAY 11 DECEMBER 2002**

**I dreamt that I was telling someone that my Award was from the MUSLIM NAMES Website. There was an honourable and blessed atmosphere in the dream.**

**Context **

**Before falling asleep at night, I had been looking at my 'FIVE STAR AWARD' [ISLAMIC SITES AWARD GROUP] and feeling pleased with the badge of the trophy on the Home Page of my Site: I admired the handles and base, and yearned to pick up the trophy.**

**DREAM NO 18            SUNDAY 21 DECEMBER 2002**

**I dreamt that I was travelling, on my hands, upside down, along the curve of a very fast, lofty road.  I felt fear and a sense of awe that the road had been constructed so well! [In the next scene] I passed a travelling fun fair and saw all the vehicles and trailers slow down and then stop on site.  Then I went into a shop.  In it, I saw numerous ugly, old medals.  They were all second-hand but, nevertheless, seemed to be impressive awards.  However, I myself didn't like them at all.  I recalled that, earlier on in my life, the the very first trophy that I had won was a frail, plastic trophy composed of two sections; the top diamond-shaped 'landmark' protuded upwards and had the tendency to become detached every now and then; the lower section was the flat base.**

**DREAM NO 19                    SATURDAY 6 APRIL 2002**

**I saw the vast and opulent stadium of Old Trafford; it was so spacious and striking!  Then I thought to myself, 'No wonder Manchester United do so well in football [winning so many trophies]: they have the confidence of status and wealth!**

**Context**

**See my use of cricket and football score analogies for self-motivation in my Islamic work [ISLAMIC ARCHIVAL DOCUMENTS; now on this Site].**

**DREAM NO 20       THURSDAY 7 FEBRUARY 2002**

**I looked into a shop to choose a fountain pen; I saw an inferior brand.  Then I was using a pen of OXFORD UNIVERSITY, which I had [eventually] purchased [presumably from the University's Souvenir Shop].  It took *Oxford*ink, and looked very durable and efficient.  But when I wrote with it, the barrel split into two!  Although I merged the two ends together, I was disappointed that what I had considered was an *ideal*pen was actually quite defective in its manufacture.**

**DREAM NO 21     THURSDAY 21 FEBRUARY 2002 [THE EVE OF *EID-UL-ADHA* 1423]**

**I went into a shop to buy a biography of the Prophet Muhammed [PBUM].  The assistant showed me five or so books on the subject, all written by different authors.  The books were hardback and piled on top of one another.  I decided not to buy any of them but instead asked the assistant, 'Have you a book on the subject {biography of the Holy Prophet [PBUM]} written by an author who has won numerous awards for his Website?'**

**Interpretation**

**This dream hinted at the future: I won numerous website awards in December 2002 and January 2003 [some eight months later].  I *may*write a biography of the Prophet [PBUM] in the future and, Insha'Allah, if I do, it will have to be a better book than those books written by authors who have not won website awards!**

**DREAM NO 22       MONDAY 6 JANUARY 2003**

**I dreamt something to the effect that the three Awards on my Website [ BEST ISLAMIC SITE AWARD, HEXA WEB AWARD, GOLDEN WEB AWARD] were linked to Ainee's, my pupil Noorain Zahid's, name! Even if there was an alteration in the mutual link, the visitor would still be led to my awards from Ainee!**

**DREAM NO 23      SUNDAY 2 NOVEMBER 2002**

**I dreamt that *now*is the time to wear a cap and feel pleased that I am attending Grammar School!**

**Context**

**When I was at primary school, I used to wish that I would go to Grammar School: Grammar School uniforms are smart and boy pupils wear a cap.  I pictured myself on a bus, on the way to school, wearing a cap and a noble, beautiful and desirable schoolgirl admiring me because of my cap and thinking how intelligent and capable I was!  This dream suggests that I am now worthy of the honour and romance that I used to naturally desire in childhood!**

**DREAM NO 24       MONDAY 3 FEBRUARY 2003**

**I dreamt that there were two little boys [1], about four years old.  One was the son of Allama Iqbal, the famous Pakistani poet and philosopher.  The son had a radiant face and he was wearing a red jumper.  The other boy was my own relative [2] and he was not as prominent [in rank].  The boys stood beside stone steps which looked dangerous.  The step to which they were the closest was wide and had a steep gradient!  But the boys were so fearless that they would attempt to descend these steps without any concern for their safety!  Then I was given the message that the Pakistani population are *not*respecting Allama Iqbal's son, even though he is of famous lineage; he is being treated as if he is insignificant - just like any other common child! [3]**

**Interpretation**

**[1] The boys could be symbols of intellectual work: 'literary progeny'.**

**[2] My POETRY and PHILOSOPHY OF ISLAM works may be of a standard close to Allama Iqbal's but are not as significant.**

**[3] Allama Iqbal's work is treated shabbily.**

**DREAM NO 25                    FRIDAY 7 MARCH 2002**

**I saw musicians at an awards ceremony; these musicians were dressed in very smart uniforms like the staff of the British armed forces and they looked very powerful!  This awards ceremony was being held in *my*honour!  As my brother [my guest on the occasion] and I passed, the musicians looked at us in rather a frowning manner!  I was given prizes such as*Brazil Nut Chocolates*, which I took home for my siblings!  Then the father of my childhood friend , Kadeer Amjad,  admitted me into his house with respect: he had been initially reluctant to do so because one of his beautiful, young daughters was in the house at the time too!**

**Interpretation**

**I experienced this dream on te day after I had completed my article entitled, 'Palestine' [now on this Site].  the awards I receive in the future will be awarded because of my Islamic work and my Website.**

**DREAM NO 26                                 SUNDAY 30 MARCH 2003**

**My brother, Zaheer, placed a few letters, which had arrived for me, on top of his television in the front room of our parents' house.  When I opened one letter, I was surprised to see that he had written a letter to *thank*me for all that I had done for him!  The letter heading, and the letter itself, were formed in very colourful, artistic and delightful designs.  There were patterns and formations which I cannot adequately describe!**

**Interpretation**

**I had informed the BBC of my availability for television work.  This dream is informing me that I will be too engaged in the media work to give Zaheer the treats that he had become accustomed to. A new phase would be starting soon. He was grateful for all I had done for the family so far and expressed this appreciation by giving me his own award letter in my honour.**

**DREAM NO 27                                       C. 1975**

**I dreamt that I saw a glistening, silver, American medal which had been awarded to me.  It carried an engraving of the legendary tennis champion, Jimmy Connors, and had important writing around its edges.  I could only remember one word when I awoke: 'SCHOLAR'.**

**Interpretation**

**In my childhood, I was a fan of Jimmy Connors whom I saw playing at Wimbledon on television.  I was always very curious and amused to hear his loud grunts when he served. I used to imitate this sound [with admiration] when exerting effort at any sport I played!  I was 14 years old in 1975 and, obviously had no idea at that time that I would get a Ph.D degree [Modesto, California, 1991], my book DREAMS IN ISLAM published [Pittsburgh, PENNSYLVANIA, 1992] or my poetry published, too, in anthologies of The International Library of Poetry [Owings Mills, Maryland, 2000-3]. So this dream was foretelling my future achievements!  America was symbolised by its national tennis champion, Jimmy Connors; that I, too, would become a champion -in my own field, and by submitting my Islamic work to institutions in that country- was similarly implicated!**

**CONCLUSION**

**No worldly award or reward could possibly match that granted by Allah Most High in the Hereafter.  However, if this life is only a two-day journey, one still needs some encouragement to progress satisfactorily along that journey: in that sense, these dream**