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LIVING AND LOVING THE YOUNG MUSLIM LIFESTYLE

Even if it hurts...

The design of
a woodpecker

Comic:
My account
in Jannah

The reduced
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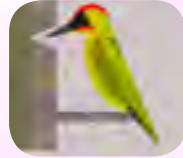
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The design of a wood- pecker

A woodpecker is a creation of Allah ﷻ that builds its nest by boring holes in tree trunks with its beak. If we ventured to do something like that, we would probably undergo a brain shock followed by a brain haemorrhage, God forbid. However, a woodpecker can peck a hard tree trunk 38-43 times in just two or three seconds and nothing happens to it.

Nothing happens because Allah ﷻ ideally created the head structure of woodpeckers for such a task. The skull of a woodpecker has a remarkable suspension system that absorbs the force of the blows. What the woodpecker does is in a way similar to a human being driving a nail into the wall with his hands.

The great design and planning that Allah ﷻ has inculcated in it doesn't end here. Preferring primarily pine trees, woodpeckers check the age of the trees before boring a hole in

them and pick those that are older than 100 years, because pine trees older than 100 years suffer an illness that causes the hard and thick bark to soften.

This was only recently discovered by science. So you may be reading about it for the first time in your life, but woodpeckers have known it for centuries.

This is not the only reason why woodpeckers prefer pine trees. Woodpeckers dig cavities around their nests, the function of which was not originally understood. These cavities were later understood to protect them from a great danger. Over time, the sticky resin that leaks from the pine trees fills up the cavities and the outpost of the woodpecker's nest is thus filled with a pool whereby woodpeckers can be protected from snakes, their greatest enemies.

Another interesting feature of woodpeckers is that their tongues are thin enough to penetrate even ants' nests in the trees. Their tongues are also sticky, which allows them to collect the ants that live there. The perfection in their creation is further revealed by the fact that their tongues have a structure which prevents them from being harmed by the acid in the bodies of the ants.

If not anything else, all these amazing characteristics discussed surely prove one thing; the woodpeckers were 'created'. If woodpeckers had evolved coincidentally as the theory of evolution claims, they would have had become extinct before they acquired such extraordinarily consistent traits. However, as they were created by Allah Ta'ala with a special design adapted to their life, they started their lives by bearing all the vital characteristics.

Not just woodpeckers, but only a slight contemplation can reveal that each of Allah's creation is designed perfectly for its job. So how can one ever think that man, Ashraful makhloqaat - the best of creation, was created for its purpose; the worship of Allah ﷻ, but doesn't have all the characteristics installed that are necessary for this vital task!!

Infact if we *don't* do the task we were sent to do in this world, then the problem would arise.

We would feel we are being wasted, our bodies and soul would feel empty and unfulfilled and thus our hearts would be spooky places not even our ourselves would like looking into.

We want fame in this life, but what use is that fame if it is obtained to draw the wrath of Allah ﷻ? We worry about the wealth in this temporary life, but isn't it true that this life can end any time? Won't then the thing that we were made for (obedience to Allah ﷻ) be our only lifeline for entry into the magnificent gardens of Jannah and being saved from the hellfire?

So lets imagine that day, millions being thrown into the fire, while many being rewarded with Paradise. The people of Paradise would then reflect and say, 'Oh it was just 1 or 2 days of hardship and now its ultimate pleasure for ever and ever. Today I'm granted the best of reward. There will be no grief after this day nor will there be any test. How kind has been my Lord Alhamdulillah...' May Allah ﷻ make us too amongst those victorious ones.

Ameen ●

Was'salam,

Bint Zahid

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Mind Your Manners

Eeman Adeel makes sure that we are decent, charming Muslims with these manners to emulate

Match each of the following with the correct answer from below

- 1- What do you say when someone does good to you?
- 2- What's the greeting when you meet someone?
- 3- How do you express your gratitude to Allah in words?
- 4- What to say when you are about to start eating?
- 5- What do you say when someone else sneezes?
- 6- When asking for something, say?
- 7- When you enter a conversation amongst others say?
- 8- When someone asks how are you doing, how should you respond?
- 9- What to do when a door is closed and you have to enter?
- 10- What to say when something unfavourable happens?

- A-Please
- B-Assalamoalaikum
- C-Innalillahi wainnailaihi rajian
- D-Say Alhamdulillah and ask how they are doing too
- E- Always knock on the door before opening
- F-Jazak'Allahu khair
- G-Excuse me
- H-Bismillah
- I-Yarahamuk'Allah
- J-Alhamdulillah

- 10-C
- 9-E
- 8-D
- 7-G
- 6-A
- 5-I
- 4-H
- 3-J
- 2-B
- 1-F

Answers

As you walk through a door, look to see if you can hold it open for someone else.

Do not interrupt grown-ups who are speaking with each other unless there is an emergency. They will notice you and respond when they are finished talking.

Cover your mouth when you cough or sneeze and don't pick your nose in public.

When you have spent time at your friend's house, remember to thank his or her parents for having you over and for the good time you had.

Never use foul language.

Do not make fun of anyone for any reason what so ever.

When an adult asks you for a favour, do it with a smile and without grumbling huff huff...

Don't reach for things at the dining table; ask to have them passed.

Be polite and talk less.

Stand up when an elder enters the room.



Oh I wish I never sin!

radiance
of the
pious

This extract from Hadhrat Maulana Abdul Sattar's spiritual discourse will In'sha'Allah make us step back every time we are tempted by Shaitan

In a Muslim society, homes are the first schools and educational institutions for children.

The house of a Muslim should be such a home where the lowest level of religiousness is that there is no disobedience of Allah ﷻ and His commandments.

One characteristic of a 'good and peaceful' home is that children should have respect for both their teachers (their parents). If the husband mistreats the wife, then children have lost one teacher, and if the wife complains and back-bites about their father to the children, then the children lose respect for their father, and hence they lose both teachers.

Peace in a household can only be achieved if the family members put aside their personal preferences for the sake of others, if they practice 'eesaar', if they all make Allah ﷻ their 'maqsood' along with their 'ma'abood'; for otherwise there will be no peace, just a constant clash of wants and desires between the family members. The siblings are also going to keep fighting between each other, treating each other like they see their parents treating others.

A peaceful environment in the house also contributes in the tarbiyah of the children and helps build a positive personality.

It's natural to have disagreements and arguments in the family. But the only way for these disagreements and arguments to not escalate into fights or something worse, is for the 'niyah' of all the family members to be on the right track. Sometimes the wife can be grateful and the husband can be patient, and sometimes the husband can be grateful and the wife can be patient. That is how children will be positively

influenced despite witnessing disagreements in their homes.

The purity and piety of Muslim households is such that there should be no sin in there. Allah ﷻ has said:

“إِنَّمَا بَغْتُكُمْ عَلَىٰ أَنفُسِكُمْ”

“Verily, this offence of yours is against yourselves only.” [Surah Younas: 23]

When we sin, we will see its affects in our lives; be it today or tomorrow but the punishment will be delivered in this life too.

In this day and age, there is no safety from sin and evil in the schools and in the workplace, so at least homes should be such places where there is no temptation to sin.

And what is worse than sinning?

- 1) To undermine and underestimate the gravity of the sin.
- 2) Al-Israar: To make an insistant habit of sinning.
- 3) Al-Ightirar: To fall in the trap of ghaflat of sinning.

In one hadith it is stated, the jist of which is, that sins reduce the life span of a Muslim.

Then not to forget the other perilous consequences of sins that one has to bear in this world in the form of severe unrest in the heart as well as warth of Allah in the form of calamities.

May Allah ﷻ save us all from all sins and put the barakah of virtue in our lives. Aameen

Surah Ma'uun and Surah Kauthar

1. In Surah Kauthar, which ayah consoled Ra-
soolullah ﷺ that his enemies who taunted him
will be cut off?

- A. إِنَّا أَعْطَيْنَكَ الْكَوْثَرَ
- B. فَصَلِّ لِرَبِّكَ وَأَنْحَرْ
- C. إِنَّ شَانِئَكَ هُوَ الْأَبْتَرُ
- D. All the Above

2. To whom Allah ﷻ addresses in Surah Kau-
thar?

- A. Rasoolullah ﷺ
- B. Quraish
- C. Enemies of Rasoolullah ﷺ
- D. Ansaar

3. What is the meaning of the word “Kau-
thar”?

- A. Abundant good
- B. A river in the Paradise
- C. Pond of Abundance (Hawd Al Kauthar)
- D. All the above

4. What is the meaning of the word “Maa'un”?

- A. Zakah
- B. Things of daily use
- C. Things that neighbours or known persons borrow from each other
- D. All of the above

5. Woe (destruction) to those praying people

- A. Who do not pray on time
- B. Who pray to be seen
- C. Who pray occasionally
- D. All of the above

6. Which evil characteristic of hypocrite is de-
scribed in Surah Maa'un?

- A. Neglecting prayers
- B. Showing off
- C. Withholding small kindness
- D. All of the above



7. In Surah Kauthar, it is taught to be thankful for the blessings of Allah ﷻ:

- A. By offering Salah and performing Hajj
- B. By performing Salah and offering sacrifice
- C. By performing Salah and paying Zakah
- D. By performing Salah and feeding the poor

8. In which ayah there is threatening of the Hell (woe) for those who neglect the Salah?

- A. فَوَيْلٌ لِلْمُصَلِّينَ
- B. فَذَلِكَ الَّذِي يَدْعُ الْيَتِيمَ
- C. الَّذِينَ هُمْ يُرَاءُونَ
- D. وَيَمْنَعُونَ الْمَاعُونَ

9. Pick out the WRONG pair of word and its meaning?

- A. شَانَتَكَ - Your enemy
- B. أَتَبَّرَ - Cut off
- C. يَحْضُ - Drives away
- D. يَمْنَعُونَ - Deny (Withhold)

10. What is the meaning of the below Ayah?
وَلَا يَحْضُ عَلَى طَعَامِ الْمِسْكِينِ

- A. And does not feed the poor
- B. And does not encourage to feed the poor
- C. And drives away the poor
- D. None of the above

14. Show off is a minor shirk or hidden shirk. Which ayah talks about those who show off?

- A. فَوَيْلٌ لِلْمُصَلِّينَ
- B. فَذَلِكَ الَّذِي يَدْعُ الْيَتِيمَ
- C. الَّذِينَ هُمْ يُرَاءُونَ
- D. وَيَمْنَعُونَ الْمَاعُونَ

- 10-B
- 9-C
- 8-A
- 7-B
- 6-D
- 5-D
- 4-D
- 3-D
- 2-A
- 1-C

Answers



HADHRAT SAFYAH BINT ABDUL MUTTALIB ﷺ

“Islam, since its very start, has seen many brave and daring women who have contributed a great deal in strengthening it. One such woman is the sober, graceful and respectable Hadhrat Safyyah bint Abdul Muttalib,” writes Zawjah Junaid Mukaty

Early Life

Hadhrat Safyyah was the paternal aunt of Allah’s Apostle ﷺ and daughter of the chief of Quraish, Abdul Muttalib bin Hashim. She was first married to Harith bin Harb, the brother of Hadhrat Sufyan bin Harb who died at an early age. Her second marriage was to Awwam bin Khuwaylid who was the brother of Ummul Momineen Hadhrat Khadija. She bore him Hadhrat Zubair bin Awwam who later was known as Hawari e Rasul ﷺ.

As a Mother

Awwam also died at an early age, therefore the responsibility of raising children was wholly on her shoulders. She was a proficient and wise mother who put all her efforts in transforming her children into dynamic personalities.

Her son, Hadhrat Zubair was one of the “Ashra Mubbashira” who were given glad tidings of Jannah by the Prophet ﷺ during their lives and he was the first to unsheathe a sword for Allah. His mother wanted her son to be a great muslim and therefore she put all her efforts to make this happen. She was a proud mother Masha’Allah.

Conversion to Islam

When Allah ordered his Messenger Muhammad ﷺ to preach Islam publicly, he invited his family and tribesmen to Islam. He said, “O Abbas bin Abdul Muttalib! I cannot save you from Allah. O Safyyah bint Abdul Muttalib! I cannot save you from Allah. O Fatima bint Muhammad! Ask what you wish from my property, but I cannot save you from Allah.” After this Hadhrat Safyyah and her son Hadhrat Zubair took the oath of allegiance to Prophet ﷺ.

It was a dark night. Hadhrat Safyyah ﷺ saw a silhouette moving towards the fortress. She watched it more carefully and realised that there was more than one man trying to spy.
She had to act fast.

Since then she bravely faced oppression of the Makkans and when the orders came, she migrated to Madinah. By then she was sixty years old.

Bravery

Hadhrat Safyyah ﷺ was a courageous and fearless soul. She had shown bravery at times when men lost all hope. During the Battle of Uhud, she acted as an aide to Muslim army, serving water to the thirsty and mending their arrows and spears. She also wanted to see the developments of this battle with her own eyes as future of Islam was based on it.

When she saw the tables turning and the Muslims losing hope, she took a spear in her hands and dashed into the lines of enemy. Her religion and her Prophet ﷺ were of foremost priority to her.

Another incident of her bravery which should be written in letters of gold is below. During the Battle of Trench, the Muslims were in the outskirts of Madinah facing the enemy while women and children were sent to a fortress for security purposes. This fortress belonged to Hadhrat Hassaan bin Thabit ﷺ and was the safest and farthest from enemy lines.

It was a dark night. Hadhrat Safyyah ﷺ saw a silhouette moving towards the fortress. She watched it more carefully and realised that there was more than one man trying to spy. Hadhrat Safyyah was a smart woman, she knew the spies had come to check if there were men inside the fort. She had to act fast.

She took a club with her and stealthily hid herself behind the doors. She waited until the spy, who was busy in reiki, reached exactly within her aim. With a lot of courage and intelligence, she attacked the Jewish spy and hit him with the club, and kept striking until he died. Next, she cut the head off and threw it from the top of the structure right at the feet of his fellow spies.

The Jews were terrified and said, “We know that this man (meaning the Prophet ﷺ) would not leave behind his family without someone to look after them.” They fled and did not dare return.

If the Jews would have come to know that there were no men inside, they would have attacked the women and children and taken them prisoners. This would have become a great problem for the Muslim men and they would have also lost the battle. But Hadhrat Saffyah acted wisely and swiftly. Her bravery and quick thinking saved the Muslims.

A Balanced Personality

On the same day of Uhud, Hadhrat Saffyah ﷺ rushed into the ranks of the enemies, that same day her real brother Hadhrat Hamza ﷺ was martyred in the battlefield and his body was mutilated by the polytheists. After the battle, the Prophet ﷺ called her son Hadhrat Zubair ﷺ not to go towards the body as he didn't want her to follow and see her brother in that state. Hadhrat Zubair tried to send her back but she

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My cousin, a teacher, asked her young students, "Why should you never accept candy from strangers?" One girl knew. "Because it might be past the sell-by date."

"That's a great place to work!" shouted my 16-year-old brother after coming home from the first day at his first job. "I get two weeks' paid vacation."
"I'm so glad," said my mother.
"Yeah," added John. "I can't wait to find out where they send me."

Find 10 differences



Teacher: Write an essay on 'If I Am A Millionaire'
All students started writing except one boy.
Teacher: Why don't you start writing?
Boy: I am waiting for my secretary!



Clean Pennies With Vinegar!

You will need

- * A few old (not shiny) pennies
- * 1/4 cup white vinegar
- * 1 teaspoon salt
- * Non-metal bowl
- * Paper towels



What to do

Pour the vinegar into the bowl and add the salt – stir it up.

Put about 5 pennies into the bowl and count to 10 slowly.

Take out the pennies and rinse them out in some water. Admire their shininess!

How does it work?

There is some pretty fancy chemistry going on in that little bowl of yours. It turns out that vinegar is an acid, and the acid in the vinegar reacts with the salt to remove what chemists call copper oxide which was making your pennies dull. You're not done yet, though, let's try another experiment:

Add more pennies to the bowl for 10 seconds, but this time, don't rinse them off. Place them on a paper towel to dry off. In time the pennies will turn greenish-blue as a chemical called malachite forms on your pennies. But wait, you're still not done yet.

Place one or two nuts and bolts in the vinegar and watch – they may become COPPER in colour! The vinegar removed some of the copper from the pennies, if there is enough copper in the vinegar, the copper will become attracted by to the metal in the nuts and bolts and they will take on a new copper colour – cool.

Make It An Experiment

The project above is a DEMONSTRATION. To make it a true experiment, you can try to answer these questions:

1. Will other acids (like lemon juice or orange juice) work as well?
2. Does this cleaning chemistry work on other coins?
3. Do other amounts of salt make a difference in the chemistry of the experiment?



My Account

Concept by Z

Artwork by Zaw



Amma what is Thawaab?



Dear son,
Whenever you do a good deed, Allah puts at least 10 gifts in your special space in Jannah that's Thawaab.



Well, whenever you do a misdeed, Allah Taala takes out one of those gifts so it won't be given to you....



Oh my!!like if نعوذ بالله we miss a salah?

and even unfair to siblings except

Gift in Jannah

Zawjah Zia

Ayjah Jahangir



Old Ma Unknown



Rabia Lakhani procures herself in the shoes of a girl living in a land which is drenched in warfare since more than a decade

The espresso machine behind my shoulder hissed like an angry snake. I turned around, worried. I had every reason to be. The machine was recently fixed, and my parents would be extremely cross at me if I broke it. Times were harsh. We could not afford repairs. It was 3 at night. I was the only one awake. I was unable to sleep, or rather, dared not to. Nightmares plagued me like a cluster of angry wasps, the recent bombings at our school, was to blame. I survived. Ammarah, my friend, did not. And somehow, my brain reveled in replaying the scene in the most gruesome ways possible.

I took a look at the machine. Satisfied that nothing was wrong, I turned my attention back to my iPad. News updates flashing be-

fore my eyes. There was another hiss, louder this time. This was followed by an urgent news update. "The electrical headquarters in the city have been bombed." This was followed by a picture of eerily glowing scarlet flames, surrounding the building. It was a beautiful structure. The pride of our nation. All destroyed within minutes. I was about to switch off the machine, when there was a loud bang upstairs, and an urgent update. "Those residing close to the electric headquarters must prepare for a wave of attacks. More bombs are detected." Then, suddenly, the whole house went black. There was no power.

At that instant, my mind went blank, whirling with unknown emotions and powers. Then, as

suddenly as it went blank, I became focused. In the fading light of the iPad, I ran upstairs. I quickly informed my parents of the disaster. We rushed to the basement. My mother sent out a warning call to the neighbours. Soon, everybody was safe.

An hour later, with the iPad almost out of battery, the newscaster proved to be right. The bombs came. The neighbourhood was destroyed. We were safe. In the morning, when no more bombs came, we got out to survey the damage. Our house, along with most of the rest, was in ruins. The walls were still standing, though. Luckily, we had our devices (and their chargers) with us. The wounded were taken to the hospital. All of us there were unhurt.

While we were calling emergency services, the real calamity struck. Fighter planes appeared in the sky. Bombs and bullets were raining down. Everywhere, chaos reigned. Everyone was running for shelter, but to no avail. The bombs were highly destructive. They destroyed everything. The whole neighbourhood was covered in flames. Eerie. Dancing. Deadly. They spelt destruction. The smell of smoke hung heavy in the air. Screams rang out from everywhere. I ran to the basement, dodging the flames. A wall collapsed behind me. And then another. And then another, this time on top of me. Then all went black.

There, at the end of the street, lives an Old Ma Unknown. Nobody knows her name. Not even herself. Reconstructed after war, she never was the same. She was the only one who survived after the bombing....

That would be me! I was now alone. Alone in the world. Everyone was dead.....more like, killed. Even after 30 years, the effects are still the same. I don't remember who I am. I don't remember who I was. But, I remember that

last free night. That last 'family' night. The one that was ruined by the bombs and the eerie, entrancing flames

Continued from pg 11

refused and said, "Why should I go back since I have heard that my brother was mutilated in the cause of Allah? We are not pleased with what has happened but I will bear it with patience and I hope to get the reward from Allah, if He so wills."

Prophet ﷺ then said, "Let her go to see her brother." She then went to Hadhrat Hamza and stood beside his corpse. She then sought Allah's forgiveness and said, "This all is for Allah's cause. I swear to Allah that I will remain patient and will hope for a reward."

Hadhrat Saffyah was a fighter when she attacked the polytheists with her spear but when she heard about her brother's martyrdom she was composed and patient. She was a woman of strong character and sound mind. Although women are assumed to be weaker and more emotional than men, she could make decisions quickly and keep hold of herself in any situations that called for it.

Poetess

Many elegies are attributed to her which prove that she was a master of words. Be it her father's death or martyrdom of her brother Hadhrat Hamza, she did not shout or tear her clothes as was the custom of the women of those days. However, she expressed her inner feelings openly through the verses of poems. This gracious and dignified female companion of Prophet ﷺ left for the eternal world during Hadhrat Umar's Caliphate.

May Allah be pleased with her. Ameen



When maid doesn't show up

By Rohma Nisar
Grade: VIII
The Intellect School

Oh, get up now! Get uuuuuuppp!!!! My mother was bawling to wake me up as I wandered myself dreaming. My eyes opened automatically when a glass of water slapped my face. Mom's face clearly expressed a problem so getting unassisted by my curiosity, I asked her what it was. She wasn't well for the past three days and my cousin's wedding was also going on. We had spent the previous night enjoying the reception and thus I had slept very late.

My mood was marred when I was told by mom that neither of the maids were coming. Quietly I went and started with my own room; I knew mom won't be doing any work because of her being unwell. I didn't know that a huge mess in the whole house awaited me... "OH MY!!!! I didn't even sleep enough and now there is so much to do."

I asked mom if my brother could help me in just assembling the messed up things, but as was expected.... He did not. 'Well, Rohma! You have to clean it, so the sooner you do it, the better it is.' said my inner Rohma.

At first, I started with the kitchen as it was

the grimeiest and most difficult place to clean. Washing dishes and mopping the floor took a good time of my day. Next were the living and dining room, my luck they both were very dusty. 'I wish the maid never takes any off?' Said my tiring hands. The easiest way to clean the dust is using a vacuum cleaner, but it was much harder than my expectations. Being done with the cleaning, I started with some final touch ups such as filling up the fruit basket and assembling the table with spoons and plates for lunch.

Absence of maids made me realise that they did so much for us, without saying a word of complain... and we are always after them instructing them to do this and do that. They act like a great help for us but still are not respected and treated in a way they should be.

I felt guilty and thankful at the same time for having such convenience in my life. Deciding to help the staff from the next day, I realised finally it was all done....so being very glad I just threw myself on the bed and went to sleep once again because this was the best way to reward myself I guess



The reduced microsecond

by **Ayesha Shoaib Gader**
Grade: X
The Intellect School

get past it. Now when you compare both results/marks and the improvements that you made, anything that was less or inferior about the previous attempt is what defines how far you've come. This is how strong you are.

No one expects you to face the trial without any hesitation as you've been through it before too. What really matters is that last time you cried due to the pain of rejection and now it's about time you push your level forward even if with a tiny attempt. Being stronger means that last time it took you a week to get past it and this time it took you 6 days only.

"Only 24 hours difference? That's so weak of you, OMG!" The clichéd thought might say.....

But rest assured, every second that you decrease from the time it took you last time to stand up again after stumbling is what makes you stronger than before. It takes time but yes you've come this far and soon you'll accept the world falling down on you, not because you're happy or you don't care, but that you know you can get through this with Allah ﷻ by your side - that too better than you did before.

Next time someone says you're weak, tell them about the microsecond you decreased from the time it took you to get over the

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O traveller of life, See how far you've come! Don't just look at how you fell to the ground yet again, instead look at the slightest positive difference that is evident.

To really know how far you've come all you need to do is that when the same circumstances occur, when there is a repetitive situation, then observe how you overcome and get yourself through it as compared to the crying face last time. It would make us realise how strong we have become and where we stand.

Being strong just isn't about how you face the upcoming problems but also how you sort the repetitive situation in a manner ahead of the prior one. For example, when you failed the test last time, you thought it is the end of the world and went all hopeless. However, you got over it with time.

Now when you are very hopeful for the test again, you fail to cover up the disappointment from the failure before. But what really makes you stand to the higher level of where you were before? The way you accept that you've failed and instead of crying now analyse the situation, identify your mistakes and



Even if it hurts...

So are you too quick in finding faults in others and hardly notice any in yourselves? This story by *Asiya Marfani* will change your perception

“Oho! Sister, how can you expect anybody to approach you and talk to you when you have this black cloth (jilbab) all over yourself, huh!” Warisheh overheard Fareena baji who was spilling one by one the disadvantages of covering oneself to Hira.

The next day, she went to attend a religious lecture in her neighbourhood and got to sit beside Fareena baji and her friend. She was utterly surprised when she listened to Fareena baji’s demands for a wife for her brother that she was listing in front of her friend, which included that the girl should be sophisticated and that she should know how to cover herself.

‘Phew, our double standards!’ murmured Warisheh to herself. Her heart felt heavy.

“Oh beti, this cake will make you fat, since it has so many calories,” Warisheh heard Aunt Fasiha giving unnecessary advice to some random girl at a wedding.

Her mind pictured a scene from just five minutes back when aunt Fasiha was moutaining her daughter’s plate with all the excess food and when her daughter asked her to stop because she was on a diet, she scolded her saying, “Keep your dieting and all this top-notch

But you know what? The Prophet ﷺ never confronted them in public, neither cursed or accused them for their wrongdoings. He never told them directly that they were wrong and that he was aware of their falsity. You know what he did instead?

whims aside, look how pale you have become, have some more of these blueberry muffins...” Warisheh looked at the daughter, trying to find any speck of paleness on her face. There was nothing to be seen except those chubby, red cheeks and a mouthful of food.

Argh!! Warisheh felt annoyed. Why are people in our society such humbugs?

“O Jawed, just keep an eye on your son, seems like he has got nothing to do except for scampering here and there.” Uncle Farhan gave an innocent advice on his part, not realising how embarrassed and hurt uncle Jawed felt.

“Let the boy go, he’s just a child and children are supposed to make mistakes,” Uncle Farhan tried calming down his wife who was angry at their son Ashir for displaying unbecoming behavior around the neighbourhood.

At night she poured everything in front of Abba Jaan.

“I feel suffocated. It’s like I am surrounded by liars and pretenders, hypocrites and bullies. I don’t want to live here. Let’s fly far away, distant from this land of frauds and oppressors.”

“Oh! my dear Warisheh. Calm down. Relax. Let

it all rest,” said Abba in a tranquil tone.

“Abba!! That’s unfair!” resisted Warisheh anxiously.

Abba smiled his purest smile and Warisheh had no other option. After minutes of listening to Warisheh’s big breathes, he cleared his throat. It was a signal for her to stop.

Abba then spoke, “Do you know who was given the titles of Al-Sadiq and Al-Amin?”
“Oh yess, Abba Jee ! Clearly, our Prophet ﷺ.”

“And do you know why was he called by these honourable titles?”

“Umm, yes! Because he was honest and sincere, and that he never betrayed anyone. Also, he always spoke the truth no matter what.”

“Absolutely!” spoke Abba. “But do you know what was the condition of the people of Arab during His early years?”

“Jee Abba! They were all lost. They used to betray each other, curse each other over little things, fight over nonsense things. They were dishonest, had double standards, they were all entangled terribly in evil.”

“Yes, and when Prophet ﷺ preached the teachings of Allah which included lessons of honesty, sincerity, clarity, love, kindness, tolerance, patience, faith etc, there were many

people who believed him with pure intentions and there were people who completely and openly denied him. But there was another group of people. Those were men and women who pretended to believe him when in reality they did everything opposite to what he had preached and taught. They were dishonest, they had shaky faiths, they were intolerant and impatient, they were unkind and unsympathetic. Those were the Munafiqeen (the hypocrites).

They used to represent themselves as the virtuous and righteous but actually, they were the least favourable. Allah knew of their reality and many times Muhammad ﷺ was also told of their deception.

But you know what? The Prophet ﷺ never confronted them in public, neither cursed or accused them for their wrongdoings. He never told them directly that they were wrong and that he was aware of their falsity. You know what he did instead?

He became the best version of himself. He became the most honest man, the sincerest person; the truest human among all. He worked hard to set himself as an example.

He knew that words can't correct people as much as actions do so he showed and proved everything through his actions. He made them aware of their flaws by not speaking against them openly but by resisting all those flaws himself.

He was Prophet ﷺ. He could do that perfectly. And I know we can't be perfect. But we can at least try. We will only be able to lessen the lies and hypocrisy if we learn to start with ourselves. Change begins with an individual, keep that conserved in your mind always, my child....

And there will be people who won't be influenced or corrected. Don't feel sorry for them. Don't curse them, just pray for them, for their betterment and Hidayah. If Allah wills, He will turn their hearts, if He doesn't, then none of us can do anything.

So, now you understand why we shouldn't feel so overwhelmed at every bad thing that goes on around us?

If we are in the power of correcting those bad things either by our tongues, hands or actions we should do so. If we are not in power to rectify them then we should at least in our hearts believe in the evilness of those things."

'How is Abba so on point always,' thought Warisheh.

"It's because I work more on myself and less on others," said Abba as he had gotten hang of Warisheh's confused thoughts.

"You are the best Abba!" giggled Warisheh as she buzzed off to her room. She wanted to share this new lesson with her sister

Continued from pg 19

won't be able to handle it, tell them you've been through various situations before and Allah has planned this rock to fall in your path now, only because He knows you're prepared to push it away with a big smile on your face, regardless of the struggles you do, as of now, you're on way higher a threshold than the last ones.

Keep attempting to move forward even if an inch. Every minute step counts. Our achievement isn't too little to be seen, it's just the concrete that you're laying as the foundation for a stronger building, In'sha'Allah

Baby panda

by Aisha bint Imran

6 years

Islamabad

I hide and see a panda
Which is black and white

I see it on an apple tree
It is sitting on a great height

Its fur is soft and fluffy
And I hope it doesn't bite

I had to fly to China and
I reached here last night

I want to take it home
I'm happy it's so light!

poetic
rush

The Pain In Your Heart

by Bint Mohsin

You just can not really hide me
You do not know how to fight me

I am the pain in your heart
I might be breaking you apart

I will keep dripping from your eyes
I will make you live in disguise

You will feel me burning inside you
You may see me walking beside you

I will give you restless nights
I will make your life seem black and white

You will keep wondering that what you did wrong
But I will not be with you for long

I just came to teach you how to stay strong
I wanted to remind you of your Lord to whom you
belong

I will leave you very soon one day
So learn from me while you can

You will meet a whole new level of maturity
And then you will succeed and thank me.



1. Power breakout

Julie is going on an extended trip for three weeks. She lives in a remote area where there are frequent electrical power outages which can last up to three or four days. Julie has quite a bit of food in her freezer which would go bad if it thawed and then re-froze. She does have a digital clock which would flash 12:00 if the power went out. Unfortunately, the clock flashes even if the power only goes out for a few seconds. What can Julie do so that when she returns home she will be able to determine whether the power was out long enough to thaw her food? Asking a neighbour whether the power was out, isn't a reliable option because the nearest house is half a mile away, and one house may have power, while another house may have no power. She won't be able to have a neighbour check on her house every day, and has no one to house sit.

2. The Puppy On The Internet

In 2000, a 40-year-old doctor told his son that when a little boy he decided to be a doctor by seeing a internet web site about performing a heart transplant on a puppy with a defective heart so that the puppy would live a normal life. "I then thought that I would be a doctor so that I could help people in a similar way."

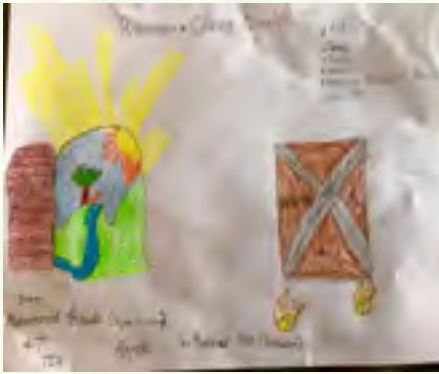
What is the defect in this story?

The internet did not exist when the doctor was a little boy.

Answer: 2

One thing Julie could do is freeze a tray of ice-cubes, and turn the tray of ice upside down in her freezer. When she comes home, she should check the tray.. If the ice cubes are still in the tray, the food is safe to eat. If the trays are empty, it's time to clean out the freezer. She will have to make a judgment call if the ice-cubes are only slightly thawed.

Answer: 1



**Muhammad Hadi
The City School**



**Ayesha Khalid Lakhani
Generation School**



**Khalood Mufti Abu Lababah
The Intellect School**



**Musfirah
The Educators School**



**Muhammad bin Baber Zubairi
8 Years**



**Hasaan Tayyeb
Baitussalam School Talagang
Level 3**



Would you like to be rewarded for

The Entire Night Just For sleeping?

The Prophet said, "Whoever performs 'isha' in congregation, it is as if he has performed prayer for half the night, and if he also performs fajr in congregation, then it will be as if he performed prayer throughout the entire night." **[Muslim]**



Plan your day in such a way that all of your work is completed by noon, and so you will be relaxed to go the mosque to offer the prayer. You should try to sleep early so that you are able to wake up for fajr on time and pray it in congregation.

Rewards
of Salah

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