



# A Note to Parents



#### In the name of Allah, the Entirely and Exceptionally Merciful.

'My Perfect Ramadan Journal' is a gift that your child will truly cherish in Ramadan, and also continue to benefit from it beyond the blessed month - insha'Allah.

All the information in this journal has been taken from authentic and reliable sources that are based on the correct interpretation of Quran and saheeh ahadith.

Best efforts have been made to simplify advanced concepts of Islam.

Similarly, use of simple language has been made so that young readers find it easy to comprehend the content. Although the reading and comprehension capabilities varies from child to child, this journal can be beneficial for children as young as six years old with a little help from parents. It is encouraged that parents get involved with their children during the 'journal time' to make the most of it and to create beautiful memories. Your child may need your help to keep track of the Ramadan calendar, my good deeds chart, and other activities in the journal.

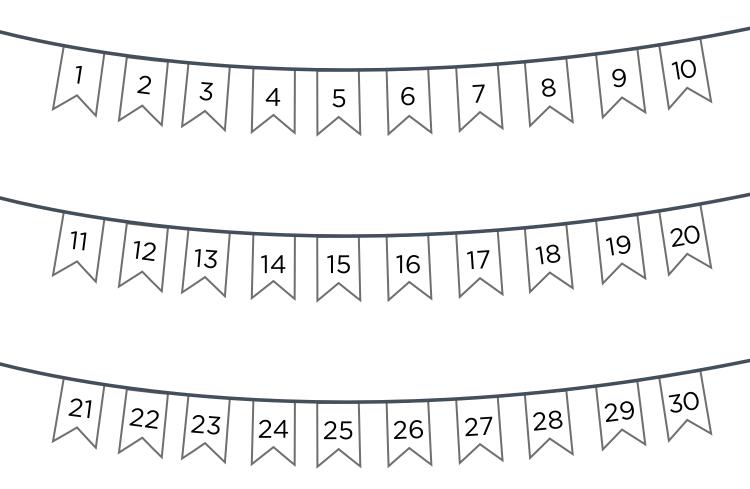
May Allah accept the efforts of all those who contributed in the making of this journal and make it beneficial for all children. Ameen.

'My Perfect Ramadan Journal 2020' is a special edition which addresses the current global situation from the Islamic perspective and the unique experience the Muslims will go through this Ramadan.

#### Arabic symbols used in the journal

( ): salla-Allahu alayhi wa sallam - Peace and blessings of Allah be upon him The Muslim should say this complete du'aa whenever he or she reads or says the name of Prophet Muhammed ...



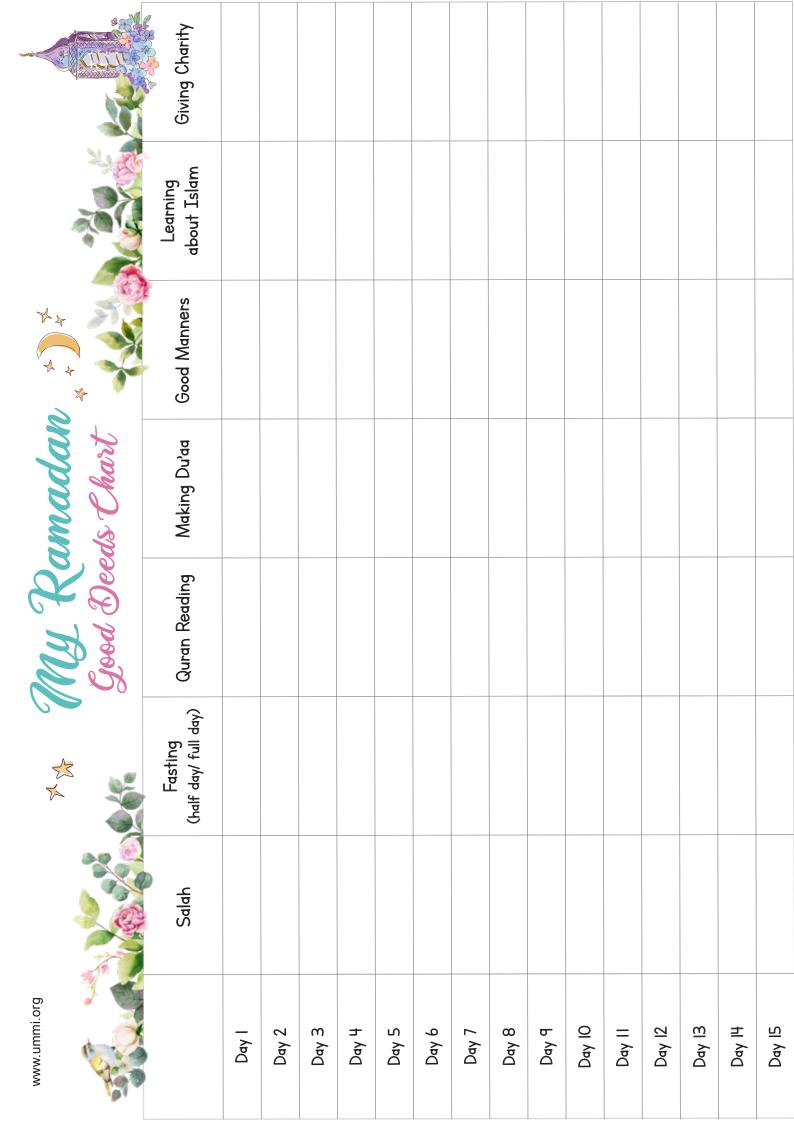






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For young kids: Colour the star yellow when you fast a complete day and red when you fast half day.





# My Page of Du'aa

اَللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي أَسْأَلُكَ عِلْمًا نَافِعًا , وَ رِزْقًا طَيَّبًا , وَ عَمَلاً مُتَقَبَّلاً

Allahumma inni as'aluka 'Ilman naafi'an, wa rizqan tayyiban, wa 'amalan mutaqabbalan O Allah! I ask You for knowledge that is of benefit, a good provision and deeds that will be accepted



اَللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي أَعُوذُ بِكَ مِنْ مُنْكَرَاتِ الْأَخْلَاقِ، وَالْأَعْمَالِ، وَالْأَهْوَاءِ وَالْأَدْوَا

Allahummaa inni a'udhu bika min munkaratil-akhlaaqi, wal-a'maali, wal- ahwaa'i, wal-adwaa.

O Allah! I seek refuge in You from undesirable manners and deeds and desires and diseases.

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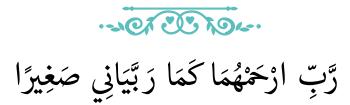
اَللَّهُمَّ مُصَرِّفُ الْقُلُوبِ صَرِّفْ قُلُوبُنَا عَلَى طَاعَتِكَ

Ya musarrifa-l quloobi sarrif qulbunaa ala ta'atik O Allah! Controller of the hearts, direct our hearts to Your obedience



اللَّهُمَّ انْفَعْنِي بِمَا عَلَّمْتَنِي وَعَلِّمْنِي مَا يَنْفَعُنِي وَزِدْنِي عِلْمًا

Allahumm anfa'ni bima 'allamtani wa 'allimni ma yanfa'ni wa zidni 'ilma O Allah! Benefit me through what You teach me and teach me what is beneficial for me and increase me in knowledge



Rabbi irhamhumaa kamaa rabbayaanee sagheeraa My Lord, have mercy upon them both (parents) as they brought me up [when I was] small



### The first night of Ramadan



The Prophet said, "Do not fast until you see the new moon, and do not stop fasting until you see it, and if it is concealed by clouds then count out (the thirty days of Sha'baan) for it."

(Bukhaari, Muslim).

Everyone has been excited for the month of Ramadan. A new Islamic month begins when you see a new crescent moon in the sky. Although you may not be able to go out to look for it this Ramadan, you can try looking for it through your windows - but be careful! Let an adult be with you. Spotting the new crescent moon is not so easy though. The crescent moon is usually very thin, dim and it sets or disappears quickly. You will have to be really good at spotting!

A new crescent moon in the sky tonight would mean that Ramadan has begun, and the month of Sha'ban has come to an end. So tonight would be the first night of Ramadan. Muslims begin praying Taraweeh from tonight and making preparations for fasting next day!

Here is the Du'aa that you should recite when you see a new crescent moon:

Allahumma ahillahu 'alaynaa bil amani wal imaani, was-salaamati wal islaami, wat-tawfeeqi limaa tuhibbu wa tardaa, Rabbunaa wa Rabbuka Allah.

O Allah, let the crescent appear above us in peace and faith, safety and Islam, and in agreement with all that You love and pleases You. Our Lord and your Lord is Allah.





Make Ramadan Mubarak cards for your family, friends and neighbours. You can take a picture of it from a phone and send them with help of your parents. Making them happy is a good deed.

### What is happening in the world?

You may have already noticed how our world has changed in the past few weeks. That is not how things used to be! Your school is shut, the parks are closed, leaving the house is not allowed unless necessary, flights and travels have been halted, people are being seen in masks and gloves, everyone is worried about getting sick... and most surprisingly the Masjids have been closed too! What has happened to our world? You may know the answer already... it's a virus!

A microbe! However, as Muslims we should know that Allah is the Creator of everything including this virus and it is by His decree or command that it is able to harm the people.

Allah says,

Say: "Allah is the Creator of all things, He is the One, the Irresistible." (Ar-Ra'ad, 13:16)

Allah also says,

"He has the keys to the unseen: no one knows them but Him. He knows all that is in the land and sea. No leaf falls without His knowledge, nor is there a single grain in the darkness of the earth, or anything, fresh or withered, that is not written in a clear Record." (Al An'am, 6:59)

So why did Allah send this catastrophe or calamity on the people?

Allah answers this question in the Quran,

"Whatever hardship befalls you is the result of your own deeds And He pardons many of your sins." (Ash-Shoora, 42:30)

You may have read the stories of previous prophets and how Allah destroyed those who disbelieved in them and continued on the path of sins in arrogance. When we read these stories we should remember that it is not just a thing that happened in the past and Allah would not punish people anymore.

People of our times became proud of their scientific and technological achievements. They believed they are powerful because they have huge armies and advanced weapons. They believed that there is no one who can challenge them and bring them down. The strong ones oppressed the weak ones while no one came to the defense of the oppressed. People continued to commit crimes without any fear of Allah's punishment all the while enjoying Allah's continuous blessings.

Allah says, "...so We destroyed them for their sins ..." (al Anfal 8:54)

Have you seen how Allah has brought the whole world on its knees and made our lives upside down? When Allah decides to punish a people no one can resist Allah's commands no matter how strong, powerful, and advanced people are. The entire world is frightened and are seeking refuge from a microscopic being! This is a sign of humans' weakness and their need for their Lord.

Humans are also limited in their knowledge. They may bring all the scientists of the world together and all the technology together to find a cure for this disease. However, if Allah does not open their minds and hearts to the cure, their knowledge and intelligence combined together will not be of any help.

This pandemic is also a warning and reminder from Allah to the people to mend their ways. It puts the fear of Allah in their hearts so that they may return to Allah, reflect and repent from their sins, realise the great power of Allah, realise how weak and needy they are before Allah, and how He is in complete control of all things. These calamities also encourage people to make more du'aa to Allah, to increase their good deeds, to spend more time in worshiping Him and helping each other especially the poor and the needy for His sake, and making other efforts to please Allah.

So, we see that there is in fact a lot of good that comes out of what seems to be bad. One of the names of Allah is Al Hakeem, which means The Most Wise. Allah does not decree or command anything in which there is no good for His slaves. Also, this pandemic (a disease that affects the whole world) is not a punishment for each and everyone. Ayesha (radi-Allahu anha) reported: She asked the Messenger of Allah about plagues (a disease that spreads) and he said, "It is a punishment that Allah sends upon whoever he wills, but Allah has made it a mercy for the believers." (Bukhari)

In Islam, when we have patience during any hardship then that calamity becomes a mercy for us. How? For example, if we have a fever and do not complain or get angry for falling sick then Allah forgives many of our sins due to that which otherwise would not have been forgiven.

#### The Prophet ﷺ said,

"Any servant (of Allah) who resides in a land afflicted by plague, remaining patient and hoping for reward from Allah, knowing that nothing will befall him but what Allah has decreed, he will be given the reward of a martyr." (Bukhari)

A martyr is the one who is killed for the sake of Allah. One of the most beloved servants to Allah is a martyr and he will have the best of rewards in the Paradise. However, due to the mercy of Allah He gives this reward to also those who remain patient at the time of plague or any epidemic or pandemic hoping for reward from Allah.

From this hadith we also learn that a true servant of Allah is not anxious, he knows and believes that nothing can harm him except if Allah wills. So, while he is taking precautions to avoid being infected with the virus or disease he understands that precaution alone is not sufficient. Thus, he relies on Allah and makes du'aa to him for safety and wellbeing. And if after all the precaution and du'aa he still falls sick, then he remains patient as mentioned in the hadith above believing that it will be a great means of mercy from Allah for him.

The Messenger of Allah said: "Trials will continue to befall the believing man and woman, with regard to themselves, their children and their wealth, until they meet Allah with no sin on them." Narrated by al-Tirmidhi

You might think to yourself, "Is there any cure for this virus? When will this end?"

The Messenger of Allah said, "Allah did not send down any disease but that he also sent its cure." (Ibn Majah)

So, insha'Allah He will open the minds of the scientists and experts and they will be able to find a cure when He gives His permission. Till then, we must remain patient, seek Allah's forgiveness, and do many good deeds so that Allah becomes pleased with us and lifts this calamity from us.

#### Allah says,



"And if Allah should afflict you with harm, then there is none to remove it but He..." (Yunus, 10:107)

#### Remember these few things to do in order to remain safe from the pandemic:

- I. Say the du'aas of protection from all harms taught by our Prophet 🕮.
- 2. Stay inside the home.
- 3. Eat lots of fruits and vegetables rich in Vitamin C so that your body has strong immune system to fight against any bacteria or virus.
- 4. Wash our hands with soap thoroughly after playing, using bathroom, being out, etc.
- 5. Wear masks if you need to go out. Avoid touching anything when you are out.
- 6. Avoid shaking hands or getting too close with people.





### What is Ramadan?



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

(Al Bagarah, 2:185)



Ramadan is the ninth month of Islamic calendar. Ramadan is very special because Allah revealed the Quran in this month. Quran guides us to Allah and all the goodness of this life and the afterlife. Allah has made fasting compulsory for the adult Muslims in this month.

Acts of obedience to Allah and good deeds during Ramadan have greater rewards. So a Muslim should be eager to do all that which is pleasing to Allah so that Allah will love him and reward him greatly.

Muslims who are eager to gather good deeds spend a large part of their days and nights in worshipping Allah during Ramadan. There are many ways to earn good deeds and worship Allah, such as praying extra prayers along with obligatory prayers like the 'taraweeh' at night, reading and learning Quran, giving charity, giving meals to the poor to break their fast, having good manners with everyone especially parents, learning and teaching others about Islam, following Prophet Muhammed in everything we do throughout the day, remembering Allah much (for example, by reciting Subhan-Allahi wa bi-hamdih), making du'aa and asking Allah to forgive you.

In the month of Ramadan, there is a night called as 'Laylatul Qadr'. It is the most special night of the year. Whoever worships Allah in that night will get rewarded as if he worshipped Allah for a thousand months.

Ramadan is a beautiful month. Everyone around us is busy worshipping Allah, as if they are in a race or a competition. Do you know that the companions of the Prophet Muhammed used to compete with each other in good deeds? How about you joining the race too with everyone this Ramadan and getting Jannah (Paradise) in reward? Use the 'Good Deeds Chart' to see how well you are doing.

Allah says\_"So for this (Paradise) let the competitors compete" (Al Mutaffifeen, 83:26)



### Fasting in Ramadan



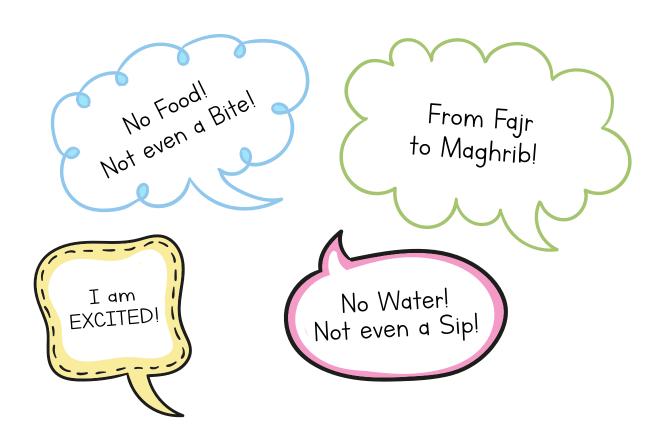
"O you who believe! Observing As-Sawm (the fasting) is prescribed for you..."

[al-Bagarah 2:183]



Fasting in Ramadan is the fourth pillar of Islam. Fasting is called 'Sawm' in Arabic. Fasting is to not eat or drink anything from Fajr (dawn) to Maghrib (sunset). If you should fast, then you must make the intention of fasting at night or before Fajr. Intention means to decide to do something.

Allah has made fasting compulsory in Ramadan for all adult Muslims except those who are sick, old and those who travel long distance, because it is difficult for them. However, once the sick gets better he should complete the fasts that he missed. The traveler should also complete the fast he missed after his travel ends. The old person however has no chance of getting better, so Allah commanded him to feed a poor person for each day of fast that he misses. For example, Khalid's grandmother is very old and she cannot fast the Ramadan. So, she must feed thirty people a meal because she missed thirty days of fasting in Ramadan.





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## Why do we fast?



"O you who believe! Observing As-Sawm (the fasting) is prescribed for you... as it was prescribed for those before you, that you may become Al-Muttaqoon (the pious)" [al-Baqarah 2:183]



Fasting in Ramadan is one of the best good deeds as Allah has made it obligatory (compulsory.) and made it a pillar of our religion Allah, The Most Wise, never makes anything obligatory unless it is beloved to Allah and there is immense good in it for His slaves. Below are some of the reasons why Allah has made fasting obligatory in Ramadan.

Fasting makes us appreciate and give thanks to Allah for His blessings. During fasting, we give up eating and drinking. By giving them up for a short time, we realise how blessed we were.

It helps us to stay away from forbidden things. Because, if a person can give up things that are usually allowed (food and drink) in order to please Allah and for fear of His punishment, then it will be much easier to give up haram things.

Fasting makes us feel compassionate and merciful towards the poor, because when the fasting person feels the pain of hunger for a while, he remembers those who are in this situation all the time.

This makes me motivated to do acts of kindness to them.

The fasting person trains himself to remember that Allah is always watching him, so he gives up the things that he desires even though he is able to take them, because he knows that Allah can see him.

Fasting also makes the Muslim get used to doing extra acts of worship, because the fasting person usually does more good deeds. He eventually gets used to doing them even after Ramadan.



# Reward of Fasting



Prophet Muhammed said:
"He who fasts has two joys: a joy when he breaks
his fast and a joy when he meets his Lord."

(Narrated by Bukhaari and Muslim)



A person who fasts stops himself from eating although his stomach growls out of hunger, he also stops himself from drinking water although he is very thirsty.

He does this only to please Allah. And so, in the above hadith, the Prophetsetells us that a fasting person gets happy twice. He feels the first happiness when he breaks his fast and eats food and sips cool water after a full day of fasting. And he will experience the second happiness when he meets Allah, seeing all that Allah has kept for him in reward.





The reward of fasting in Ramadan is that all of your previous sins will be forgiven.



Fasting is the most beloved deed to Allah, and so the reward of fasting is more than any other good deeds.



Fasting protects you from the Fire of Hell.



Those who complete the compulsory fasts in Ramadan and also keep some extra fasts in other months (which is not compulsory) will enter the Jannah from a special gate called Al-Rayyaan. This gate is especially for those who fast, no one else will be allowed to go through it.



### Fasting is about Good Manners









The fasting person should avoid something more than only food and drink. A fasting person should not behave badly. Prophet Muhammed sexplained in this Hadith.



The Prophet 🖔 said:

"Fasting is a shield. So the fasting person should avoid obscene speech and should not behave foolishly and ignorantly, and if somebody fights with him or insults him, he should tell him twice, 'I am fasting.' " (Bukhaari, Muslim)



In the above hadith, "Obscene speech" means dirty and shameless talk, "behave foolishly" means yelling, arguing and raising one's voice, and "\_\_ ignorantly" means behaving in a manner that is the opposite of patience. So, a fasting person should not do any of these.

True fast is the one in which a person does not eat or drink, talks only good, remembers Allah much, and behaves kindly with everyone. A person who fasts in this manner will get the complete reward from Allah. However, if a person only avoids eating and drinking, but he lies, backbites, fights, and talks too much unnecessarily then his reward will become less. In fact he may not get any reward at all for his fast if his behaviour was extremely bad.

This teaches us how important truthfulness and good manners are. Ramadan is not just about avoiding food and drink, but also avoiding all bad attitudes and becoming a better Muslim.

We should follow our Prophet  $\not \cong$  who had the best manners. He taught us many good manners such as in the Hadith below.

The Prophet said, "I am a guarantor for a house on the outskirts of Paradise for whoever leaves off arguing, even if he is in right; and a house in the center of Paradise for whosoever abandons lying, even when joking; and a house in the upper-most of Paradise for whosoever makes his character good." (recorded by Abu Dawood)

So by avoiding shamelessness, lying, arguing, fighting, back-biting, tale-carrying, and other types of bad attitudes, we can save our rewards of fasting from getting less or cancelled altogether.

Allah's Messenger 🚝 said: "It may be that a fasting person receives nothing from his fast, except hunger and thirst." (Ahmad, Ibn Magjah)







# Good Behavior Badges

Your parents will cut and give you a badge when you behave impressively. Collect them all!





















# Suhoor



Suhoor or Sehri is a small meal eaten before Fajr by those who fast. Prophet Muhammed said: "Whoever wants to fast, let him eat something for suhoor." (Ahmad).



This hadeeth shows that the fasting person is told to eat suboor because there is a lot of goodness and blessing in it. The Prophet 🚑 told us of the blessing to encourage us to eat suboor.

Here are some blessings in the Suhoor:

- l) Eating Suhoor gives strength and energy for worship and helps us to obey Allah during the day by praying, reading Qur'aan and remembering Allah (dhikr). If we are hungry then we may become lazy in doing good deeds.
- 2) Suhoor protects us from the bad manners that we may have because of hunger. So when we eat suhoor we will be in a good mood and we will behave well with others.
- 3) When we eat suboor we feel encouraged to fast more, because fasting is less difficult when we eat suboor.
- 4) Eating suhoor is following the Sunnah (way) of the Prophet Muhammed #, so if we eat suhoor with the intention of obeying the command of the Prophet then Allah will reward us for it.
- 5) When we eat subsor we get up at the end of the night, which is the most special time because Allah answers the prayers made at this time. So we get the opportunity to remember Allah, to make du'aa' and to pray during this special part of the night.
- 7) Another blessing of suhoor is praying Fajr in congregation at Masjid, at the proper time. You see that there are more people praying Fajr in Ramadaan at the Masjid than in other months, because they woke up for suhoor.

Therefore, we should be eager to eat suboor and should not miss it just because we feel too sleepy.

Suhoor may be done even by eating a little amount of food or drink, however, you should make sure that it is healthy and nutritious. Remember to add some dates to your Suhoor.

The Messenger of Allah 🖔 said: "The best suhoor for the believer is dates." (Abu Dawood)









Iftaar is the meal that is taken when breaking the fast at Maghrib time. Our Prophet 🥞 used to break his fast with a few fresh or dried dates and some water.

#### Here are some manners of Iftaar that are good to know and follow insha Allah:

Prophet Muhammed # told us that Allah always responds to the du'aa of the fasting person when he breaks his fast. Many people miss this opportunity because they are very busy preparing the Iftaar. You can help your mother put up food at the table and remind her and all your fasting family members to make du'aa.

Start eating ifter as soon as you hear the call (adhaan) for Maghrib prayer. Prophet Muhammed informed us that Allah loves those who rush to break their fasts.

Prophet Muhammed said, "Allah (subhanu wa ta'ala) said, 'The most beloved among my servants are those who are quickest to break their fast." (Tirmidhi)

Remember to eat healthy iftar. Follow Prophet Muhammed's 🚎 way by breaking the fast with dates & water.

Try to eat your iftar as soon as you can so that you may pray Maghrib prayer at its earliest time. Since the Masjids are closed this Ramadan, your father or a male member will lead the prayer at home.

Share Iftar with the poor ones who do not have anything to break their fast with or who don't have as good food as you have. There is a big reward for those who do that.

Prophet Muhammed said, "Whoever feeds a person breaking his fast will earn the same reward as him without anything being lessened from the reward of the fasting person." (Recorded by Al-Tirmidhi)

Recite the following du'aa taught by Prophet Muhammed 🕮 after you have your Iftaar:

"Dhahaba az-zamau', wabtallatil-'urooqu wa thabatil ajru insha Allah"

Thirst has gone, the veins are moist, and the reward is assured, if Allah wills.

(Recorded by Abu Dawood)



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### Taraweeh



Prophet Muhammed said:

"Whoever prays giyaam (Taraweeh) with the imam until he finishes, it will be recorded as if he spent the whole night in prayer." (Narrated by Al-Tirmidhi)



Taraweeh is the extra prayer that is prayed only in Ramadan after Isha Salah.

This prayer is not compulsory, however by praying extra prayers you earn a lot of good deeds. You may remember going to the Masjid for Taraweeh prayers with your parents to pray with everyone. Since people are not allowed to gather in large groups (which is why the Masjids have been closed) the Muslims will pray Taraweeh at home.

Taraweeh is prayed in two rakahs (units) and you can keep praying till you complete eight, ten or twenty rakahs.

Taraweeh prayers are very long as that is how how our Prophet 🕮 used to pray. We recite as much Quran as we can during the Taraweeh. This can be tiring for you if you are very young, so you may pray only as much as you are able to. Don't be surprised to see your mom or dad holding the Quran and reading from it during these extra prayers as they read long chapters from it.



place of prostration









Eyes look towards the index finger

### Your House is your Masjid now

All the Muslims are awfully upset to have the Masjids closed, especially in Ramadan! After all, we all love to gather to pray the beautiful long prayers and meet our neighbours and friends. Being in the house of Allah, Masjid, is a great blessing which brings us happiness and peace. However, Allah has decreed (commanded) that this is how it should be this year. The exciting news is that we can turn our homes into Masjids!

The Messenger of Allah said, "The entire earth has been made a place of prayer (masjid), except for graveyards and washrooms."



Here are few ideas to make a Masjid in your house with the help of your parents:

- I. Choose a small corner of your house to be your Masjid.
- 2. Make sure it has no distractions such as TV, toys, etc.
- 3. Spread a carpet or prayer rugs in the direction of Qiblah.
- 4. Keep your prayer dress, socks, cap, and whatever you need during prayer in a basket or a box near the prayer area.
- 5. Collect Islamic books and keep it in the "Masjid" corner for you to read.

  (If you wish to read more books you can download and print them from ummi.org for free)
- 6. Make sure your "Masjid" is always clean. You may use small amount of scent to make it smell pleasing.
- 7. With the permission of your parents you may also keep devices such as a tablet or iPad to listen to Islamic lectures or Quran recitation (only).
- 8. If you are going to place Mushaf in your "Masjid" make sure you place it in a high place that is respectful.
- 9. Don't add too many things in your "Masjid" or you may get distracted.
- 10. Make sure that your "Masjid" is always quiet and peaceful. Avoid disturbing anyone who is praying or reciting the Quran, just as you would do in the Masjid.
- II. Keep toys and pictures which have animated beings on them away from the "Masjid".



You can stick a picture of your "Masjid" here for memory and describe it in few sentences! Remember, Allah does not care about how fancy or pretty your Masjid looks rather He sees your worship. Did you know that the Masjid built by our Prophet 🚎 in Madinah was very simple? It was just made of mud bricks, palm-tree trunks, palm leaves and mud! It was nothing like the Masjids we have today.



### The Five Pillars of Islam



Fasting in Ramadan is one of the five pillars of Islam.

The Messenger of Allah said, "Islam is built upon five:

To worship Allah and to disbelieve in what is worshiped besides him, to establish prayer, to give charity, to perform Hajj pilgrimage to the house, and to fast the month of Ramadan."

(al-Bukhari, Muslim)





Say (O Muhammed), "I am only a man like you, to whom has been revealed that your god is one God." (Al Kahf, 18:110)

"Ash-hadu an la ilaha ill Allah; wa ash-hadu anna Muhammed ar-rasoolullah"
(I bear witness that there is no one worthy of worship except Allah; and Muhammed is the Messenger of Allah)

A Muslim believes that Allah Alone is the True God, Creator and Provider of all that exists.

A Muslim believes that Allah Alone should be worshiped, loved more than anyone else,
feared more than anyone else and obeyed more than anyone else.

Allah is Only One and Alone without any partner, father, mother or child.

A Muslim also believes that Muhammed Ibn Abdullah ﷺ is the Prophet of Allah and His last Messenger. A Muslim believes that Allah chose Prophet Muhammed ﷺ to reveal the Quran and teach people about Islam. A Muslim believes in everything that Prophet Muhammed ﷺ has informed. A Muslim knows that he must obey Prophet Muhammed ﷺ, follow him, learn about his teachings and his life if he wants Allah to be pleased with him.



After the first pillar of Shahadah, the pillar of Salah is the most important.

Allah has made Salah (prayer) obligatory for adult Muslims.

A Muslim prays five times a day. Salah is an important and beautiful way of remembering Allah getting close to Him.

The Salah is an act of worship that starts with Takbeer, includes recitation of Quran,

rukoo' (bowing), prostration (sujood) and ends with tasleem. Salah is the most beloved of deeds to Allah.

It is also the first thing that Allah will ask a Muslim about on the Day of Judgement.

The five obligatory prayers are Fajr (early morning, before dawn), Zuhr (mid-day), 'Asr (mid afternoon), Maghrib (just after sunset) and 'Ishaa' (at night).

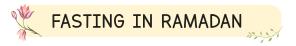
Salah is the most important part of a Muslim's daily life. He should schedule his day and night around the Salah. An adult who does not pray five times is not considered to be a Muslim. Therefore, children should make it a habit to pray regularly with their parents.



### And establish prayer and give zakah and bow with those who bow (in worship and obedience). [Al Bagarah, 2:43]

Zakah is an obligatory charity that Allah commanded the rich Muslims to give to the poor. Allah made some people rich and others poor, so that Allah may test the rich if he is grateful to Allah and gives some of his wealth to those who need, He also tests the poor ones if they are patient with what Allah has decided for them, so that He may reward both the rich and the poor for their good actions Muslims are brothers and sisters of each other and they care for them and their needs as they care for their own self and their needs.

Sharing what you have with others brings Allah's pleasure, blessings and rewards.



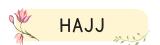
"O you who believe! Observing As-Sawm (the fasting) is prescribed for you as it was prescribed for those before you, that you may become Al-Muttaqoon (the pious)"

[al-Bagarah 2:183]

Fasting is to not eat and drink anything from Fajr to Maghrib during the Islamic month of Ramadan.

A Muslim wakes up before Fajr to eat a small meal called Suhoor, which gives him energy to fast throughout the day. Fasting is one of the most beloved deeds to Allah.

It's rewards are great. During Ramadan, a Muslim increases all the good deeds such as praying extra Salah, reading and learning Quran more, staying up at night to worship Allah, feeding poor people ifter, and more.



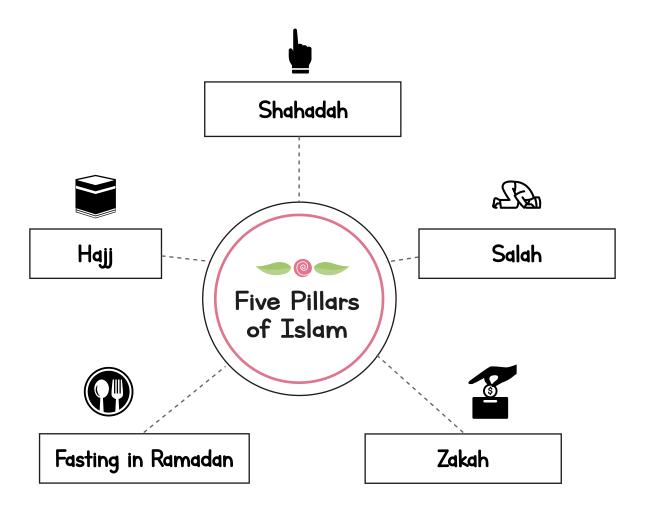
"And Hajj (pilgrimage to Makkah) to the House (Ka'bah) is a duty that mankind owes to Allah, (for) those who can afford the expenses."

[al-Bagarah 2:183]

Hajj is the journey to Ka'bah in Makkah taken by Muslims in the last month of Islamic calendar Dhu'l Hijjah. During Hajj, the Muslims perform the actions and words as taught by the Prophet , such as Tawaaf or walking around the Ka'bah seven times, al-Saa'ee or running between the hills of Safaa' and Marwa seven times, standing at 'Arafaah, stoning the Jamaraat (stone pillars representing the Shaytaan) at Mina, etc. Hajj brings immense benefits to people, as they declare the Unity (Tawheed) of Allah, there is forgiveness for the pilgrims, and Muslims get to know one another.



# Mind Map



#### Match the ayahs, pillars of Islam and icons correctly:

<b>@</b>	The Prayer is enjoined upon the believers at stated times	Zakah	a De
<b>@</b>	"O you who believe! Observing As-Sawm is prescribed for you."	Најј	
<b>@</b>	And establish prayer and give zakah.	Fasting	<b>_</b>
	Say (O Muhammed), "I am only a man like you, to whom has been revealed that your god is one God."	Salah	8
<b>@</b>	"And Hajj (pilgrimage to Makkah) to the House (Ka'bah) is a duty that mankind owes to Allah"	Shahadah	



### Islamic Calendar

The Islamic calendar is different than the calendars that most of us use regularly, for example at schools. The calendar whose months are named as January, February, March and so on is called Gregorian calendar.

The Gregorian calendar is a solar calendar, which means that it is based on the movements of the sun. However, the Islamic calendar is based on the phases of the moon. It is Allah Who chose for us to follow the moon for keeping count of the months and years.



Allah says, "It is He Who made the sun a shining thing and the moon as a light and measured out its (their) stages, that you might know the number of years and the reckoning"

[Yoonus 10:5].



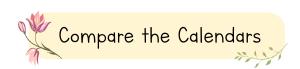
So, from the sun the days and nights are known, and from the phases of the moon the months and years are known.

The Islamic calendar is not only different from the Gregorian calendar in names of months but is also different in the numbering of years. The Islamic calendar was first made when the Caliph 'Umar bin al Al-Khattab (radiallahu anhu) decided that they should have a fixed and organized calendar to keep record of important times.

Umar (radiallahu anhu) decided that they should begin counting the years from the time the Prophet Muhammed migrated (did hijrah) from Makkah to Madinah, because that was when the Muslims were united and had become a nation. It was a very important event. That is why, the Islamic calendar is also called as the Hijri calendar. So, the year in which the Prophet Muhammed migrated to Madinah is called 'the year of Hijrah', two years after the Prophet Muhammed migrated is called as '2 AH' meaning 2 years 'After Hijrah'.

The year we are currently in is 1441 AH. It means it is one thousand, four hundred and forty one years since the Prophet Muhammed 🚎 did Hijrah!

There are twelve months in the Islamic calendar too. However, the names of Islamic months are different. A new month in the Islamic calendar begins when there is a 'new crescent moon'.



#### Islamic Date Today

Day	Month	Year

#### Greogorian Date Today

Day	Month	Year

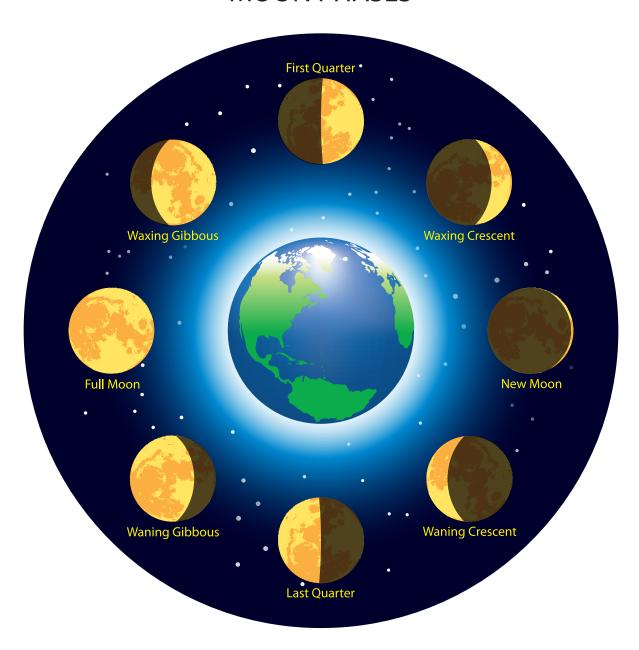


# Phases of the Moon

Learning the phases of the moon is beneficial and important so that we understand the Islamic calendar. At first, the moon looks like a very thin line.

It begins to grow until it becomes a full circle. Now, the moon begins to thin again little by little until it disappears!

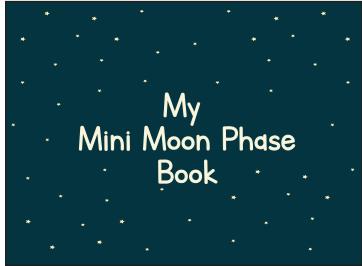
#### **MOON PHASES**



### Moon Phase Book

Cut out the boxes safely with a scissor. Arrange the pages in order according to the page number. Staple it with help of an adult. Your 'My Mini Moon Phase Book' is ready!















# Months in Islamic Calendar



"Verily, the number of months with Allah is twelve months, so was it ordained by Allah on the Day when He created the heavens and the earth; of them four are Sacred. That is the right religion, so wrong not yourselves therein"

[al-Tawbah 9:36]



- I. Muharram
- 2. Safar
- 3. Rabee ul Awwal
- 4. Rabee al Thani
- 5. Jumaad al Ulaa
- 6. Jumaad al Ukhra

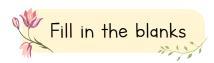
- 7. Rajab
- 8. Sha'baan
- 9. Ramadaan
- 10. Shawwaal
- II. Dhu'l Qa'dah
- 12. Dhu'l Hijjah

These are the twelve months in Islam. It's important that we know, remember and keep track of them. There are four months thats are sacred. It means, they are important and special to Allah. They are - Muharram, Rajab, Dhu'l Qa'dah and Dhu'l Hijjah. If you do good deeds in these months, Allah will give you greater reward than usual. However, if you sin or do bad deeds in these months it is more serious and that is why the punishment would be more. So we as Muslims should know when these four sacred months come in the year, and then be careful about our actions.



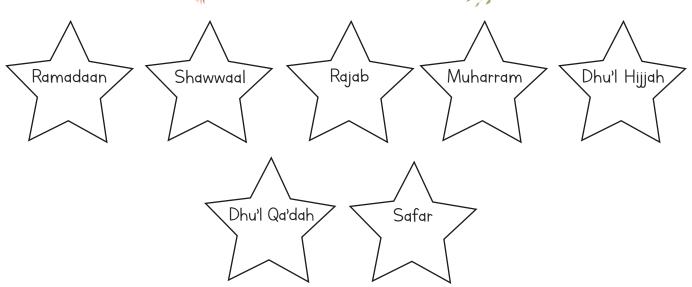
To help you remember the names of Islamic months, you can watch and listen to the Nasheed 'Months in Islam with Zaky' on YouTube

# Activity



l	is the first month of Islamic year.
2	comes before Ramadaan.
3	is the month of Hajj.
4	is the month of compulsory fasting.
5	is one of the sacred months starting with F
6	comes after Ramadan.

## Colour the four sacred months:



# Fill the missing months

I. Muharram	2.	3. Rabee ul Awwal
Ч.	5. Jumaad al Ulaa	6.
7. Rajab	8.	q.
IO.	II. Dhu'l Qa'dah	12.





#### **GOLDEN DOMES AND SILVER LANTERNS**

Read the book 'Golden Domes and Silver Lanterns', or watch 'Golden Domes and Silver Lanterns read aloud' on YouTube by Crescent Room.

Write the response after reading or watching the story

Who is the Author of the book?	A Muslim Book of Colors
What is the story about?	bu Hena Khan Illusnated by Melndokht Ammi
Choose three interesting words from the book Did	you discover what they mean?
Interesting words	What I think it means
1.	
2.	
3.	
How did you feel after reading this book?	



#### **GOLDEN DOMES AND SILVER LANTERNS**

Re-write the book on your own, while only changing the colors of	the objects. For eg, the narrater's dad's
prayer rug is red. You can change it from red and write the nam	ne of the color of your dad's prayer rug.



#### **GOLDEN DOMES AND SILVER LANTERNS**

Choose anyone drawing activity or do both!

1. Trace your hand here, and draw a beautiful henna design.

2. Draw the most fascinating object you found in the book



## What is Quran?

Ramadan is the month of the Quran. But what is the Quran? The Quran is the speech of Allah in Arabic that was revealed to the Prophet Muhammed ## through Angel Jibreel (alayhi as-salaam). Before revealing the Quran, Allah sent down Books to many earlier Prophets. He sent down the Torah to Moosa, He sent down the Injeel to 'Eesa, He sent down the Zaboor to Dawood, and He sent down Suhuf to Ibraaheem (peace be upon them all). However, all of these earlier books are either lost or their messages have been changed by the people. Today, the only Book from Allah that is without any change is the Quran.



And thus We have revealed to you (O Muhammed) an inspiration of Our command. You did not know what is the Book or [what is] faith, but We have made it a light by which We guide whom We will of Our servants. (Ash-Shuraa, 42:56)



The Quran is the last Book from Allah, it is the final message from Allah to the people till the Day of Judgement. There will be no other book or message of any kind that will come from Allah to the people. That is why, Allah promised to protect the Quran from getting lost or changed.

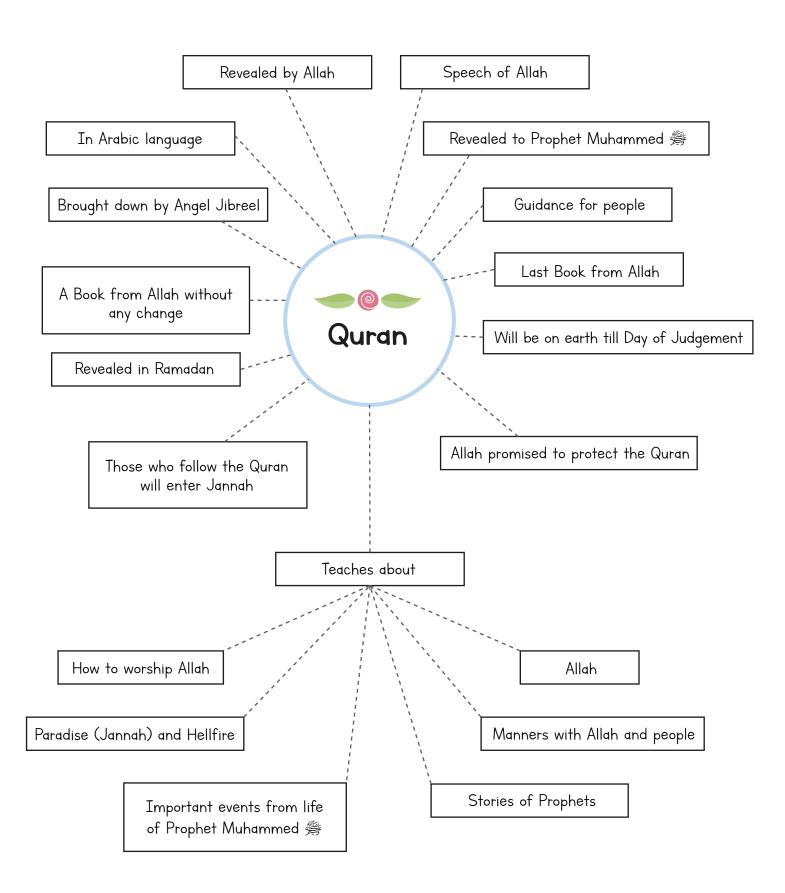
The Quran gives us knowledge about Allah, describes the Day of Judgement, Paradise and Hell, tells us stories of the Prophets as lessons for us, describes important events from the life of Prophet Muhammed , gives us important laws (or rules) to live a proper life which is pleasing to Allah, describes us the good manners that one should have with Allah and the people, and explains how to worship Allah.

Whoever believes and follows the Quran Allah will be pleased with him and he will enter into the Paradise with the Prophets, companions of the Prophet Muhammed sand the believers.

#### Match the following Divine Books with their right Messengers



## Mind Map



## What is in the Quran?



Read the ayahs and write what you think each ayah is telling us about?

Indeed, your Lord is Allah, who created the heavens and the earth in six days and then established Himself above the Throne... (Yunus, 10:3)



The Day the Horn is blown and you will come forth in multitudes ( An-Naba, 78:18 )



Those will have gardens of perpetual residence; beneath them rivers will flow. They will be adorned therein with bracelets of gold and will wear green garments of fine silk and brocade, reclining therein on adorned couches.

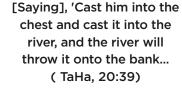
( Al-Kahf, 18:31 )

And do not spy or backbite each other. ( Al-Hujurat, 49:12 )



O you who have believed, when you rise to [perform] prayer, wash your faces and your forearms to the elbows and wipe over your heads and wash your feet to the ankles.

( Al-Ma'idah, 5:6 )











		- 00-00



### How was Quran Revealed?

Allah revealed the Quran to Prophet Muhammed # through angel Jibreel (alayhi as-salaam). The meaning of 'reveal' is to make an information known while it was not known earlier.

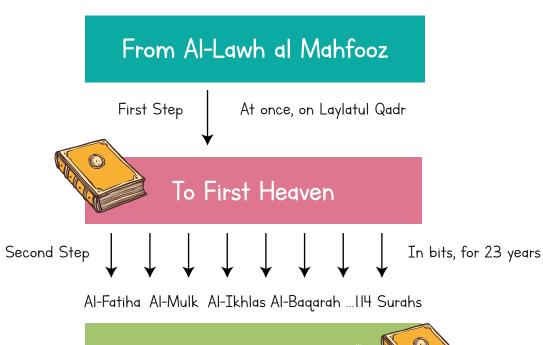
So, Quran was not known to people until Allah revealed it to Prophet Muhammed # when he was 40 years old.

The Quran was sent down or revealed in two steps:

The first step of revelation was when Allah sent the entire Quran from Al-Lawh al-Mahfooz to the first heaven on a special night called Laylatul Qadr. Al-Lawh al-Mahfooz is a Book in which everything that will happen till the Day of Judgement is written down.



The second step was when Allah revealed parts of Quran from the lowest heaven to Prophet Muhammed through angel Jibreel whenever He willed. It took 23 years for Quran to be completely revealed to Prophet Muhammed The first revelation began with the first six ayahs of Surah al-Alaq when Prophet Muhammed was in the cave of Hira.







### Poem Time

#### Sing Children of the World By Dawud Wharnsby Ali

Walking through the crowded streets of a market in Morocco Sitting on a smiling camel in the desert of Arabia Chasing 'round the bamboo trees abandoned in Indonesia Gathering brightly coloured leaves in a forest of Canada

Sing Children of the World

Come together and hear the call

Sing Children of the World

Islam will unite us all

Subhanallah, Wa Alhamdullillah Wa Allahu Akbar! Subhanallah, Wa Alhamdullillah Wa Allahu Akbar!

Splashing through the pouring rain in a village of Guyana
Nibbling cakes from picnic plates on a mountaintop in Switzerland
Tending to a flock of sheep down under in Australia
Greeting morning with a prayer on the golden Egyptian Sand

Oh Sing Children of the World
Come together and hear the call
Sing Children of the World
Islam will unite us all
Sing Children of the World

Subhanallah, Alhamdullillah, Allahu Akbar! Subhanallah, Alhamdullillah, Allahu Akbar!

Napping beneath the date palm shade under blue skies of Tunisia Sweeping out his parents' shop on a side street in Pakistan Planting rows of beans and maize on a small farm in Uganda Laying back to count the stars from somewhere in Afghanistan



Oh Sing Children of the World
Come together and hear the call
Sing Children of the World
Islam will unite us all
Sing Children of the World
Come together and hear the call
Sing Children of the World
Islam will unite us all
Subhanallah, Wa Alhamdullillah Wa Allahu Akbar!
Subhanallah, Wa Alhamdullillah Wa Allahu Akbar!

Crying himself to sleep with no hope left for dreaming
Begging in the burning sun, holding out her hand
Palms held tightly on his ears to muffle all the screaming
Sitting where her house once stood trying hard to understand

See the Children of the World

All the Children of the World

Sing for the Children of the World

Pray for the Children of the World

Sing Children of the World

Come together and hear the call

Sing Children of the World

Islam will unite us all

Subhanallah, Alhamdulillah, Allahu Akbar! Subhanallah, Alhamdullillah, Allahu Akbar!

... Ameen!

## Follow up activities

What difference did you notice between children in the beginning of the poem and the end of the poem?
Where do you live? Is your country mentioned in the song? If not, come up with a verse of your own to add in the song.
Why does the author ask children of the world to pray?
Why do you think that some children are crying and suffering? What are the possible reasons?
Research and discuss the following with help of your parents:  1. Who is a refugee? 2. Which places in the world have most refugees? 3. What has caused them to become refugees? 4. Watch/ read an interview or a video of a refugee child
As a child, what are some of the ways in which you can help the refugees?
Find at least I importance or reward of helping others/giving charity from the Quran and Sunnah each.
Every refugee child dreams of living your life. How do you show gratitude to Allah for giving you safety and all the things that you have?
Write a prayer/ du'aa of your own for the suffering children. Make sure you repeat your du'aa for them during Ramadan and especially in the last ten special nights.
My Du'aa for Suffering Children

## Follow up activities

Choose a country of your choice and draw a picture of the landscape as described in the poem. Give a title to your drawing.

Imagine how a refugee's	living place would look like Wit	h vour narent's supervision try	to look up in the internet
	living place would look like. Wit		
	living place would look like. Wit a title. Compare the two drawii		



## Laylatul Qadr

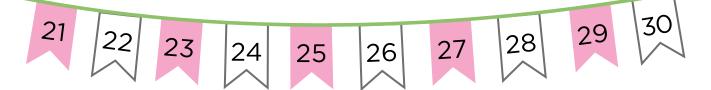
Laylatul Qadr is a special night in Ramadan. Allah revealed the Quran in this blessed night.



"Indeed, We sent the Qur'an down during the Night of Decree." (Al-Qadr, 97:1)



We don't know when exactly is Laylatul Qadr. But the Prophet Muhammed 🚎 informed us that it is in one of the odd nights of the last ten days of Ramadan.



On Laylatul Qadr, many angels and Angel Jibreel (Al-Rooh) come on earth.

It is a beautiful and peaceful night full of goodness.

Worshipping Allah in Laylatul Qadr has enormous rewards. It is as though you worshipped Allah and did good deeds for thousand months!

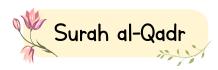
We do not know which night it is exactly, that is why we should worship Allah in all last ten nights so that we do not miss this amazing opportunity that Allah has given us.

Muslims increase their worship in the last ten days and try to stay awake entire night. Most of them pray many extra Salah, read Quran and make lots of du'aa. Some people remain in the Masjid for all last ten days of Ramadan like our Prophet Muhammed sused to do, while others remain in the Masjid for whatever days is easy for them. Staying in the Masjid to worship Allah is called I'tikaaf. However, this year we can do I'tikaaf at home. You can learn more about it and experience this beautiful Sunnah (way of Prophet ).





### Surah al Qadr



إِنَّا أَنزَلْنَاهُ فِي لَيْلَةِ الْقَدْرِ 1

Indeed, We sent the Qur'an down during the Night of Decree.

وَمَا أَدْرَاكَ مَا لَيْلَةُ الْقَدْر ٢

And what can make you know what is the Night of Decree?

The Night of Decree is better than a thousand months.

The angels and the Rooh (Jibreel) descend therein by permission of their Lord for every matter.

Peace it is until the emergence of dawn.



Quran was sent down on this night

The angels and Jibreel come down on Earth

Laylatul Qadr Worshipping Allah in this night is better than worshipping Allah for 1000 months

It is a peaceful night till Fajr

It is in the odd nights of last ten days of Ramadan (Can be on 21st, 23rd, 25 ,27th or 29th)



### Planning for Laylatul Qadr

#### If you would like to stay awake searching for Laylatul Qadr then you should:

- Keep track of Ramadan days. Remember that in Islamic calendar, the day follows the night.
   So if it is 22nd day of Ramadan tomorrow then after Maghrib today it will be the night of 22nd.
   This can be a little tricky. Ask your parents to help you keep track of the odd nights.
- Take a good nap in the afternoon.
- Make a plan or to-do list for the night.
- Have your list of Du'as ready for these nights. (Fill up the 'My list of Du'as' page to use it in last ten nights)
- Make this Du'aa that the Prophet # taught Ayesha (radi-Allahu anha) to say during last ten days of Ramadan.

Allahumma innaka `afuwwun, tuhibbul-`afwa, fa`fu `annee O Allah, You are Most Forgiving, and You love forgiveness; so forgive me

- If you get too tired and sleepy, go to bed and take rest. You don't have to stay up all night, you are
  only a young child. Allah sees you and your efforts, and will reward you greatly inshaAllah.
- Make sure that you don't disturb anyone in your home as our homes are now our Masjids. Remember,
   this is a special night for everyone.



You can switch between various kinds of acts of worship.

Here are some of the many things to do!



Recite Quran

Read Islamic Books Watch Islamic Videos

Make Du'aa





## My List of Du'aas for Last Ten Nights

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### Angel Jibreel

Angels belong to the unseen world. However, Allah has told us about them in the Quran and also through Prophet Muhammad . Allah created angels before He created humans. Angels are created from light. They obey the commands of Allah all the time, and they never get tired of worshiping Allah.

It is not possible for us to see the angels in this world. In cartoons or images, angels are illustrated as someone like humans with wings and a halo over their heads. Or sometimes, even as a chubby baby. However, these illustrations are only imaginary and are not true.

The greatest of all the angels is Jibreel (alayhi as-salaam). He is the leader of all the angels. All inhabitants of heaven obey and respect Jibreel. The Messenger of Allah saw Jibreel in his real form. He was very beautiful and huge. He had six hundred wings, each of his wing covered the horizon. From his wings fell jewels, pearls and rubies (mentioned in a hadth of Prophet recorded by Imam Ahmad). Jibreel is sometimes called as Al-Rooh in the Quran.

#### Jibreel and the Prophets

Angel Jibreel is the helper of the Prophets, he loves them and protects them. Jibreel appeared when Ibrahim (alayhi as-salaam) was thrown in the fire, and asked if he could help Ibrahim but he responded that Allah is enough for him. Jibreel also came to help Haajar, the wife of Ibrahim (alayhi as-salaam), tapping his heel to produce the water of Zamzam for baby Isma'eel (alayhi as-salaam). Jibreel also carried Prophet 'Eesa (alayhi as-salaam) up in the heavens to Allah when the people came to kill him.

#### Jibreel and Prophet Muhammed 🕮

Jibreel's most important task was to send the revelation from Allah to His Messengers. It was Jibreel (alayhi as-salaam) who came in a human form to Prophet Muhammed while he was thinking about Allah in the Cave of Hira one day. Jibreel (as) squeezed the Prophet and told him to read. From that day onwards, Jibreel kept sending ayahs from the Quran to the Prophet Muhammed with the command of Allah. Sometimes Jibreel would come to the Prophet in his real form, while at other times he would come in the form of a human.

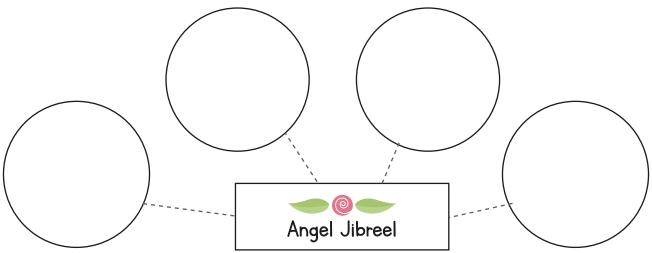
#### Loving Angel Jibreel

As Muslims, we love all angels and especially angel Jibreel because he is the one who brought the Quran from Allah to Prophet Muhammed 🚑.





Write words in the circles that describe Angel Jibreel (alayhi as-salaam)



nat do you like the most abo	out angel Jibreel (as)?	
you remember how Jibreel	(as) helped these Prophets?	
'Eesa (as)	Ibrahim (as)	Isma'eel (as)



### Prophet Muhammed and his life



"There has certainly come to you a Messenger from among yourselves.

Grievous to him is what you suffer; [he is] concerned over you

and to the believers is kind and merciful."

(Al Tawbah, 9:128)

The full name of the messenger of Allah is Muhammad ibn Abd-Allah ibn Abd al-Muttalib al-Haashimi al-Quraishi. He was born in Makkah in the year of the Elephant, the year in which an army with the elephants came to Makkah to destroy the Ka'bah, but Allah destroyed them. His father died before he was born, and his mother Aaminah bint Wahb died when he was just six years old. His grandfather 'Abd al-Muttalib took care of him until he died when Muhammed was eight years old. Then his uncle Abu Taalib became his guardian and supported him as long as he was alive (he died when Prophet Muhammed was 52 years old).

Before becoming a Prophet, Muhammed worked as a shepherd for a while. Later he worked for Khadeejah bint Khuwaylid (ra) in her business. Khadeejah was impressed with his character, and asked him to marry her. She was his first wife. People called him 'Al Ameen' (the trustworthy) because of his good manners.

The people of Makkah worshipped idols made of stones instead of worshiping Allah alone, however Muhammed hated idols. He liked to go to cave Hira to spend some time alone and worship Allah. One day, when Muhammed was in cave Hira Allah sent Jibreel to him with ayahs from Quran. Allah had chosen him to be a Prophet and His Messenger. His duty was to convey the final message from Allah to the people.

The Prophet stayed in Makkah for thirteen years calling people to worship Allah alone, first secretly (to his family and friends) and then openly (to everyone). When he started to teach openly, the Makkans began harming him and those who followed him. Some Muslims went to Abyssinia to escape the Makkans.

Later, Allah helped the Prophet by sending some people to him from Madinah who pledged to help and support him. The Prophet met this small group of people during the time of Hajj and taught them about Islam. This group went back to Madinah, and taught more people about Islam. The people of Madinah quickly became Muslims. They were now a very large group. Then, the Muslims of Madinah called the Prophet to their city. They promised to protect him from all his enemies. This is why they are called 'Ansar' which means helpers.

Many Muslims left Makkah one after the other for Madinah - leaving their homes, their belongings and family behind for the sake of Islam. This is why these Muslims of Makkah are called Muhagjiroon, those who do Hijrah (leaving one place and going to another). Soon, Prophet Muhammed went on a secret journey with his best companion Abu Bakr (ra) to Madinah. The Makkans tried to search him and follow him in order to kill him but Allah protected the Prophet heads are the leader of Madinah. However, not everyone was happy to have Prophet Muhammed has the leader. The Jews hated Prophet and the Muslims. There were also some people in Madinah who pretended to be Muslims but they were the enemies of Prophet and the Muslims, they are called Munafiqoon or hypocrites. Although the Prophet Muhammed was stronger now as he had many Muslims to help him in Madinah, but at the same time he had many enemies as well. All of his enemies (Makkans, Jews and the hypocrites) wanted one thing - to kill him and to destroy Islam forever. When his enemies began to increase their evil actions, Allah gave permission to the Prophet and the Muslims to fight them (do jihaad).

The Prophet square and Muslims fought the Makkans at Badr and became victorious. Allah had sent down angels from the heaven to help the Muslims. When the Makkans lost this battle (fight) at Badr, they decided to fight him again at Uhud after some time. At Uhud, many Muslims died. The Prophet square himself was greatly harmed.

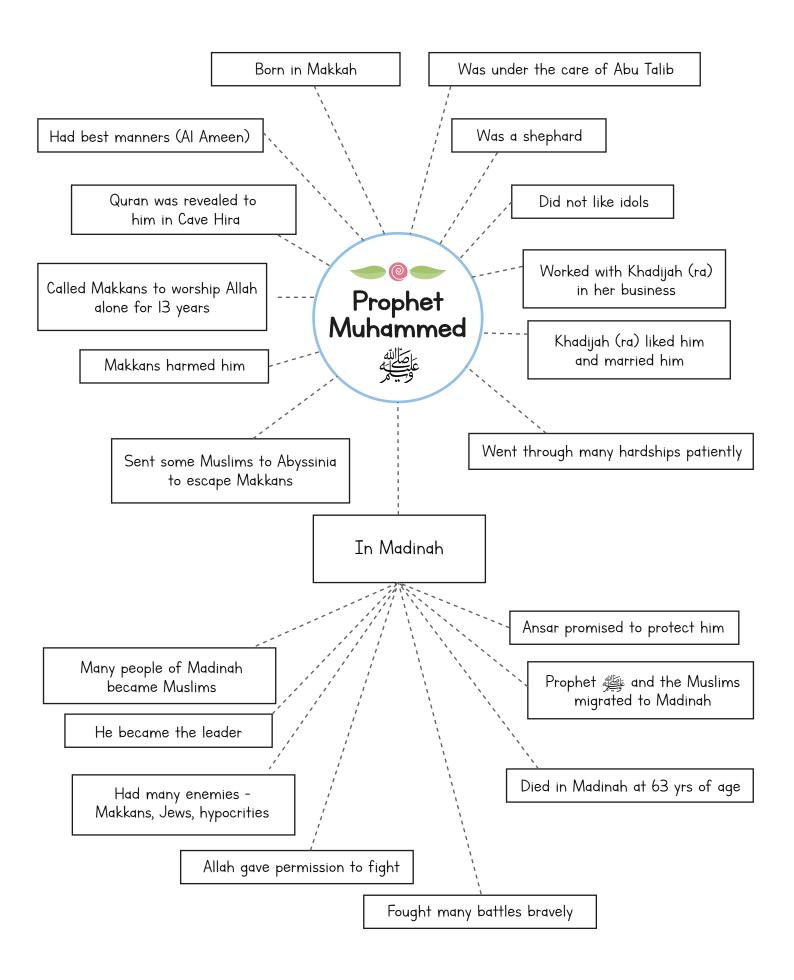
There were many other battles that took place, the Prophet fought bravely in all of them. The companions of the Prophet loved him so much that they would protect him from the enemies even if doing that killed their own selves. The Jews of Madinah made many plans to kill the Prophet and harm the Muslims. However, the Prophet expelled some of them from Madinah, and he killed a group of Jews as a punishment for trying to kill the final messenger of Allah.

After a few years, the Prophet went to Makkah with a great army to conquer Makkah. Although the Prophet and his army was strong enough but he did not kill or punish the Makkans for whatever they had done to him and the Muslims so far. Instead, he forgave them. The Prophet broke all the idols around the Ka'bah and made Makkah a pure Islamic city. The Prophet then went back to Madinah.

Soon after this, when Allah had completed the revelation of the entire Quran and Islam was completely taught to the people, the Prophet of fell sick. In Rabee al-Awwal, the Prophet's of sickness grew and he died. The Muslims were extremely sad and upset that day. It was the saddest day in their lives. Prophet Muhammed of died, but the Quran that was revealed to him for the mankind is with us and it will be there until the Last Day. Also with us is his Sunnah (teachings) and his Ahadith (speech). It is important to follow the Quran and the Sunnah to be true Muslims, just like his companions.



## Mind Map









## Write a short biography of Prophet Muhammed




# Story Time



### Zaid ibn Thabit - The Prophet's Scribe

It was the second year after Hijrah and Madinah - the city of the Prophet is buzzing with activity as the Muslims prepare for the long march southwards to Badr. The noble Prophet made a final inspection of the first army to be mobilised under his leadership to wage Jihad against those who had tormented the Muslims for many years and who were still bent on putting an end to his mission.

A youth, not yet thirteen, walked up to the ranks. He was confident and alert. He held a sword which was as long or possibly slightly longer than his own height. He went up to the Prophet and said: "I dedicate myself to you, Messenger of Allah. Permit me to be with you and to fight the enemies of Allah under your banner." The noble Prophet looked at him with admiration and patted his shoulder with loving tenderness. He praised him for his courage but refused to enlist him because he was still too young.

The youth, Zayd ibn Thabit, turned and walked away, dejected and sad. As he walked, in slow and measured paces, he stuck his sword in the ground as a sign of his disappointment. He was denied the honour of accompanying the Prophet on his first campaign. Behind him was his mother, An-Nawar bint Malik She felt equally dejected and sad. She had dearly wished to see her young son go with the army of mujahideen and to be with the Prophet at this most critical time. One year later, Zayd ibn Thabit was still considered by the Prophet to be too young to participate and immature to fight at the battle of Uhud. He promised though to consider him for a later battle. It was only at the Battle of the Ditch when Zayd was about sixteen years old that he was at last allowed to participate to defend the Muslim community.

Although Zayd was keen to participate in battles, it is not as a warrior that he is remembered. After his rejection for the Badr campaign, he accepted the fact then that he was too young to fight in major battles. His alert mind turned to other fields of service, which had no connection with age and which could bring him closer to the Prophet . He considered the field of knowledge and in particular of memorising the Qur'an. He mentioned the idea to his mother. She was delighted and immediately made attempts to have his ambition realised.

Some men of the Ansar talked to the Prophet , "O Messenger of Allah, our son Zayd ibn Thabit has memorised seventeen chapters of the Book of Allah and recites them as correctly as they were revealed to you. In addition to that he is good at reading and writing. It is in this field of service that he desires to be close to you. Listen to him if you will."

The Prophet listened to Zayd reciting some chapters he had memorised. His recitation was clear and beautiful and his stops and pauses indicated clearly that he understood well what he recited. The Prophet was pleased. Indeed he found that Zayd's ability exceeded the commendation he had been given by his relatives.

The Prophet then set him a task which required intelligence, skill and persistence."Zayd, learn the writing of the Jews for me," instructed the Prophet. "At your command, Messenger of Allah," replied Zayd who set about learning Hebrew with enthusiasm. He became quite proficient in the language and wrote it for the Prophet when he wanted to communicate with the Jews. Zayd also read and translated from Hebrew when the Jews wrote to the Prophet. The Prophet instructed him to learn Syriac also and this he did. Zayd thus came to perform the important function of an interpreter for the Prophet in his dealings with non-Arabic speaking people.

Zayd's enthusiasm and skill were obvious. When the Prophet felt confident of his faithfulness in the discharge of duties and the care, precision and understanding with which he carried out tasks, he entrusted Zayd with the special and important responsibility of recording the Divine revelation. When any part of the Qur'an was revealed to the Prophet for Layd and instructed him to bring the writing materials, "the parchment, the ink-pot and the scapula", and write the revelation.

Source: https://sunnahonline.com/library/history-of-islam/-359zayd-ibn-thabit





l. In which city did the story take place?
2. How old was Zaid ibn Thabit when he desired to participate in Battle of Badr?
3. At what age was he eventually allowed to participate in a battle? Which battle was it?
4. Why did the Prophet 🥞 not allow Zaid to participate in Badr and Uhud?
5. How did Zaid react to the Prophet's # rejection?
6. What gave the Prophet ﷺ an indication that Zaid understood well what he was reciting?
7. What shows that Zaid was enthusiastic about learning Hebrew?
8. Why did the Prophet ﷺ command Zaid to learn Hebrew?
9. Mention the two important tasks that Zaid undertook.
10. Discuss the lessons you learned from this story with your parents.
II. What are you most passionate about? Discuss how do you think it will be of benefit to the Muslims?
12. How did people in the time of the Prophet 🗯 write down the Quran?



## Allah Al Afunn

Allah is Al Afuww, The One Who Pardons. Allah knows all of our sins as nothing is hidden from Him yet Allah Al Afuww pardons us, not just once but many times. When Allah pardons someone then He erases the bad deeds from his book of deeds, He does not question him on the Day of Judgement about his sins, He does not remind him of those sins, and He does not punish him for those sins.

Allah Al Afuww also covers our mistakes and sins by not exposing our sins to the people. And just as He covers our sins in the Duniya He will also cover our sins on the Day of Judgement. So you should be shy of your sins and not tell others about it. Allah will punish those who openly sin and tell others about their sins. When you do a bad deed, you should feel bad about it. You should rush to ask Allah's forgiveness. Allah only forgives those who repent to Him sincerely and do not plan to sin again.

Allah Al Afuww loves to pardon our sins but that should not make us feel relaxed. The Messenger of Allah said, "Beware of minor (small) sins like a people who go into the bottom of a valley, so one comes with a stick and another with a stick until they have fire to cook their bread. Verily, when a person is held accountable for these minor sins they will destroy him." (Narrated by Ahmad) So it's extremely scary to keep doing small sins and not ask Allah to forgive us because when lots of small sins come together they become huge!

As slaves of Al Afuww we should pardon people when they wrong us. Everyone is wronged in some way or the other. We wrong others too, may be we just don't realize it. We hurt others even if we don't mean to hurt them. In the same way, people may hurt us without really realising.

We should try to follow Prophet Muhammed who was the best man on earth. In his lifetime many people caused him harm but he was patient with them and pardoned them generously. Let us look at this Hadith. Anas bin Malik reported, "I was walking with the Messenger of Allah and he had put on a mantle of Najran with a thick border. A bedouin met him and pulled the mantle so violently that I saw this violent pulling leaving marks of the border of the mantle on the skin of the neck of the Messenger of Allah . And he (the bedouin) said, 'Muhammad, issue command that I should be given out of the wealth of Allah which is at your disposal'. The Messenger of Allah turned his attention to him and smiled, and then ordered for him a gift (provision)."

Can you imagine yourself in that situation and think how would you have reacted if someone had pulled your shirt or scarf in such a harsh way? Would you have turned to that person and smiled? It's very easy to yell, frown and take revenge on others. However, this is not how Allah Al Afuww likes us to be. He loves that we pardon others, whether they harm us intentionally or mistakenly. It's definitely not easy to do that, but with du'aa, practice and patience you can inshaAllah become from those who pardon others.

May Allah Al Afuww pardon us all our sins and make us among those who pardon others.



### Zakat al-Fitr



Zakat al-Fitr is an obligatory charity given to the poor and needy in the end of Ramadan. Zakat al-Fitr is a charity of food stuff such as rice, dates, flour, pasta, meat and so on. This charity is given to the very needy Muslims to make sure that they have something to cook on Eid. They should be able to celebrate Eid as we do. Zakat al Fitr should be given before the Eid prayer. As Eid prayer is very early in the morning, you can give it the night before Eid.

Abdullah ibn Abbas said, "The Messenger of Allah senjoined Zakat al-Fitr on the one who fasts (i.e. fasted during the month of Ramadan) to purify him from any indecent act or speech and for the purpose of providing food for the needy. It is accepted as Zakah for the person who pays it before the Eid prayer and it is Sadaqah (i.e. voluntary charity) for the person who pays it after the Eid prayer.' (Abu Dawud and Ibn Majah)

Every Muslim who has enough money to feed himself and his family food on the day and night of Eid should give Zakat al-Fitr. It is the father or the head of the family who gives this charity on behalf of all his family members.

Prophet Muhammed # told us that every one of us should give one saa' (3 kilograms) of food stuff.



Family Member	Kind of food stuff	How much	For who	Brought	Given

## What to do on Eid?

We celebrate Eid in the end of Ramadan. When we sight the new crescent of the month (Shawwal), it means Ramadan is over. It usually takes 30 days for a month to be complete.

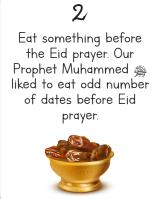
Allah has commanded us to follow Prophet Muhammed in all things. We pray as he prayed, we read Quran as he read it, we fast as he fasted, and we celebrate Eid as he celebrated. Here are things that Prophet Muhammed id did and taught us to do on Eid. Let's make sure that we follow him on Eid.

The most important thing on Eid is the Eid prayer. Prophet Muhammed to deveryone to attend the Eid prayer, so that everyone can join the Muslims and experience the feeling of celebration. Eid prayer starts after the sun has risen. However, since the masjids may be closed due to the pandemic you can pray Eid prayer at home with your family! Your father or other adult male member of your family will lead everyone in the prayer. Make sure you learn how to pray Eid prayer, it's a little different as there are extra Takbeers in it.

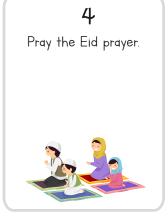
In the first rak'ah we should say Takbeerat al-ihraam (say "Allahu akbar" to start the prayer), after which we should say six or seven more takbeers, because of the hadeeth of 'Aa'ishah (may Allah be pleased with her), "The takbeer of al-Fitr and al-Adha is seven takbeers in the first rak'ah and five takbeers in the second, apart from the takbeer of rukoo'." Narrated by Abu Dawood

We should also recite the Takbeer after the sun has set on the night of Eid if it is clear that Ramadan is over until the time for Eid prayer (around 20 minutes after the sun has risen). Men and boys should recite it aloud in the houses, market, masjids, etc. while the girls and women should do it quietly.









### Being a good Muslim after Ramadan

The beautiful month of Ramadan is coming to an end. Most people stop doing the good deeds that they used to do in Ramadan as soon as Eid is celebrated. The Prophet said, "The most beloved deed to Allah is the most regular and constant even if it were little." (Sahih al Bukharee) He also said to Abdullah ibn 'Amr, "O 'Abdullah, do not be like so and so! He used to pray at night and then he stopped doing that" (Al-Bukhari, Muslim)

Although we won't be able to do everything we used to do in Ramadan, we should try to do at least some of it and not be from those who completely give up doing all the good deeds as soon as Ramadan ends. Worshipping Allah is one of the ways of coming close to Him, and it should be done all year long and all our life.

#### Below are few ideas for being a good Muslim even after Ramadan.

- I. Ask Allah to help you to be a sincere Muslim who follows His religion every time.
- 2. Keep using the 'Good Deeds' chart to help keep track of your deeds and to motivate you. You can ask your parents to print the good deeds chart page for post-Ramadan. Or make you own!
- 3. Have an Islamic library at home where there are lots of beneficial and interesting books to read. You can download books and print for free from ummi.org. You should have various books such as: English translation of Quran, life of the Prophet (Seerah), books on Tawheed, Prophet's stories, names of Allah, biographies of Sahaba and other Islamic personalities such as Salahuddin al Ayyubi, Islamic history, Hadith books, Good manners in Islam, stories from the Quran, battles of Prophet Muhammed (Fictional books with good Islamic morals, and so on.
- 4. Listen to Islamic lectures on YouTube. You can learn about: The day of Judgement, description of Paradise and Hell, signs of the day of Judgement, stories of the Prophets, and more.
- 5. Keep good friends from whom you can learn good things and also teach them what you have learnt.
- 6. Participate in Islamic classes whether online or in your neighbourhood.
- 7. Obey your parents and be kind to them. Try never to displease them, and be polite when you talk to them. Being good to parents has been commanded by Allah in the Quran and it is one of the best deeds.
- 8. Always pray your five daily prayers. Do not be lazy about it. Praying Salaah is the 2nd pillar of Islam and the most important and beloved deed to Allah!
- 9. Encourage your family to have an Islamic "event" at least once a week, where you can share what you have learnt and so can other members of the family. You can also recite Quran to your family, sing good Islamic songs, read an Islamic book out loud, and learn something new.







Ramadan has come to an end. It's Eid! You must be having mixed feelings now, a sad feeling and a happy feeling. Sad as Ramadan has left us, and happy because it's time to celebrate Eid. Although this Eid might be a little different than your previous Eids as you will have to spend it indoors, there are still plenty of ways to feel the happiness. Decorate your home, video call your family and friends, take lots of pictures, enjoy delicious food and desserts, play games with your siblings and make wonderful memories! We do have a lot to be grateful to Allah!

You did such an amazing job this Ramadan. Allah must be pleased with you - inshaAllah. You prayed your prayers, tried to fast in Ramadan, read a lot of Quran, did many good deeds, tried to become a better Muslim and you learnt about Islam everyday! Turn back the pages of your Journal and look how much you have achieved (and had fun at the same time!) - Alhamdulillah. Although you may not be able to do everything that you used to do in Ramadan, make sure that you keep doing some of these good deeds as much as you can even after Ramadan.

The Prophet said, "The most beloved of deeds to Allah are those that are done regularly, even if it is small". [Collected by Bukhaari and Muslim]

May Allah accept all your good deeds from you and reward you with Jannah where there is everything that you want. Ameen.







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Stick a picture of you and your family celebrating Eid together	
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#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

#### All praises and thanks are for Allah Alone.

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