

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful



MISSION Ramadan

1430 H



*Days
Muslim Bloggers
Posts*

ONE THEME...

THE QUR'AN

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MISSION: Ramadan 1430H

30 DAYS, 30 MUSLIM BLOGGERS, 30 POSTS.

ONE THEME: THE QUR'AN

Acknowledgment

قَالَ رَبِّ أَوْزِعْنِي أَنْ أَشْكُرَ نِعْمَتَكَ الَّتِي أَنْعَمْتَ عَلَيَّ وَعَلَىٰ وَالِدَيَّ وَأَنْ
أَعْمَلَ صَالِحًا تَرْضَاهُ وَأَصْلِحْ لِي فِي ذُرِّيَّتِي إِنِّي تُبْتُ إِلَيْكَ وَإِنِّي مِنَ
الْمُسْلِمِينَ ﴿١٥﴾

“O my Lord! Grant me that I may be grateful for Thy favour which Thou has bestowed upon me, and upon both my parents, and that I may work righteousness such as Thou mayest approve; and be gracious to me in my issue. Truly have I turned to Thee and truly do I bow (to Thee) in Islam.” (46:15)

We start by acknowledging the favours of the One whom all favours & blessings are from, and the One whom we cannot, in our limited capacity, thank Him enough, Allah, the Lord of the Worlds and the Bestower of All Favours upon Mankind. Him Alone We Worship and Him Alone we seek Help from, And Praise be to Allah Lord of the Worlds.

And taking from the guidance of our beautiful Prophet, the Mercy to Mankind, Prophet Muhammad (Peace be upon him), who said: “Whoever does not thank people, does not thank Allah” I would like to extend my warmest and deepest thanks to the following:

To Br. Arif Kabir from [Youth Musings Blog](#), Br.Jawaad Khan from [JawaadAhmedKhan Blog](#), and Sister Hanan from [Muslimahetc.com](#), for being the ONLY attendees to the first online meeting I held regarding this Project. It was their ideas, duas, and dedicated work, which helped me put this project together. Thank you for believing in this project and seeing the BIG picture! JazakumAllah khair.

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One last thank you... to you my dear reader for downloading this ebook, reading it, and passing it on :). Thank you & JazakumAllah Khair.

- Productive Muslim

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Foreward

Assalamu'alaikum wa rahmatullahi wa barakatuh,

“Ideas are like plants, they start small but with the water of sincerity and the sunshine of hard work, they grow.” - ProductiveMuslim.com

Three days before beginning of Ramadan 1430H, I held an online meeting with Muslim bloggers to discuss a common project we chose to work together on, during the month of Ramadan. I wanted us to unite on a common theme throughout Ramadan so that our voices are loud and clear in the Ramadan Blogosphere.

I remember having such high expectations of our online meeting, especially with 15 bloggers registering for the meeting when first announced, but SubhanaAllah, only 4 people turned up :(Not deterred, we pursued with our meeting and beyond my wildest expectation it was one of the best brainstorm sessions I attended; an incredible 40 minutes, jam packed with ideas that left us all, who attended, buzzing!

We started off not knowing what to do, or what to call it, but slowly and surely as ideas start pouring out, Mission: Ramadan 1430H was formed. The initial excited exchange of e-mails between the 4 of us continued for days to come; a logo was designed, a gmail account was opened, a page was dedicated, all within 48 hours! Ramadan came & Mission: Ramadan was officially launched!

The first few days were tense, we had few signups, and we literally had to “beg” bloggers to sign up and spread the word, then by mid-Ramadan, a tipping point was reached, and we were overwhelmed with sign ups & requests that we literally had to turn people away!

And now comes this e-book, a culmination of 30 bloggers putting their heart and mind into the chosen theme for this Ramadan. It's a proud achievement for all the bloggers involved, and a Eid gift from all of us to the online Muslim world :). I hope you read every page, benefit from it, and pass it around to those you know & you don't know.

The question now: What next? Guess you'll have to wait till next year to find out ;).

May Allah (SWT) bless us with this work and bless all those involved. May He accept this small deed and forgive our sins with it and make it one of the beneficial deeds that will benefit us in our graves after we leave this World. Ameen.

JazakumAllah Khair,
Mohammed
Founder, ProductiveMuslim.com



P.S. If you'd like to get involved in the design & execution of Mission:Ramadan next year, e-mail us at missionramadan@gmail.com

Saturday, August 22, 2009

Day 1

GUIDANCE TO ALL MANKIND

From Ask Nanima.co.za.

[Ask Nanima.co.za](http://AskNanima.co.za) is a community building support system that bridges the gap between families in need of help and Nanimas offering their reliable services.

Ask Nanima.co.za is a proud South African initiative and caters to anyone, in any place and any country.

The past month, I have heard mixed viewpoints regarding reading the Qur'an in English. Many scholars have agreed that the Qur'an is in Arabic and no translation in any language will come close to it. The best prize would be to learn Arabic. Most of us are past our learning sell by date, so although the reward for reading it in English or the language of your mother tongue may not be the same, the benefit one can gain from reading it in English is better than not understanding it at all.

Read it preferably in the language you understand, so you can try and understand what Allah wants from you as his ambassador on earth. As one sister rightly pointed out: When we are going to be questioned on the day of Qiyamah, what will our answer be? "We didn't understand Arabic, so that is why we couldn't be your Khalifah (Ambassador)."

My advice is that before you embark on this journey to understand the Qur'an, seek advice from a learned scholar in your area on how to approach understanding it. There are many tafseers you can read that will make you understand the Qur'an better. If you have any questions, have a dialogue with your local scholar so that you are clear what Allah

wants from you. We must understand that the Qur'an is the Word of Allah. I think the fear that some scholars rightly have is that, many misinterpret the Qur'an and this can be dangerous for the faith.

The Messenger (Peace be upon him) will complain to Allah on the Day of Judgment that his people neglected the Qur'an (Surah al-Furqan 25:30).

Neglect of the Qur'an is of different levels, as Ibn al-Qayyim writes:

- NOT RECITING OR LISTENING TO IT;
- NOT STUDYING AND UNDERSTANDING IT;
- NOT CONVEYING ITS MESSAGE;
- NOT JUDGING BY IT IN PERSONAL AND COMMUNAL MATTERS, AT ALL LEVELS OF SOCIETY;
- NOT BELIEVING IN IT.

Sunday, August 23, 2009

Day 2

READ! (POEM)

This contribution was submitted by Jawah Ahmad Khan's Blog.

<http://jawaadahmadkhan.tumblr.com> is site just for poetic words and images.

“READ”

That's what reached his ears
That's what began his fears
That's what brings me to tears
“READ”
That's what we're ordered to do
In the name of the One who,
The One who created us all
“IQRA”
So why won't we see?
Pick up our beliefs
In the form of these
Simple pages to read
Read,
We must return back,
To the cave where it began
And see the light,
From the creator of man

~~~~

Allah says in Surah Fatiha:

“Ihdina siraatal mustaqeem” (Guide us unto the Straight Path)

Then, He says in Surah Baqarah:

“Dhaalikal Kitaabu La Rayba Feeh, hudalil mutaqeen” (That is the book, with no doubt. In it is sure guidance for those of piety.)

We ask for Allah's guidance, and he brings it through this book.

May He help us to read and understand the beautiful ayaat (verses) that have been given to us. Ameen.

Monday, August 24, 2009

# Day 3

## MY STORY OF LEARNING: READING QUR'AN WITH TAJWEED

This contribution was submitted by [LivingHalal.com](http://LivingHalal.com).

LivingHalal is a lifestyle site that celebrates everyone's Halal stories. Living Halal's motto is: Living Halal is fun and rewarding.



Tuesday, August 25, 2009

# Day 4

## WHAT IS: QUR'AN

This contribution was submitted by [MeMe blog](#).

The tarkeeb (composition) of Me Me is as follows: The first 'me' is an adjective that describes the noun (صفة), and the second 'me' is the noun being described (موصوف)

Assalamu alaykum,

What is the Qur'an? Allah describes in it Surah 39, verse 23

اللَّهُ نَزَّلَ أَحْسَنَ الْحَدِيثِ كِتَابًا مُتَشَابِهًا مَثَابًا تَتَشَعَّرُ مِنْهُ جُلُودُ الَّذِينَ  
يَخْشَوْنَ رَبَّهُمْ ثُمَّ تَلِينُ جُلُودُهُمْ وَقُلُوبُهُمْ إِلَىٰ ذِكْرِ اللَّهِ ذَٰلِكَ هُدَىٰ  
اللَّهُ يَهْدِي بِهِ مَن يَشَاءُ وَمَن يُضَلِلِ اللَّهُ فَمَا لَهُ مِن هَادٍ ﴿٢٣﴾

39:23 (Asad) God bestows from on high the best of all teachings in the shape of a divine writ fully consistent within itself, repeating each statement [of the truth] in manifold forms [a divine writ] whereat shiver the skins of all who of their Sustainer stand in awe: [but] in the end their skins and their hearts do soften at the remembrance of [the grace of] God. Such is God's guidance: He guides therewith him that wills [to be guided] whereas he whom God lets go astray can never find any guide

The verse starts with ALLAH - an emphatic start to the verse. It is the best of content and best of forms. The verses are extremely effective and moving. Even the disbelievers were moved and affected by it.

The word Qur'an appears 66 times in the Qur'an. "Qur'an" means, to read.

5 main names used for the Qur'an:

- QUR'AN (THE RECITED)
- AL-KITAB (THE BOOK) SEE 21:10
- AL-FURQAN (THE DISTINGUISHER) SEE 25: 1
- AL-DHIKR (THE PRAISED) SEE 15: 9
- AL-TANZEEL (THE SENT DOWN).SEE 26: 192

Other references to the Qur'an are by such words as nur (light), huda (guidance), rahma (mercy), majid (glorious), asher (blessed), asher (announcer), nadhir (warner), etc.

All these names reflect one of the various aspects of the revealed word of Allah.

The scholars have spent years researching and compiling the sciences of the Qur'an. Some of topics covered are, the revelation, the transmission of Oral and written Qur'an, the mushaf of Uthman (r.a), the Qur'an script, vocabulary, literary forms and styles, recitals, etc.

Wednesday, August 26, 2009

# Day 5

## SISTERS...KEEP UP THE MOMENTUM

Today's contribution is from [Muslimahetc.com](http://Muslimahetc.com).

Muslimahetc.com gives sisters a positive, practical and future-focused view on being Excellent in Taqwa and Character.

Subhannallah, the Qur'an has a sweetness on the tongue and brings coolness to the heart, and the month of Ramadan is a month we desire an increase in these bounties. As sisters, when we go through times when we cannot fast or pray, we feel like we are missing out. There are scholars who say that one can still recite the Qur'an in that state and other don't permit it. Either way, I hope the following suggestions will be of use to my dear sisters.

### THE PLAN BEFORE HAND

- If your goal is to complete the recitation of the whole Qur'an, account for those days so not to feel they are wasted and have to panic at the end of the month.
- Make sure that your Qur'an goals are Specific; that you stick to them (be disciplined) and give yourself a pat on the back when your schedule goes as per the plan.
- If you slip and don't follow your plan, as it happens to many of us, don't be disheartened. Say "Alhamdulillah". Learn from the lesson and be better prepared for the next session in your schedule

### THE PLAN DURING – QUR'AN

- Prepare your CDs, downloads onto MP3 players, etc. so you can listen to the Qur'an while on the move, while cooking, getting the kids to bed, etc.
- Watch the Taraweeh prayers on TV/online and listen to the Imam's recitation.
- Help others practice their recitation by listening to them and correcting them if needed.

### THE PLAN DURING – OTHER

- Spend the night making Dua. This can be specifically about the Qur'an or Duas from the Qur'an
- Use the time you allocated for your recitation to read the tafseer, if you DON'T already; read/listen to audios on Stories from the Qur'an, the Muslim etiquette with the Qur'an and other topics you come across while reciting
- Keep a journal of your reflections/thoughts. Refer to it during and after Ramadan, as a reminder and inspiration

We ask Allah to make the Qur'an the life of our hearts, the light of our chests and a departure from our sorrow and a release from our anxiety... Ameen.

Thursday, August 27, 2009

# Day 6

## RAMADAN: MONTH OF QUR'AN

يَتَأْتِيهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا كُتِبَ عَلَيْكُمُ الصِّيَامُ كَمَا كُتِبَ عَلَى الَّذِينَ مِن

قَبْلِكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَتَّقُونَ ﴿١٨٣﴾

“O you who believe! Fasting is prescribed to you as it was prescribed to those before you, that you may (learn) self-restraint.”[Al-Baqara, 2:183]

Soon inshAllah, the graceful month of Ramadhan will be upon us. It is the month chosen by Allah سبحانه وتعالى as a month of fasting. He سبحانه وتعالى favored this month over all other months by making it the month of mercy and reverence for all the believers. Indeed, Ramadhan is the most superior of all months: the one in which Allah سبحانه وتعالى commenced His final revelation - the Qur'an.

In the month of Ramadhan we read the Qur'an everyday and recite it at length during the Taraweeh. But do we understand and practice this Qur'an? Aisha (ra) described the Prophet's صلى الله عليه وسلم character as being the walking Qur'an. Do our characters reflect the message of the Qur'an? Do we implement it in our lives? Do we feel its weight on our shoulders?

Allah سبحانه وتعالى says:

لَوْ أَنزَلْنَا هَذَا الْقُرْءَانَ عَلَىٰ جَبَلٍ لَّرَأَيْتَهُ خَدِشًا مَّتَصِدِّعًا

مِّنْ خَشْيَةِ اللَّهِ وَتِلْكَ الْأَمْثَلُ نَضْرِبُهَا لِلنَّاسِ لَعَلَّهُمْ يَتَفَكَّرُونَ ﴿٦١﴾

“Had We sent down this Qur'an on a mountain, you would surely have seen it humbling itself and split asunder (crumbling) by the fear of Allah. Such are the parables that We put forward to mankind that they may reflect.”[Al-Hashr, 59:21]

Allah سبحانه وتعالى reveals to mankind that had He sent the Qur'an upon a mighty mountain, many times the size of a man, it would crumble in the fear of Allah سبحانه وتعالى ! Do we, in our petty and insignificant stature, then feel humbled by the Qur'an, which was revealed to us and not the mountains? Do we live by the commands and prohibitions that Allah سبحانه وتعالى has laid down in the Qur'an, His final revelation?

If Allah سبحانه وتعالى wills, we will fast this month, but will we be alive to see the next Ramadhan? Will this be our last chance to taste the Mercy of Allah سبحانه وتعالى; within this blessed month? We should assess our behavior and actions and reflect whether the Day we meet Allah سبحانه وتعالى will be our best Day, or will it be a Day of disaster? Every one of us will meet Allah سبحانه وتعالى alone; with no parents to protect us and no wealth to save us. Allah سبحانه وتعالى has revealed:

يَوْمَ يَفِرُّ الْمَرْءُ مِنْ أَخِيهِ (٣٤)

وَأُمِّهِ وَأَبِيهِ (٣٥)

وَصَلْحَبَتِهِ وَبَنِيهِ (٣٦)

لِكُلِّ أَمْرٍ مِّنْهُمْ يَوْمَئِذٍ شَأْنٌ يُغْنِيهِ (٣٧)

“That Day shall a man flee from his own brother, And from his mother and his father, And from his wife and his children, Each one of them, that Day, will have enough concern (of his own) to make him indifferent to

the others.”[‘Abasa, 80:34-37]

We will only have our actions in this life. So let us look back to the year that has passed and reflect. Let us look at what we did right according to Islam so we can continue doing them, and look at what we did wrong so that we can ask Allah **سبحانه وتعالى**; for forgiveness and strive not to repeat them again. The Prophet **صلى الله عليه وسلم** said:

“If comes Ramadhan, the gates of Heaven are opened,  
the gates of hell are locked, and the devils are  
chained.”[Bukhari & Muslim]

Based on this hadith, the scholars say that Heaven literally opens its doors and Hell closes its doors and the shayateen are chained! So the only enemy we have to overcome is our Nafs (inner desires).

Let us use this opportunity in which the shayateen are chained to overcome our Nafs and get accustomed to obeying Allah **سبحانه وتعالى** in all actions of life without exceptions, whether we are at the masjid or in the school, whether we are at home or at work, whether we are buying a house or selling a car. In short, we must follow Islam in all aspects of our lives.

Ramadhan is also a great opportunity to seek Islamic knowledge and increase our awareness of the Islamic culture. The more we are aware of Islam the better chance we have to run our lives according to it. Allah **سبحانه وتعالى**; revealed:

وَمِنَ النَّاسِ وَالْأَنْعَامِ مُخْتَلِفٌ أَلْوَانُهُ، كَذَلِكَ إِنَّمَا  
يَخْفَىٰ عَلَى اللَّهِ مِنْ عِبَادِهِ الْعُلَمَاءُ إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَزِيزٌ غَفُورٌ ﴿٢٨﴾

“Those truly fear Allah, among His Servants, who have  
knowledge.”[Al-Faatir, 35:28]

In the month of Ramadhan, the Prophet **صلى الله عليه وسلم** used to

study the Qur’an every night with the Angel Jibreel. Al-Bukhari and Muslim reported that Ibn ‘Abbas, may Allah be pleased with him, had said:”The Prophet **صلى الله عليه وسلم** was the most generous of people. He used to be the most generous in Ramadhan when he would meet with angel Jibreel and study the Qur’an with him. Angel Jibreel would meet with the Prophet every night in Ramadhan to teach him the Qur’an. The Prophet was so generous when he met with Jibreel, more generous than the wind that brings rain.” Imam Ah-mad added to this narration: “And nothing he was asked for but he would give it.”Furthermore, Al-Bayhaqi reported that ‘Aisha, may Allah be pleased with her, had said, “When Ramadhan would start, the Prophet would release all prisoners of war and fulfill the need of every person who would ask him for something.”

Let us seek knowledge in this blessed month by studying the meaning of the ayat of the Glorious Qur’an. Let us read about the life of the Prophet **صلى الله عليه وسلم** and his companions (ra): how they lived their lives, how they sacrificed life and limb to make the Word of Allah **سبحانه وتعالى** supreme. Let us remember Musab ibn Umayr (ra): the sahabi who went from being the richest man to the poorest - so poor that when died he did not own enough clothes to cover his own body. Why did he face such a situation? Because he realized the promise of Allah **سبحانه وتعالى** is true. Let us read about the rules of interaction in Islam whether in trade, finance, agriculture or others. Let us see what Islam says about the relationships between men and women, family and children. Islam is a complete way of life and in this blessed month let’s make the sincere intention to cover some parts of Islam that we lack knowledge of.

Let us use this opportunity to extend the bridges of brother-hood and earn rewards by inviting Muslims for Iftar as the Prophet **صلى الله عليه وسلم** has said:

“He who feeds a fasting person will gain the same

reward as he will, without decreasing from the fasting person's rewards.”[Ahmad]

The month of Ramadhan, in the time of the Prophet ﷺ was a time of purification, enjoining the good, forbidding evil and striving hard with one's life and wealth to make the word of Allah the highest. After the death of the Prophet ﷺ Muslims carried this Sunnah on and Allah, the Majestic, used the believers to affect the course of history.

Ramadhan was a time of intense activity, spending the day on the saddle and the night in prayer, while calling upon Allah for His Mercy and Forgiveness. This was the spirit of Ramadhan that enabled our righteous forefathers to face seemingly impossible challenges.

So let us make this month of Ramadhan the month of prayer, the month of worship, the month of recitation of Qur'an, the month of giving Zakah, the month of strengthening the relations between our relatives, the month of generosity and goodness to the needy, the month of being aware of our speech and actions. the month of re-invigorating our relationship with Allah سبحانه وتعالى and purifying our hearts, the month of increasing our knowledge of Qur'an, Sunnah and Fiqh, and the month of engaging in the da'wa to implement the Qur'an and the Sunnah on earth.

May Allah the Most Glorious One make us that generation of Muslims who lay the proper foundations of the Islamic rule for the coming generations and make us of those who carry out our Islam during Ramadhan and beyond.

يَتَأْتِيهَا النَّفْسُ الْمُطْمَئِنَّةُ ﴿٢٧﴾  
أَرْجِعِي إِلَىٰ رَبِّكِ رَاضِيَةً مَّرْضِيَّةً ﴿٢٨﴾  
فَادْخُلِي فِي عِبَادِي ﴿٢٩﴾  
وَادْخُلِي جَنَّتِي ﴿٣٠﴾

Lord, - well pleased (thyself), and well-pleasing unto Him! Enter thou, then, among My devotees! Yea, enter thou My Heaven.”[Al-Fajr, 89:27-30]

Friday, August 28, 2009

# Day 7

## 5 SIMPLE WAYS TO KEEP QUR'AN IN OUR HEARTS

This post was submitted by [JawaadAhmadKhan Blog](#).

A blog of an American Muslim youth's thoughts and reflections on his projects, his life, and his Deen.

The Qur'an is a book which you have neglected. It is a book that I have neglected. It is a book that the Muslim Ummah has neglected.

After that statement, I obviously may have upset some people. However, unlike those that complain on the Masjid sidelines, I hope, with this article, to also bring suggestions to help us become closer to the Qur'an. I admit, and ask Allah for forgiveness for this fact, that I have not recited, memorized, understood or loved the Qur'an as much as I want to. InshaAllah with this article (and in the past few weeks), I hope to begin a small goal of becoming closer to the Qur'an. I'd like you to also take these small tips, and implement them in your life as well. They are so simplistic that I would honestly feel ashamed to make an excuse to not try to follow them.

### 1. PICK IT UP OVER AND OVER, NOT JUST "REGULARLY" EVERY OTHER MONTH.

After reading a few articles and listening to a few lectures and such, I've heard this point reiterated over and over. I actually found this point best-worded in the book - In the Early Hours - by Khurram Murad. The tip is: instead of picking up and reciting the Qur'an for, let's say, three hours, one day, and then waiting two weeks to read it for three hours again,

read for a few minutes each day. The words, the rhythm, and the routine of reading the Qur'an won't become close to your heart if you only do it a few times, even if you do read it for very long. On the contrary, if you take just a few minutes (let's say 5 minutes is a good starting point) every single day and recite, it'll become even better as you'll connect with it more often. Once you begin the process, you'll soon become addicted and you'll look forward each day to your time with the words of Allah (subhanahu wa ta'ala).

### 2. MEMORIZE AT LEAST ONE AYAH A DAY.

When we start small, we give ourselves the chance to grow. When we begin too ambitiously, we give ourselves the the chance to fall easily. Take at least one ayah everyday, and read it, about five or six times. Then, make sure that you've also read the English of it (so you know what you're saying). But don't just memorize; contemplate on the verse. Think about what it really means. If it's a command or advice, try to practice it at least once that day. If we only take a small step, and keep on stepping, we'll reach the point where we become the true protectors of the Qur'an (hafidh-ul-Qur'an).

### 3. UNDERSTAND IT IN YOUR LANGUAGE!

Many people will try to say that the Qur'an in English is not the real Qur'an. In essence, yes, this is true. It is only an attempt to translate the word of Allah into a human language. However, we have to look at the benefit and harm of the two scenarios. There's the one person that spends the whole day repeating and repeating and reading and reciting the words of Allah, only really grasping bits and pieces (when they hear the word 'Allah' or 'Rasul', etc.). On the other hand, there's the person who reads the English translation of the book, contemplating on the verses and really trying to understand and thereafter practice what he is reading. Which one will receive more reward, the one that seeks understanding of the messages of the Qur'an, or the one that replays the words, like a cassette tape, never really grasping the concept of the

words? It's like reading a poem, or listening to a nasheed. Both may contain the same words, but when you sit, and reflect on the lines of a poem, you really read between those lines and understand what it was trying to say. But, sometimes, when listening to a nasheed or song, you only really get the message as deep as the rhythm of the words. Should we get captivated by only the rhythm of the Qur'an? Or should we be captivated like the Sahaba were captivated by the meanings, messages, and underlying truths of the Qur'an?

#### 4. UNDERSTAND IT IN ITS LANGUAGE!

Now, we also have to understand that the Qur'an is most beautiful in its original form. Therefore, while we try to get the messages out of it in our own language, we should still make an effort to slowly learn the Arabic language, to fully grasp the Qur'an as it was revealed. A good resource for that (after I did a little googling) is this interactive site: <http://80percentwords.com>

I've seen many books that feature 80% of the words of the Qur'an in vocabulary form for people who'd like to learn. I assume the above website (even though I haven't completely checked it out yet) is similar to those books. May Allah forgive me if I'm promoting a site with some error or wrong in it. And anything beneficial from the site itself is from Allah (SWT). So learn the language slowly with these. If you ever get an opportunity to go further in learning the grammar and such of the Qur'an, do it without any regrets or hesitations. I've been blessed to learn very little grammar and some vocabulary, and mashaAllah I can say that, with every little bit that you learn, it enriches your experience with the Qur'an many times over. May Allah help you, and us all, to understand his book inshaAllah.

#### 5. KEEP A COPY CLOSE TO YOUR HEART.

This means: keep your own personal Qur'an. I read an e-mail forward once that sparked a thought. What if we treated the Qur'an like our cell

phones? What if we carried it around with us? What if we went back for it when we'd forgotten it? What if we checked it for messages in the text? What if we looked through it several times a day?

Therefore, I've been trying to treat my Qur'an like a cell phone. The way I've done this is by putting it on the very device! I actually have an iPod Touch, and I'm happy to say it is my official mushaf (muss-haf, or written copy of the Qur'an). How is this possible? iQur'an Pro (it's an application).

So, to get the Qur'an on your device, hit up [Guided Ways Technology](#). At the top, there's a place called 'Downloads' where there's a whole bunch of sub-menus where you can choose different mobile applications to receive Salah times, the Qur'an, and other helpful Islamic applications. I use iQur'an many times (especially now in Ramadan, I continue with my recitation from my Touch). We live in an age of technology, a lot of which diverts us from our Deen. Therefore, why don't we use this amazing technology to help strengthen our Deen? We can do this in many ways, but I'm just concluding here with the suggestion of keeping the Qur'an close, by putting it with the things we unfortunately already hold close.

May Allah help us in our endeavors. I wish you all a blessed Ramadan Mubarak. Anything you may have benefited from is from Allah (SWT). May He forgive me for any of my shortcomings and my sins. Ameen.

Saturday, August 29, 2009

# Day 8

## THE QUR'AN AND THE MODERN MANAGER

This post was submitted by Gracious Creation from [Al-Qadar blog](#).

The purpose of the blog is to join hands with our Muslim brothers and sisters, to convey The Message of Allah (Subhanahu Wa Ta'ala) and Muhammad (Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam) the messenger of Allah (SWT)

Allaah (swt) has made some people better in work than others. He has raised them to positions of power out of His mercy.

[043:032]..We raised some of them above others in ranks, so that some may employ others in their work...

But being in a position of power and authority is also a huge responsibility and a trial for the person.

The Righteous Khulafaah, like Abu Bakr(rah) and Umar(rah), understood this and many examples can be taken from their lives about how they performed in their office and took care of the people under them. For them, the Qur'an and the Sunnah always took precedence, and then the consensus of the scholars.

But in today's corporate world, where many of the Muslims are working in executive positions, how many actually follow the Qur'an and the Sunnah in their day-to-day decision making?

If there are some executives out there who feel they are in the category above, maybe the following points from the Qur'an on management would change their mind and enable them to use the Qur'an more often in their offices, inshaAllah:

Obedience and Respect for Authority: Allaah (swt) orders us in the Qur'an to follow the Prophet and the people who are in authority among us:

[004:059] O you who believe! Obey Allâh and obey the Messenger (Muhammad [sal-Allâhu `alayhi wa sallam]), and those of you (Muslims) who are in authority....

If a believer has this aayah in mind when he or she goes to work every day, then how high would the level of obedience be? Obedience and respect for authority are the basic prerequisites for getting work done by someone. If your subordinates below you are not delivering the work, see if there are any shortcomings from your side because this may lead them to perceive that you hold less authority over them.

Working and consulting as a team: When was the last time you involved your subordinates and team members in making a decision on a project? If you have not, is it because you feel that you know more than the people around you? Seeking advice from the people around you would be one of the best things you can do when faced with a dilemma. Umar (rah) himself had a council of the Sahabaah with him, whom he consulted (Shura) for decisions. As Allaah swt states:

[003:159] ...so pass over (their faults), and ask (Allâh's)

forgiveness for them; and consult them in the affairs. Then when you have taken a decision, put your trust in Allâh, certainly, Allâh loves those who put their trust (in Him).

Providing Equal Opportunities: Islam is not a religion for one race, or one kind, of people, rather it is a religion for the whole of mankind. Allaah (swt) says:

[049:013] O mankind! We have created you from a male and a female, and made you into nations and tribes that you may know one another. Verily, the most honorable of you with Allâh is that (believer) who has At-Taqwâ [i.e. he is one of the Muttaqûn (the pious)]. Verily, Allâh is All-Knowing, Well-Acquainted (with all things).

The only thing that differentiates people is their righteousness! Subhanallah! If this policy alone was implemented in the workplace, then every person would have the same equal opportunities, and only based on his or her hard work and efforts, would a person go ahead.

Motivation and Commitment: Since you are a manager or a team leader, you must know that motivating the people under you to achieve goals is a huge task and one which is not done efficiently. Corporate trainings are conducted regularly for instilling motivation in the employees, and after the short burst of motivation, the employee has to be given a training once more. Allaah (swt) says to the Prophet:

[003:159] And by the Mercy of Allâh, you (Muhammad [sal-Allâhu ‘alayhi wa sallam]) dealt with them gently. And had you been severe and harsh-hearted, they would have broken away from about you; so pass over (their faults), and ask (Allâh’s) forgiveness for them; and consult them in the affairs.

Then when you have taken a decision, put your trust in Allâh, certainly, Allâh loves those who put their trust (in Him).

The best way to motivate people is in the way you deal with them. Even the Prophet is being commanded to deal with the people under him gently, then how much more so for us? Apart from being gentle with your team members another important aspect is looking over their faults. Taking some small problem and blowing it out of proportion is becoming the norm. Being harsh over the people is not the answer to achieving common goals and if everyone has to survive, there has to be leniency from the part of the one who is in authority. Remember: If your team grows, you grow.

Less Wastage of resources: Bad planning, which leads to wastage of physical and human resources, is one of the banes of the corporate world today. Offices have numerous standards and work flows, which streamline usage of resources, and try to make us utilize them effectively. But perhaps something much more is required to motivate the people in using the resources allocated to them efficiently:

[017:026] And give to the kinsman his due and to the Miskîn (needy) and to the wayfarer. But spend not wastefully (your wealth) in the manner of a spendthrift. [Tafsir At-Tabarî (Verse 9:60)]

[017:027] Verily, the spendthrifts are brothers of the Shayâtîn (devils), and the Shaitân (Devil-Satan) is ever ungrateful to his Lord.

The above aayat, although primarily mentioning money, will also come into use concerning physical and human resources. Both cost money and a huge amount of effort goes into building them up for use. This makes more sense with the point mentioned below:

Overworking the people: A manager should know that different

people have different capacities towards work. If one is able to slog it out for 12 hours a day, there may be others who can barely make it to the 8 hour mark. Managers have become notorious for burdening the employees with tasks beyond their capabilities. Allaah (swt) says regarding this:

[002:232]..No person shall have a burden laid on him greater than he can bear...

Balancing out the workload onto different employees based on their skill set and capacity will ensure that none of them are over-burdened and everyone works towards achieving their common goal.

Fulfilling contracts and promises: Today it is a norm for companies to over promise a customer and deliver under pressure. Everyone suffers because of this, from the employee to the manager. And if the deadline is not met (there is a reason it is called a DEADLINE), the customer either fines or sues the company. Committing to a deal, without knowing the actual effort and time it will take, is detrimental to the working atmosphere of a company. It eats into the work spirit around the company and forces people into believing that there is nothing other than work in life. To run a successful company, and to always have a motivated team around you, one must not make promises that cannot be kept.

[061:002] O you who believe! Why do you say that which you do not do?

[061:003] Most hateful it is with Allâh that you say that which you do not do.

Whether you are a manager with a team under you, or a senior executive,

managing different departments, keep the above points in mind the next time you exercise your managerial authority. Even if you are an employee, most of the points above are relevant to you in terms of boosting your morale at your workplace.

But above all this, have trust in Allaah (swt) in all the decisions you make. Make fervent du'a to Him. Make Istikharah whenever you have to make a decision, even if it be as small as selecting the right candidate for the job.

May Allah (swt) enable all people in authority and senior positions to carry out their tasks along the lines of the Qur'an and the Sunnah.

Sunday, August 30, 2009

# Day 9

## HR TIPS IN THE QUR'AN

This post was submitted by [halalbucks.com](http://halalbucks.com).

HalalBucks.com is a humble attempt toward halal economy. Through a team of professional Muslims, HalalBucks.com offers training and consultation for small businesses, from marketing to strategic thinking. For more info visit <http://halalbucks.com/about>.

Two essential qualifications for any job: 1- The ability to perform the job  
2- Trustworthiness.

In the story of Musa (peace be upon him), he was hired because he had the strength to perform the job and was trustworthy, as mentioned the verse in Surah AlQasas (Chapter 28).

قَالَتْ إِحْدَاهُمَا يَا أَبَتِ اسْتَجِرْهُ إِنَّ خَيْرَ مَنِ اسْتَجِرْتَهُ الْقَوِيُّ الْأَمِينُ ﴿٢٦﴾

Said one of the (damsels): “O my (dear) father! Engage him on wages: truly the best of men for thee to employ is the (man) who is strong and trusty.” [28:26]

In the story of Yusuf (peace be upon him), he was hired because he was trustworthy enough to guard the store-houses of the land and he had the knowledge to do so, as mentioned the verse in Surah Yusuf (Chapter 12).

قَالَ اجْعَلْنِي عَلَى خَزَائِنِ الْأَرْضِ إِنِّي حَفِيظٌ عَلَيْكُمْ ﴿٥٥﴾

(Yusuf) said: “Set me over the store-houses of the land: I will indeed guard them, as one that knows (their importance).” [12:55]

Monday, August 31, 2009

# Day 10

## ISLAM AND THE QUR'AN

This post was submitted by [“Allah is Not Shy to Say the Truth” blog](#).

The Qur'an was revealed to Prophet Muhammad from God/Allah over 1400 years ago. “It is an Arabic Qur'an”, reads one verse. The Arabs of Muhammad's time were masters in Arabic language, poetry, etc. The pure language had developed to the highest level, and was in fact at the highest point it would ever be in its development, which made it the perfect conduit for the Word of Allah. This was ofcourse known to Allah who is All-Knowing, All-Wise, He is perfect in knowledge. Therefore, he sent the arch angel Gabriel (Jibreel) with the verses of the Qur'an, revealed it piecemeal to His chosen Prophet, an Arab.

The Arabs were skilled memorizers. It was not difficult for them to learn the Qur'an by heart. Many Muslims still memorize the Qur'an in its entirety today. Out of 1.3 billion people on this planet, there are 100,000's of Huffadh (a special title given to anyone who has memorized the Qur'an). Even young children memorize the Qur'an.

Therefore, we know that the Qur'an is the same Qur'an that Allah revealed to His Messenger. There are still ancient copies of the Qur'an that exist.

Since the Qur'an we read today is the very same revealed to Muhammad, SAWS, what we read therein must be the TRUTH, as it is from God. We

believe that it contains no errors because it is God's Word. Allah says, “This day have I perfected your religion for you, completed my favor upon you, and have chosen for you Islam as your religion.” (5:13) Therefore it is reasonable to say that the Qur'an is a miraculous Book, revelation, for all times. We accept the universal nature of its teachings.

There are clear and unclear verses, (which means) there are verses mankind can readily understand, and others which they do not have the knowledge to understand. For example, we read that Allah will create our very fingertips after we are resurrected. In modern terms we understand this as a great sign of the truthfulness of the Qur'an because we know that each human has his distinctive fingerprints, no two humans have an identical fingerprint, not even identical twins!

An example of an unclear verse would be verses dealing with unseen things, or beings which we have no obvious way of knowing, or verifying about them. For example, in the chapter, The Cave, we read about the story of a group of youths who Allah made to fall asleep for a very long time, and He preserved them and their guard dog, which was outstretched at the door of the cave. Some people, who reject such verses because they cannot prove such a thing, are in fact disbelievers in the unseen (Ghaib), only Allah can guide them to the Truth of His Book. They claim that people who believe in such ancient events and say this is a miracle, or karama, are ignorant fools, simple-minded, or superstitious. Similarly, people have said disparaging things about the revered Prophet of Islam such as calling him a soothsayer, madman, etc. only because he told them to worship Allah, the One True God!

He even showed them the splitting of the moon, but they refused to follow him or accept the message he was delivering. Allah says about the non-believers, “deaf dumb and blind, they will not see”.

There are many other miraculous events spoken of in the Qur’an, the splitting of the red sea for Prophet Moses (alaihi salaam) and the children of Israel, is an example and also, the noble Prophet’s ascension into the Heavens in the chapter Al-Isra. The event is known in Islamic history as the Isra wa al-Miraj, when the Muslim nation was ordered to perform the five daily prayers.

During a war with the army of the idolaters, upto 10,000 fighters, the believers who were fewer in number, saw miracles. “And when the believers saw ‘Al-Ahzab’ (the Confederates), they said: This is what Allah and His Messenger (Muhammad) had promised us, and Allah and His Messenger (Muhammad) had spoken the truth, and it only added to their Faith and to their submissiveness (to Allah).” [33:22], p. 366, The Sealed Nectar.

“And when the hypocrites and those in whose hearts is a disease (of doubts) said: ‘Allah and His Messenger promised us nothing but delusions!’” [33:12], p. 366, The Sealed Nectar.

One very cold night during the war Allah’s Messenger (SAWS) dispatched Hudhaifah bin Al-Yaman to hunt around for news about the enemy.P.373, The Sealed Nectar.

He found out that they were preparing to leave, frustrated for their inability to achieve their target. Allah fulfilled His Promise, spared the Muslims fighting a frightening army, supported His servant (Muhammad) and inflicted a heavy blow on the Confederates.”, p. 373, The Sealed Nectar.

Thereafter the Prophet Muhammad said, “From now on we engage

them, they do not engage us. We will mobilize them (Sahih Bukhari 2/59), p. 374, The Sealed Nectar.

“..Is it a foreign [recitation] and an arab [messenger]. Say, “It is, for those who believe, guidance and a cure”. Surah 41, verse 44.

Tuesday, September 1, 2009

# Day 11

## THE LOGIC OF GIVING

This post was submitted by [HalfDate.com](http://HalfDate.com).

HalfDate.com is a Sadaqah promotion service. It blends the psychology of giving with latest marketing technologies to empower everyone to be part of the solution, whether by giving half a date or a pleasant word. For more info, visit <http://halfdate.com/about>

Usually in life, the reason you do something is either to get pleasure or to avoid pain. So, let's see how Qur'an presents the pleasure and pain associated with giving or not giving Sadaqah.

قُلْ إِنَّ رَبِّي يَبْسُطُ الرِّزْقَ لِمَن يَشَاءُ مِنْ عِبَادِهِ وَيَقْدِرُ لَهُ وَمَا أَنْفَقْتُمْ  
مِنْ شَيْءٍ فَهُوَ يُخْلِفُهُ وَهُوَ خَيْرُ الرَّازِقِينَ ﴿٣٩﴾

Say: "Truly, my Lord enlarges the provision for whom He wills of His slaves, and (also) restricts (it) for him, and whatsoever you spend of anything (in Allâh's Cause), He will replace it. And He is the Best of providers." (Saba' 34:39)

First Allah gave you the money so you can give for His sake. Now, after you give out for His sake, he replaces it for you with a gain. So, basically, it's free Hasanat (rewards).

## SECOND PAIN: AVOID PAIN OF NOT GIVING

هَتَأْتُمْ هَتُؤًا تَدْعُونَ لِتُنْفِقُوا فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ فَمِنْكُمْ مَن يَبْخَلُ وَمَن  
يَبْخَلْ فَإِنَّمَا يَبْخَلْ عَن نَّفْسِهِ وَاللَّهُ الْغَنِيُّ وَأَنْتُمُ الْفُقَرَاءُ وَإِن تَتَوَلَّوْا  
يَسْتَبْدِلْ قَوْمًا غَيْرَكُمْ ثُمَّ لَا يَكُونُوا أَمْثَلَكُمْ ﴿٣٨﴾

Behold! You are those who are called to spend in the Cause of Allâh, Yet among you are some who are niggardly. And whoever is niggardly, it is only at the expense of his own self. But Allâh is Rich (Free of all wants), and you (mankind) are poor. And if you turn away (from Islâm and the obedience of Allâh), He will exchange you for some other people, and they will not be your likes. (Muhammad 47:38)

So, say Allah gives you and another person, and now he asks both of you to give back, but only one of you respond to his call. So, in human short-sighted logic, the one who doesn't give saves the money and the one who gives loses, right? But no! The one who doesn't give is in reality on the brink of being FIRED (exchanged). So, even if there is no reward or pleasure associated with giving, simply the pain is severe enough to avoid it at all cost.

Conclusion, whether you operate under the logic of attaining pleasure or the logic of avoid pain. In both cases, giving Sadaqah is really a no brainer.

Wednesday, September 2, 2009

# Day 12

## UNITY IN THE HOLY QUR'AN

This post was submitted by [Abdelrahman](#).

Aka Abdo, he is a 21 years old Egyptian Entrepreneur and Web Professional, currently studying Mechanical Design & Production at Cairo university

In this post we're going to explore how the Holy Qur'an encouraged Muslims to unite and how the stories in the holy Qur'an built an analogy to the unity, between Muslims, we're all seeking today.

First of all, let's explore different definitions of unity and which one the Qur'an meant when mentioning unity between Muslims.

### LOGICAL DEFINITION:

Unity is grouping some units together to form a more solid structure. Let's see the example of the wise man, who while dying, wanted to teach his kids the meaning of unity; so he asked every one of them to take a stick each and break it, it was easily broken. But when they tried to break a bundle of sticks together, it was much harder to break.

He then told them: That's why, my sons, you're supposed to always be together; not to be easily broken individually by your enemies.

So, according to this analogy; unity is being safe by being with those who share the same fate, you unite with them to be safe, so if you can handle it yourself, why unite?

### STRATEGIC DEFINITION:

Let's go across some strategic definitions, this definition is much clearer in business and military, achieving an economic benefit or a strategic advantage.

If I, as a single unit, will be able to achieve a little, and if I united with some other people who share my vision, we'll together have much more resources, we'll be able to achieve more profit individually, or defend ourselves against common enemies, with much more "resources".

So unity is sharing of resources to achieve things that couldn't be achieved individually. So, there is still something for the "self" that motivates people towards unity and when I think about establishing such strategic unity, I should be wondering; what's in it for me?

### ISLAMIC DEFINITION:

So which definition of those would be more close to the idea of Muslim unity? In Islam we have a more solid concept about unity:

"The Believers are but a single Brotherhood." [Al-Hujurat 49:10]

So it's nothing like the solid structure or the strategic allegiance, it's sharing of not only destiny but also the way that leads to it, not upon fear from challenges or profit and strategic advantage, but upon brotherhood!

This is the strongest human relationship as we'll see; if we look to the issue individually, the meaning of being a Muslim is being as close as my brother and sister.

So, why aren't Muslims united now days? Where there are always problems among Muslim countries, and Islamic groups and even

different schools of thought, why are there always attacks, even hatred sometimes inside the mosque?

Sharing the goal and destiny of living according to God's guidance is what bring Muslims as close as brothers and sisters. The Qur'an stated that everyone is in a loss except those who unite and join together in Allah's way.

“By (the Token of) Time (through the ages), Verily Man is in loss, Except such as have Faith, and do righteous deeds, and (join together) in the mutual teaching of Truth, and of Patience and Constancy.” [Qur'an 09:47]

So, why do we see a lot of problems today that lead up to hatred and animosity between Muslims, different Islamic groups, with different methodologies, with a lot of hate and emotional charge between each other, and different Muslim countries, even between Muslim scholars sometimes?

The holy Qur'an is calling all those people, with different backgrounds, from different nationalities or different groups, to unite and not divide themselves because of minor differences.

“And hold fast, all together, by the rope which Allah (stretches out for you), and be not divided among yourselves; and remember with gratitude Allah's favour on you; for ye were enemies and He joined your hearts in love, so that by His Grace, ye became brethren; and ye were on the brink of the pit of Fire, and He saved you from it. Thus doth Allah make His Signs clear to you: That ye may be guided.” [Qur'an 03:103]

But, unity shouldn't be used to manipulate communities, by pushing them to either deviate from the authentic teachings of their religion, or accept a methodology that will harm them in the long run.

The holy Qur'an opens our eyes to some people among us, who might intend harm to the Muslim community, like what happened in Ohod

from the hypocrites.

So, unity isn't just a romantic word to group all people together giving absolutely no thought to those who might intend harm to us. The holy Qur'an says about hypocrites in Ohod:

“Had they marched out with you, they would have added to you nothing except disorder, and they would have hurried about in your midst (spreading corruption) and sowing sedition among you – and there are some among you who would have listened to them. And Allah is the All-Knower of the Zalimun (polytheists and wrong-doers).” [Qur'an 103:1~3]

So, as much as the Holy Qur'an encourages us to unite and get over all our differences, it also encourages having a strategy and understanding the motives of some groups, that will seek to deviate us from the truth, have been presented as well.

As we saw from these verses in the Holy Qur'an, the Muslim community is supposed to be solid and united, despite all the differences, the one-to-one relationship has to keep us being as close as “brothers”.

On judgment day, all these forms of hatred or disunity are going to be removed from our hearts.

“And We shall remove from their hearts any lurking sense of injury: (they will be) brothers (joyfully) facing each other on thrones (of dignity).” [Qur'an 15:47]

So, why not to start removing it from now?

- Abdelrahman

Thursday, September 3, 2009

# Day 13

## IN MY HEART..ALWAYS!

This post was submitted by [Fee qalbee](#).

A unique blog that seeks to inspire muslim women to memorise Al Qur'aan. Utilising textual, audio & visual information. Their aim is to instill the love & ambition within each muslimah to make tahfeedhul Qur'aan an integral part of her spiritual quest to gain His Divine Pleasure.

Bismillah

Assalaamu 'alaykum wa Rahmatullah,

All & absolute praise is due only unto Allah Ta'ala, who blessed us with Al Qur'aan: The Sacred, Noble Book, of which its beautiful verses are like the thread from which the substance of our souls are weaved.

An 84 year old grandmother stands reciting salaatur-Taraweeh each night, cherishing the rays of spiritual light that each word contains. A 16 year old cousin is inspired to don the jilbaab after internalizing the verses of Soorat Al-Ahzaab. A depressed friend finds the optimism of life within the valiant stories of Allah's Messengers (Peace be upon them all). A middle aged neighbor is motivated to revise what he has neglected of Qur'aan memorization. And a 2 year old niece recites the Soorat Al-Ikhlaas, as her parents proudly witness the start of a momentous spiritual journey.

Throughout life & especially in Ramadaan, I've never ceased to be amazed & truly inspired, as I witness strangers, family & friends alike, turning to Al Qur'aan as their compass.

Snap-shots from Life's album this Ramadaan : The spiritual magnet of this radiant month is the Qur'aan! It is Divine Remembrance of Allah. And this Remembrance can only be achieved by deep contemplation & reflection.

Really, it's the prime opportunity to renew our dedication, commitment & love for the Glorious Book.

The Clear Book contains messages that I can fully accept & live by, because it has been revealed by a flawless Author, through His true Messenger (sallallahu 'alayhi wa sallam).

The Preserved Book contains timeless teachings which Allah Ta'ala has promised to safeguard, imprinted upon the heart of our beloved Rasoolullah (sallallahu 'alayhi wa sallam) & transferred to those fortunate heirs, fortunate heirs, to continue its preservation until the Final Day.

### Memorizer of the Quran (Eng sub)



On a recent trip to Turkey, I discovered an amazing Qur'aanic legacy that, until recently, a nation had the privilege & honour of being the custodians of all the Holy Precincts of Islaam – & even the sacred relics of the most glorious of all human beings. One haafidh ul Qur'aan per house – A minimum of one haafidh ul Qur'aan. A lineage that didn't pass on gold trinkets or silver vessels, SubhaanAllah!

Al Qur'aan: The most glorious of all inheritance! As they kept it in their hearts, as they preserved it in their bosoms, they too, were preserved. And their contributions adorn the sanctuaries of Makkah Mukarramah, Madinah Munawwarah & Al Quds Al Mubaaruk.

Allah opened their hearts to the Qur'aan. They became one of the most important contributors of our Islamic legacy. A golden age no less! Excelling in architectural feats, as carriers of the Qur'aan, every builder laying every brick surrounding the Holy Sanctuaries of Makkah & Madinah, did so whilst in wudhoo & as huffaadh.

I wish The Qur'aan in my heart, I wish it in my speech & actions, so that I too, may be preserved in the sight of the noble Angels!

~O my cherisher! Open my heart to the hearing of your Remembrance~

Friday, September 4, 2009

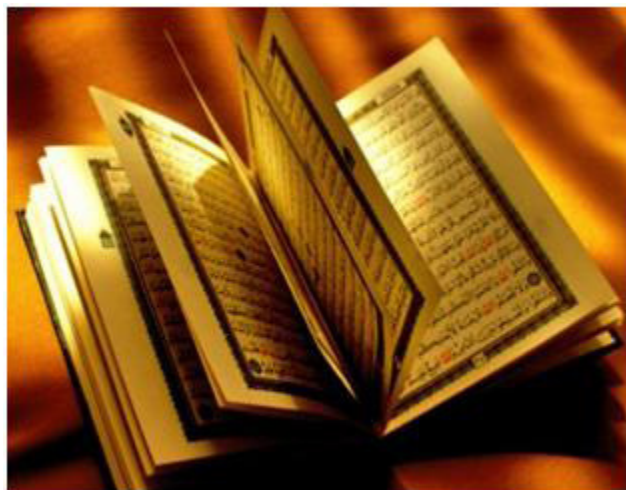
# Day 14

## THE GUIDE TO DIVINE REVELATION

This post was submitted by [Verbage](#).

A blog dedicated to expressing views and experiences in life.

In the name of Allah, the Lord of Mercy, the Giver of Mercy



It's time to do an exercise. I want you to take out your personal copy of the Qur'an – Arabic if you are fluent and can understand what the divine words of Allah subhanahu wa ta'ala are saying, or English if you cannot – and go to the title page. Write: "Read this as a living book of light and guidance!"

It is imperative as Muslims that we stop reading the Qur'an passively, not understanding what it says, and read it as the ultimate guidebook

for our lives, a divine miracle that lives – and can transform us if we let it.

### HOW IS THE QUR'AN A MIRACLE?

The Qur'an is a miracle on many levels. Let's look at five – but let's make sure this is action-oriented. When going over these aspects of the Divine Book, really understand what it means to hold a miracle from God in your hands.

The Qur'an is a miracle...

- In its language. The Qur'an "came" from an illiterate person who lived in an isolated area in Mecca, who did not know how to read or write.
- In its structure. The structure of the Qur'an does not fit any other structure known – it is neither prose nor poetry. The words themselves have great meaning, and this is why a translation of the Qur'an is not the same as the true Arabic Qur'an.
- In its science. The scientific facts and teachings it contains are too sophisticated for a human to come up with. An example of this would be the description of the development of the fetus in the mother's womb.
- In its prophecies. The Qur'an prophesized many things and they happened, such as the Muslims fighting the disbelievers and defeating them in Surah al-Qamar or the victory of the Romans at the beginning of Surah Ar-Rum.
- In its logic. The Qur'an is free of contradictions, something that is literally impossible to find in any works done by man.

I have just scratched the surface here – but the idea is to fully grasp what it is that we hold in our hands. To no longer be passive readers but active participants of the divine message the Qur'an preaches.

## HOW CAN WE LIVE THE QUR'AN?

The Mother of the Believers, `Aisha (radi Allahu `anhu), was asked about the Prophet Muhammad (sal Allahu `alayhi wa sallam)'s character. Her reply was simple: "His character was the Qur'an" (Ahmad). He (sal Allahu `alayhi wa sallam) set an example we are meant to follow. Here are some tips to how we can start on this lifelong journey:

- 1- Make a sincere intention. Actions are judged by intentions, so sit for a moment. Clear your mind and heart. Make the intention that you wish to actualize the Qur'an in your words, your deeds – your life.
- 2- Du`a'. Without the help and guidance of Allah subhanahu wa ta`ala, we are truly lost. Beseech Him for His help in understanding His book.
- 3- Pick a personal copy of the Qur'an. You can choose more than one, but have a personal copy that you will be building a connection with. If it's in English, breakout the highlighters and grab a pen – make sure you mark that copy up more than your school textbooks!
- 4- Find a teacher. The world has become very small these days. If you cannot find a local, trusted religious figure that will help you in discovering the mysteries of this Holy Book, there are plenty of online classes to take advantage of. If you're not sure where to start, let me know – I'll help as much as I'm able to. A teacher is important

because they have more knowledge, and can guide us on this journey – and they can also help answer questions or confusing issues that may arise.

- 5- Get to know the books of Tafsir. Tafsir books are there as an explanation and commentary of the Qur'an – utilize them.

These are only some steps you can take, but they are steps that have worked for me. I ask Allah, the Wise, the All-Knowing, to purify us, guide us to the best of guidance, and fill our hearts with the nur of the Qur'an. Ameen.

“[This is] a Book which We have revealed to you [O Muhammad], that you might bring mankind out of darknesses into the light by permission of their Lord - to the path of the Exalted in Might, the Praiseworthy...”  
[Qur'an, 14: 1]

Saturday, September 5, 2009

# Day 15

## AWAY FROM GRACE – ABANDONING THE QUR’AN AS LAW

This post was submitted by [Endy Daniyanto](#).

He is a determined artist and independent producer, a part-time writer and a self-publisher, and an aspiring engineer and a learning designer.

What happens when Muslims don’t use the Qur’an as law, in personal and in social life? There is a global pandemic in the Islam faith today. Terrorists hurt Muslims and non-Muslims alike and claim it is in the name of religion and righteousness. Feminism sheds an unfavorable light on Muslimahs who wear the veil, while other “modern” Muslim women rally a campaign that it is a “choice” and only a product of culture. Pluralism argues that in a multiethnic society, the principles of the Qur’an can’t work, and make laws of their own design, as if they know better than Allah. Liberalism celebrates the achievement of human expression and independence, without paying attention to the balance of the social and environmental fabric. Capitalism seeks profit with the least minimum moral consideration economics allow. All the modern human inventions that are said to be superior to the Qur’an which, as some would say, is out of context with the modern world.

The Qur’an is law [1]. It is the authoritative manual for humans [2]. It contains principles on all the aspects of life, private and public. Ideology. Politics. Economy. Culture. Society. Military. Education. But how far do Muslims (and Islamic “nations”) actually implement the laws in the Qur’an into official public and national laws? In fact, they make their own opinions and laws about their lives and favor them instead of the “outdated” Qur’an.

On the individual level, this is the mistake Muslims make. The majority of Muslims do not use the Qur’an as Law in their private lives. We only take some parts and reject other parts, according to how we like it, or use it based on personal convenience, sometimes, regardless to whether it is profitable for us or not. For some things we defend ourselves with religious vigilance, but for other things we justify ourselves with blind ignorance, all in the name of progress.

We actually think we know better. And we dare call ourselves a more sophisticated, educated society than our predecessors.

Allah is Fair. Non-Muslims also get their share of wealth, both in the material world and the spiritual world. Non-Muslims who work hard get rewarded with whatever amount of financial success it is they pursue. They claim their beauty, their mansions, their sports cars, and PhDs. On the other side of the spectrum, those who seek spiritual enlightenment experience a transcendent moment that they claim is a meeting with God in person. But when comes the Judgment Day, they will have nothing left to rely upon, but the emptiness and failure of their mortal beliefs. [3]

That’s why many of my Muslim friends ask, “Why do they achieve much success and look so happy?” These questions make them question Islam as the way of life.

To reach the same kind of success, Muslims need to work 10 times harder. Why? Because Allah keeps 9 parts of our reward for the “other side”. When we work hard, Allah gives us 1 part only as the results of our hard work. When a non-Muslim can get \$1000 a week from her business, a Muslim doing the same amount of work may only get \$100. This is fine. It’s expected. Muslims should acknowledge this. The other \$900 is kept in a bank to help us later during the audition for heavenly residence. We don’t want to run out of our emergency funds at that time.

Not only do we have to work harder. We have to work harder under

stricter limitations. In the case above, the non-Muslim business woman can get \$1000 because she doesn't need to respect certain business laws stated in the Qur'an. While the Muslim business woman has to agree with the limitations the Qur'an provides.

This is true in all aspects of life. This "must work harder" fact is what makes many Muslims abandon the Qur'an in favor of instant gratification.

When the Qur'an is abandoned, two outcomes may occur:

One, a Muslim may get \$1000 too, but he will not have any savings left for D-day. Two, he will fail both ways. His business will not thrive, and his faith will suffer also.

The second outcome is what is happening to the modern Muslim world. Mostly.

We have abandoned the comprehensive use of the Qur'an and use it for spiritual purposes only. We separate our political leaders from our spiritual leaders, as if they are two different aspects of a nation. We pray, but do business based on the laws of capitalism without consideration of the special limitations of Islamic trade. We pursue knowledge, but only to land ourselves in high paying jobs in foreign oil companies, rarely for conducting research to improve the welfare of all human lives based on the principles of the Qur'an. We love, but with a "free" kind of love.

And we ask, "Why is there no end to the suffering?"

Our punishment is both superficial failure and spiritual disfigurement.

But the punishment is a lesson.

The Muslim nation was once the leading superpower. The Muslim individual was once the best a human can achieve. Successful, in most, if not all, aspects of life. But through time, we have lost to our egos.

Lay defeated in the hand of perverse persuasions. Generation after generation that came after the lifetime of Rasulullah is getting further and further away from the Qur'an. Away from Rasul. Away from Allah.

Away from Grace.

There are two choices:

One, we do nothing.

Two, we acknowledge this punishment and repair ourselves and our societies and bring back the nation of Islam.

The first choice is easier. Allah will simply replace our generation with another generation that will bring Islam back [4]. That means we're dead.

So, it's better to take the second choice, don't you think? Besides, I like it. It's the more unpopular choice.

And unpopular is the new popular.

—

[1] This is the principle contained in 114:1. Further specific laws are detailed in their respective Surahs, e.g marriage and inheritance in Surah 4

[2] From Surah 2:2. Muslims should not doubt that the Qur'an is the guidance for life.

[3] 3:178 "Let not the disbelievers think that we lead them on for their own good. We only lead them on to confirm their sinfulness. They have incurred a humiliating retribution", and also in 14:42 "Do not ever think that GOD is unaware of what the transgressors are doing. He only respites them until a day where the eyes stare in horror."

[4] 70:40-44. The end of the 70th Surah (Al-Ma'aarej or the Heights) reconfirms the example of this "replacing" in the time of the Prophet Noah (the Great Flood, also the next Surah after Al-Ma'aarej). Allah exterminated the people of Noah (save a few) because they rejected his da'wah to them.

Sunday, September 6, 2009

# Day 16

## THE AMAZING QUR'AN: WHY YOU SHOULD BE CLOSE TO IT

This post was submitted by [Shamsideen AbuSuad](#).

He is part of Muslim Message team, that is dedicated to informing, educating and entertaining Muslims and Non-Muslims, and have published daily Ramadan Messages every year since the Ramadan of 2001.

The Qur'an starts some chapters with some letters like: Alif, Lam, Mim like at the beginning of Chapter 2. Generally, most scholars would say: only Allah knows what He meant by these letters. Some others scholars attempt to give meanings to these letters, but they are generally regarded as wrong because the Prophet never gave any explanation, though he explained subsequent verses.

Allah has warned about the existence of some verses that could be the cause of distraction to some "He it is, who has sent down to thee the Book: in it are verses basic or fundamental (of established meaning); they are the foundation of the Book: others are allegorical. But those in whose hearts is perversity follow the part thereof that is allegorical seeking discord and searching for its hidden meanings but no one knows its hidden meanings except Allah and those who are firmly grounded in knowledge say: "We believe in the Book; the whole of it is from our Lord"; and none will grasp the Message except men of understanding." Qur'an 3 verse 7

The existence of these letters are regarded as part of the miracle of

the Qur'an. Some scholars explained that their existence indicates the superiority of Allah over the entirety of His creations in terms of knowledge. Qur'an says "we have given mankind only limited knowledge".

Another explanation given for these letters is that it is a way of Allah, making an oath about the things which come thereafter. Others opined that it is a way of calling attention to something important coming thereafter. Some further held that it is a literal style to challenge Arab poets and establish His superiority over them.

It is wrong to imply that there is no meaning for these letters, rather, Allah alone knows the meaning. Nothing in the Qur'an is vain or superficial; every letter therein is revealed for a purpose. Allah says: "Alif. Lam. Ra. (This is) a Scripture the revelations whereof are perfected and then expounded. (It cometh ) from One Wise, Informed." Qur'an 11 verse 1 When we are at a loss about the clarity of issues in the Qur'an, we should seek the understanding from other parts of the Qur'an as it explains itself: "Allah has revealed (from time to time) the most beautiful message in the form of a Book consistent with itself (Yet) repeating (its teaching in various aspects): the skins of those who fear their Lord tremble thereat; then their skins and their hearts do soften to the celebration of Allah's praises. Such is the guidance of Allah: He guides therewith whom He pleases but such as Allah leaves to stray can have none to guide." Qur'an 39 verse 23

The non-explanation of these letters should not be an opportunity for agents of Iilm-al-Batin (those who claim to have hidden knowledge) to thrive and mislead. There is nothing like hidden knowledge.

These letters do have meaning, but it is only known to Allah; delving

into research to understand it should not be our concern, we must concern ourselves with Allah's message which follows from the next verse (Qur'an 2 verse2) till Surah Nas (Qur'an 114) and Surah Al-Fatiha.

What we should concern ourselves with is the guidance contained in the Qur'an, wherein there is no doubt and it is guidance that leads to the straight path for those who follows that path and these are the believers, not the hypocrites or those whose heart are diseased. This is why you should be close to the Qur'an, to purify yourselves, your hearts, your doubts, to be guided and be firm on the Straight Path.

Ramadan is the month of the Qur'an. "Ramadan is the (month) in which was sent down the Qur'an as a guide to mankind also clear (Signs) for guidance and judgment (between right and wrong)..." Qur'an 2 verse 185. Allah's Words (Al-Qur'an) can take us closer and nearer to Him. Therefore, completing the Qur'an recitation in Ramadan is highly recommended; listening to its beautiful rendition elevates the soul; and exploring its meanings and explanations (tafsir) is a commendable venture. All these form part of Ramadan.

Indeed the Qur'an is Amazing only to those who suck from its juice of tranquility (Sakina) and guidance (hidaya). May Allah count us all amongst those who will be truly success. Ameen.

Monday, September 7, 2009

# Day 17

## PATH TO STRUGGLE

This post was submitted by [Humairah Irfan](#).

Her blog, Odd Wisdom, is a conglomerate of random advice, fitness tips, personal projects, thoughts on nature, and other oddities by a Muslim-computer engineer-fitness instructor-Arabic student-event organisation freak-and stuff- all in one

Know that Allah has witnessed everything you did, and He, subhana wa ta'ala, tells us in the Qur'an what to continue doing, in Surah Muzammil:

Verily, your Lord knows that you do stand [in prayer at night] a little less than two-thirds of the night, or one-half of it, or a third of it, and also a party of those with you. And Allah measures the night and the day. He knows that you are unable to pray the whole night so He has turned to you in mercy.

So recite you of the Qur'an as much as is easy for you.

He knows that there will be some among you sick, other's travelling through the land, seeking of Allah's bounty, yet others fighting in Allah's cause. So recite as much of the Qur'an as may be easy for you, and perform Salah, and give Zakah, and lend to Allah a goodly loan. And whatever good deed you may offer up in your own behalf, you shall truly find it with Allah-better and richer in reward.

And [always] seek forgiveness of Allah.

Verily, Allah is much-forgiving, Most Merciful! [73:20]

How do you know, if you are on the path of struggle? How do you know that you are "passing" the trials and tribulations of this dunya? Or, how do you make sure that your actions will definitely lead to success and the attainment of Paradise? The answer is in Surah Balad.

And what could make thee conceive what it is, that steep uphill road?  
- The Path of struggle [90:12]

\* [It is] the freeing of one's neck [from the burden of sin] /slave[90:13]

\* or the feeding, upon a day of [one's own] hunger, [90:14]

\* of an orphan near of kin, [90:15]

\* or of a needy [stranger] lying in the dust – [90:16]

\* and being, withal, of those who have attained to faith, and who enjoin upon one another patience in adversity, and enjoin upon one another compassion. [90:17]

Such are they that have attained to righteousness; whereas those who are bent on denying the truth of Our messages – they are such as have lost themselves in evil, [with] fire closing in upon them. [90:18-20]

May Allah (swt) forgive us, and accept from us, and make us witness another Ramadan.

Tuesday, September 8, 2009

# Day 18

## I'M IN LOVE WITH...

This post was submitted by [Hamid](#).

He is an Active learner, Creative thinker and a tactive doer.

### WHY SHOULDN'T I BE SO?

Tongue is incapable, words are insufficient

and feelings are inexpressible truly...

### I WAS... I'M.... I WILL BE....IN LOVE WITH IT.

It's the biggest wonder of all wonders.

It's the biggest miracle of all miracles.

It's the best book of all books.

Its truth is undeniable, its statements - irrefutable, its speech - unarguable, its honor - unchallengeable, its words - unchangeable, its decisions - unbreakable, its advice - motivational, its ideas - inspirational and its style - universal.

I strongly believe, also it's a fact, that it's the one and only book on the face of the planet we live in, which can break the hardest of the hearts and heal the weakest of the souls.

It enables me to distinguish right from wrong, it lights the way to heaven, it is my friend in the far lands, my society in solitude, my companion when friendless, it guides me to happiness, it sustains me in misery, it is an ornament among friends and armor against enemies.

Life is short, but knowledge to be gained is vast, so I hold it and learn which has the keys to all fields of knowledge (past, present) including the modern technology.

### PENNING DOWN MY FEW CURIOUS THOUGHTS ABOUT MY LOVE FOR IT.

Mirror reflects my face and Qur'an reflects my heart.

A body to be balanced needs a balanced diet, so also a soul to be balanced it needs its provision and the Qur'an is it.

It is hope for my future of here and hereafter.

Rope for my goals.

A solution for my every mini and macro problem, and an answer for every curious question.

A cure for my ailments, both spiritual and moral.

A magnificent magnet which keeps me motivating and attracting towards good and repels against evil.

An honor that distinguishes me from many others.

The only most beneficial and highly balanced book from all angles, in all ways and for all times.

I recite it to know what people ought to do, and read newspaper to know what they are doing.

It is a creative compass; it always points me in the right direction.

It gives me mental peace, which is priceless.

It imbibes its true followers with knowledge of learned, wisdom of wise, attitude of optimist, courage of warrior, humility of poor, characters of noble ones and curiosity of scientists.  
If fishes cannot survive without water, how can mankind survive without it? -Al-Qur'an Al-Azeem (Miracle of Al-Mighty in the hand of every man)  
A sea of unending knowledge and wisdom and the most Ideal System of Life for All Mankind.  
I would like to learn Allah's world from Allah's words.  
I love to contemplate upon it's message for one hour rather than adoring it for one year.

Love it, you too.....The only best book to be recite, reflect, research, memorize, act upon and implement its mighty and magnetic message individually and collectively too.

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

# Day 19

## THE BEST ONLINE RESOURCES ABOUT THE QUR'AN

This post was submitted by [MuslimMatters.org](http://MuslimMatters.org).

Muslimmatters.org began in 2007 as a collaboration between various Bloggers and Shuyookh in order to bring attention to issues faced by Muslims, especially in the West. They have focused on issues of Religion, Society, Ethics, Sex Education, Politics, Civil Rights, Family, as well as the random issues that pop up from now and then, all with some ranting and humor mixed in.

Allah swt says in surah Baqarah, verse 185:

شَهْرُ رَمَضَانَ الَّذِي أُنزِلَ فِيهِ الْقُرْآنُ هُدًى لِّلنَّاسِ وَبَيِّنَاتٍ مِّنَ الْهُدَىٰ وَالْفُرْقَانِ

The month of Ramadhan [is that] in which was revealed the Qur'an, a guidance for the people and clear proofs of guidance and criterion

Let's use this blessed month to read, understand, memorize, reflect and ponder upon the verses of Allah swt. Alhamdulillah, it is now easier than ever to do it with the help of Internet.

Here is a selection of the best resources available about the Qur'an in different topics:

### READ:

[Qur'anFlash.com](http://Qur'anFlash.com): very neat interface. You can turn the page one by one like a real mushaf. You can choose the Madani Mushaf, the Indo-Pak style mushaf, the Mushaf with colored tajweed rules, transliteration, etc.

### MEMORIZE:

[Reciter.org](http://Reciter.org): probably the best website if you want to memorize the Qur'an. You can select a reciter and configure the number of the times the verse has to be recited, the length of the pause, etc. The interface looks like the Madani mushaf, which is much better for the memorization than the regular Arabic fonts

[Qur'anExplorer.com](http://Qur'anExplorer.com): Almost the same features as reciter.org with different reciters (but with the Arabic font). It has the translation next to the Arabic text.

### TRANSLATION:

[Qur'an.com](http://Qur'an.com): Propose 6 different English translations (including the best one, Sahih International) as well as 19 foreign language

[Allah'sQur'an.com](http://Allah'sQur'an.com): very complete site with word by word translation, tafseer, recitation, search...

[Tanzil.info](http://Tanzil.info): the translation appears when you move your mouse over an ayat.

## TAFSEER

[Tafsir.com](#): Tafseer Ibn Kathir

[AlTafsir.com](#): contains the most known Tafseer books. Be aware that this site contains Tafseer from the Shi'a, and other groups. (Note from Sh. Jamaal Zarabozo's class: the English translation of Tafseer ibn Abbass was done by a Shi'a group and you find very strange and weird interpretations. This group also did the translation of Jalalayn.)

[IslamicStudies.info](#): Tafseer Maulana Maududi (Towards Understanding the Qur'an)

## AUDIO

[Qur'anicAudio.com](#): high quality recitation

[IslamWay.com](#): contains probably the largest number of reciters (over 200)

[HalalTunes.com](#): awesome way to listen the Qur'an by instant streaming (fastest and easiest way to listen to your favorite reciters without having to download)

## VIDEO

[Qur'anOnline.net](#): verse by verse video

## SEARCH

[SearchQur'an.net](#): search by sura (eg. 1, 2:25-35), or an english, arabic, or phonetic term (eg. 'bismillahi alrahman').

[SearchTruth.com](#): in addition to common features, you can search in different language

## ARABIC

[Sultan.org](#): for those who can understand Arabic, please refer to this website for the best resources available

May Allah swt make us amongst those who will read, learn, understand, apply and convey to others, the Qur'an.

Thursday, September 10, 2009

# Day 20

## YASIN - HEART OF THE QUR'AN

This post was submitted by [Eva Nirgaz Abdullah](#)

Eva is a stay-at-home Mom, who blogs about her life with her family...and also what it means to be an American Muslim Woman in the west. Her passions are doing Da'wah work and working with Youth programs at the mosque.



For the Muslims like me for whom Arabic is not their native tongue, the challenge to understand the Qur'an is harder. But Alhamdulillah, nowadays we are blessed with many English translations of the meaning of the Qur'an and tafseer, or commentary of the Qur'an; as well as many

other resources such as online lectures and articles. All these things together help us to really appreciate the magnitude of what the Qur'an is saying and the awesomeness of Allah's words!

One thing that I have found that over the years has helped me to understand the Qur'an better is, in every Ramadan to choose a part, surah, or theme to study more in depth. While it is equally important to recite the Qur'an in Arabic, studying this way helps you to internalize more what its saying, what Allah is telling us.

For example, one year I studied Juz 'Amma with some friends. We used the 'Touched by an Angel - Series' by Muhammad AlShareef.

This year I got a Ramadan Reminder that encouraged me to read Surah Yasin. Having never fully studied it, I broke out my Muhammad Asad translation of the meaning of the Qur'an and started reading. Now, years after coming to Islam, and with more knowledge and understanding under my belt, this Surah blew me away! No wonder it's known as the "heart of the Qur'an". This surah is an intimate heart to heart talk between Allah and His creation (us). And its content is important for us to reflect on now while we are still alive, not just when someone or we are dying.

### SOME POINTS OF INTEREST IN THIS SURAH:

- 'Revealed in the early part of what is termed the "middle" Mecca period (probably just before Al-Furqan), this surah is almost entirely devoted to the problem of man's moral responsibility and, hence, to the certainty of resurrection and Allah's judgment: and it is for this reason that the Prophet ﷺ called upon his followers to recite it upon the dying and in prayers for the dead (cf.

several traditions to this effect quoted by Ibn Kathir in his commentary of this surah).’ (The Message of the Qur’an, Translated and Explained by Muhammad Asad)

- “Its main theme is the assertion of the principle of Tawheed, oneness of Allah, and its objective is to draw attention to Allah’s magnificent creation and to call people to prepare for accountability to Him. It can be divided into an introduction followed by three distinct parts...the first part relates a story of a town where messengers came, the identities are irrelevant, the message of the story is what’s important; the second part offers evidence of Allah’s omnipotence and magnificence; and the final part deals with two of the most fundamental religious principles: resurrection and judgment.” (A Thematic Commentary of the Qur’an, Sheikh Muhammad Al-Ghazali)

- Anytime Allah swears by something you should take NOTICE, and in the first few verses of this surah Allah swears by the Qur’an itself, and what’s more is, Allah swears by it to confirm the legitimacy of Muhammad as a Messenger of Allah.

From my reading, the following ayat stuck out:

- Ayah 30 “...oh the regrets that [most] human beings will have to bear!...” in the footnotes of this ayah it talks about how most people will bring about their own spiritual deaths.

-Ayah 68 ...Speaks about how as we grow older we decline in our ability, yet we do not contemplate that we have had the free will and time to make moral choices, but choose to wait till we can no longer use this unique gift...will we not be grateful?

-Ayat 35 and 73 - Allah reminds us of his favors, and then asks “...will they not, then, be grateful?...” Being grateful for things does a lot for one’s soul and mental health.

-Ayah 77 reminds us that we all started off as a liquid, and that it was Allah that brought us from something that we disgust into a being, capable of thinking and arguing. And some have the audacity to argue with Allah! Think over that for a second, the miracle of creation, be grateful...think of some sci/fi movies it could have been so much worse for us, LOL, but Allah blessed us with the abilities and choices we have.

-Ayah 83, this ayah struck with such power as I read the whole surah, it is the perfect ending, and it reminds us of the true reality.

“Limitless, then, in His glory is He in whose hands rests the mighty dominion over all things; and unto Him you all will be brought back!”

## SOME LINKS FOR SURAH YA-SIN:

- A BEAUTIFUL [RECITATION](#) OF SURAH YASIN
- ANOTHER [RECITATION](#) BY A YOUNG BOY
- [MEMORIZE](#) SURAH YASIN
- IBN KATHIR [TAFSIR](#)
- AUDIO [LECTURE](#) ABOUT SURAH YASIN
- [PDF ARTICLE](#) WITH COMMENTARY

Don’t Forget!!!

-Recite the Qur'an in Arabic as much as you can, and if you don't know how to, then invest some time into learning how to read it during Ramadan. And then each year evaluate your progress and push yourself farther.

-Study the Qur'an in your language. Either pick a part, Surah, or theme to study in depth during Ramadan...really take time to reflect on it and let it inspire and change you for the better.

And Finally, the Qur'an should be seen not as a book studied over a month, but a book that is a life-long study. You will never read or contemplate it too much. And you can do nothing but benefit from your efforts. It will both guide you and bring you closer to Allah.

\*\*\*If anything is wrong in what I mentioned above, please forgive me, and if there is anything of benefit, it is from Allah.

Friday, September 11, 2009

# Day 21

## THE QUR'AN - CHILDREN AND FASCINATING STORIES!

This post was submitted by Mubina of [A Muslimah's Haven](#). The blog delves into the extraordinary world of the human mind, a human life in all its purity, the fitrah on which Allah subhanuhu wa ta'ala created it. All and all in the light of Islam, the way of life prescribed to us by the Almighty Allah!

Little Raihana rushed to bed holding her mother's hand. She just loved it when it was time to go to bed. For at that time, she not only prepared herself for a wonderful night full of beautiful dreams, but also because her mother would give her a wonderful treat.

“Mama :) I'm ready! I'm ready!” Raihana chirped happily, jumping up and down in bed even as her mother tried to gently tuck her in. And as Raihana lied down to sleep, her Mama told her stories that fascinated her, stories from the Qur'an!

5 years ago, while Little Raihana's Mama prepared herself for Raihana to arrive, she and Raihana's Abba made sure they did everything to bring their child into a world that would show her the beauty of life that Allah subhanu wa ta'ala had blessed her with. And indeed, they would have to make sure she was kept protected away from all evil that was let loose in the world today.

Raihana looked at her mother with an expression of deep serious thought. “Yes sweetheart?”, Her Mother replied.

“Mama, is it ok to hurt kitties? Today Arif and his friends were throwing sticks and stones at a kitty. Mama, the kitty was crying sooo much :(” Raihana expressed sadly.

Her mother smiled at her and said, “No Raihana. We should not hurt anything that has life. They all are Allah's creations. They feel pain like how we do. Did I ever tell you the story of King Solomon?”

And Little Raihana's face lit up with a big smile, “No Mama, tell meee!”

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Next day at school Raihana walked up to where Arif sat. “Assalamualaikum Arif. How are you?”, She asked.

“Wa'alaikumassalam Raihana. I'm fine Alhamdulillah. What are you so worried about?” Arif replied, seeing Raihana worried.

“Mama said we must not hurt animals and any other living thing. They all feel pain like we do.”,

Raihana told him sincerely. Arif laughed and started walking away. “Mama also told me about King Solomon!” Raihana shouted out behind him.

All the classmates, including Arif, turned to look at Raihana. And she smiled back at everyone. They all gathered around Raihana curious about what she had to say. “King Solomon was a gifted king!” “Allah gifted him with a special gift that none of us has.” She began.

“Really? What's that Raihana?”

The kids asked getting more and more curious.

“King Solomon could talk to birds and animals and understand what they said!” Wooooow!” The children cried out in unison! She continued

gesturing with her hands, “He had a big army that included lots and lots of animals and birds! When he marched with his huge army, he heard an ant warn the other ants. And you know what the ant said??”

The children listened to her intently and no one spoke a word. “Look out! Look out! Rush to your homes. Otherwise Solomon and his army might crush you unknowingly!” “Ooooooh!” The kids cried out again.

And Raihana continued, “King Solomon smiled to himself when he heard this. He was happy that the ant knew he was a Prophet and he would not hurt Allah’s creation knowingly. He also thanked Allah for saving their lives!”

The kids sat silently with their jaws dropped down in awe! “Now you tell me. Do you think it is ok to hurt little kitties like that one yesterday?”

Raihana asked them. Arif hung his head down in shame. He came up to her and told everyone in the classroom, “I’m very sorry for hurting the little kitty yesterday. I promise I will never hurt anyone again.” His friends also joined him in apology. “Yaaay!”

The whole class clapped happily. And ever since that day, the children would return to school each day, eager to listen to a new story from Raihana.

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Little Raihana grew up to be a teacher to little ones. She told them the many stories that she learnt when she was a little girl. She treasured the dream of sharing the stories with as many people as possible. So that children would grow up with love for the Qur’an and its Creator, and also continue learning more and more.

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Most children around the world listen to fairy tales & cultural stories; they learn moral sciences, history, biographies, life sciences, etc. Muslim

children are taught how to recite the Qur’an, but very rarely are they taught what the Qur’an is really all about. They might be brought up in Islam, but as they grow older, many question themselves and their beliefs. They reach one of four points:

- 1) They continue with whatever religious practices are learned culturally.
- 2) They fall out of Islam.
- 3) They realize they need to learn the truth and educate themselves about Islam.
- 4) Every action is for the sake of Allah. They grow up with a strong base and continue to learn and teach. Insha Allah.

The 3rd kind are like reverts. They discover things they never knew. They understand why they do certain things, in a better light. Their actions become for the sake of Allah (swt) instead of doing it just because they are Muslims, as is in the 1st case.

So why leave our children at the mercy of ignorance? Why not take this step, and help our Ummah raise children of the 4th kind? What can be better than the developing years of a child? Story-telling is one of the best ways of teaching children, no doubt. So why not teach them from the Qur’an? As for us, we still have time to learn and educate ourselves and our children Insha Allah, as long as we are still travelers of this world!

Indeed, he whom Allah guided, no one can misguide. And He whom He did not guide, no one can guide. May Allah (swt) guide us rightly. Ameen

Saturday, September 12, 2009

# Day 22

## ‘MAKE THE QUR’AN YOUR BEST FRIEND’

This post was submitted by [Mister Brother](#).

God is the Light of the heavens and the earth;

The similitude of His Light is as if there was a niche;

And within it a Lamp: the Lamp enclosed in Glass;

The glass, as it was a glittering star;

Lit from a Blessed Tree;

An Olive, neither of the East nor of the West;

Whose oil is nigh luminous, though no fire has touched it;

Light upon Light; God guides to His Light whom He will.

And God strikes similitudes for men, and God has knowledge of everything

– Qur’an 24:35

The last time I had tapped away at my keyboard there was still the majority of Ramadan left. Now, with time flying by, and little of it

remaining before our dear friend departs – I begin to have that sense of apprehension and sorrow, that soon I will have to anticipate not seeing it for another year, or maybe ever again.

It’s strange how it seems so entirely normal to be fasting not just in body, but in mind and soul too – almost like we’ve been doing it for a life time, but I’m guessing it will be even stranger after Ramadan when we return to the sins we used to commit prior to it. May Allah swt protect us from this insha’Allah - Ameen.

If there is one thing we should all be taking away from Ramadan, it is the importance and significance of the Qur’an. [ProductiveMuslim.com](#) along with a whole host of online Muslim bloggers have formed the Mission Ramadan campaign, whereby every day a different blogger writes about their thoughts and opinions on the Holy Qur’an, guidance for all mankind. It’s a brilliant concept, and one that couldn’t have come any sooner, judging by the apathy and peace so many of us have not knowing what lies within this book.

Let me give you an example.

Say there is a man who recently has become a father. He proclaims his love for his son to all the others around him, many times. This man loves his son so much, that every day he would give his son a kiss on the forehead.

But let’s say that was it. He never spent any time with his son. He didn’t care about what his son had to say, what his son was doing, whether his son was well fed or whether his son had decent clothing to wear. All this man would do is kiss his son on his forehead.

Would you say this man is a good father? Would you say this man loves his son? He doesn’t give a damn about anything to do with his son, but simply provides kisses. Empty love; you would say this man is a cruel and evil person in fact.

Now knowing this, say this man was to say to you he loves his son, would you still believe this man? Or would you call this man a Liar? If not a liar, then a fool?

I need not waste words by clarifying the analogy above with what we are doing today with the Qur'an. The Qur'an it seems, unfortunately in our community, has been reserved for either holding over the bride during a wedding or reading over the dead. We don't care about what the Qur'an has to say, let alone dedicating the time it deserves for reading. Yet if someone asked us – do you love the Qur'an – we would have the audacity to say 'Yes! Of course,' with no hesitation. The irony of which is that our very actions today (i.e. leaving the Qur'an and not reading it with its understanding), is documented in the book itself!

On the Day of Judgement, Allah swt will be the Judge, and Prophet Muhammad (saw) will stand in the witness box – and when asked about us, what will his response be?

'Then the Messenger will say: "O my Lord! Truly these are my people who abandoned this Qur'an." (Qur'an 25:30)

The book itself, the Qur'an, is filled with stories of Bani Israel, and other past nations and tribes – and how they dealt and interacted with God and His Prophets... but these stories are there for a deeper reason, and not just for leisurely entertainment. They are clearly a warning for us; not to fall into the same mistakes and traps that these past nations have gone through.

Khurram Murad said it nicely in his book 'Way to the Qur'an':

'Today we have the same Qur'an with us. Millions of copies of it are in circulation. Day and night, it is ceaselessly recited, in homes, in mosques, and from pulpits. Voluminous exegetical works exist

expounding its meaning. Words pour out incessantly to explain its teachings and to exhort us to live by it.

Yet eyes remain dry, hearts remain unmoved, minds remain untouched, lives remain unchanged. Ignominy and degradation appear to have become the lot of the followers of the Qur'an.

Why? Because, we no longer read the Qur'an as a living reality. It is a sacred book, but it tells us something of the past only, concerning Muslims and Kafirs, Jews and Christians, the faithful and the hypocrites, who once upon a time used to be.'



To add to this, there are so many Muslims nowadays who believe that somehow, simply by their belief in Allah they will be granted Jannah. But this is exactly what the Bani Israel used to say:

'And they say: "The Hellfire will not touch us except for a few numbered days. Say: Have you taken some covenant from Allah? Then Allah (SWT) never goes back on His promise. Or do you say about Allah what you do not know?" -(Qur'an 2:80)

Do people not realize that if Jannah was so cheap, and you entered simply by your belief, then who out of us has a greater belief in Allah

than Shaytaan himself? Shaytaan used to reside in Jannah, and be one of the best worshippers of God until he transgressed after the creation of Adam (as)...Simply believing that God exists is not enough, you must realize that with that belief comes your responsibilities to fulfill, your obligations to Him.

We should take this month as a time to reflect, and take accountability of ourselves. How have we changed over the past 4-5 years? Has it been a change for the better, or for the worse? Have we changed at all even? One should realize that a man not progressing is not standing still. He is stagnating.

Remember, don't be duped into thinking that it's ok to remain the way you are, simply because those around you are the same.

When the Earth will be encompassed in complete darkness- and there is no light to see, Allah swt will then provide the true believers with Noor (Light) according to their Emaan. Some will have light emanating only from an area as big as their toe. Others will have light shining from their entire body. And yet there will be others who will have no light at all. Nothing. Zilch.

On that day, when there is literally no guidance without the light, these people who will have no light (due to their disbelief or lack of emaan during their life) will say:

‘(Those without) will call out, “Were we not with you?” (The others) will reply, “True! but you led yourselves into temptation; you looked forward (to our ruin); you doubted (Allah’s Promise); and (your false) desires deceived you; until there issued the Command of Allah. And the Deceiver deceived you in respect of Allah.’ - Qur’an (57:14)

You can see clearly from this ayah that the people without light on that day will be people who lived amongst the true believers. They are

in shock, because they perhaps would have eaten together, studied together, maybe even hung out together, but on the day of judgment the two of them will be in very different situations.

Whilst one of them might have prayed, the other might not have. Whilst one of them fasted, the other might not have. Whilst one of them went through Ramadan with his sins forgiven, the other might not have. And whilst all of these things may not have highlighted much of a difference between the two individuals in this life, on the day of judgment, the visible difference will be clear.

I hope I have made my message clear, and that my advice is seen as sincere. We need to stop keeping the Qur’an on top of our bookshelves where they gather dust and on our bedside tables where they are in arms reach. There is no point respecting the Qur’an so much, by putting it in such a high place – where it is out of reach, out of sight, and out of mind.

The Qur’an should be the book that we read regularly, every day, every week – a book that we make our best friend. The Prophets’ Companions used to go through 10 verses at a time – trying to grasp the meaning behind the verses and implement God’s commands in their daily lives. We should try implementing something similar.

Please don't leave it too late...how many more funerals will we attend, and how many more people will pass away before being able to make that change. Ironically, when someone dies, Surah Yaseen is read – but if the individual’s ears understood what his lips was reciting, he would know that Allah swt says:

‘And We have not taught him (Muhammad) poetry, nor does it befit him. This is only a Reminder and a clear Qur’an

That it may give warning to him who is Living.....’ (Qur’an 36:60-70)

A warning for men who are LIVING. Those of us who are not spiritually dead should take note of this ayah in particular, and make the most of the wisdom from the Qur'an whilst we are still alive.

Finally, the verse at the very beginning of this article is called the light verse. It is one of my favorite verses in the Qur'an – partly because of one of the explanations I have read of it.

'Light upon Light; God guides to His Light whom He wills'

Some scholars have said that every person has already been born with light, but when this person receives and understands the guidance from Allah, that has been provided to him through Prophet Muhammad (saw) and the Qur'an – then, and only then, does his inner light itself become lit with divine light from Allah swt— noorun ala noor — light upon light, God guides to His Light whom He wills, subhanAllah.

Some productive tips for those of you who would like to implement that change ⇒ :

1. Buy a decent translation of the Qur'an! I recommend the one below, just click on the link at the end of this article to take you to Amazon's website.
2. Read around 10 ayaat a day in Arabic and then its English translation.
3. At the end of the week, make a list of things you have learnt from the ayaat that you have read so far
4. Try memorizing around 5 ayaat a day.
5. All of the above can be done in the total of 1 hour everyday – and thus you need to evaluate how you can gain an extra hour somehow. I recommend either reading it in the morning before you set off for work, or in the night before you sleep.

6. Get a Qur'an buddy that you can work with to do the above

That's all for now folks!

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mr.br

Sunday, September 13, 2009

# Day 23

## YOU WITHOUT A BLURR

This post was submitted by [Nahyan Chowdhury](#).

His goal is to provide the best training in Time Management and Life Management for Muslims, from an Islamic perspective. Live life with Ihsan, Excellence.



It's said that airplanes are off their course most of the time, yet they start and reach their intended destinations. It's a matter of knowing where to go and making adjustments on the way.

Ramadan. This is the 'realest' you can get. Shaytan is tied up, the avenues to do good are so common, atmosphere of Muslims is o-so-good.

## IT'S ALL ON YOU...

Instead of waiting until after Ramadan to do some self-analysis, take account now.

Let's cover 3 areas for now:

- IBADAH THRESHOLD
- THE REPLACEMENT FOR TIME
- WATCHING THE ENERGY DIAL

## IBADAH THRESHOLD

Considering that the shayateen are tied up and we're left to ourselves, our quality and quantity ibadah (worship of Allah) reflects our Ibadah Threshold.

It's like the cap on how many good deeds our mind & body can handle and how far our Iman drive us.

It's the same month of Ramadan for everyone. Yet we see some Muslims who are fully ON and continue improving, while others are making FaceBook updates about how hungry they are (and then discussing it with others who are complaining about hunger!)

The purpose of fasting in Ramadan is taqwa, so let's check how much we are doing and how much we are improving.

Now, how do we know Ramadan is for taqwa?

It's in the Qur'an.

So why not use this Ramadan to establish our relationship with the Qur'an. That is an amazing tool for taqwa-training. Our relationship with the Qur'an is a great measure for our Ibadah threshold; how long can you read the Qur'an for in a day, is taraweeh boring or are you fascinated by the verses as you hear them, contemplation etc.

For whatever of Ramadan you have and our whole lives beyond that, let's constantly return to the Qur'an to check our iman.

## THE REPLACEMENT FOR TIME

I do this thing called "Time Tracker" once in a while to get an overview of the trends in my daily life and measure productivity.

So I was just noting down few days ago how much time opened up from the not eating and cutting out distractions etc. and what will replace that free time.

Here's an example:

- Save 1 hr from not eating during the day
- Save 1 hr from cutting distractions
- Add 2 hrs to my day by waking up at Suhoor (Sehri)
- Minus 1 hr for Taraweeh (or as Bengali's call it "Tarabi Namaj" :P )

WoW, there's an extra 3 hrs!

Here's the key point of this activity, where is it all going?

Is it here:

- 1 hr for Qur'an reading
- 20 mins extra adhkar
- 40 mins Iftar (prep included)
- 1 hr of some more good stuff

Or here:

- Sleep after suhoor until regular days wake up time (eliminates the 2 hrs extra)
- Pray 8 out of 20 Taraweeh prayers and chill outside until everybody's done
- Explore new ways to waste the extra time; extra long iftar, more YouTube, 'relaxing'

So do it up -- see how much time frees up for you and how it's being replaced.

## WATCHING THE ENERGY DIAL

We know our energy level fluctuates throughout the day, Ramadan and non-Ramadan days.

Watch how those fluctuations happen during Ramadan; when do you feel most energetic as well as when do you feel wiped out.

We can't get into it too deeply now, but just work according to your energy schedule.

- If you're too sleepy in the morning and fresh in the afternoon, do the task that needs focus/attention at that time.
- Do the more serious Qur'an reading when you're energetic, then maybe relax and do your adhkar when you're tired & awaiting iftar.

## MOVING FORWARD

You can't direct the wind, but you can adjust the sail.

So wherever you are in life, Ramadan or any other time, it is because of the things you did before that you got here (ie. Ramadan).

It's not necessarily a good thing, it's not a bad thing...it just is.

We've still got a good chunk of Ramadan to get through, let's make the best of it.

## SUMMARY

Here are the 3 areas we covered:

- Ibadah Threshold – a cap to our ability/interest in good deeds

- The Replacement for Time – investigate the free time and what's replacing it
- Watching the Energy Dial – work according to your energy cycle

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Share what you benefited from this; after reading and after testing them out. InshaAllah.

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I'm looking forward to all your successes,

Nahyan

Monday, September 14, 2009

# Day 24

## IQRA - AND YOUR LORD IS THE MOST GENEROUS!

This post was submitted by [TurBo Flow](#).

Turboflow blog is a blog with a difference - different topics etc - different flow. And the purpose of the blog is to reflect on the very first word of the Qur'an - 'Read' - its purpose, what it means to us and where we would be if we couldn't read - such a powerful word - yet so down rated.

The very first word of the Qur'an is 'READ'! It didn't start with anything else - like 'prayers', 'charity' or even 'family life' - which is what we are all preoccupied with in our lives today - but it was READ! And who was it revealed to? Not a great scholar of his time, not a scientist, not a king or ruler of his land - but to an unlettered man - who went on to become the greatest man to ever have walked on our planet - he was the Prophet Muhammed (pbuh), the mercy to all of mankind, the Prophet of Islam.

READ! It's a powerful word! Just take a minute - (just one) and reflect on this word - deeply....

Done?

Ok.

What are you all doing right now? Reading this blog entry. Who taught us to read and how did we learn to read? Seems like a lifetime ago

right? - Because it comes to us naturally. But, once upon a time we all went through a process - to learn to Read - and once we mastered it - we became whole - complete humans. We were able to pick up any book and just read it - the words flowed on the paper and we could understand them.

Where would you, and I, be today if we couldn't read - lost? Looking for answers? Wasting our lives and searching for the purpose of our lives?

Read! And Your Lord Is The Most Generous! (Surah Alaq 96: 3)

For truly Allah (swt) is the Most Generous! He created us and knew what we would need to survive and how to fulfill our aim and purpose in this world.

By reading, men and women have contributed to society, to the world and made many discoveries and scientific/medical/social/political advances.

There is a purpose for everything - and surely there was a purpose to 'Read, and your Lord is the most Generous!'

Allah (swt) blessed us with the ability to read - so we can read His words, the Qur'an - understand them and implement its teachings in our lives.

But did you know that there are many, many, people in this world who can't read? Young children in developing countries who have never even seen a book?

So we ask ourselves - are we actually fulfilling our obligations? If READ was the first word - and Allah (swt) wanted us to become the best of people - to discover hidden treasures - to make medical, scientific

advances - which help humanity - then what are we doing in return to help humanity? Just because you and I went to school - doesn't mean everyone in this world has this opportunity. If people can't read then how will they understand Allah's words and do as He commands?

IQRA - And Your Lord Is The Most Generous! We need to re-read this word, understand it and take action. We need to help those who can't read the Qur'an, to read it - and help them understand Allah's words and His Beauty. We need to help the children around the world to read - and just before doing that - we need to help our own children, in our own families - help them to read - to understand - to implement - to appreciate - and fulfill our duty at home - then we need to get-together - maybe all of us reading this, and set up a national and international 'Reading Foundation' - where we travel up and down our countries to help children read and travel to developing countries and countries suffering from wars - to help those children to read.

Allah (swt) is the most Generous and He has blessed us with this gift - the gift of reading - so let's share this gift and give it to those less fortunate than ourselves. Islam is seen by some as barbaric, a terrorist religion, who oppresses its women and girls - and you know there are many who will use the name of Islam to oppress our women and children - but we need to teach them - teach them the first words which were taught to our Prophet (pbuh) - Read! And maybe we can change their hearts - maybe they can't read, so don't realize the Beauty of Allah (swt) and His religion - so it is our collective duty to help people to Read.

The Month of Ramadhan is the Month of the Qur'an - we read it, reflect upon its meaning, study it, and promise to implement its teachings in our lives.

Just imagine...you pick up your copy of the Qur'an - open it - start to Read it - and...you can't read any more...you just can't...you try...

but the words are alien to you and meaningless...and those tears roll down your cheeks...but you can't do nothing - because the gift of reading that was blessed upon you has...gone...taken back by...the rightful Owner...

Is this what we want?

This is how children and people around the world feel - those who can't read...and guess what? We've been keeping this gift to ourselves and haven't shared it with others - who just like you and me - want to open their copy of the Qur'an and read the words of Allah - the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful...

Ramadhan 09 is drawing to an end - after reading this blog entry - what will one of your goals be for the next year?

There's still hope! Let's give a gift to someone this Ramadhan - a gift for a lifetime - the gift of reading the Qur'an...

IQRA - And Your Lord Is The Most Generous..

Tuesday, September 15, 2009

# Day 25

## WHY ISLAM

This post was submitted by Jacian Fares of [Project Ninja](#).

Keep up prayer and pay the poor-rate and whatever good you send before for yourselves, you shall find it with Allah; surely Allah sees what you do. (Chapter 2: Verse 110)

People wonder why I chose Islam--of all religions or lifestyles.

Why Islam?

My name is Jacian Fares. I come from the Al-Fares family of Hebron. My father was born in Lebanon, my mother is a Spaniard. I was the first generation born in America (Dearborn, Michigan in fact). My father took no stock in religion nor did he live the Deen. My grandparents are devoted Muslims, I do imagine his choice and path in life had saddened their hearts. Needless to say my siblings and I were born without a specific religion. We were to be raised as American kids. Under odd circumstances, I was the only one of the three of us to go live in Lebanon for six years, during which I was a teenager. I shall call this time period my first encounter with Near East culture.

My second phase of encounter came when I was in the U.S. Marine Corps. I lead the invasion into Iraq--not a war I agreed with, but I was a soldier just doing his job. In Fallujah, and other areas of the Al Anbar province, I came to know the locals. I had witnessed other Arabs during Ramadan over the years. I had watched how devoted to their Deen they were. Unfortunately I was shot in Iraq and lost a kidney--but it is

as Allah wills. I had always believed everything happens within reason.

Allah has granted a grade higher to those who strive and fight with their goods and persons than to those who sit at home. (Chapter 4: Verse 94)

When I had come home, I was depressed and felt like I had nothing to follow in life. I was used to following a routine and now it was taken from me. My relationship at the time went downhill. So I was alone. My grandparents had hinted at Islam, As well as my aunt. Finally a girl I had met from the Al-Hussaini family in Kuwait suggested it, too. During August of 2008 I read the Qur'an. And it just clicked. It made sense to me, more so than a bible or a Torah. It was very straight to the point. The Muslim's life has routine. I needed this change in my life, to find my true self.

“This Qur'an guides to the best path, and brings good news to the believers who lead a righteous life, that they have deserved a great recompense.” (Chapter 17: Verse 9)

Finally I had routine. I had reasons to live for and make my life that much better.

I can say I had made many friends over the past year; all of different Middle Eastern countries. From Egypt, Palestine, Jordan, and Qatar. And these friends helped in developing who I am now. And for that I am forever thankful. There is even a woman in my life who is Muslim and Palestinian. And she inspires me to be a good Muslim, to be a better Muslim, and to get in touch with my roots. My grandparents are thankful for this also.

So here I am in my second Ramadan. Sadly I cannot fast because I am a juvenile diabetic. But I donate food, money, and time to people in need for all 30 days. And this year is special, my birthday falls on Eid. And while I am stuck here in America, alone... I am not alone. People in the Muslim communities treat me as any other family member. And I have to say this life we live, the Deen we live, it brings us all together. It brings us together and makes us brothers and sisters, every day of our lives--even on days without Holiday. So I promise I will always treat one as my brother or sister, help out ones in need, even in times without special purpose. I will do this every day of my life.

“Serve Allah, and join not any partners with Him; and do good--to parents, kinsfolk, orphans, those in need, neighbors who are near, neighbors who are strangers, the companion by your side, the wayfarer (ye meet), and what your right hands possess: For Allah loveth not the arrogant, the vainglorious.” (Chapter 4: Verse 36)

I love Ramadan and what it represents. It reminds us what being a good Muslim is. But I propose that we make every day of our lives like Ramadan and share with our fellow man and woman. As Muslims, we can make this world a better place--no matter how the media tries projecting us as, no matter how ignorant people believe we are.... we can honestly make this world a better place.

Show forgiveness, speak for justice and avoid the ignorant. (Chapter 7: Verse 199)

O ye who believe! take not for friends and protectors those who take your religion for a mockery or sport,- whether among those who received the Scripture before you, or among those who reject Faith; but fear ye Allah, if ye have faith. (Chapter 5: Verse 57)

We should never push God onto anyone, but we should inform the ones interested, correctly. That's how it was done with me; I've come a long way with the support and help of my brothers and sister--my friends and family in Islam.

I choose Islam because it's part of who I am. I've reverted back to what my family has believed. I now live how they live. This is all because reading the Qur'an was suggested to me. I'm happy and proud of myself for doing so. The Qur'an has lead me to finding my true self. And now my God has a name. Allah.

I suggest to non-believers to keep an open mind and just look at what the Qur'an has to say. There is more there if read with open eyes. The Qur'an is simply a tool and guide we should use to live a correct path; it promotes peace, love and a strong trust in Allah.

And what will explain to you what the steep path is? It is the freeing of a (slave) from bondage; or the giving of food in a day of famine to an orphan relative, or to a needy in distress. Then will he be of those who believe, enjoin fortitude and encourage kindness and compassion. (Chapter 90: Verses 12-17)

Wednesday, September 16, 2009

# Day 26

## IPOET'S QUR'ANIC MOMENT!

### FULL OF TEARS. EMOTIONS. DARE TO READ?

This post was submitted by [iPOET](#).

Who is an Established Speaker, Writer, Islamic Poet and an Entrepreneur. iPOET, Aims To Write Catchy, Creative and Complete Poetry Tailored towards your daily Motivational, Emotional And Inspirational needs, to Convey The Message That Islam Is Easy To Follow, Simple and Relevant to your everyday life.



As my tender soft butter eyes glance at the Glorious book, my rose like heart sparkles up in anticipation. My inner Soul shakes in fear and hope as I pick up the greatest book of all time. Qur'anic sensation runs down my petals and melts them one by one as I open the beautiful reminder to mankind. I witness a world full of extreme power and light. Light bounces in my heart, soul enraptured. As I go to read the Qur'an, each letter melts my soul, mind and heart. My mind feeling a spiritual buzz. Heart locked to each amazing letter of the Qur'an. Locked as a blessed prisoner, craving to taste the sweetness of wisdom. The word of God, which no soul can ever match. Qur'anic moment to the fullest potential. My tender soft butter eyes water up with tears. Tears become droplets, tears become puddles and then become an ocean as I ponder upon these emotional words:

Say: "The Angel of Death, put in charge of you, will (duly) take your souls: then

shall you be brought back to your Lord. (32:11)

Watery tears as deep as an ocean flow down my innocent face and dry on my lips. As my heart locks on the pages of the Qur'an. Balanced between hope, by Allah's mercy, and between fear, by Allah's wrath. The Qur'anic wisdom takes me on an unforgettable journey through the Islamic history, to life's mystery. Full of knowledge to the depths of the root, in the quietness of my vivid thoughts burning the current's path into a deeper frame of emotion. Patient tears flowed up on an endless crevice. Allah counts my tears; one by one. The Holy Qur'an is True Beauty with imagination of radiant light which illumines the deeper depths of my soul. Conveying a revolutionary message which transforms my soul towards Jannah. As I go to close the Qur'an, my heart feels regret, like a loved one gone. A liked one on. On infinite friendship. Strong attachment stays within. iPOET and Qur'an. A beautiful couple and garment to one another. Closeness like no other. The Qur'an will be my witness of the Day Of Judgement.

When is your Qur'anic Moment O Dear Friend?

Do You Cry When YOU Read The Powerful Message?

Who's Words are the Qur'an?

How often is our Qur'anic Moment?

Will the Qur'an be your witness on the Day Of Judgement?

For or Against?

The Words of Allah live on forever. Ink dried, pen lifted. Blessed and stay untouched!

Written by a Stranger.

iPOET

Thursday, September 17, 2009

# Day 27

## GETTING STARTED TEACHING ARABIC

This post was submitted by [TJ's Blog](#) of homeschooling, home, Islamic tips, thoughts, and tidbits.



Ok, so Arabic's not your first language, but you know you should teach it to your kids so that they can read the Qur'aan and authentic Islamic texts.

If you're just starting out, you may be scratching your head, wondering where to begin, and how to teach.

Insha Allah, TJ's tips and resources can help.

## GETTING STARTED

### 1. Know why you should teach Arabic:

Understand the importance of teaching Arabic to your student and its benefits. Insha Allah, this will help make teaching Arabic a priority for you.

Article: [The Status of the Arabic Language in Islam](#)

### 2. Determine your goals for learning Arabic:

Are you teaching your child Arabic so that he/she can read the Qur'aan and Islamic texts?

Do you want your child to learn conversational Arabic?

Do you want your child to learn Arabic grammar?

I once read an article online that insisted that children do not need to know the Arabic terms for words such as lemon or taxi. The author's position was that if you were going to read the Qur'aan, this type of vocabulary was not necessary. Point taken. However, if you are intending on making hijrah or living in an Arabic speaking country, then it may be important to know terms like these.

Both goals have very different means for attaining them, so you need to decide what your goals are because this will affect what type of curriculum you need.

If you are just looking for a program or means to teach your child to read the Qur'aan, then you don't need him/her to be bogged down with unrelated material.

If you want your student to be fluent in Arabic speaking, you need a curriculum rich in vocabulary and conversational Arabic and you need to make sure that you try to use that conversation in everyday life, as much as possible. You will want to choose a program that is arranged by topics and not grammatical concepts for conversational speaking. Grammar should be incorporated naturally into the topic, not the other way around for this goal. Also, try to give the student plenty of opportunity to hear spoken Arabic from native speakers. Provide lots of real life applications and practice.

If you want your child to learn the rules of grammar, my suggestion is not to mix it into the conversation/oral fluency curriculum. As an Arabic as a second language learner, I have found that I tend to get

too bogged down in the grammar aspects when it comes to speaking and thus I think it slows me down in communicating orally. These are two different goals and thus (in my opinion) require two different teaching methods.

3. Choose a curriculum or make your own.

Now that you have identified your goals for teaching Arabic (and it can be all three), set out to find programs that match these needs. This should be easier, insha Allah, now that you have separated them out instead of simply saying, “I want my child to learn Arabic”.

Two programs/books that I have used with success, masha Allah are:

- [EASY STEPS IN QUR'AAN READING PUBLISHED BY MELS.](#)
- [QUR'AAN MADE EASY \(YASSURNAL QUR'AAN\), BY SHABBIR BEHLIM](#)

Out of the two, I really liked the second as it contained over 100 easy lessons. I didn't get to use this extensively as my son lost it in the masjid, but I really liked the way it laid the lessons out. If I could get it again, I would. There are other books by the same title in different bookstores, so if you are looking for this one, look for this author.

So, we really ended up going with the first one for most of the instruction for my two oldest children. Although it is for ages 7 and up, I felt that more time should have been spent on the alphabet itself, at least for younger children. Once the alphabet is learned, I felt the book was excellent. I think only one word out of the given words for reading throughout the book is not in the Qur'aan. The book also came with a couple of Arabic alphabet charts, flashcards, and tapes. I do recommend this one as well.

Other than that, having been in Yemen for a while, I have picked up Arabic books from Arabic authors. My only problem (well not really a

problem) with these is that I think they present ways of learning that are foreign to American students and I prefer to jazz things up a bit as well as provide more drill.

There is one book called, Iqra Qiratee, that is used a lot here, especially in Damaaj. I like the beginning of the book as it provides what I feel is much needed drill for the alphabet. ( I go for old fashioned ways of learning, I'm a fan of drill) So I usually use the beginning of the book where it teaches the alphabet in drill form, and then switch to the Easy Steps in Quraan Reading or other material to continue.

If you don't have the means to purchase a curriculum, then make your own. Takes a little more work, but you can suit it to fit your teaching style and your student's learning style, insha Allah. Resources on the 'net abound, masha Allah and between finding them and making your own resources, I think you can put together a decent curriculum, bi ithnillah.

Friday, September 18, 2009

# Day 28

## DAILY QUR'ANIC IMMERSION

This post was submitted by Arif Kabir of [Muslim Youth Musings](#)

Waking up before Fajr. Eating with the community at Maghrib. Praying for hours after Isha.

A very unlikely schedule, except in the month of Ramadan.

I find it very interesting that we are capable of doing so much Ibaadat in our normal schedule but never go about doing so until Ramadan appears. Many people say, “You know what, I’m just going to go to Pakistan/Egypt/Saudi Arabia, stay there, and do nothing but concentrate on worshiping Allah (subhanahu wa ta’ala). This dream of going off to a faraway land and just forsaking all their obligations and responsibilities takes such a great hold on them that they soon begin to feel that they can’t do any good until they arrive at that dreamland of theirs.

Ramadan comes to teach us that we can still function in society and have more than ample time for Ibadaat. Just think about it – You don’t miss waking up before Fajr – why? Because you gotta have your Suhoor. You don’t miss out on Maghrib Adhan – why? Because you gotta have your Iftar (Funny how a lot of things revolve around food)! You don’t miss out on Isha – why? So that you can continue listening to the whole Qur’an behind the Imam. It truly is amazing that we can be so steadfast in these Sunnah prayers but we can’t find the time throughout the day to read at least 5 pages of the Qur’an, but yet

we are so steadfast after Isha’. Let’s try fixing this dilemma and make a schedule for a ‘Daily Qur’anic Immersion’. It basically goes like this – style your life according to the Salah times (and not vice versa) and make sure to read at least some Qur’an during that time.

- Before Fajr, wake up (like you do for Suhoor) and review/memorize/read until the time comes for Fajr. I found that the early morning is one of the easiest times to recite Qur’an because since you’ve just woken up, your mind is fresh and clear, and you can really concentrate on the Qur’an. As everyone is sleeping, the crickets are outside chirping (at least in Maryland:), and it is still dark outside, it truly is a very peaceful moment. We should all try our best to recite Qur’an at this time as it is even commended in the Qur’an in Surah Isra’, Ayah 78:

أَقِمِ الصَّلَاةَ لِذُلُوكِ الشَّمْسِ إِلَى عَسَقِ اللَّيْلِ وَقُرْآنَ الْفَجْرِ إِنَّ قُرْآنَ الْفَجْرِ كَانَ مَشْهُودًا

Perform As-Salat (Iqamat-as-Salat) from mid-day till the darkness of the night (i.e. the Zuhr, ‘Asr, Maghrib, and ‘Isha’ prayers), and recite the Qur’an in the early dawn (i.e. the morning prayer). Verily, the recitation of the Qur’an in the early dawn is ever witnessed (attended by the angels in charge of mankind of the day and the night).

- In the midday, while at school/work, this is when the Dhuhr and Asr prayers take place. It is extremely important for us to be mindful of these two prayers, especially Asr as Allah subhanahu wa ta’ala says in Surah Baqarah, Ayah 138:

حَافِظُوا عَلَى الصَّلَوَاتِ وَالصَّلَاةِ الْوَسْطَى وَقَوْمُوا لِلَّهِ قَانِتِينَ

Guard strictly (five obligatory) As-Salawat (the prayers) especially the middle Salat (i.e. the best prayer – ‘Asr). And stand before Allah with obedience.

If we can try to read the Qur'an even just a little, we will see that it really gives a spiritual boost and rejuvenation since it gets you to seclude yourself from the materialistic society for a moment and just reflect on Allah. When you return back to your work/school atmosphere, you come with a refreshed focus and purpose.

- Once the time comes in for Maghrib, take some time to go over everything that you had read today. If you were reviewing the whole day, try memorizing something new, or review if you have been memorizing in the day. Ideally, it'd be best if you met up with someone, like a Qur'an study buddy, and tested each other on your memorization and review. This way, both of you can be motivated to study together – if needed, make rules such as that if one of you is not ready, then that person has to treat the other to food at his house dinner (my father's Qur'an teacher actually did this with a student and after the whole class ate at his house, that student's wife then made sure he never made the same mistake again!)

- Isha – After Isha, it is recommended to go straight to bed (as many such as Ali [radhiAllahu anhu] did), so after Isha', get into your snugly bed and instead of mulling over the day, prop open the Qur'an and just stare at it, even if you aren't fully concentrating. You'll see that in a minute or two of mind-wandering, your attention will eventually come to what you're staring at, and you'll find yourself drawn in. The best part is, you don't even have to be standing or even sitting up – Allah (subhanahu wa ta'ala) says in Surah Aali Imran, Ayah 191:

الَّذِينَ يَذْكُرُونَ اللَّهَ قِيَامًا وَقُعُودًا وَعَلَىٰ جُنُوبِهِمْ وَيَتَفَكَّرُونَ فِي خَلْقِ  
السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ

Those (men of understanding) who remember Allah (always, and in prayers) standing, sitting, and lying down on their sides, and think deeply about the creation of the heavens and the earth.

This truly is a mercy from Allah that we can remember Him in these different postures, so we can definitely be in bed and remember Allah (subhanahu wa ta'ala) by reading his Holy Book before going to sleep.

If we can keep up this Daily Qur'an Immersion, it will definitely make a big change in our lives. I remember when I was close to finishing the Hifzh of the Qur'an, I was memorizing almost triple my normal assignment and would spend every opportunity reading the Qur'an. I was using the type of Qur'an that has English on the borders (so the original Uthmani Arabic script is still intact) and I was so drawn in it at times that I would seriously get the feeling that Allah was talking directly to me; I would tremble when I read about the torment of the disbelievers and would feel grateful when reading about Jannah and all of Allah's bounties. It was definitely an amazing experience and drew me much closer to the Qur'an.

If you do not feel that your schedule will allow you to read a lot, then at least do a little continuously because Allah (subhanahu wa ta'ala) especially loves the small deed continuously. If you feel that you don't even have time to do a little, then listen to this beautiful parable my Hifzh School teacher once told us:

“If I was to hold a bucket filled to the brim with sand, it would seem that the bucket is packed and that nothing else could fit inside. However, if I was to take some water and pour it in the bucket, wouldn't it be able to fit inside without any sand overflowing? No matter how packed the sand may look, there will always be ample cracks and gaps for the water to go through.”

Even though our schedules may seem full, there will always be some time in the schedule that we can reserve for the Qur'an.

Abu Hurayrah reported that the Prophet , said, “There is no envy except in two (cases): A man whom Allaah has taught the Qur’an and he recites it during the hours of the night and during the hours of the day, and another man listens to him and says, ‘I wish I had been given what has been given to so-and-so, so that I might do what he does’; and a man whom Allaah has given wealth and he spends it on what is just and right. Whereupon another man may say, ‘I wish I had been given what so-and-so has been given, for then I would do what he does.’” [Al-Bukhaari]

May Allah (subhanahu wa ta’ala) strengthen our relationship with the Qur’an and make us among those who recite it during the hours of the night and during the hours of the day. Ameen...

Daily Qur’anic Immersion. Are you in?

Saturday, September 19, 2009

# Day 29

## LEARNING THE QUR'AN FOR FREE ONLINE

This post was submitted by Ponn Sabra of [American Muslim Mom](#). AmericanMuslimMom.com is the first and only online magazine that offers free tips, tools, reviews, contests and resources for Muslim Moms living in America, or American Muslim moms living aboard.

My entire family (Mama, Baba, and our 9, 8 and 6 year old daughters) completely endorse [Qur'anExplorer.com/Qur'an](#) and [HarfKids.com/en/Quraan](#) as easy-to-use, easy-to-learn, easy-to-navigate, fun, interactive sites to learn how to read and recite the Qur'an based on the rules of Tajweed, while learning its meaning at the same time.

### 1. QUR'AN EXPLORER – REVIEW

Why we love Qu'ran Explorer:

- Tajweed color rules can be turned on or off,
- Multiple shaikhs to pick; such as Mishary and Abdul-Basit,
- Two different Arabic scripts to pick, Usmani and IndoPak,
- Different English translators, such as Dr. Mohsin, Yusuf Ali,
- Translations in multiple languages are also available, such as Spanish and Indonesian,
- The entire Qur'an is available,

- You can choose to search by Surah, Juz, Hizb, or verse (ayat),

Advanced Options include,

- Verse Repetition [How many times you want to play the verse before it goes to the next one],
- Intervals Between Verse [“Continuous Play” means there are no pauses in between each verse, or “Duration of Verse” means how long it takes the shaikh to say the verse and it pauses that long, or you choose how many seconds you want to “Wait” for the pause in between the verses],
- Auto Play, and
- Colors.
- Audio sound and mute option,
- An option to bookmark the verse range where you are studying To return back to the exact place you left off,
- Zoom text size, and much more.
- For a wonderful tutorial, click the “[Help](#)” button.

### 2. HARFKIDS.COM QUR'AAN – REVIEW

While HarfKids.com Qur'aan is not nearly as complete as Qur'anExplorer.com it comes in a very close second at our home, especially for young children just beginning to memorize our Glorious Qur'an, for the following reasons:

PROS:

- Everything is on one single screen,
- There is an “Advanced Options” button to click and review,
- It’s colorful, more fun to look at, and has cuter buttons,
- For a verse translation, you click on “Explanation” for a pop-up box in English,
- Just like in Qur’anExplorer.com you can determine which verses you want displayed, and if you want a continuous play of the reciter or pause in between each verse,
- Shaikh AbdulBasit is the reciter,
- Made for those just starting to memorize the Qur’an, it lists Surah An-Nas (114) to Al-Qiyamah (75)

CONS:

- It often locks up, and sometimes we can not even get it to work at all.
- Since the Qur’an learning option is only one section of the large HarfKids.com website, the above navigation toolbar and bottom buttons are distracting, especially because they flash and scroll in real-time.

Sunday, September 20, 2009

# Day 30

## LITERARY STYLES USED IN THE QUR'AN

This post was submitted by [Arabic-Learners](#).

The purpose of this blog is to educate ourselves, and the readers with interesting and informative tid-bits of the language.

Number of times in the Qur'an, Allah uses literary styles to bring home the point. I've listed four of the many.

1. Rebuking Interrogative: This linguistic tool to bring realization to the listener of the reality. Makes the listener realize his fallacy, and that error is too obvious to be explained.

For instance, surah adiyaa.

﴿ أَفَلَا يَعْلَمُ إِذَا بُعْثِرَ مَا فِي الْقُبُورِ ﴾ (100:9)

But does he not know that when the contents of the graves are scattered

2. "What can explain to you..?": This is used in the Qur'an in several places. It shows the listener that he cannot comprehend the matter. Such words fill the listeners' heart with fear and awe.

For instance, Surah Qari'ah, this question tells the listener (after much anticipation) that words cannot explain what it means, and that it's out of our imagination and comprehension.

﴿ وَمَا أَدْرَاكَ مَا الْقَارِعَةُ ﴾ (101:3)

And what can make you know what is the Striking Calamity

Also,

﴿ ثُمَّ مَا أَدْرَاكَ مَا يَوْمَ الدِّينِ ﴾ (82:18)

Then, what can make you know what is the Day of Recompense?

3. Listing the reasons for an action, before mentioning the action itself: For instance, Surah Quraysh,

﴿ لِإِيلَافِ قُرَيْشٍ ﴾ (106:1)

﴿ إِهْلَافِهِمْ رِحْلَةَ الشِّتَاءِ وَالصَّيْفِ ﴾ (106:2)

﴿ فَلْيَعْبُدُوا رَبَّ هَذَا الْبَيْتِ ﴾ (106:3)

﴿ الَّذِي أَطَعْتَهُمْ مِنْ جُوعٍ وَعَاءَمْتَهُمْ مِنْ خَوْفٍ ﴾ (106:4)

Shaikh Sohail Hanif of [SunniPath](#) explains, the verses should have read, "Quraysh must worship their Lord due to the trade routes made easy for them."

But, Allah mentions His favours on the Quraysh, and then later in the Surah, you'll read as a result of the favours, the Quraysh should worship Allah.

The listener will be in suspense, trying to figure out, what it is the reason for. Finally, when the command is mentioned, it leaves an impression on the listener.

The verse then reads, “Due to the ease and comfort given to Quraysh in their trade caravans, then they must worship their Lord.”

4. Omitting the object of a verb: The threat has a greater impact on the listener, if what he is being threatened with is not explicitly mentioned. It increases fright and leaves the listener imagining every possibility with apprehension.

For instance, Surah At Takaathur, the listener doesn't know what is man distracted from. Some scholars have suggested, it is being omitted because there are so many things; it is felt to the listeners to think.

أَلْهَدِكُمُ التَّكَاثُرُ (102:1)  
Competition in [worldly] increase diverts you

Nouman Ali Khan of [Bayyinah Institute](#) explains the use of this literary style is to make the listener think and reflect. There are number of places in the Qur'an where there are blanks - it is up to the listener to fill those up. Qur'an is very interactive.

Another example, surah as shams,

وَاللَّيْلِ إِذْ يَغْشَاهَا (91:4)  
By the Night as it conceals it;

The object of the verb, conceal, is not apparent (hint: it is mentioned in the previous surah). It is left up to the listener to deduce. Qur'an teaches us to think and think hard.

Can you find more examples of the above-mentioned styles?

Monday, September 21, 2009

# Eid

## AFTER HARDSHIP WILL ALWAYS COME EASE INSPIRATION: THE QUR'AN

This post was submitted by [“After hardship will always come ease”](#).

AHWACE is the world's first free, no sign-up required, anonymous if you wish, online help service solving your problems like an agony aunt and you can also raise money for charity for free!

Assalamualaikum wa rahmatullahi wa barakatuhu. A'udhubillahi min ash shaitanir rajeem. Bismillahir rahmanir raheem.

((May the peace, mercy, and blessings of Allah be with you). (I seek protection in Allah swt from the accursed shaitan/devil/satan). (In the name of God, the Most Kind, the Most Merciful)).

Hi everyone. I hope your all well Inshallah/God willing and in the best of health (and Iman for you Muslims-have the best of faith in God Almighty).

Today, I'm doing a very special post indeed.

I'm actually writing this post before I publish it lol, because the day you see this (Inshallah) will be on the 20th of September and hopefully that will be the last day of Ramadan!! So Ramadan Mubarak for a final day to you all and an Eid Mubarak too!

In case if for some reason don't finish the post, then what I have in plan, in mind to write here Inshallah is: about how we are promised ease after our hardships in life in the Qur'an. I may quote some ahadith too (sayings

of the Prophet Muhammad s.a.w. peace be upon him).

## THIS BLOG-HELPING OUT PEOPLE IN NEED

Ok, so to start off the actual writing for the post. Well, hmm where to start? Ok, so a lot of people mashallah, (Alhamdulillah THANK GOD ) have given in their stories and I think it's making quite an impact on people especially young people like me, teens out there...there's a lot of you who are suffering and with this blog you can get help and know that you're not alone in this cold dark world..there is light out there for us all Inshallah/ God willing. So yeah if you know anyone who is suffering, or is you are please send the stories in. And please most of all do help! All it is-a few simple comments which make a huge impact on people's lives.

## CHARITY

And also if you're a charitable person, or if you care about people in need then you will help hopefully Inshallah in the SocialVibe charity thing for TWLOHA (to write love on her arms) it's a charity to help prevent suicide. Just look to your right of this website under '[socialvibe](#)' and read it and click and rate and that's it. It's free and you've donated to charity!

## INTENTIONS

Ok, back to the hardship2ease thing lol. Well, the reason I wrote this post was first for the sake of Allah swt, to please God and have the best of intentions, to have the same intention as that of Prophet Muhammad s.a.w. if he was doing something similar to me and to spread Islam and to help people, I truly want to help you guys. Like this is a blog where I help those who are in need, in trouble and stuff, and I'll tell you my views, like Islamic views also if you want on the matters.

Tough Life? Tried everything and don't know what to do?

'Cause like say someone's life is really messed up and they don't know

what to do...

Ok. Well let me say this: are you a self harmer or suicidal or have a similar situation to that of the people who post their life stories here? Ok. You've tried everything you can think of. From bad to good. Like your life was terrible, you were in such bad circumstances, so you might've started to self harm. Or you didn't think it was worth living life, so you tried killing yourself, but failed. Or you'd never harm yourself but you started hurting others or get hurt, like physically and mentally harming or doing abuse to others. You're a bully or you've been bullied. Or maybe you've tried writing it all down, you've tried the breathing techniques and the art and poems and taking photos and drawing your feelings out and even gone to a therapist or counsellor and all of that but seriously nothing has helped you. You can't even talk to a friend about your problems.

<—Well what to do if you're in that situation??

Honestly, like really no offence to anyone, and if you don't take the following advice then well it's your own choice but I'm just saying 'cause maybe you don't know or you're willing to try anything so give it a go:

## PRAY TO GOD

Yes. Pray for help, pray for forgiveness. Ask. God listens to us. I'm a Muslim and we believe that Allah hears our duas/prayers. When a believer calls God, He answers our prayers INSHALLAH!!

## Islamic views on ease after hardships

One quote - the quote which is so great gave me the idea of this website-promises us ease after our hardships:

“Verily, with hardship comes ease.” – Al Qur’an (94:5-6)

If you read verses from the Qur'an, it is easy to see that in this life we are going to suffer hardships.

20:118 So We said: "O Adam, this is an enemy to you and your mate. So do not let him take you out from paradise, else you will have hardship."

But remember that Allah s.w.t. (God) has also promised ease.

Find patience.

Struggle with it.

Pray. And realise there is ease to come afterwards. (Inshallah/God willing)

94:7 So with hardship comes ease.

94:8 With hardship comes ease.

But remember, in Islam we believe that, yes we are promised ease after our hardships-but the ease may be in this life OR THE NEXT/THE HEREAFTER/AFTERLIFE! So yeah..alotta patience for some of us, but in the end it will all turn out ok.

But, if you're not going to do anything, don't expect anything back please. God is Most Forgiving, so we don't know how everything will turn out, who will go Heaven or Hell-God decides..but the thing is we're commanded by God to do certain things in life. Like pray and NOT SELF HARM AND NOT COMMIT SUICIDE. Trust me, I know that it gets hard in life, but please don't ever hurt yourself. God gave you this body, so that you may take care of it, not harm it and no matter how hard it ever gets NEVER ever kill yourself. It's not the answer. And about suicide-well in Islam we believe that if you kill yourself, basically your gonna regret it after!<— Wait, did I just say that????Huh??Yes I did! Lol. I know it sounds strange, but it's true. We believe that if you kill yourself, you taking a blessing

away-your life which God gave you. So there's a punishment. In Hell. To kill yourself in the same manner in which you did your suicide over and over and over again. I think it's 70,000 times a day 😞 So, the pains not going to go away, it's just gonna get worse. You'll kill yourself and then be brought back to life and then die all over again. And if you're not Muslim and don't believe that, well believe this: suicide has a terrible after effect. It destroys families. The lives of your friends will be shattered.

So yeah, what I'm saying is, keep at it yeah 😊 don't ever give up hope. Whatever difficulty/trials/tribulations/hardships/abuse that you are going through-it will get better! Just believe. Have hope. Pray. And don't ever give in. Please talk to a friend or even a specialist like a psychologist or therapist. But sometimes, what you really need is a person that you can honestly trust, like you can pour your heart out at them, tell them your secrets and they'll listen and it will hopefully help you and make you better. But sadly, not everyone has this kind of friend. Which is why I made this blog, so if any of you really need some help and want to talk, here is the place.

Inshallah everything will be ok for you all.

May Allah s.w.t. bless you all for coming here and reading this and grant you the ease after hardships Inshallah. Ameen.

## YOUR SAY

And please make sure that if you know any other quotes from the Qur'an/Hadith or Islamic stories or if you have been inspired by this post, or anything like that-PLEASE LEAVE YOUR COMMENTS! lol, if you can't find the comment box hehe just click on the following link:

<http://afterhardshipwillalwayscomeease.wordpress.com/2009/09/20/ramadan-special-after-hardship-will-always-come-ease-inspiration-the-quran/#respond>

# Contributing Bloggers

[Ask Nanima.co.za](#): Ask Nanima.co.za is a community building support system that bridges the gap between families in need of help and Nanima's offering their reliable services. Ask Nanima.co.za is a proudly South African initiative and caters for anyone, in any place and any country.

[Jawad Ahmad Khan](#) from Jawah Ahmad Khan's Blog. Muslim. American. And a little bit of everything else.

[LivingHalal.com](#): LivingHalal is a lifestyle site that celebrates everyone's Halal stories. Living Halal's motto is living Halal is fun and rewarding.

[Me-Me blog](#): The tarkeeb (composition) of Me Me is as follows: first me is an adjective that describes the noun (تفص), and the second me is the noun being described (فوصوم)

[Muslimahetc.com](#): Muslimahetc.com gives sisters a positive, practical and future focused view on being Excellent in Taqwa and Character.

Gracious Creation from [Al-Qadar blog](#)

[Halalbucks.com](#): HalalBucks.com is a humble attempt toward halal economy. Through a team of professional Muslims, HalalBucks.com offers training and consultation for small businesses, from marketing to strategic thinking. For more info visit <http://halalbucks.com/about>.

["Allah is Not Shy to Say the Truth" blog](#)

[Abdelrahman](#): Aka Abdo, he is a 21 years old Egyptian Entrepreneur and Web Professional, currently studying Mechanical Design & Production at Cairo university

[Fee Qalbee](#): A unique blog that seeks to inspire muslim women to

memorise Al Qur'aan. Utilising textual, audio & visual information. Their aim is to instill the love & ambition within each muslimah to make tahfeedhul Qur'aan an integral part of her spiritual quest to gain His Divine Pleasure.

[Verbage](#): A blog dedicated to expressing views and experiences in life.

[Endy Daniyanto](#): He is a determined artist and independent producer, a part-time writer and a self-publisher, and an aspiring engineer and a learning designer.

[Shamsideen AbuSuad](#): He is part of Muslim Message team, that is dedicated to informing, educating and entertaining Muslims and Non-Muslims, and have published daily Ramadan Messages every year since the Ramadan of 2001.

[Humairah Irfan](#): Her blog, Odd Wisdom, is a conglomerate of random advice, fitness tips, personal projects, thoughts on nature, and other oddities by a Muslim-computer engineer-fitness instructor-Arabic student-event organisation freak-and stuff- all in one.

[Hamid](#): He is an Active learner, Creative thinker and a tactive doer.

[MuslimMatters.org](#): Muslimmatters.org began in 2007 as a collaboration between various Bloggers and Shuyookh in order to bring attention to issues faced by Muslims, especially in the West. They have focused on issues of Religion, Society, Ethics, Sex Education, Politics, Civil Rights, Family, as well as the random issues that pop up from now and then, all with some ranting and humor mixed in.

[Eva Nirgaz Abdullah](#): Eva is a stay-at-home Mom, who blogs about her life with her family...and also what it means to be an American Muslim Woman in the west. Her passions are doing Da'wah work and working with Youth programs at the mosque.

[Mubina of A Muslimah's Haven](#): The blog delves into the extraordinary world of the human mind, a human life in all its purity, the fitrah on which Allah subhanahu wa ta'ala created it. All and all in the light of Islam, the way of life prescribed to us by the Almighty Allah!

[Mister Brother](#)

[Nahyan Chowdhury](#): His goal is to provide the best training in Time Management and Life Management for Muslims, from an Islamic perspective. Live life with Ihsan, Excellence.

[TurBo Flow](#): Turboflow blog is a blog with a difference - different topics etc - different flow. And the purpose of the blog is to reflect on the very first word of the Qur'an - 'Read' - its purpose, what it means to us and where we would be if we couldn't read - such a powerful word - yet so down rated.

[Jacian Fares of Project Ninja](#): Project Ninja: The legacy of Jace. Technology, the Deen, life, video games and all things ninja

[iPOET](#) who is an Established Speaker, Writer, Islamic Poet and an Entrepreneur.

iPOET, Aims To Write Catchy, Creative and Complete Poetry Tailored towards your daily Motivational, Emotional And Inspirational needs. To Convey The Message That Islam Is Easy To Follow, Simple and Relevant to your everyday life.

[TJ's Blog](#) of homeschooling, home, Islamic tips, thoughts, and tidbits.

[Arif Kabir of Muslim Youth Musings](#). Muslim Youth Musings is a blog in which Muslim youth from across the nation share their experiences and thoughts on a myriad of issues pertaining to the Muslim Ummah

[Ponn Sabra of American Muslim Mom](#): AmericanMuslimMom.com is the first and only online magazine that offers free tips, tools, reviews,

contests and resources for Muslim Moms living in America, or American Muslim moms living aboard.

["After hardship will always come ease"](#). AHWACE is the world's first free, no sign-up required, anonymous if you wish, online help service solving your problems like an agony aunt and you can also raise money for charity for free!

[Arabic-Learners](#): The purpose of this blog is to educate ourselves, and the readers with interesting and informative tid-bits of the language.

[Halfdate.com](#): HalfDate.com is a Sadaqah promotion service. It blends the psychology of giving with latest marketing technologies to empower everyone to be part of the solution, whether by giving half a date or a pleasant word. For more info, visit <http://halfdate.com/about>

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In addition, to regular articles published on the website, our existing products/services include Friday Naseeha videos, LifeCoaching, Bookclub, ProductiveMuslim Training, ProductiveMuslimah and 1000GoodDeeds.com.

# Sponsors



[JawaadAhmadKhan.wordpress.com](http://JawaadAhmadKhan.wordpress.com)

A film-making-graphic-designing-entrepreneurial-Muslim youth's blog about his projects, his life, and his Deen.

[www.jawaadahmadkhan.wordpress.com](http://www.jawaadahmadkhan.wordpress.com)  
Muslim. American. And a little bit of everything else.



Jacian Fares (<http://project-ninja.net>)

“Project Ninja: The legacy of Jace.  
Technology, the Deen, life, video games and all things ninja.”



[www.muslimahetc.com](http://www.muslimahetc.com) is a personal development blog that hopes, by the will of Allah, to give sisters a positive, practical and future focused view on being Excellent in Taqwa and Character.

IJTEMA

A Congregation of Muslim Bloggers

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Ebook Designed by Haadia Ashique

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