



LIGHTHOUSE

The Magazine for Muslim Youth

Sawabatin

LIGHT FROM THE QUR'AN

‘O you who believe, when the call is sounded for prayer on Friday, come quickly for the remembrance of Allah and leave off traffic. That is better for you, if you know.’

Al-Jumu 'ah (The Congregation) Verse 9.

Allah has sent a whole chapter, or *surah*, about the Friday prayer, to show how important it is. It is a good idea to recite this *surah* on Fridays' to remind ourselves that Allah has asked us to leave whatever we are doing and come to pray together. It does not take very long, but requires that we break away from our daily routine and plan to take time out for Allah.

Can you think why Allah wants us to leave school and work and come to pray together?

Sometimes it may seem that we will miss something important if we take a break for *Jumu'ah*, but who do you think gives us that idea?

Who controls all the good that can come to us, the good grades, awards and scores?

LIGHT FROM THE PROPHET KINDNESS TO CHILDREN

Our Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah upon him), the last of the Prophets, loved children very much and was very kind to them. Whenever he found time he used to play with them.

Ramadan, the month of fasting, had ended and Eid-ul-Fitr was being celebrated. The poor and needy were given money so that they could also celebrate. The Eid prayer and the sermon were observed. After that the Eid fair was being held, where there was a lot of fun, especially for the children. There was nice food, toys for children, and carousels for riding. Children in new clothes were going to the fair with their parents. There was a lot of laughter and excitement all around. It was then that the kind eyes of the Prophet (pbuh) noticed a small boy in torn clothes standing all alone under a palm tree. He was looking very sadly at the children and wanted so much to celebrate like them. The Prophet (pbuh) then knew that the child was an orphan. He went to him and smilingly said, "Let me be your father for the day," and gently put him on his shoulders.

The Prophet's talking and joking soon brought a smile to his face. They both went to the fair ground.

What a kind and gentle soul our Prophet (pbuh) was!

Complete the story and send it to Lighthouse:

It was a usual kind of day, when Asad and Bilal got home and did what they always did: attack the fridge. "Kids, I made some muffins and they are on the counter", called their mother from upstairs. Four muffins and two hundred crumbs everywhere later, they were ready to head back outside. Their mother wanted to hear about their day, but the boys were in a hurry to get to Robert's house. He had told them about his new Nintendo Wii game and they couldn't wait to try it out. They had known Robert for three years now and so were allowed to go to his house sometimes. Their parents would not let them go to anyone's home without first making friends with the parents and making sure they had similar values even if they had a different religion. Soon the boys were knocking at his door. Robert answered and seemed really excited. "Hey guys, come on," he said, "I was hoping you would come by. I almost called but your mom always asks so many questions." Asad and Bilal went downstairs to the family room where they were met by two older boys. They hadn't known Robert had other friends over too. "Meet Kurt and Dan," said Robert, "I met these guys at a party. They said they had some really cool movies, so I asked them over today cos my mom had to go somewhere in a hurry". "Movies," said Asad, "but I thought we were going to play your new Nintendo game."

"Oh you guys are such bores, we can play Nintendo anytime, our parents won't get mad, but this is an R-rated movie that we can only watch alone". Asad and Bilal looked at each other. Their parents would only let them watch PG movies, when they were with them. They would never let them watch an R-rated movie. But they were alone at Robert's house and it was unlikely that their parents would find out. Asad was two years older than Bilal and he knew that probably Bilal would go along with what he did, simply because he looked up to him and trusted him to make the right choices. Then, Asad had never watched an R-rated movie and was curious about it. Plus he wanted to look cool in front of Robert and his new ultra-cool friends. It seemed all four boys were looking at him and he needed to think fast and decide.....

What will Asad and Bilal decide, what would you advise them.....

Sixteen fun things to do for Eid

1. Decorate your house. Surprise your neighbors by putting up lights outside. Tell them about your celebration.
2. Clean out your room and **donate** unused books and games to someone who could use them.
3. Make an Eid wish list for yourself.
4. Make an Eid wish list for **giving to others**. What would you like to give your family and friends?
5. Make an Eid **wish list for the world**. What changes would you like to see in the world that would make it a **better place** for everyone to live in?
6. Make your own, **homemade** Eid cards to mail to faraway family and friends.
7. Search for an easy recipe to make an Eid treat **all by yourself**.
8. Adopt a plant in Ramadan and take care of it. Decorate it for Eid.
9. Plan to **visit or call** someone on Eid who you know is lonely or is going through rough times.
10. Try to secretly buy or make presents for everyone in your family. They may be something very small, but when you **prepare it with great love**, it will make a wonderful gift.
11. The Prophet Muhammad (SAW) used to eat something sweet before leaving for Eid prayers. Remember to do that as you are rushing out the door and plan for a big breakfast when you return.
12. Revise your takbeeraat. Remember! The practice of the Prophet Muhammad (SAW) is to say, '**Allah hu Akbar, Allah hu Akbar, La ilaha illAllah, ho wa Allah ho Akbar, Allah ho Akbar wa lillah hil hamd**', while on the way to the mosque. It means, 'Allah is Greater, Allah is Greater, there is no God but Allah, Allah is Greater, Allah is Greater, and to Him belongs all Praise'.
13. Plan an Eid party in which **kids make up** funny games or a quiz, for the parents. Watch your parents compete and have fun!

14. Invite someone over for Eid, who is **new in the area** and may not know a lot of Muslims.
15. Read up on how to perform the Eid prayer **before** you go to the Mosque. Look in the magazine for an article on it.
16. Make a special treat, or take candy to share with the kids in the mosque.
17. Try to say Eid mubarak and hug **everyone** on your side of the mosque.

Being kind to others

By Aarif Ahmad. Age 5, Minnesota, USA.

Sometimes I make mistakes
And sometimes Muslims come up with mistakes
You can clean up your mistake
If it's a mess, wipe it up,
You be kind to others by doing things right,
Say assalamo alaikum'
You should have a smiling face and not be shy
You should help others
If someone is very sad,
You should make a smiling face to make them glad.
Be good manners, everyone is good,
Islam is not bad and everyone behaves in Islam.

Collecting Money for the Quran

By Malaika Sahukhan. Age 5, Vancouver, Canada.

Assalamo Alaikum

My name is Malaika Sahukhan

My dadima (grandma) and dadaji (grandpa) came to visit me in Vancouver and we had a lovely time together.

It was my fifth birthday and my Chacha (uncle) and Chachi (aunty) also came to visit me. I made some flowers with crepe papers and it was very beautiful. I sold the flowers in the family and collected \$130.00 for the free Quran distribution in the world. It is nice to collect money for the Quran. It makes me very happy. My Mummum (mother) and Baba (father) always tell me to save money for the Quran. I like to give more money for the Quran and for Holy Prophet Muhammad. I hope all our sisters and brothers like to make more flowers and sell it for the Holy Quran.

Eid al Fitr

No ordinary day would start out this way,
A visit to the mosque, while takbirs we say,
Seeing all the Muslims hug with happy faces,
Hearing happy chatter while going many places,
Meeting all our friends, dressed up in their best
Overjoyed that we have passed Ramadan, the test
Sharing and caring, giving and receiving all day,
What a wonderful time, but don't forget to pray,
Ramadan is over, but the rules of life are the same,
Work hard, play fair, love Allah and bless His name.

New email address for Lighthouse Magazine

Lighthouseahmadi@gmail.com

Please take time to write for your magazine. We welcome stories, jokes, comments, questions, drawings and words of wisdom from our readers of all ages. JazakAllah khair!

Design a cover contest

Design the next cover of Lighthouse Magazine. Use your creativity to draw, sketch or paint a great cover. Send in your designs and the winner will receive a special prize!

OOPS!

Some mistakes were pointed out in the last issue. The editor apologizes for them and wishes to correct them.

In the beginning of the **quiz**, it said that SAW means, may Prophet Muhammad and his ummah be blessed. Actually the word '*aal-ehi*' was missed and that is the word that means '**ummah**' or nation. Please add that word to your blessing for the Prophet Muhammad (Sallalaho alaihe wa aal-ehi wasallam). We don't want to leave ourselves out from the blessing!

Vol. 2 of the magazine had a short note about the '**Ahle Kitaab**' or people of the book. While usually they are thought of as Jews and Christians, the truth is that all nations of the world, to whom Prophets were sent and they were given Books of guidance, come in this term. Allah tells us in the Quran that Prophets were sent to every nation. So it means that the Hindus, Buddhists etc. all come within the term '**Ahle Kitaab**', or people of the book. The Quran uses an honorable term to describe them, calling them people of faith. We should also honor and respect the followers of other religions.

Answer to word search:

DEF**KABAH**QREUAN**TH**FERSDACKJULIHKI
HUYREHYAJUMGARFTUONAHJJA**IK**NKKJU
KKHYTEBJJB**GK**JHKJABKRUBAHADIJEEAL
SURHAGH**JUMMAH**JUMKADNAHMEDCA
LIKERTVMBN**JO**AMCCAREAGTKNJHBIHBA
JURMHWTVHF**SKI**UMNGBVFERBKKOY**TBJ**
JUMAJUBHUY**QURAN**LOTREASTUBEADJKI
ILAOIKLOHKI**U**HGGNBFGBDRYBGYUKBOIE
J**MOSQUE**B**GKOG****MADINA**HO**IE**STRUNB
INAMADKIOBKRGEKHADUIFI**JH**GGBJB**TJH**
READJB**JBM**VBCCGFYHG**JHJ**MADNAHME
DJGHBUGHKGUCQURMANU**R**JUBJGKBJNJ
KHADIJALLIEAQURKHAHU**ABUBAKR**NBJ

A journal of fasting and Eid

Early morning.....It is 5 a.m. and I am wide awake. I sit under the table waiting for the family to wake. Oh, there is Jameela, shuffling her slippers and yawning as she flops down the stairs. She flips on the light and opens the fridge. I am in luck. She is fasting and, oh, I think I can hear Yasser, her Dad too. He always blows his nose real hard in the morning, almost like a car horn, startling me each time. Yasser leaves more crumbs on the carpet than Jameela, so I am very happy. Food for us all! Yippee, I mean Alhamdolillah. Ants don't fast but they still love

Ramadan. I carry my crumbs and move slowly towards the wall. Yikes, Yasser swings his feet suddenly. Whew, almost squished me. Life is tough. I should move faster, but I will be back. I love watching this family and seeing how they try to change for the better in Ramadan.

Around lunchtime.....It must be the weekend as everyone is home. Luckily Jameela's brother Jamal had a messy snack of cereal and scattered crumbs all under his seat. I get to work, noticing that Jameela does not scold her brother for being messy. She clears up his mess from the table (I hope she does not sweep the carpet!) and then suddenly screams and jumps in pain. Some of Jamal's pointy Lego pieces were left on the carpet and Jameela steps right onto them. I hold my breath (yes, ants can do that). I think that will make Jameela mad and start a fight with her brother. He is always leaving his toys around and getting in trouble. But, today Jameela is fasting and fighting is just not allowed. I watch Jameela as she rubs her foot and hobbles to the freezer for an ice-pack. Her face is red but she seems to be holding up well. Bravo Jameela! She controlled her temper and forgave her brother. I am so proud of her. I wish I could tell her Dad about it.

Iftar time.....Ooooo! This is exciting. I always love this time. It's the end of Ramadan and they will find out soon if tomorrow is Eid or not. And I hope for Eid because they usually have a big party with lots of kids and that means pizza crumbs everywhere and hopefully a piece of Eid cake will fall on the floor. I can always count on Jamal for that. But wait, I should watch them and see what's happening. Yasser just came in with some fried fish for Iftar and Jameela made a fruit salad. Jamal runs to his Dad and asks for the donuts he wanted. Yasser puts his hand to his head. Uh oh, he forgot. Again! And Jamal even called to remind him. That man needs some sleep. Now Jamal is going to have one of his mega tantrums and it is going to be ugly. His poor Dad is fasting and looks ready to drop anyway. My poor nerves can't really take more drama from this family. But wait a minute. I cannot hear the siren-like wails of Jamal. He looks quite upset but I can see the little guy is being brave and controlling himself. Way to go Jamal. Even though he is too young to fast, he knows about self-control. I hope his Dad gets him a bunch of donuts on Eid.



Later that night.....Phew I am so tired today. Carrying all that food back to my anthill and keeping track of the family's Ramadan progress. Wait, is that Jameela laughing? Oh she is on the phone, and wait a minute.....yes it is Eid tomorrow. I am so happy I do a little happy ant dance (that is so cute to watch but you have to bend down low). Cake for everyone! Yikes, who is that? Oh Allah, help me, Jamal is bending under the table, peeking down at me and calling his sister. Oh, what if he squashes me? But wait, Jameela comes too and bends down to peek at me. Her nose looks huge from here! I try to smile and wish I could tell them that I am a friend and care

about them. Allah created ants for a purpose and we don't harm anyone. I am trembling inside as Jamal lifts his slipper above me. This is it, and just before Eid too. I want to close my eyes but cannot. I see Jameela hold Jamal's hand and put the slipper down. She is telling him that he should not kill an insect that is not harming him. My knobby knees feel weak with relief. Jamal brings a leftover crumb from his sandwich for me. Eid mubarak everyone!

CAN YOU SEARCH THE INDEX OF THE QUR'AN FOR THE WORD EID? WHERE DID YOU FIND IT?

An Eid Story

By Aafia Ahmad, age 8

One very special day Fatima woke up sleepily. She fumbled into the bathroom. Then she went downstairs. Her mom said, "happy Eid!" Fatima got very excited. "Where are my Eid presents?", Fatima asked. "I'll give them to you when we finish our Eid prayers", said her mom, "we'll be going to the Masjid to pray". Eid was the day Fatima and her mom were waiting for. Her dad was in Pakistan right now. Fatima finally finished breakfast. She and her mom got into the car and began driving to the Masjid. Soon they were there! As Fatima got in the Masjid, she said, "look how many Muslims there are here!" Her mom told her that each year about a hundred Muslims came here on Eid-al fitr and Eid-al adha. Then they heard the adhan. "Let's go", said Fatima, and they sat down. Soon enough the prayer started. After a few minutes the prayer was over. Fatima and her mom

greeted everyone, ate some yummy snacks and then they left to go back home. Soon Fatima was opening presents! She thanked her mom a lot. In the evening they went to an Eid party. They ate olive pizza and chocolate cake. In the end Fatima got very tired. Before she knew it, it was time to go to bed. Her mom tucked her in. Fatima specially thanked Allah for a wonderful Eid day.



HAPPY EID TO ALL THE READERS OF
LIGHTHOUSE MAGAZINE! MAY OUR
RAMADAN PRAYERS BE ANSWERED
AND MAY ISLAM GROW STRONGER.
AMEEN!