



Aysha

An e-magazine for Nasirat-ul-Ahmadiyya UK



Magazine Ayesha

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The Kingdom of God

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ ①
 يُسَبِّحُ لِلَّهِ مَا فِي السَّمَوَاتِ وَمَا فِي الْأَرْضِ
 الْمَلِكِ الْقُدُّوسِ الْعَزِيزِ الْحَكِيمِ ②

Whatever is in the heavens and whatever is in the earth glorifies Allah, the Sovereign, the Holy, the Mighty, the Wise.

(The Holy Qur'an, Surah Al-Jumu'ah, Verse Two)

Commentary

Every particle of heaven and earth glorifies and proclaims the Holiness of God and everything in them is engaged in His glorification and praise. The mountains remember Him, the rivers remember Him, the trees remember Him and many righteous people are occupied with His remembrance. According to the Book of God, angels display the highest degree of submission. The same is true of each and every leaf and particle in the earth, as stated in the Holy Qur'an. Everything is obedient to Him, not even a leaf can fall without God's command. No medicine can heal without His command, nor can any food provide nourishment without it. Every particle of the earth, the mountains; every droplet of the rivers, the oceans; every leaf of all the trees and plants, including their every element; every particle of man and beast recognise God, obey Him and extol His praise and glory.

[The Promised Messiah (as), Noah's Ark, pp. 53-54]

Precious Companions

The Holy Prophet Muhammad (saw) has shed light upon the pious nature of daughters in these two beautiful Ahadith:

“The best of children are daughters for they are your companions, precious and blessed.”

“Aws ibn Sai'da al-Ansari came to the Holy Prophet (saw) and said, ‘O Messenger of Allah, I have daughters and I pray for their death.’”

“The Holy Prophet (saw) said, ‘O son of Sai'da! Don't pray against them; blessing lies in daughters. They are your helpers at the time of abundance, they grieve for you when you die, and they are your nurses when you get sick. Their burden is upon Earth and their sustenance will be provided by Allah.’”

(Al-Maqasid Al Hassanah, Volume 1, Page 678)

Translated by Reem Shariky Sahiba





MIRZA MASROOR AHMAD
HEAD OF THE AHMADIYYA COMMUNITY
IN ISLAM

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

نَحْمَدُهٗ وَنُصَلِّيْ عَلٰی رَسُوْلِهٖ الْكَرِیْمِ
وَعَلٰی عَبْدِهٖ الْمَسِيْحِ الْمَوْعُوْدِ

خدا کے فضل اور رحم کے ساتھ

هو الناصر

11 July 2018

Message for the first edition of Ayesha Magazine for Nasirat UK

My dear Nasirat

السلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته

I am pleased to know that a new magazine is being launched for Nasiratul Ahmadiyya UK. May Allah bless its publication and enable all of you to acquire the desired benefit from it. Ameen

We are most fortunate that we have believed in the Promised Messiah (as) who revived the teachings of Islam that the Holy Prophet (saw) had given to the world.

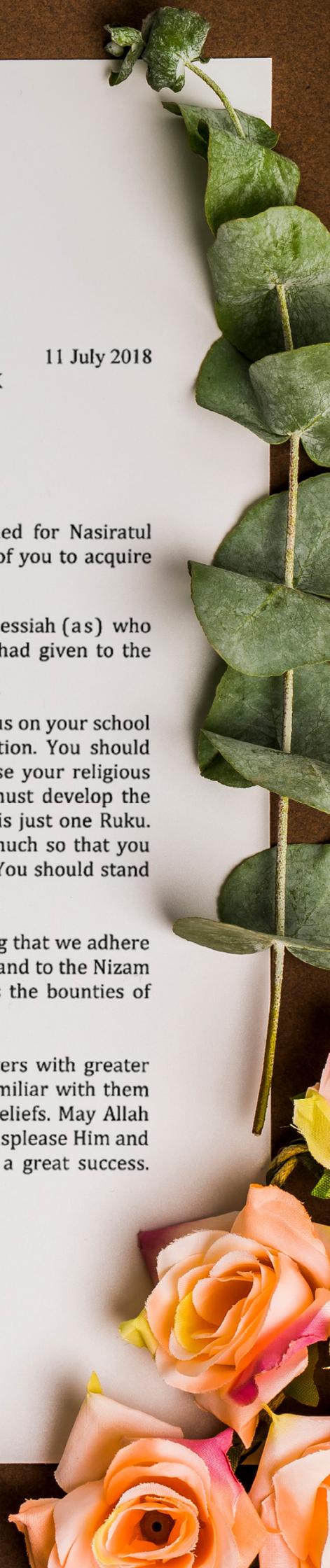
I would also like to say to you that in the same way that you focus on your school work, you should also give attention to your religious education. You should study and read the literature that has been printed to increase your religious knowledge. You should never miss a single prayer and you must develop the habit of reading the Holy Quran each and every day even if it is just one Ruku. You should also always be fully obedient to your parents so much so that you become a positive example to your other brothers and sisters. You should stand out as the children of the highest morals and best character.

Our success lies in holding fast to the rope of Allah and ensuring that we adhere to the institution of Khilafat and in our absolute obedience to it and to the Nizam of Jama'at. If we remain attached to Khilafat, we will witness the bounties of Allah conferred upon true believers.

I pray that Allah the Almighty enables you all to observe prayers with greater regularity, learn the teachings of Islam so that you are fully familiar with them and can speak with confidence with your friends about your beliefs. May Allah enable you all to always speak the truth, abhor the things that displease Him and remain good Muslims at all times. May Allah make magazine a great success. Ameen

Wassalam

MIRZA MASROOR AHMAD
Khalifatul Masih V



Power of Truth

The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) said, "Hazrat Syed Abdul Qadir Jilani (may Allah have mercy on him) was among the most eminent persons. He was very pure of heart. He once said to his mother that he did not feel inclined to worldly things and wanted to go looking for a spiritual leader who would show him the ways to find peace and contentment.

When his mother noticed that he was of no use to her, she accepted the situation and said she would let him go. She took out eighty gold coins that she had saved and said that according to Shariah half of the coins were his and half his brother's and said she would give him his share. She sewed the gold coins into his robe under the armpit. She told him to take the coins out when he was in a secure place and use them on himself.

Syed Abdul Qadir Jilani asked his mother to give him some advice.

She said, my son do not ever tell a lie, there will be a lot of blessing in this. He listened and then departed.

It so happened that there lived some bandit highwaymen in the wilderness he passed through who looted travellers. They saw Syed Abdul Qadir from far and as he came closer they noticed he was a most humble looking person and was wearing very simple clothes.

One of them mockingly asked, "do you have anything?" The memory of his mother's advice not to lie was fresh in Syed Abdul Qadir's mind so he promptly answered, 'yes, I have forty gold coins sewn like a pocket into my robe under the armpit by my mother.'

The bandit thought he was mocking. When a second bandit asked the question he got the same reply. In short the same answer was given to all the thieves.

They took him to their ringleader and told him the answer he had repeatedly given. The leader told them to search him. Following the search they were amazed to actually find forty gold coins.

They were astonished as to what sort of a person he was, certainly they had never come across someone like him! Their leader asked, "what is the reason you disclosed where your money was?"

Syed Abdul Qadir replied, 'I am on a journey in search of God's religion. When I departed, my mother advised me never to tell a lie. This was my first test, why would I have lied?'

The ringleader of bandits was reduced to tears on hearing this and said, "alas! I have never obeyed the commandment of God."

Addressing his group of thieves he said, "the words and the steadfastness of this person has deeply affected me, I cannot be with you now and I repent."

Hearing him the other thieves also repented.

Malfuzat, Vol. I. pp.67-68, 2016 edition

Translated by:
Shermeen Butt Sahiba

Noah's Ark

by Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad of Qadian,
The Promised Messiah (as)

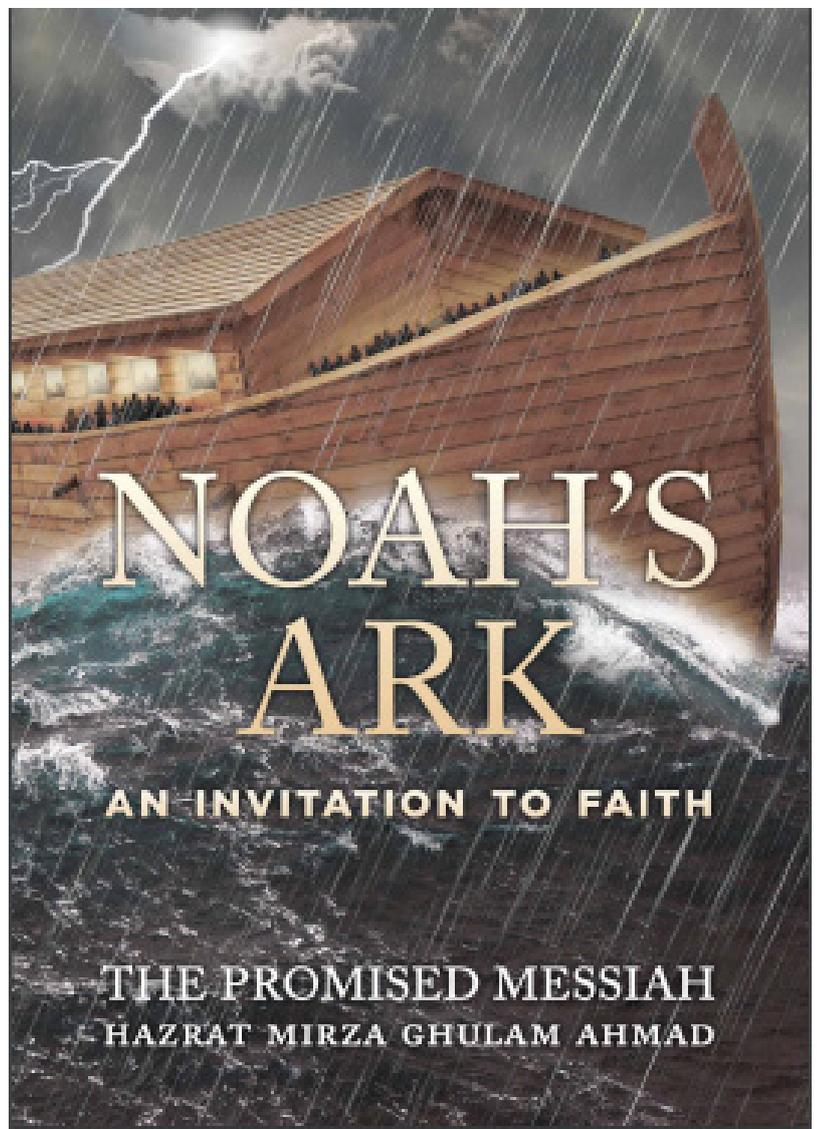
A REVIEW BY SABA CHIMA

When the epidemic of the deathly bubonic plague turned its way to British India, most specifically to the province of Punjab from around 1896 to 1914, the British government took it upon themselves to save its people through the medical advancement of inoculation.

Written by Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad (as), the Promised Messiah and Mahdi scribes this book in pursuit to bring forth the truth of his mission, and the endless guidance that was bestowed upon him by his Almighty Creator.

It is a book of faith and inspiration. It stresses the importance of abiding by the prophecy made to the Promised Messiah (as) by Allah the Almighty of miraculously saving those people who wholeheartedly accept him even if they are uninoculated.

The prophecy thus puts forward the condition of immense belief within Allah by restricting the Promised Messiah (as) or anyone who claims to be part



of his jamaat to get this vaccination. One of the most explicit correlations between the content of the book and its title is the moral of seeing and accepting the truth.

Those who chose to do Bai'at, the coming into the fold of Hazrat Masih Maud (as)'s Jamaat, would be saved from the pandemic without requiring a vaccination. This is similar to the way all those who put their belief in Prophet Noah (as) and God Almighty had joined Prophet Noah (as) on his Ark and thus, had been saved from the deathly storm. Standing as one of the Promised Messiah's (as) most profound and influential pieces, I for one would claim it to be a book of life-changing knowledge and explanation. Whilst the world has witnessed the

effects of miracles and prayers working in favour for them, the Promised Messiah (as) has proven his advent as truthful through the miraculous fulfilment of hundreds of prophecies much like this one. It is an exceptionally well-written and well-communicated piece with numerous references to the love and comfort his Creator granted him in this period of turmoil. In a recent Friday Sermon, Khalifat-ul-Masih V (aba) included key points from the book and stressed the importance for members of the Jamaat to read 'Noah's Ark.'

Huzoor^(aba) said

"For our reformation, the Promised Messiah (as) has exhorted us to read the book, Noah's Ark, and has repeatedly urged us to read it. The Promised Messiah (as) states, 'I have told my Community on numerous occasions to not to merely rely on their Bai'at [oath of initiation] with me. Until you do not reach the depth of its essence you cannot attain salvation. One who simply relies on the exterior aspects is bereft of the essence.'

If we will not follow the teachings of the Promised Messiah (as), we certainly will not derive any benefit from these teachings. The Promised Messiah (as) states, 'You should regularly study [the book], Noah's Ark and act according to it.'

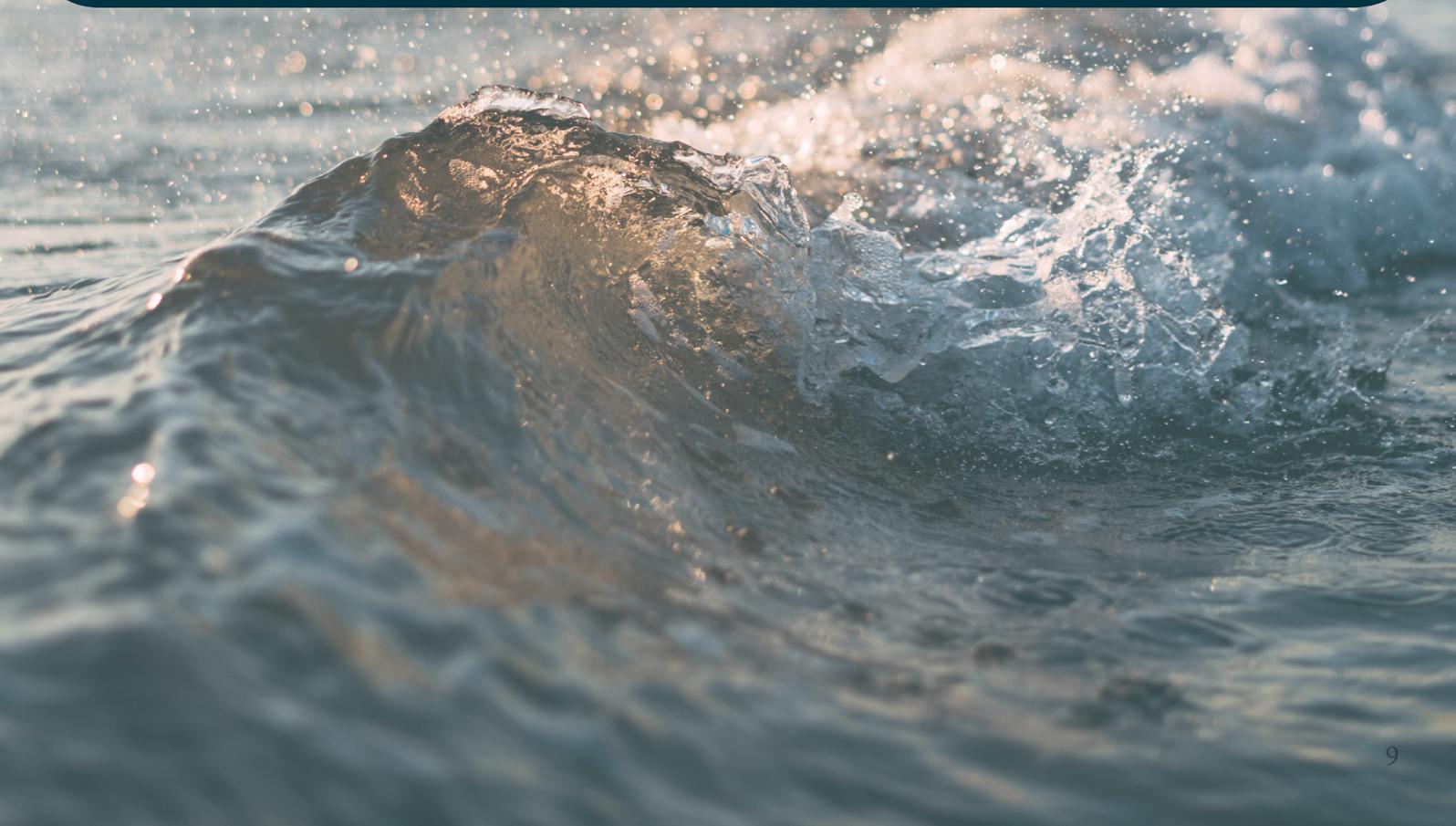
Verily, he truly prospers who purifies himself

(The Holy Quran, Ch87V15).

Huzoor^(aba) continued to say...

“There are thousands who are guilty of committing theft, adultery, immorality, drinking alcohol and leading an evil life and yet they claim to be from among the followers of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (saw), but can they truly be considered as followers? Certainly not. A true follower is one who adheres to the teachings of the Holy Prophet (saw).’ Reciting the book, Noah’s Ark, to the members of the Jama’at and urging them to read this book, the Promised Messiah (as) states: “In Noah’s Ark I have presented my teachings and it is essential for everyone to be aware of them, even if it be that every city’s Jamaat organises a Jalsa and reads this out to them...in this way it will not only propagate the message but also establish unity amongst the Jamaat which we seek to instil in them. Therefore, while arrangements should be made to read this out in the Jamaat, there should also be arrangements for it to be read out on MTA. Everyone should make this a part of their lives. One should read this themselves as well and make an effort to adhere to it.”

(Friday Sermon: 13 th of April 2018)



A Personal Account

By Abid Khan

New Zealand Tour

28 OCT - 5 NOV 2013

Through email, I was able to collect some of the feelings of Lajna and Nasirat members about Huzoor's tour to New Zealand. Just like the men, their comments were filled with love for Huzoor and for Khilafat.



Dania Shafiq, aged 13, wrote:

"Huzoor's visit made me so excited like it was a dream come true. Huzoor's visit is a cause of blessings to our Jamaat, it helped us in a lot of ways and personally I feel better than I did before. I have stopped watching cartoons and I have more knowledge from watching MTA, as I now watch Huzoor's Friday Sermons. Everything that happened during Huzoor's tour will stay in my memory."

Lajna member, **Humda Mubarak**, wrote:

"I had not met Huzoor before so was very excited as in Pakistan we did not have the opportunity to meet him. I thought Allah's angels were with him. To have Huzoor in our country brought tears to all of our eyes, we just couldn't believe Huzoor was here- it was very emotional. The entire tour was a highlight, but the best thing was when we used to run to catch a glimpse of Huzoor and wait for Huzoor to pass by where we were standing. Huzoor's visit has improved me personally because now whenever I do something I always think will Huzoor like this? I also give closer attention to the taleem and tarbiyyat of my children and I feel more responsible."

Mehpara Malik Sahiba, (Waqfat-e-Nau) wrote:

"We were really excited and filled with anticipation when we heard Huzoor was coming to New Zealand. And when Huzoor arrived it felt like my soul, body and mind were electrified. The entire atmosphere was electric, like anything could happen at any moment. For the duration of Huzoor's arrival, and the week before, I was functioning on very little sleep, but the amazing thing was, I didn't feel tired. It was a very unique and invigorating experience. Huzoor's visit really changed my life. It filled me with a passion for everything. I very much felt changed after Huzoor's visit with a new perspective on life and my responsibilities. If it was in my control Huzoor and Appa Jaan would never have left New Zealand. I wish they could be here now. When they are here, I feel like I have a true purpose."

Quotes from Huzoor (aba)

Waqfat-e-Nau Ijtema 2018 London

“TAKE PRIDE IN THE FACT THAT YOUR PRIMARY DUTY IS TO RAISE THE STANDARDS OF THE FUTURE GENERATIONS BY SETTING THE VERY HIGHEST STANDARDS FOR THEM TO LEARN FROM AND FOLLOW. THIS IS A GREAT RESPONSIBILITY AND CHALLENGE FOR ALL OF YOU BECAUSE YOU ARE THE ONES WHO CAN FACILITATE AND UNLOCK THE DOORS TO A SPIRITUAL REVOLUTION IN SOCIETY.”



“Waqfate Nau should be spearheading the effort to explain the beauty of Islam without any fear or complex.”

“Ahmadi Muslim women should ask themselves that, who are men to bestow rights upon them, when their Creator, Allah the Almighty has Himself bestowed upon them all that they need and desire? They should understand that Allah has granted them true equality based on logic and wisdom.”

“By all means, adopt those things that are good in society, but never forget that our true guiding light is, and always will, be the Holy Quran, and that our true role model is the Holy Prophet of Islam (peace be upon him). Rather than following the superficial glamour of the world or being influenced by modern trends that come and go, we must follow and heed the everlasting and timeless teachings of the Holy Quran.”

“Islamic teachings are crystal clear that women are not inferior to men in any way whatsoever. Thus, where the Holy Quran mentions ‘believing men’ it also mentions ‘believing women.’ This is true equality. When we compare and contrast the status bestowed upon women in Islam compared to other religions, it is like night and day.”

“You should openly proclaim the fact that you take pride in your modest dress, in your Hijab and in keeping a distance from men. You should openly declare that these are the essential safeguards that Allah the Almighty has chosen in order to protect women and so rather than being a restriction, Hijab is actually a supreme right and protection afforded to Muslim women.”

“If you know your faith, you will soon realise that Muslim women are the most fortunate people, because their rights and their status have been established and eternally protected by Allah the Almighty and His noble Prophet (peace be upon him).”

“Waqfat-e-Nau girls should play a leading role in becoming role models for other girls and become the standard bearers for Islam and for women’s rights in this era.”

“You will be the ones who lead others towards genuine progress and development, rather than simply following the crowd towards meaningless material pursuits.”

“When it comes to marriage, it is essential that the bride consents freely and happily without any form of coercion or pressure. Forced marriage is completely wrong and a grave violation of Islamic teaching.”

(Press Desk Ahmadiyya Muslim
Jamaat International)

“I pray that you are the shining stars who leave a spiritual trail behind for others to follow and learn from.”

Peer Pressure

BY YUSRA DAHRI



How many times have we all been told through some medium or another that we must stay true to ourselves and not let anyone change who we are?

How many times have we rolled our eyes in response, thinking that it would never be us?

We are far too clever for that!

If we fast forward a few years later then we all start looking a little foolish.

A flicker of hesitation. An awkward smile. If we're so smart, why can't we think of the perfect thing to say right now, instead of fidgeting nervously?

How do you hold on to your values without offending those who didn't really mean any harm?

PEER PRESSURE

Not as black and white as we thought!

It's easy enough to defend yourself when someone attacks you directly, but it's much harder to defend yourself when people challenge your way of thinking, especially unintentionally. The desire to 'fit in' is human nature; no one wants to be an outcast.

But remember, who is it that you're trying to fit in with? Who are you allowing to influence you? A family member who has experience with your problem and is trying to give you advice? Or a classmate, someone who is just as inexperienced with real life as you are but insists they know best, or is treated like they do? And you have to ascertain whether your friends (who are probably quite naive) have your best interests at heart, or don't know what they're doing and just don't want to be alone?

If you're more inclined to the latter option, then the chances are you're a sensitive and kind person who wants to help others. But you have to distinguish whether they need help or they want hedonism. (If hedonism, say no. There's no reason for you to take part in something you don't believe in.) And even in some cases the help they want is help you can't give. It's unfair to you and it's unfair to them because they aren't getting the proper help they need.

Peer pressure can also be more confrontational. People will want, even demand you to do something that you really don't want to do. They may even threaten you, but the key here is to say no.

When I was in my first year of secondary school,

there were some people who wanted me to do something that I did not want to do. They even threatened to drop my pencil case out of the window (the stakes were high- that pencil case was brand new!). However, I still refused and blatantly said I would tell a teacher. They scoffed like they didn't care, but lo and behold, my pencil case was returned to me. I stayed sitting exactly where I was but they left me alone after that.

By saying no, you give yourself respect and people will sense that immediately.

To their credit, after five years they've matured and grown up completely since then. That's another reason why it's so important to stand up for your values: you have no idea what a profound effect it can have on someone else.

The best way to avoid peer pressure or influence is to find a peer group that respects you and your values. If you're lucky, you may find this at school, but even if you don't, remember that school is a setting that's only temporary. The people you know now you may not even know in another five years, but you have yourself forever. You don't want to change yourself for people you won't even remember in ten years' time.

So what do you do amidst the hesitation and the awkward smiles?

If you're not quite feeling upto it (which is fine, by the way) stay away and don't look back. But if you're feeling brave enough, say what you think clearly and boldly. There will be pressure. There always will. But why does that mean you should give in?



Homemade Pizza

BY INAYA AHMAD

This will make 2 large pizzas

Preparation time: 15mins

Cooking time: approx. 15 mins

Pizza Dough

- 📶 Plain flour 500g
- 📶 30ml oil (2 tbsp.)
- 📶 Salt 1tsp
- 📶 Fast action dried yeast
sachets x2 (14g)
- 📶 Warm water approx. 250ml

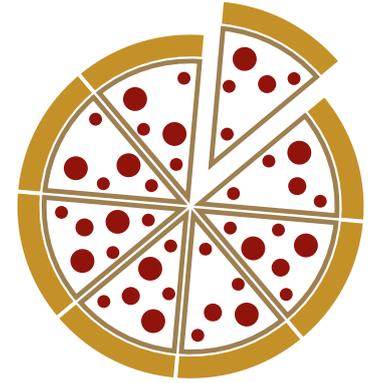


When you're hungry and there is nothing to eat, and you want to give your mum a break – here's something quick, easy and delicious you can make!

Base

- 📶 Tomato sauce - one jar
- 📶 Cheese approx. 200g – LOTS
- 📶 Mixed herbs/basil (fresh/dried)

Method



- 1 Wash your hands
- 2 Preheat oven to 200°C or gas mark 6
- 3 Grease baking tray
- 4 Add flour, yeast and salt in a mixing bowl and stir
- 5 Gradually, add the oil and enough warm water to mix into a soft dough
- 6 Knead the dough with your hands for 10mins OR use a mixer
- 7 Roll out and shape the dough and place the base on the baking tray
- 8 Spread pizza sauce over the base
- 9 Sprinkle basil and mixed herbs on top of the sauce
- 10 Slice the cheese and place it over the tomato sauce.
- 11 Add any extra toppings
- 12 Finish with more cheese on top!
- 13 Place in the oven and cook for 10-15mins.



Helped with Prestige



Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V (aa) had only just arrived from his three-week tour to Spain when, after three long weeks, I finally had the chance to meet Huzoor (aa). There were many items that needed Huzoor's (aa) guidance and approval, and on top of that, those wanting to have audience that day thronged the seating area. It seemed as though I would not be able to seek guidance on all the points I had listed. Generally, the circumstances of each Mulaqat are quite unique. To solve the most puzzling of issues in a matter of seconds, providing guidance thereupon and answering all questions is a characteristic that Huzoor (as) masters.

Huzoor (aa) called me to his office. I entered and presented the matters I needed guidance on. Then Huzoor (aa) said:

"Aur?" [And?]

This "Aur" was very special for me. Thus, I asked the question that I had yearned to ask for a long time, and indeed what many Ahmadis must have been curious about.

Asif
Mahmood
Basit,
London

Huzoor, you visit the world's leading parliaments and address them. An ordinary man would feel overawed standing at such a platform. What does Huzoor (aa) feel in those moments?

"My purpose is, naturally, not to say anything on my own behalf, nor do I desire personal fame."

Those who feel overawed in such instances are those who have to say something in their personal capacity, whether it is their personal stances or their philosophies. My purpose is, naturally, not to say anything on my own behalf, nor do I desire personal fame. My purpose is to show the teachings of Islam and that's it.

My task has been made very easy by Allah. Any speech that I make is based on the verses of the Holy Quran, Ahadith, the practice of the Holy Prophet (sa) and the sayings of the Promised Messiah (as). Where these are being presented, others will be overawed and not the other way around.

I remember, when I was making my way to deliver the address at Capitol Hill, some members of the USA Jamaat informed me about the grandeur and prestige of the House.

There, a group of American academics who deliver lectures, as well as military chaplains came to meet me. They asked, "You are going to talk at Capitol Hill tomorrow, are you not at all anxious or nervous?" I replied,

"I will be talking about my religion's teachings and current affairs, so at present I am not nervous."

Surprised at hearing this, one of them said, "I often talk there and each time, I feel extremely nervous before speaking." That discussion ended there.



On the drive to Capitol Hill, I took a glance at my notes for the speech. For a second, the thought occurred to me, "America is a superpower of the world and I am to address the leaders and high-ranking officials of this superpower." The thought had only just crossed my mind and I did not even have a chance to ponder on it, when Allah the Almighty put in my heart with great might: "Allah the Almighty assured the Promised Messiah (as),

نُصِرْتُ بِالرُّعْبِ

[You have been helped with prestige]

and I am here as a representative of the Promised Messiah (as)." Those words were put in my heart with such vigour and splendour by Allah that all other thoughts were brushed away. These words were vouchsafed to the Promised Messiah (as) through Divine revelation and the same words were put in my heart as a means of reassurance. The wisdom behind it must have been that I was not attending the event to present personal views, nor was I there to establish my supremacy. I was to present the teachings of Islam; the God that revealed Islam to mankind is a God Who is very protective of His religion.

(Al Hakam - 25 May 2018 - Volume Number 1, Issue Number 10, Page 4)



HOW TO MANAGE YOUR POCKET MONEY?

In this world some things last much longer than others, like love and happiness. Other things can run out very quickly, like money.

So how do we
make sure that our
money contributes
to something
that can last a
much longer time?

Have you ever thought about all the different ways in which you could spend your money? There are hundreds of ways you could but it's important to know which of these are the best ways to make your pocket money last. These three include, charity, Chanda, and gift giving.

One very helpful way of spending your money and making sure it lasts is charity. There are hundreds of charities that help a wide range of causes, and the Jama'at has our very own Humanity First which is doing amazing work around the world to help improve the living conditions of millions of people, for example giving medical aid to those with illnesses or building schools for children who don't have any schools near them.

Isn't that so much better than
spending your money on
sweets?

As well as helping loads of people to live better lives, giving money to charity also wins the love of Allah. The Holy Prophet (saw) said,

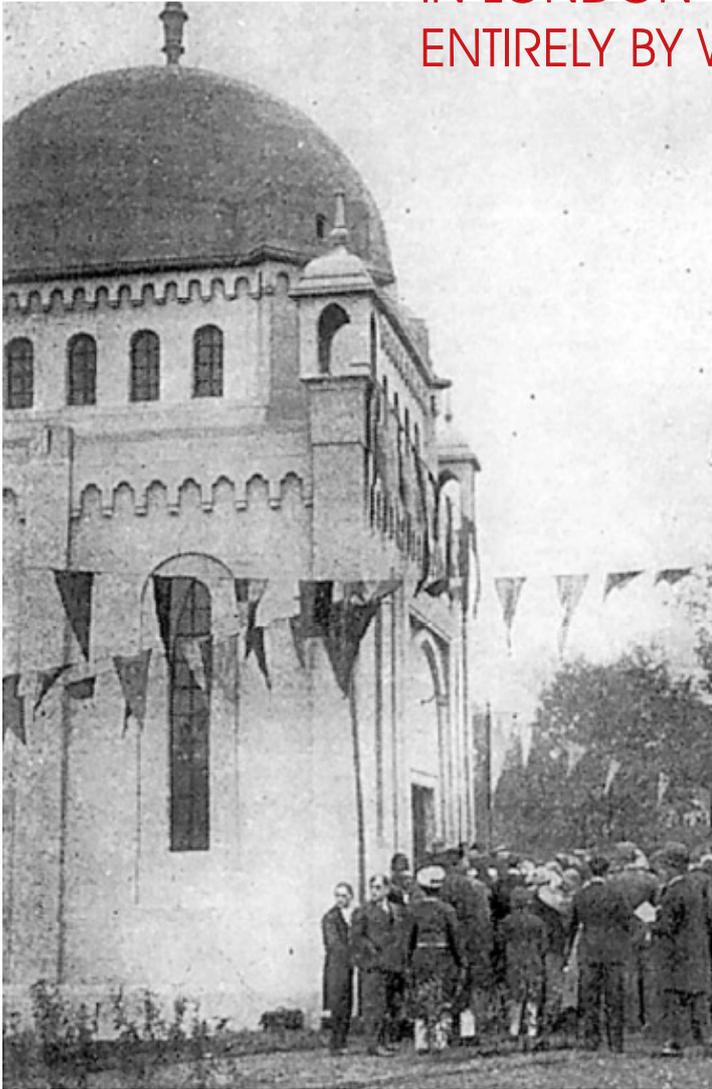


“Whatever of your pure wealth you spend in charity, Allah has full knowledge thereof, those who spend their wealth in charity by night and day, secretly and openly have their reward with the Lord: on them shall come no fear, nor shall they grieve”

This means that to gain Allah’s love and protection you should spend your money in ways that will help people. The Holy Prophet (saw) frequently gave money for charity and even taught us the concept of ‘Continuous Charity’ (Sadaqa Jariya) which is the kind of charity that keeps on giving, for example if you donate to the construction of a water well, for as long as that well continues to provide water for people, you are receiving the blessings of Allah.

This is closely linked to Chanda which is also very important. Chanda is a way of giving some of your money to the Jama'at so that the message of Islam can be spread through many different means. Throughout our history, women have made very powerful contributions to the Jama'at's projects –

DID YOU KNOW THAT FAZL MOSQUE IN LONDON WAS FUNDED ALMOST ENTIRELY BY WOMEN?



This was because women who were fortunate enough to spend in the way of Allah thought it more important to help the Jama'at collect money to build a mosque rather than fulfill their own personal desires.

In his Friday Sermon on 3rd November 2017, Huzoor (aba) said

'Allah has said that you will never be able to attain true righteousness unless you spend what is most dear to you,'

meaning that to be good people and be on the right path towards Allah we must be prepared to give up the things that mean the most to us, including our money.

We are also encouraged to spend on our friends and family. The Holy Qur'an teaches us: "Whatever of good and abundant wealth you spend should be for parents and near relatives". It is good practice to spend money on your parents and loved ones as this is one way of bringing people closer together. This is not to say that you need to buy someone's love, but often a little present is a nice way to show someone that you really appreciate their love and friendship. Though in society we are always reminded to spend money on our parents for Mother's Day and Father's Day, Islam tells us that these days should be every and any day. So, we should spare some money for our parents and other close relatives and friends, and show our appreciation throughout the year – not only on Mother's and Father's Day.

These three methods are all ways of pleasing Allah the Almighty because they all benefit the community, which is one of our primary purposes on this Earth. Allah has told us that we should seek to help others in every way possible, and to be thankful to those who do so much for us.

BY IFFAT MIRZA

<https://www.alislam.org/library/books/WisdomOfHolyProphet.pdf>
<https://www.alislam.org/library/articles/new/building-mosques.html>
<https://www.alislam.org/friday-sermon/2017-11-03.html#summary-tab>





Spain

BY FOUZIA MAHMOOD

Scorching temperatures, suntan of three shades darker, olives everywhere and stunning sites full of history and culture

In the late Summer of 2017, my family and I decided to fly out to Madrid (Spain). Barely off the plane, we were welcomed by the blazing afternoon sunshine. Being unsure of what to expect in such a vibrant city made us all the more excited to see all the charms and hidden gems Spain had to offer. After a quick stop at the Hotel, we all went for a walk around the local area in search for some food and much needed water.

Strolling about for a good half an hour to forty-five minutes, not knowing where we were going and having walked around in circles a couple of times, we did not care. It would have made sense to use Google Maps, but we were too busy being intrigued by the complete structural differences of Madrid and London as well as enjoying the scent of olives at every few metres.

As Madrid is the Capital and right at the heart of Spain, we had assumed it would be relatively similar to London but that was not the case. After some searching, we found the high street and thankfully some places to eat. We then made our way back.

SECOND DAY

Our first stop was to hire a car. Let me tell you that this was a lifesaver and the best decision to make. Before leaving London, we had noted down some places to visit and as soon as we got the car, we wanted to start ticking them off.

Our first stop was Parque del Buen Retiro. This is a magnificent public park filled with sculptures and a lake. Within the park itself there were so many attractions to see including the Casita del Pescador, which looked like a small bright coral coloured temple or hut, a rose garden and the Palacio de Cristal (meaning crystal palace).



THIRD DAY

We went to the Mezquita Basharat (Basharat Mosque) in Pedro Abad. The foundation stone of this mosque was laid by Hazrat Khalifatul Masih the third (rh) and it was inaugurated by Hazrat Khalifatul Masih the fourth (rh). Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad, our beloved Huzoor (aba), has also visited this mosque.

This blessed mosque that has been visited by three Khalifas of Ahmadiyyat was a top priority for us to visit too. What a shame it would be to go to Spain and not visit an iconic part of our Jama'at. Despite being above the motorway, there was a peaceful and quiet aura surrounding the mosque. At the gate again, you are welcomed by this amazing scent of olives.

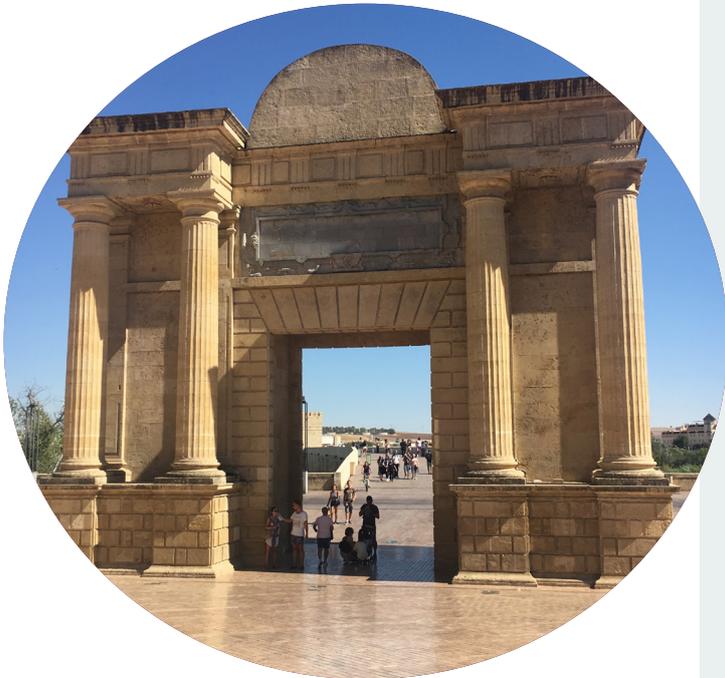
The mosque was absolutely stunning and different from anything I could have imagined.





The brick interior and designs were outstanding. We were given a tour around the places but what caught my eye the most was the different fruit bushes and trees planted around the mosque. There was a very homey vibe. The members of the jama'at also very kindly prepared some food for us.

After offering our prayers, we travelled a little further to Córdoba to visit the historical Mezquita de Córdoba. The mosque looked like a spectacular fortress from the outside. Upon entering into the foyer, we saw lines upon lines of orange trees. The inside of the mosque was made up of multiple columns which were composed of marble and granite.



Looking from the top to bottom, you could see the deep intricate engravings and craftsmanship which left you in awe. The hours that must have been spent in building this mosque is unimaginable. History shows that this mosque had been taken over and transformed into a cathedral. This was evidently clear by the statues of Hazrat Jesus (as) and Christian symbols all over the mosque.



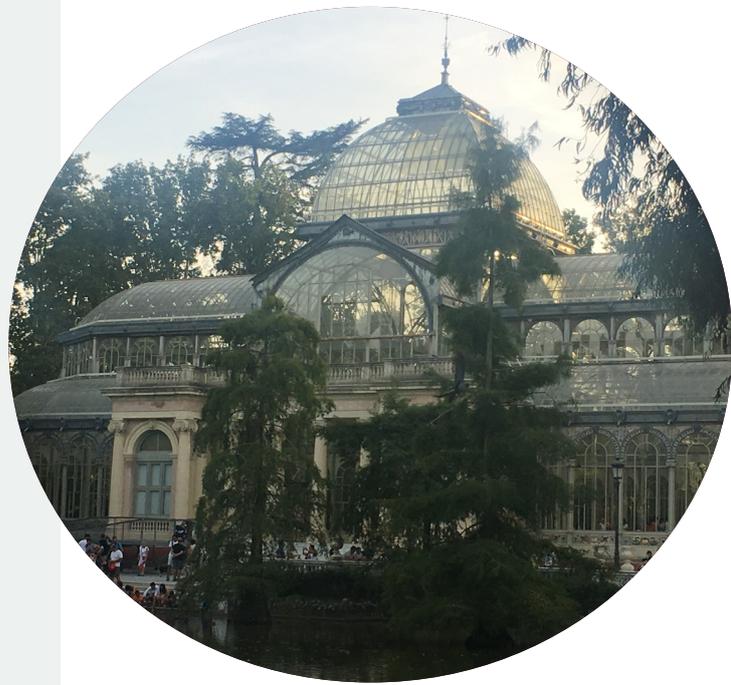
The part that stood out to me the most was that the Mihraab had not been removed by the Christians. It was locked off so you could not get too close but it was a sight like nothing else. The Mihraab was from top to bottom made up of marble and gold with an astounding geometric pattern of Quranic verses.

It was a sight like no other and it showed how Allah the Almighty protected this area for it to not have been destroyed or altered in any way. No pictures can do justice to the beauty of this mosque.

The Mihraab was perfectly structured and positioned so that when the time for the Adhan or Friday sermon came, the voice would echo to the corners of the building.

Outside the mosque was the Guadalquivir river with the most gorgeous blue water. Crossing the bridge, we could see the beauty of the mosque from a distance and how it stood out above everything else.

After this, being the girl that I am, we decided to go shopping for a few hours. Just around the corner was a shopping centre, what a great place to spend my father's money!



FOURTH DAY

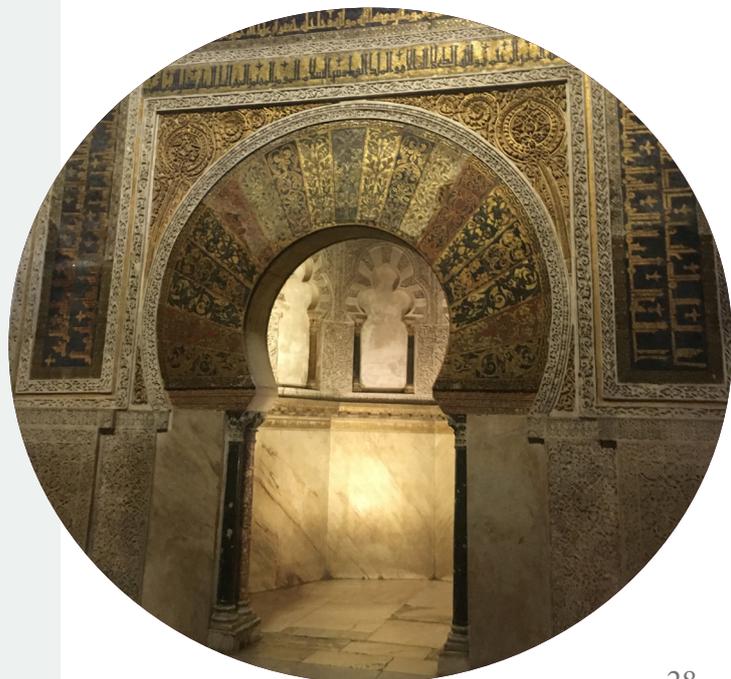
We drove back up to Madrid to enjoy another day visiting local tourist attractions including the Real Madrid Stadium, more shopping centres and driving past historical buildings in the city such as the Plaza Mayor and the Royal Palace.



FINAL DAY

We visited the Zoo and an Aquarium where the child within me came out. Taking a map, I made it my mission to visit as many animals as possible before we had to leave for the airport. Watching the dolphin, seal and bird shows were the highlights for me and none of us wanted to leave. Alas, it was time to say farewell to Spain and return the car as we made our way to the airport.

With so many more places to see I am looking forward and praying for a chance to visit again, In Shaa Allah.



Dinosaurs and Space

Why did they go extinct?

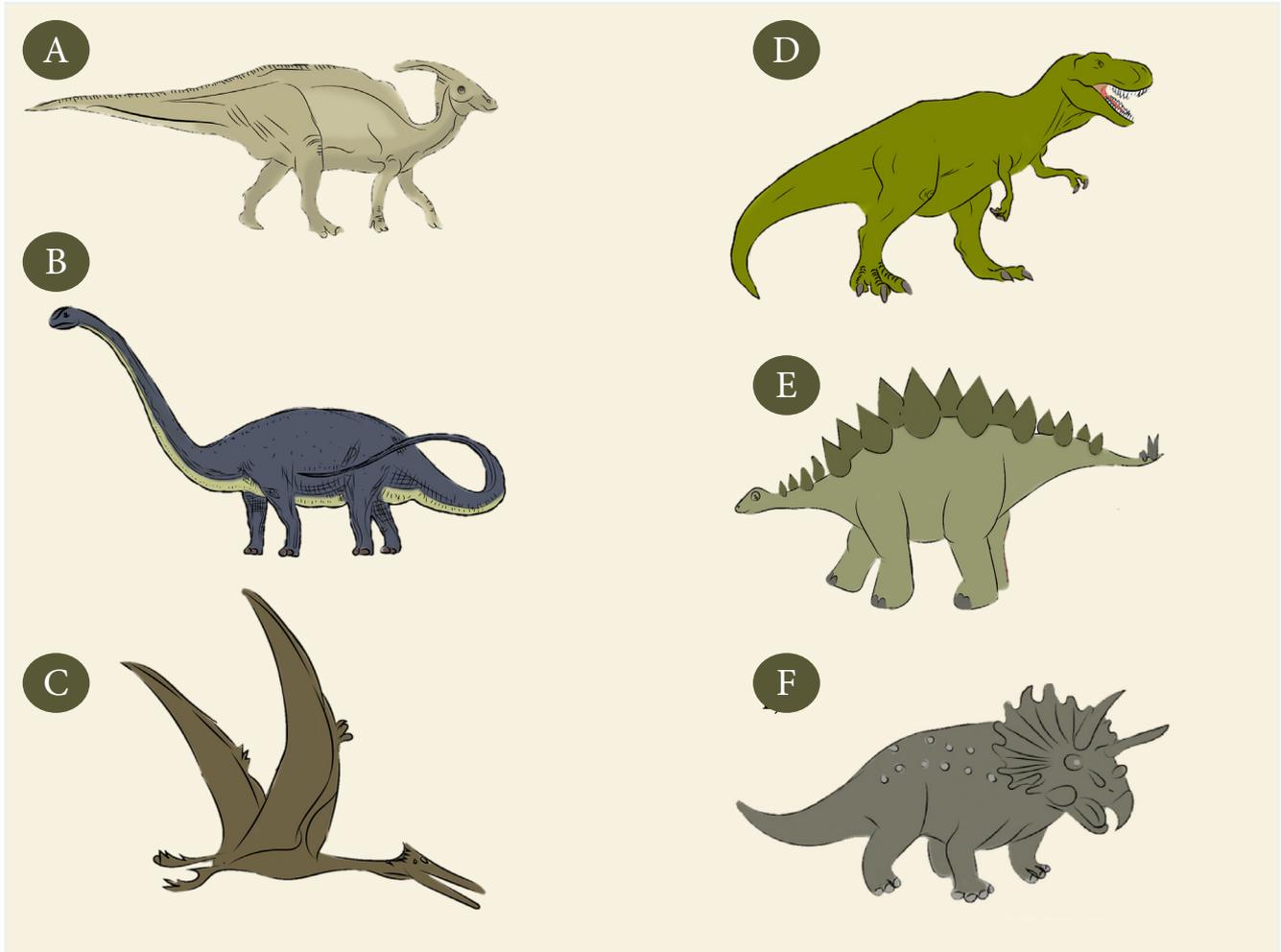
BY AMRA LAJNA EDUCATION & OUTREACH DEPARTMENT

Sixty-five million years ago most dinosaurs went extinct. But why?

Scientists have two hypothesis:

Asteroids or volcanoes. So, either there was an extra-terrestrial impact because of a comet or an asteroid, or there was a massive volcanic eruption. Either way, the impact caused the skies to go dark because of debris suspended in the air. As a result sunlight failed to reach the earth's surface. This lack of energy from the sun resulted in a lack of photosynthesis which destroyed the food chain. This eventually lead to **extinction of dinosaurs**.

Can you guess the names of the Dinosaurs down below:



Answers on final page

Dinosaur and Space

Space and Aliens

BY AMRA LAJNA EDUCATION & OUTREACH DEPARTMENT

What does a planet need to support life?

Using Earth as a model, a planet needs 3 basic things:

1. Liquid water
2. Energy to sustain life e.g. sunlight
3. Nutrients that circulate around the whole planet.e.g. on Earth nutrients circulate through the water cycle and volcanic activity etc.

Now, have a go at designing your own planet. How would you ensure that it would have all the three things above?

Bonus: Think about what kind of life this planet would support? Design your own alien!

Think about how they use the nutrients from your planet, how they would move and communicate? Below are some websites that could help!

Painting Contest

Calling all artistic Nasirat to share their talent with us in the first ever Ayesha Magazine painting contest! All you have to do is create a painting focusing on any element of nature and send it through to: nasiratmagazine@gmail.com. Refer to the Kingdom of God on page 5 for some inspiration! Don't forget to include your name, age and jama'at as the winner will be announced in the next issue. All the best!

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