

VOL 11/ISS 02  
March - 2023

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# radiance

LIVING AND LOVING THE YOUNG MUSLIM LIFESTYLE

Life Is  
Unpredictable

Around The World  
In 5 Weeks

A Lesson In  
Repentance

Ayesha's  
Awakening!

THE REAL  
HEROES



PKR 80    USD 3.5  
GBP 3    DHS 10

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PUBLICATIONS



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Baitussalam Imdadi Markaz, Mezzanine  
Floor, Chapal Beach Arcade III, Clifton  
Block 4, adjacent to Imtiaz super store  
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# LIFE IS UNPREDICTABLE

Gaziantep

A couple adored the birth of their little angel, while a couple saw their baby being flung into the arms of death. A daughter gained comfort in the arms of her mother, while another daughter saw her mother being crumpled under a building. Someone cherished their morning nap while another's day came crashing down. The loss of a son, the loss of a daughter, the loss of one or both parents, the loss of luxuries and millions of losses, hurtful losses, gut-wrenching losses, all occurred simultaneously in the beautiful lands of Turkey. A place which the world adored and utterly was famous for its unique historical features and dozens of tourist attractions.

On February 6, around 4:15 a.m. local time, a magnitude 7.8 earthquake struck south central Turkey near the Turkey/Syria border. Eleven minutes later, it was followed by a magnitude 6.7 aftershock. The largest aftershock was a M7.5 aftershock which struck 95 km (~60 miles) to the north. USGS observations and analyses indicate all these events are occurring within the East Anatolian fault system.

Though an earthquake of this magnitude is rare anywhere in the world, this type of event is generally expected on long, plate-boundary strike-slip faults.

"It's difficult to watch this tragedy unfold, especially since we've known for a long time that the buildings in the region were not designed to withstand earthquakes," said USGS scientist David Wald. "An earthquake this size has the potential to be damaging anywhere in the world, but many structures in this region are particularly vulnerable."

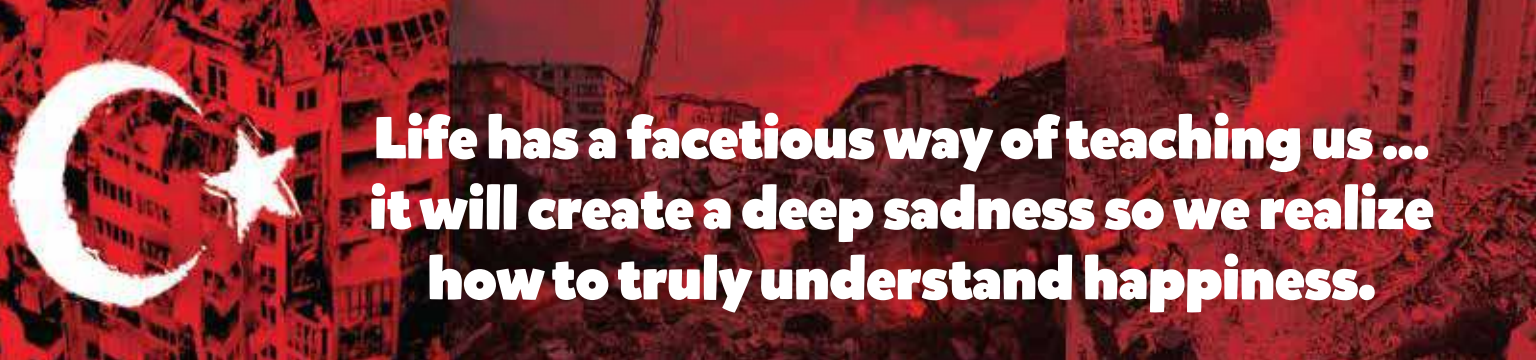
The two largest earthquakes in the recent series are relatively shallow, with the main shock 18 kilometers, or 11 miles, deep and the 7.5 magnitude aftershock at 10 kilometers (just over 6 miles) deep. As the quakes are relatively shallow, the intensity of the shaking is severe.

The death toll from a strong earthquake in south-eastern Turkey, near Syria's border, could rise eight-fold, the World Health Organisation had warned.

The toll, increased rapidly since the first earthquake struck early on Monday morning. About 12 hours later, a second powerful tremor hit further north.

Rescuers have been combing through mountains of rubble in freezing and snowy conditions to find survivors.

Many of the victims are in war-torn northern Syria, where millions of refugees live in camps on both sides of the border with Turkey. There have been dozens of fatalities



## Life has a facetious way of teaching us ... it will create a deep sadness so we realize how to truly understand happiness.

reported in rebel-held areas. Thousands of buildings across both the countries have collapsed, and several videos show the moment they fell, as onlookers ran for cover. Many buildings that were as large as 12 storey high are now flattened, roads have been destroyed and there are huge mountains of rubble as far as the eye can see.

Among the buildings destroyed was Gaziantep Castle, an historical landmark that has stood for more than 2,000 years.

The BBC's Middle East correspondent Anna Foster, reporting from the Turkish city of Osmaniye, near the epicenter, described a devastating scene.

"It's absolutely pouring with rain which is hampering the rescue efforts. There is no power at all in the city tonight." We're still feeling regular after-shocks... and there are still concerns that there may be still more buildings to collapse," our correspondent said.

The million dollar question arises; are we feeling the pain of our Muslim Brothers and sisters in Turkey who are experiencing the greatest catastrophe of their lives? How can we be of assistance to them?

Rasulullah ﷺ has stated something to this effect that Muslim Ummah is like a single body. When one part of the body is afflicted with pain then whole body feels the pain; similarly when any one from the Ummah is afflicted with trials and tribulation, no matter what the race, colour or age may be. The pain should be felt by the entire Ummah. It should affect us to the core of our heart, soul and mind.

Assistance to those affected does not necessarily mean monetary help, lifting our hands and instructing the innocent in our homes to lift their hands and make Dua to Allah swt is

also a form of aid. Moreover several humanitarians are working towards this noble cause of assisting the affected people in Turkey financially. Donating a few dollars would certainly not make anyone poor yet it would unequivocally be accepted in the court of the King of Kings, Allah if it is given with utmost sincerity. After all, individuals with sincerity are lanterns of guidance on earth. Moreover it is not quantity but the quality which is considered by Allah.

Furthermore, it does not take long for the tables to turn. We should definitely not take our lives and blessings for granted. Thank and appreciate our loved ones. Forgive and forget.

Life has a facetious way of teaching us ... it will create a deep sadness so we realize how to truly understand happiness. It will create chaos in our lives so that we appreciate the peaceful times and it will take those we love away from us so that we unequivocally fathom on what their presence meant.

Nevertheless, for a believer, after difficulty comes ease. Whenever the thought crosses our mind that life is becoming strenuous just remember, "The greater the hardship, the greater the reward. The greater the trial or tribulation that you are put through, the greater the reward will be for you from Allah (SWT). If Allah loves a people, He puts them to trial, He tests them and places them in difficulty.

Maulana Hakeem Akhtar rahimahullah would beautifully say, "Through whichever path he takes me is the easiest path for me and in whichever condition he places me is the best condition for me."

**Was'salam,  
Bint Hanif**



# THE REAL HEROES

Do we have the right role models?

An insightful read by **Muqadas Ghumman**

Whenever I asked my four-year-old what she wanted to be when she grew up, she had a plain and straightforward answer - A follower of RasoolAllah(PBUH). To her, he was the only person worthy of admiration and being followed. But recently, her conversations began changing from “How did RasoolAllah(s) eat?”, “I am sitting like RasoolAllah(s)”, or “I cleaned my plate like RasoolAllah(s)!” to: “I will finish my food like Cinderella”, and “If I eat all my apples I will be pretty like Cinderella.”

What at first seemed like an innocent infatuation with a childhood fairytale character soon got me worried. This replacement of idealism was not a small matter - in her innocent mind, a fairytale character dancing with a prince was becoming more inspiring than the best of all creation. When I dug deeper into the matter I learned she was picking up the admiration for Cinderella from a close acquaintance, whose parents used a fairytale princess to inspire her to eat, dress up, stay clean, etc. This momentarily made me forget about my own child and a heartache arose in my chest for the children of this Ummah.

Is it possible that we are raising an Ummah inspired by fairytales and superhero characters? An Ummah, whose history is full of heroes of divine knowledge (Prophets) and their followers (Sahabas), has forgotten the importance of bringing the best characters

into the children's lives and has replaced the divine idealism with the fictional superhero cults of the modern world. Is this a problem? Should we be worried? Isn't the impact of these fictional characters alarming while rearing a Muslim Child? Or does it even matter who we idolize from a young age?

Heroes and role models are an integral part of our society. They are an integral part of education, how we view the world, and what we inspire to be. Infact, superheroes or some sort of heroes have always existed in all sorts of cultures. Greek, Norse, Egyptian, Celtic, Hindu and all other pagan mythologies are a representation of the need to believe in someone as our saviors and role model. They represent the need to believe in something bigger than ourselves (supernatural), to be in awe of something, to idolize something. Pagans societies in the past came up with their own superheroes in the shape of gods, demi-gods and the demons they fought against, very much like the superhero culture of a superhero fighting a villain. The innate human nature to believe in something bigger than themselves in a secular world began to be replaced by Marvel and DC heroes. The transition from traditional to secular society gave us a secular set of superheroes. These superheroes fulfill the void left for the innate need to believe in a higher power, the bigger than themselves being.

Can this fit into not only the Islamic, but any of the Abrahamic religions worldview? We believe in a real power bigger than ourselves, our Savior, our Protector, Our Creator, Allah (swt). As for our role models, the stories Allah (swt) himself narrates to us from the past in the Quran and other divine books sure give us our very own real set of them: Adam, Ibrahim, Noah, Mosa, Isa, Dawood, Suleiman, Yusuf, Yacob, Yahya, Zakariyya, Saleh, Lut, Luqman, People of the Cave, and many more. And then Allah laid out in front of us the entire life of the best human in the world to take after.

The two contradictory role-model structures are the representation of Haq (truth) and Batil (falsehood) in this dunya. Whether it's the traditional modern society, the pattern of Batil remains the same. The misguidance comes from the same being: Satan, Iblis. Human psychology demands belief in super-beings. For many young people, superheroes have displaced traditional beliefs. The superhero role is similar to the pagan structure of the past. These new forms of gods speak the truth for their audience and present different models of behaviors, values and norms of an increasingly diverse 21st-century society. In the words of Robert Mcgracy, "Superheroes have become the new gods and Marvel is a new brand of religion in a secularizing post-Christian society." The legacy of Satan to create fake super-beings and role models has been carried into the modern world.

Superheroes having similarities with pagan religions doesn't come as a surprise. Satan is progressive and he employs innovative methods to misguide humanity. His purpose remains the same but he advances and changes his methods as humans progress and change. Traditional paganism (old school shirk) seems backwards to a modern man who is more driven by scientific evolution and the values introduced by it. So, this entertainment becomes the source to keep up the advancement of misguidance.

As a tool of Satan, Marvel and other comic

companies have used these heroes to promote secular values. Marvel, the biggest superhero comic brand, consistently portrays god characters in their movies. It shows that they are all not heavenly beings who present themselves as good, but are secretly awful usually evil. It's clear that Marvel is setting up a conflict between humans and gods to be at the forefront of its next big storyline. The conflict is evident from many comic tales. In "Loki," the villain someone who remains a supposedly all-powerful, all-knowing being whose primary goal is to keep order in time and space by making sure that all events go according to his cosmic plan, and erasing anyone from an existence who deviates from that plan. Then it's exposed that he's a time-traveler named Kang who kidnapped people and brain-washed them into joining his time cop force to enforce his preferred timeline - 'imposing' a plan by using supernatural powers. In "The Eternals," The Celestials are immortal gods who created every living thing in the universe and say they created the angelic Eternals to protect the humans of Earth from demonic Deviants. In reality, they created the Eternals to help humans evolve so the humans could help the planet give birth to a new Celestial—destroying the Earth in the process.

In "Moon Knight," the prophet of the god, Ammit is the main villain. Ammit wishes to return to Earth to kill everyone who will one day become evil before they have a chance to commit that evil. She's opposed by Konshu, a god who abuses and manipulates Marc Spector/Steven Grant – (two sides of a man with a split personality) into being his avatar to stop her. In the process, Konshu becomes nearly as brutal as Ammit until Marc and Steve stand up to him.

It seems the super-hero culture is as popular amongst the Abrahamic religions as it is in the secular world. Three basic beliefs the superpowers of Allah, the perfection in the role model of Muhammad (PBUH), the moral code and the way of life defined by Islam - are subtly challenged by super-hero obsession

Superheroes are the prophets of the new religion. They bring their morality and set of values. There are a lot of different superheroes out there and many of these heroes were created or later changed according to cultural trends of the time. For example, the creation of Superman Comics in 1938 was an attempt to provide hope for society after the difficulties of the Great Depression and impending World War II. Now this is a perfect medium to familiarize the value of modern Godless society. Characters of homosexuality e.g batwoman sexualized female superheroes, and associated power with vulgar clothing. Whatever value needs to be popularized, they have the most attractive and popular medium.

When a society with a strong belief in Muhammad (pbuh) as a true role model questions a child what they want to be when they grow up, and they answer - 'superman', that should worry us. We are replacing their deep love and connection with Rasool Allah (pbuh) with something that will take place of almost a religious importance in their life. When you come across children willing to be bitten by spiders to become spiderman or a seven year old practicing grabbing things with his "spider web" we need to understand the effect of exposure to this culture is not innocent. Getting rid of fairytale culture for its messed up sense of reality was one thing but to fight an entire cult of Marvel and DC is a task we need to start considering. Are the role models of secularism becoming our children's new role models?

Ali bin Hussain- the grandson of Ali ibn Abi Talib would say we were taught the Seerah of Rasool Allah like we were taught the Quran. That is how important Seerah was for them. Shouldn't the early years of their life be spent forming the pegs of love for Muhammad (pbuh), Ibrahim, Musa, Esa and other prophets? Shouldn't the stories that surround our homes be stories of the marvelous humans which stood against the entire society. Shouldn't we be inspiring them to be more

like Abu Bakr and Uthman(r) and other sahabas. Shouldn't they be inspired by real life stories of justice in the time of Omar. Contrary to this, Satan inspired Nazr bin Haris to bring tales from Iran to keep people away from the guidance when the Quran was being revealed. Stories are important. They can not be taken lightly. What stories we tell our children form the structure of our society. Stories of superman will form the structure he is advising.

For a moment, if we put aside their structural value in society, wastage of money and time, many of the production houses continue to use pagan mythology to sell their movies. Thor, Incredible Hercules are to name a few. How are we comfortably accepting this level of shirk in our homes? When a 7-year-old was told that the planets, created by Allah, were named after Greek and Roman gods, she went into a state of shock and came up with her own list of names for the planets. That's the sensitivity we need to harbor regarding shirk, let alone take it as a norm in our society in the form of entertainment. We are allowing our children to take morality from a source different from Divine Knowledge and allowing them to be comfortable with the ideas of shirk. It's something that should concern us.

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# THE PEARL OF HUMANITY

**Written Muhammad Hamza Jaffri  
Age 12 from Leicester, UK**

The best of men, the pearl of humanity,  
Let us take a glimpse at his perfect personality,  
From the beginning he was the most Truthful and modest,  
Al-Amin was his title, even his enemies called him honest.

One night, looking at the sky and his noble face,  
The moon light turned dull, his face illuminated with grace,  
"By Allah his face was brighter than the moon," the Sahabi said,  
Even though the moon had beauty, he looked at him lovingly instead.

His smile was permanent, giving everyone a feeling,  
That they were his best friend, a spiritual form of healing,  
When people were around him, they would see him always the tallest,  
Yet when he was alone, he appeared normal even to the smallest.

His blessed eyebrows were arched, slender and almost joined together,  
But his handsomeness ensured they never touched each other,  
One beautiful sunnah that we often neglect,  
Is putting surma in our eyes daily, so now never forget.

A life which remains best till the end of time,  
His manners, conduct and character have been preserved, all sublime,  
The people who try to criticize always end in failure,  
The pearl of humanity, He will always be our saviour.

# A LESSON IN REPENTANCE

Part 1 of 2

*Written by Sidra Faisal*



“Sometimes I feel that my parents are my step-parents as they always irritate me, sometimes by scolding, sometimes by their lecture, and I am fully tired of them both. I should leave the house,” Ali said to himself in aggression and also loudly.

“Ali, stop there,” his mother exclaimed.

“I am going to my friend's house, don't call me, it's enough!” Ali opened the door and stormed out.

The story was that Ali was regularly going out with his friends and now also today he wanted to eat snacks, but his mother scolded him, “I am not giving you any money take from your pocket money and also I am not giving you permission.”

Actually, Ali's mother was anxious about his health, which was why she hadn't given him any permission.

Ali replied, “I have already taken the pocket money and you are very miserly, you are only worried about money, not my choice.” Ali couldn't understand his mum's intention and started to debate with his mum and dad and his mother called him, so he went to his friend house.

He was on the way to Raza's house when suddenly he thought of something from

which his situation can roll out in his society or somewhere else, that people can gossip about him. He knew that Raza is not that type of person who made Ali's story a gossip, but if people see him that he is living in Raza's house, they would find it really strange.

But he didn't know where he should stay and spend his night. He didn't want to go home because he was stubborn and didn't want to say sorry to his parents. After thinking for a while he selected a railway station to spend his night. He thought that when he would awake in the morning the next day, he would go somewhere to find a job and he made all plans that I would be stable without my parents and one day when I would become rich then I would go to my parents and show them that I didn't need them both.

After building castles in the air, he noticed that he didn't have money to reach there, suddenly he remembered that he took some money from his pocket money to buy snacks, and then his mother had scolded him to not go out. He took an auto and went to the railway station to spend his night.

When he reached a deal, it was about to be night. He sat on one bench and tried to sleep on the bench. The bench was very uncomfortable and it was very difficult for him. He



## ***But Ali's negative side was telling him that you did the correct thing and you can survive without your parents.***

didn't have any option to lay down on the floor because he didn't have a blanket or something to lay down on the floor and the floor was pretty cold. Then he tried to sleep and realized that without parents life is really difficult.

But Ali's negative side was telling him that you did the correct thing and you can survive without your parents. However his positive side was telling him you are wrong and you can't survive without parents you should say sorry to them, your parents were extremely anxious for you. He was very confused about what he should do.

Suddenly he saw someone coming towards him. When he came to Ali, he asked Ali, "What is your name? What are you doing here?"

Ali was thinking, "Should I respond to this guy or not?" He was thinking because his looks were quite ghastly. He looked like a gangster. He wore a white shirt and black jeans, his hair was pretty messy, and there was blood on his lips, middle of his cheekbone and eyes were tremendously black.

But then Ali replied, "My name is Ali, and why should I tell you what I am doing here?"

The person said, "You are very sharp minded."

Ali didn't reply. Then he forced Ali to tell his story. Ali said "I want to sleep, please go from here."

He said,"I can help you if you are in any trouble."

Ali felt irritated and said, "I don't want to talk to you!" and pushed the guy.

Now the guy was there staring at Ali and then suddenly Ali heard the sound of a sling. Certainly Ali felt pain in his head, and he saw that someone hit the shaft on his head, and he fainted on the bench.

He woke up and saw that a boy was trying to awaken him by splashing sparkling water on him. He sat up and his hands were tied by a rope.

There were almost 6 people who were standing around the head of the gang, and every single one of them had guns. The Chief of the gang asked him, "Now tell me your story! Otherwise I will fire you with the gun right now."



# AROUND THE WORLD IN 5 WEEKS

## A Course Review on "Political Maps"

Ummu Abdullah Abdurrahman gives us a glimpse of all the fun and frolic that rolled out during the journey around the world in a Radiant Tarbiyah online course

*"Assalamu'alaikum, hello my friends."*

A friendly greeting with a cheerful face started the class every Monday and Wednesday evening, at 6pm Pakistan time. My son, Quasim, was eagerly waiting for the class since 5.55pm as he did not want to be late at any cost. He likes the course, he likes the teacher.

When we saw the advertisement for the course "Let's Memorise Political Map in a Fun Way" by Ms. Arita, we did not think twice to register my 10-year-old son, Abdurrahman Quasim. First, we know her from our previous experience in another course, "Maths Tricks". We were satisfied with the way she taught her class last time. She is an amazing teacher, a Latvian by origin, living in Ireland. She conducted class in an amazingly fun and friendly way. Learning Maths is not scarier in her class. Second, the course fee is quite economical, Rs 1500 or USD 9 for five weeks, with a total of 10 sessions. Third, my son loves to learn geography. He is fond of exploring different countries' facts; maps, flags, languages, and other cultural aspects. He dreams to travel around the world someday.

Before the class started on January 2nd, 2023, the Radiant Tarbiyah admin formed a WhatsApp group for our class and started sharing some files that we will need during the course. We got three kinds of colourful pdf files in our initial class; the name of the countries, the countries' facts, and geography maps of seven continents. Since the course title was something to help kids to memorise the political geography of the countries, flashcards were needed as helping kits. Parents were supposed to take print out the pdf files and cut it as flashcards.

Ms.Arita divided the five week lessons of political geography level one into five rounds. One round consisted of ten countries, unlike the last round which was less than ten countries. Hence kids learnt the countries' facts in a fun and engaging way. Not only did they have to figure out the location of the countries on the map (in less than 30 seconds), but they also had to learn their respective official countries name, flags, capital, language, and cool facts. The last one was interesting, it was about something unique that might distinguish one country from another. Some of the examples of Countries' Cool Facts are as below,



*“In Finland, the sun never sets in the summer, which is called the Midnight Sun, and it doesn’t rise in the winter. A sauna can be found in most of the homes in Finland.”*

*“Cameroon was one of the wettest places in the world and was the first African country to make it to the quarter-finals in the soccer World Cup.”*

She demonstrated how to say ‘nǐ hǎo (it means ‘hello’ in Chinese), along with the tones and gestures. As a person who has lived in China for some years, I kind of agree with her way. Other cultural aspects were also given during the course; in some countries it’s considered impolite to wear a hat indoors, it was suggested to remove shoes

***The teaching method is a matter. When I was in school, my geography teacher mostly encouraged us to just memorise it, rote learning. Some teachers taught in a dry and strict way. But the case was entirely different in this class.***

The teaching method is a matter. When I was in school, my geography teacher mostly encouraged us to just memorise it, rote learning. Some teachers taught in a dry and strict way. But the case was entirely different in this class. Apart from that rote learning method, she added a lot of information associated with the countries. When kids learnt about China, they did not only learn about its location on the map, but she also taught some words in Chinese.

before entering the house, etc. During the whole course, kids were assigned some homework task. Ms Arita just gave homework in brief, and let kids use their wild imagination to apply it. The first homework was to point out the location of the country on the map in less than 30 seconds. Most kids did it together with their moms and recorded their learning in a video. For my kid, I let him do it by himself. He recorded his learning using role-play method, acted as a spidermen

## Cambodian Pyramid



***The teaching method is a matter. When I was in school, my geography teacher mostly encouraged us to just memorise it, rote learning. Some teachers taught in a dry and strict way. But the case was entirely different in this class.***



to point out the countries' location and presented in Russian, with the help of his brother, a 13-year-boy (The video is there on Radiant Tarbiyah youtube channel). He chose this way since the teacher understands Russian. So, he learnt how to speak with the help of Google Translation.

For the second homework, kids were supposed to draw a map of any country with some details of the country's facts. This time my kid did not draw a map, but he built a 3D map of Turkey. It took one week to complete the project. Along with the embossed map, they made a lapbook about Turkey containing Turkey's history, capital, language, and products. During their research they found some cool facts- Santa Claus was born in Turkey! When the kids learnt about Oman and its shipping industry, the teacher assigned homework to build a ship. Instead of making origami paper ships, my kid presented the ship using cardboard and some disposal materials. He accomplished this project in less than two weeks. He named the ship, "The Atlantis." He was very much sure that people can travel around the world with his "Atlantis" in less than 80 days (we referred to a novel by Jules Verne, "Around the World in 80 days").

When the teacher took the kids to Egypt (virtually), she assigned them hands-on activity to make a pyramid. I found students' interests were improved judging by the variety of creative projects they presented in the WhatsApp group; Egyptian pyramids made using papers, legos, cards, etc.

However, my son did not intend to make an Egyptian pyramid. Instead, he made a Cambodian pyramid diorama, Koh Ker Temple—a remote archaeological site in Northern Cambodia. Well, with this one project he learnt political geography, history, math-geometry, arts, architecture, etc.

The last homework was to create a country, an imaginary country. Some kids presented their imaginary kids in Pizza country, Ice cream country, etc. My kid thought about drawing an imaginary country map on paper which actually required serious urban planning skills. Since Quasim loves the rabbit, Bunny cartoons character, even made himself as a "Bunny Sultan" leading an imaginary "Bunny Empire", and is crazily fond of eating carrots, so my kids decided to draw a map of Bunny Kingdom. He finished the task two days before the due date; a detailed map of Bunny Kingdom, along with symbols and legend that explained the infrastructures inside: railroads, stations, schools, houses, bank, shop, restaurant, offices, bank, and palace. Since it was an imaginary fairyland, they needed to add: carrot woods, bunny jungle, corn beach, etc. The Bunny Kingdom is presented on colourful paper. When the teacher asked him where he got this idea, he honestly replied, "From the Minecraft game." Some of my friends who also enrolled their kids in this class were highly impressed with the course. Their kids learnt a lot, and most importantly they enjoyed it. We travelled around the world in five weeks, from home.



Ramadan takes place during the ninth month of the Islamic calendar.

Ramadan is a time to spend with family and friends.

Ramadan is a time for Muslims to focus on their religion, loved ones and other people who are less fortunate than them.

During Ramadan, many Muslims do not eat or drink from sunrise to sunset. This is called fasting.

# RAMADAN

Muslims celebrate Ramadan by giving and being charitable.

Fasting helps to teach Muslims self-discipline, self-restraint and generosity.

At the end of Ramadan, Muslims have a big celebration called Eid ul Fitr.

Many Muslims have one meal, known as the suhoor, just before sunrise and another, known as the iftar, after sunset.



# HADHRAT KHADIJA رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهَا



**Zawjah Junaid Mukaty's** narration of the uplifting life of Hadhrat Khadija رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهَا makes us fall in love with our beloved mother all over again

Ummul Moumineen Hadhrat Khadija R.A was the first wife of the Prophet ﷺ. She was the daughter of Khuwaylid ibn Asad who was a merchant and her mother Fatima bint Za'idah was the third cousin of Bibi Amna, the Prophet's SAW mother.

### **Business**

Hadhrat Khadija herself was a very successful merchant. She always earned double in comparison to the other merchants whose caravans travelled with hers. This was a special blessing upon her from Allah S.W.T and she never misused this blessing as she happily clothed and fed the poor and helped her relatives financially too. She was therefore famous with the title Ameerat Quraish or princess of Quraish.

She never travelled with her caravans but she employed other men to do so on her behalf. Once she was sending her merchandise to Syria and she needed someone to go with it. She had heard about Muhammed ﷺ who belonged to Abu Talib's family and was honoured with the titles Al-Sadiq (the truthful) and Al-Amin (the trustworthy). She therefore hired him and also sent her slave Maysarah with him to observe his actions and manners.

### **Marriage to Prophet ﷺ**

Upon return, Maysarah gave accounts of the

high character of Prophet ﷺ and his honest way of doing business. The slave also told Khadija R.A that on the return journey, Muhammad ﷺ stopped to rest under a tree. The monk there, Nestora, said that none but a Prophet ever sat beneath that tree. She then consulted her cousin Warqa bin Nawful, who was a pious Christian scholar who confirmed that this is the kind of person who is mentioned in bible to be the next and the last Prophet. Hadhrat Khadija then propped the Prophet ﷺ! Their marriage was arranged by Abu Talib.

Hadhrat Khadija RTA was 40 and Muhammad ﷺ was 25 when they got married and lived together for 25 years. She was an ideal wife who stood beside her husband and helped him in every way. She was a famous and well respected female in pagan regime although generally females were treated like animals. Allah had chosen the best for his Prophet SAW. Hadhrat Muhammad ﷺ did not marry again as long as she was alive.

### **Children**

Hadhrat khadija RTA had married twice before she married the Prophet ﷺ. Both her husbands had died. She bore children from both of them. It is said that she and Muhammad ﷺ had six children, two sons and four daughters. Both the sons, Qasim and Abdul-



***“She believed in me when nobody else did, she embraced Islam when people disbelieved me and she helped and comforted me when there was none to lend me a helping hand.”***

lah also known as Tahir and Tayyab died in their childhood. Daughters were Zainab, Ruqayyah, Umme Kulsoom and Fatima. (May Allah be pleased with them all).

### **Religion**

It is reported that she neither believed nor worshipped the idols in pre-Islamic days. Her piety and chastity gave her another name, Tahira, the pure. The Prophet ﷺ got his Prophethood after they were wedded for 15 years and she got the honour of being the first person to accept Islam. After the first revelation in cave Hira, Muhammad ﷺ came back worried and frightened to find his loving and caring wife consoling him by saying:

*Allah would surely protect you from any danger, and would never allow anyone to revile you as you are a man of peace and reconciliation and always extended hand of friendship to all.*

This proves that she was extremely far-sighted. After the declaration of Prophethood, the Kuffar of Makkah started torturing the Prophet ﷺ and his followers by every mean possible. Hadhrat Khadija R.A always supported and consoled her husband and helped him fulfill his prophetic mission in those extremely difficult times. She helped him financially as well as morally. People of Makkah became the worst enemies of Muslims. They harassed them and adopted every possible cruel manner to bring the Muslims back to their old religion. On those critical moments when oppressors wanted to sabotage Islam this woman spent her money to pay ransom for Muslim slaves, feed the hungry Muslims and provide them with basic necessities of life.

Her comfort and encouragement was always there whenever the Prophet ﷺ faced trials. After her death also, Muhammad ﷺ often remembered her love, affection and immense support which he used to express with these

words:

*She believed in me when nobody else did, she embraced Islam when people disbelieved me and she helped and comforted me when there was none to lend me a helping hand.*

### **Death**

This princess of Quraysh did not only invest her wealth in the way of Islam, she also bore the physical hardships when the Kuffar declared political and economical boycott, during which Muslims were forced to live in the trench Shaab abi Talib where they went for days without food or drink. In these moments of trial she didn't leave her husband's side as she had firm and fervent faith in Allah ﷻ and his messenger SAW. These three years of tough hardships made her very weak and she finally met Allah SWT in Ramadhan in the tenth year of Prophethood.

### **Lesson from Hadhrat Khadija's RTA life**

Abdullah ibn Abbas (RA) Narrated that the four most graceful & great women of the universe are:

1. Khadijah bint Khuwailid (RA)
2. Fatima (RA) bint Muhammad (pbuh)
3. Mariam bint Imran AS
4. Asiyah bint Mazahim (wife of Feraun or pharaoh)

These words prove that Khadija (R.A) was very dear to Allah and his Prophet ﷺ. The attributes of this righteous woman must also reflect in our lives, no matter if we are a male or female. Let us ponder on the lessons we can gather from her remarkable life.

**Far sightedness:** She could guess that Muhammad ﷺ would be the best for her merchandise and afterwards she knew they will go along very well as spouses.

**Pious:** She showered her soul and wealth for the new religion. Her devotion for Islam was unlimited. She was highly respected in society due to her piety.

**Continued on pg 19**

# Ayesha's Awakening!

Written by  
**Sana Shahid**

Once upon a time, there lived a young girl named Ayesha. Ayesha was a bright and ambitious student, determined to succeed in her studies and her extracurricular activities. She was a straight-A student, a member of the debate team, and a volunteer at a local charity organization. But despite her many achievements, Ayesha had a problem. She often found herself too busy with her studies and activities to make time for her five daily prayers. She would often miss her prayers and feel guilty about it.

Ayesha's parents were devout Muslims, and they were worried about her lack of religious observance. They tried to talk to her about the importance of prayer and how it connects one to their faith and to Allah, but Ayesha would brush it off, insisting that she was too busy. She believed that her religion and prayer should be secondary to her studies and other activities.

One day, while walking home from school, Ayesha saw an elderly woman sitting on the sidewalk, surrounded by a group of people. Curious, Ayesha walked over to see what was happening. The woman was reciting verses from the Quran and explaining the meaning behind them. Ayesha was captivated by the woman's words and the peaceful look on her face. She had never seen anyone so at peace



and content.

The woman noticed Ayesha standing there and asked her if she would like to join in. Ayesha hesitated at first, but something about the woman's words and the peaceful atmosphere made her want to stay. She sat down and listened as the woman recited more verses and explained the importance of prayer in connecting with Allah.

Ayesha hesitated at first, but something about the woman's words and the peaceful atmosphere made her want to stay. She sat down and listened as the woman recited more verses and explained the importance of prayer in connecting with Allah.

Ayesha came to understand that she had been overlooking something significant. She had been so focused on her studies and her other activities that she had forgotten the most important thing of all: her connection to Allah. She thanked the woman and promised to start praying regularly.

From that day on, Ayesha made sure to set aside time for her daily prayers. She started waking up early in the morning to perform her Fajr prayer, and she would make sure to

*As the days passed, Ayesha noticed a change in her life, she felt more peaceful and content, her grades even improved and her relationships with her family and friends became stronger. She realized that by making time for her daily prayers, she was not missing out on anything, but rather gaining something much more valuable.*

take a break during her lunchtime at school to perform her Zuhr prayer. She also made sure to perform her Asr, Maghrib and Isha prayers at the right time. She found that it helped her to focus and feel more balanced in her daily life. She started to feel more connected to her faith and to Allah, and she was grateful for the guidance of the woman she met on the sidewalk.

As the days passed, Ayesha noticed a change in her life, she felt more peaceful and content, her grades even improved and her relationships with her family and friends became stronger. She realized that by making time for her daily prayers, she was not missing out on anything, but rather gaining something much more valuable.

Our Prophet Muhammad ﷺ was once asked,

*“Which deed is the dearest to Allah?” and he replied, “TO offer the prayers at their early stated fixed times.”*

(Sahih al-Bukhari 527).

Therefore, we should also make an effort to pray Salah regularly like Ayesha. It will definitely make our relationship with Allah stronger and our lives better, In shaa Allah!

### **Continued from pg 17**

**Professionalism:** She gave her agents an appropriate share on their services who were always happy to serve her again.

**Soft heartedness:** Excess of wealth did not make her arrogant. She was generous and spent on needy before Islam too.

**Ideal spouse:** She loved, respected, trusted, comforted, supported and helped her husband by all means. She believed in his mission and stood beside him till her last breath.

**Perfect mother:** Her daughters turned out to be exemplary women. Fatima bint Muhammad R.A is the head of the Jannati women.

**Patient:** Her sons died in their childhood. But she remained patient. The hardships that she bore when the Muslims were in Shaib Abi Talib were huge. But she never complained.

Once Muhammad (S.A.W) was meditating in cave of Hira when Allah send Jibraeel (A.S) with the message:

“Oh Allah’s Messenger! Khadija is coming to you with a vessel of seasoned food or drink. When she comes to you, offer her greetings from her Allah, the Exalted and Glorious, and on my behalf and give her glad tidings of a palace of jewels in Paradise wherein there is no noise and no toil.”

screws  
n  
bolts

# KIDS CORNER

What's in the box?



PUZZLE  
TIME

## AUTUMN FOREST SEARCHING GAME



Find these objects  
in the picture.



# Funny riddles

**Q1: Why was the broom late?**

*Ans: It over-swept!*

**Q2: What did the paper say to the pencil?**

*Ans: Write on!*

**Q3: What do you call a belt made of watches?**

*Ans: A waist of time!*

**Q4: Where do sailboats go when they're sick?**

*Ans: To the dock!*

**Q5: How does the moon cut his hair?**

*Ans: Eclipse it!*

**Q6: What do you do when a lemon gets sick?**

*Ans: You give it lemon-aid!*

**Q7: What's worse than raining cats and dogs?**

*Ans: Hailing taxis!*

**Q8: How can you tell if a tree is a dogwood tree?**

*Ans: By its bark!*

**Q9: What do astronauts do before throwing a party?**

*Ans: They planet!*

**Q10: Which hand is it better to write with?**

*Ans: Neither, it's better to write with a pencil!*

# Do's and Don'ts of Ramadan

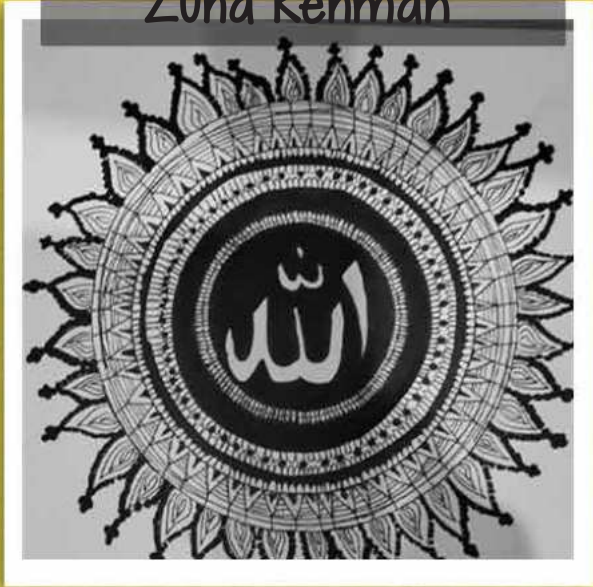
By a Staff Writer

<b>DO...</b>	make intention before the start of each fast.	This is obligatory
<b>DO...</b>	take suhoor (the meal before fasting starts). The difference between the fast of a Muslim and the fast of others is the taking of suhoor (from Muslim)	This is recommended
<b>DO...</b>	delay the suhoor to as close to Fajr as possible.	This is recommended
<b>DO...</b>	hasten to break the fast at Maghrib time	This is recommended
<b>DO...</b>	try to break your fast with dates, as this is a sunnah. If dates aren't available, break your fast with water	This is recommended
<b>DO...</b>	Exercise patience	
<b>DO...</b>	Ask Allah for His Mercy and Forgiveness	
<b>DO...</b>	Engage in Islamic acts of worship and good, eg. Give in charity, be good to your neighbour, show good character	
<b>DO...</b>	Read the Qur'an. The Messenger of Allah ﷺ said: 'The best among you is he who learns the Holy Qur'an and teaches it.'	From Bukhari & Muslim
<b>DO...</b>	Increase your Islamic knowledge	
<b>DO...</b>	Get rid of any innovated practices from your habits	
<b>DO...</b>	Make dua to Allah frequently during the day and night	
<b>DO...</b>	Be generous. 'The Messenger of Allah ﷺ was the most generous of men and he was the most generous during Ramadan when Jibreel would visit him every night and recite the Holy Qur'an to him.'	From Bukhari & Muslim

<b>DO...</b>	Provide something to a person who is fasting, to break his fast 'He who provides something to the observer of fast for breaking the fast earns the same reward as the one who observes the fast, without diminishing.'	From Ahmad & Tirmidhi
<b>DO...</b>	Pray the night prayer	
<b>DO...</b>	Seek Laylatul Qadr in the last 10 days of Ramadan	
<b>DO...</b>	Give your Zakat-ul-Fitr before Eid	This is obligatory
<b>DON'T...</b>	Deliberately eat anything during the fast, unless you are not physically able to complete the fast. You are forgiven if you have forgotten you were fasting	This breaks the fast
<b>DON'T...</b>	Deliberately drink anything during the fast, unless you are not physically able to complete the fast. You are forgiven if you have forgotten you were fasting	This breaks the fast
<b>DON'T...</b>	lie	From Bukhari & Muslim
<b>DON'T...</b>	Slander	From Bukhari & Muslim
<b>DON'T...</b>	Backbite	From Bukhari & Muslim
<b>DON'T...</b>	Swear or use other bad language	From Bukhari & Muslim
<b>DON'T...</b>	Raise your voice or argue	From Bukhari & Muslim
<b>DON'T...</b>	Engage in indecent actions	From Bukhari
<b>DON'T...</b>	Deliberately make yourself vomit	This breaks the fast
<b>DON'T...</b>	Take injections or drugs that are used instead of food	This breaks the fast
<b>DON'T...</b>	Delay breaking your fast	
<b>DON'T...</b>	Smoke or take drugs	
<b>DON'T...</b>	Fast on Eid	
<b>DON'T...</b>	Forget that if you are very ill, you are excused from fasting and can make up the fast later or give fidyah (a compensation to feed people)	

A showcase of lovely assignments by the students of Sketching, zentangles, Stippling & Charcoal course MashAllah

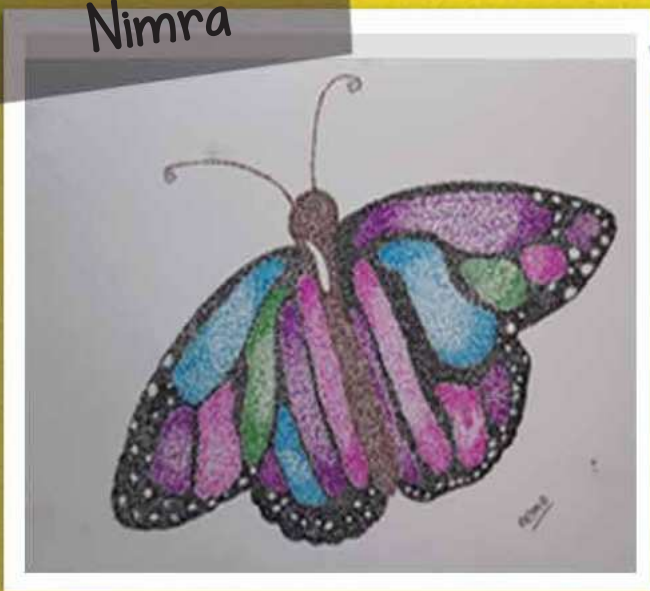
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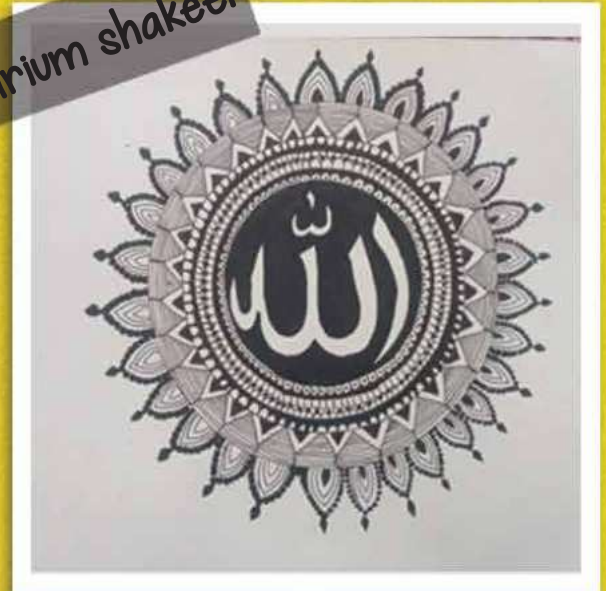
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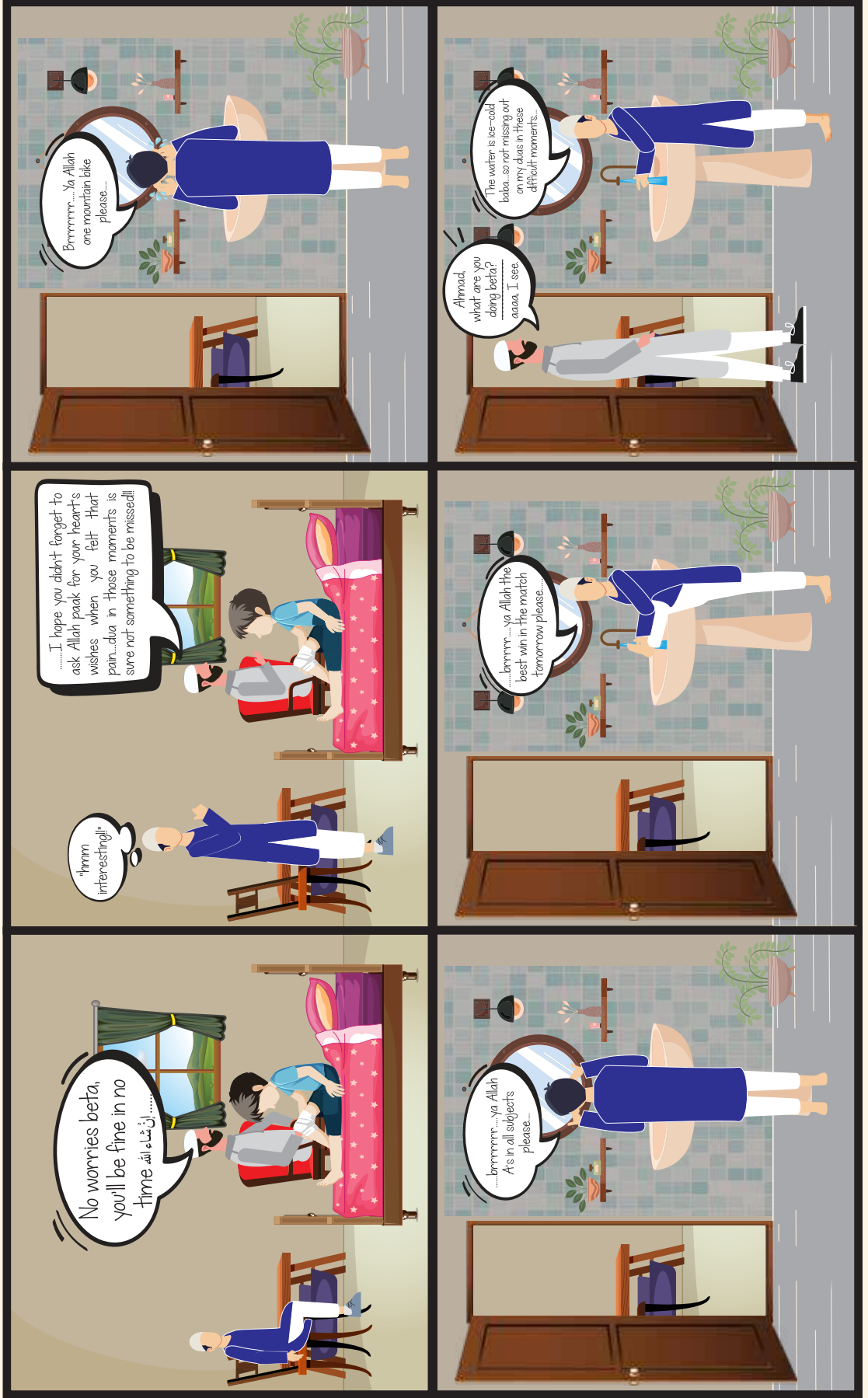


# Being Cool in the Cold

Concept by Zawjah Zia

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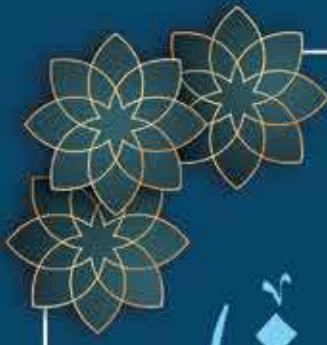
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