

# *Al-Hilal*

"Heal Our World"



*A Magazine for Children*

**US \$2**

**2010-2**

# MESSAGE FROM EDITORIAL STAFF

Assalāmu ‘Alaikum, Dear Readers!

God proclaimed the Promised Messiah as Sultānul-Qalam, the Master of the Pen. The articles in Al-Hilal reveal us as followers of the Promised Messiah, peace be upon him, by combating oppression with the pen. Instead of acting violently, we follow the example of our beloved Holy Prophet, peace and blessing of Allah be upon him, by acting with patience and perseverance. Instead of inciting fatwas, our beloved Khalifa invites us to clash violence with supplementary Prayers. Instead of fearing society, we fear Allah and bring his message of peace with *Muslim for Peace* flyers. These articles are testimony to the power of the pen, and to the peace and patience we all commit through with charity. May Allah enable us to continue to persevere against persecution with patience, and hardships with charity, Āmīn.

Was-Salām.

Osaama Saifi.



## QUARTERLY AL-HILĀL

A magazine for children, by children, that provides them with a creative opportunity to learn about the world around them, and how to apply the teachings of Islām and Aḥmadiyyat to their daily lives.

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The publication of this magazine was launched by the late Ḥaḍrat Ṣaḥḥibzadah M. M. Aḥmad (1913-2002).

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وَلَا تَحْسَبَنَّ الَّذِينَ قُتِلُوا  
فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ أَمْوَاتًا ۚ بَلْ  
أَحْيَاءٌ عِنْدَ رَبِّهِمْ يُرْزَقُونَ

Think not of those, who have been slain in the cause of Allah, as dead. Nay, they are living, in the presence of their Lord, and are granted gifts from Him. [3:170]

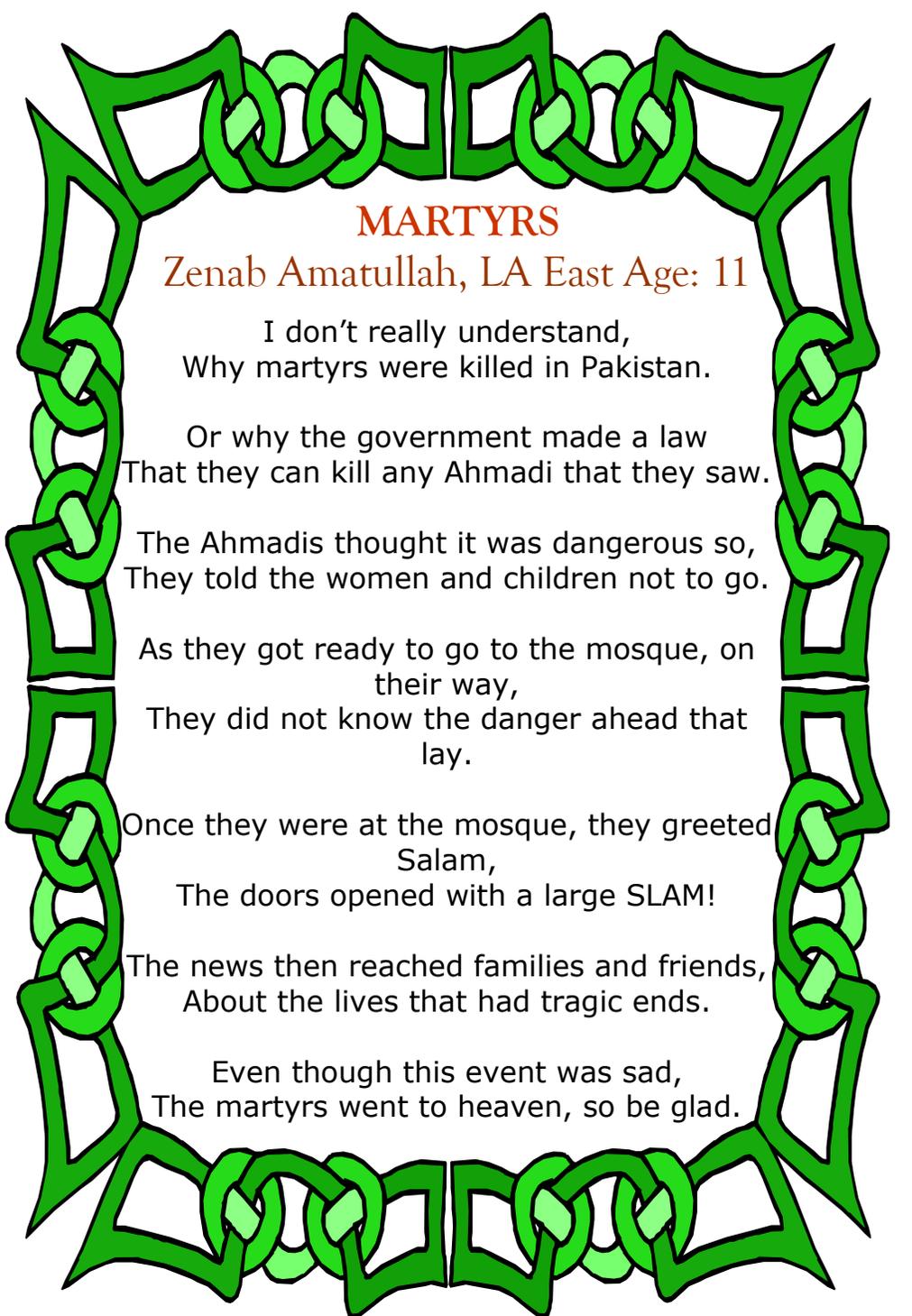
**28 May 2010**



**Anisa Qadir, Age: 6, Silicon Valley**

Friday, May 28th 2010.

Today is a sad day in Pakistan, because bad people were killing good Ahmadi people. I watched the news and saw blood on people, it made me feel really sad in my heart. I think we need to pray to Allah, so that no more bad things happen again.



## MARTYRS

Zenab Amatullah, LA East Age: 11

I don't really understand,  
Why martyrs were killed in Pakistan.

Or why the government made a law  
That they can kill any Ahmadi that they saw.

The Ahmadis thought it was dangerous so,  
They told the women and children not to go.

As they got ready to go to the mosque, on  
their way,  
They did not know the danger ahead that  
lay.

Once they were at the mosque, they greeted  
Salam,  
The doors opened with a large SLAM!

The news then reached families and friends,  
About the lives that had tragic ends.

Even though this event was sad,  
The martyrs went to heaven, so be glad.

# We're Standing Tall

**By: Maha Samee,**

**Age:10, Richmond VA**



People try to win with violence.  
No common sense lies in their soul.  
They think that fighting is the answer.  
In the end there's nowhere to go.

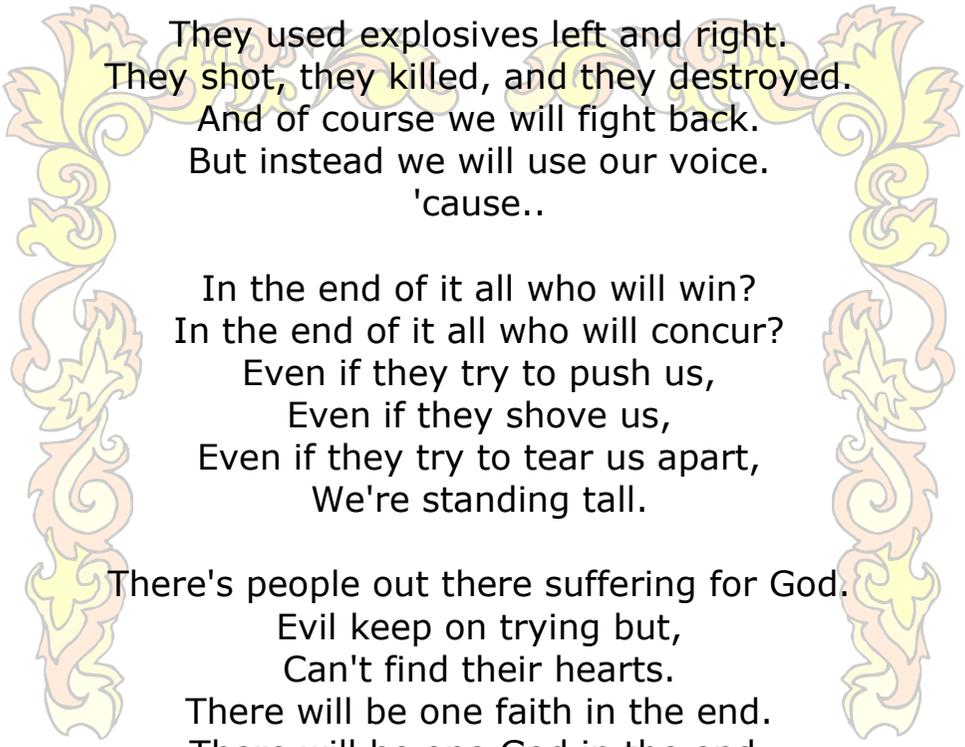
They'll try to creep up and surprise us.  
We'll give up everything we own.  
And we'll never stop fighting for our faith.  
Cause we know that we're not alone.

There are children with no mother.  
And there are children with no dad.  
And there are children with no brother.  
And they are very, very sad.  
but...

In the end of it all who will win?  
In the end of it all who will concur?  
Even if they try to push us,  
Even if they shove us,  
Even if they try to tear us apart,  
We're standing tall.

We always listen to our leaders.  
Like God, the Prophets, and Huzur.  
They tell us to always stay strong.  
So that's we're going to do.





They used explosives left and right.  
They shot, they killed, and they destroyed.  
And of course we will fight back.  
But instead we will use our voice.  
'cause..

In the end of it all who will win?  
In the end of it all who will concur?  
Even if they try to push us,  
Even if they shove us,  
Even if they try to tear us apart,  
We're standing tall.

There's people out there suffering for God.  
Evil keep on trying but,  
Can't find their hearts.  
There will be one faith in the end.  
There will be one God in the end.  
There will be one world in the end for us.  
For us.  
So tell me...

In the end of it all who will win?  
In the end of it all who will concur?  
Even if they try to push us,  
Even if they shove us,  
Even if they try to tear us apart,  
We're standing tall.  
ohhh  
We're standing tall.  
ohhh



Dear Mr. President,

I'm an American Ahmadi Muslim boy who lives in San Jose. I go to a mosque in Milpitas. I belong to the Ahmadi Muslim Youth Group. Many people died in Lahore, Pakistan while offering Prayers. They got killed for no reason at all. There are 82 people killed in the mosque. I have cousins that barely made it out of the mosque. My Ahmadi Muslim family and community cannot pray peacefully together like we can in America. Please work with the Pakistani government to allow Ahmadi Muslims to pray safely and the terrorists to stop all the killing. Peace be unto you.

**Raes Qadir, Age: 8, Silicon Valley**



### Salat Poster

18" x 24"

Arabic with English translation and transliteration.

Send \$2 per copy and your mailing address to Chaudhary Mushtaq Ahmad, 15000 Good Hope Rd, Silver Spring, MD 20905.



## Terror Attacks

There was an attack in Pakistan on May 28, 2010. It was a time of sadness and horror. A man named, Mr. Hafeez Malik said, “People were dying one after the other. I could count more than twenty people dead around me.” Mr. Malik’s brother Mr. Abdur-Rashid Malik had called his family by his cellphone. He was held as a hostage and had been shot on his leg already. Since then Mr. Hafeez Malik has not heard from his brother, he said.

In Dar-uz-Zikr, a mosque in Lahore, Pakistan, Police Officers said, “Two attackers blew themselves up inside the prayer hall after spraying the congregation—religious group of worshippers—with bullets.” It happened during the beginning of Friday Prayers. It lasted for more than three hours.

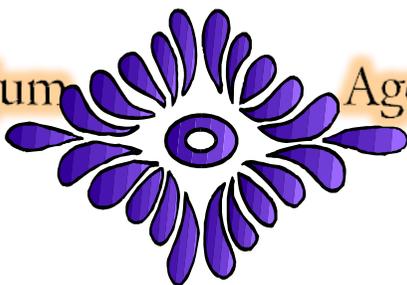
At Bait-un-Noor, another mosque in Lahore, Pakistan, was also attacked. The attack lasted for about an hour there. The survivors say, “It was around 2 p.m., just as the sermon was ending.”

The target of the attackers were the Ahmadi Muslims because the Ahmadi Muslims believes that Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, who found our community in 1889, was the messiah who was foretold by Prophet Muhammad.

When I found out about this, it was early in the morning. We all were very sad and worried about their lives and all day we prayed to Allah that He, the Almighty, save all Ahmadi Muslims from such coward attacks. Many days I keep wondering, “Why these people do not understand Islam which means peace. When peace is not for anybody from Muslims then that is not Islam. In what Islam do they believe?”

Afsha Anjum

Age 10, ZION





***We are Ahmadis, We are Proud***

**By: Bareha Ahmed, Tulsa, Age 12**

Islam teaches us to be peaceful  
To not be hateful, harsh and cruel,  
To love all.

We are the Ahmaddiya Muslim Community  
The Jama'at of the Promised Messiah,  
Who came to unite all Muslims.

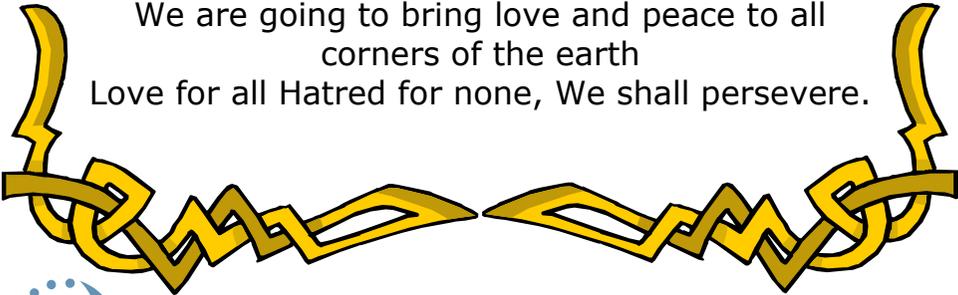
We are followers of a single leader—Our Khalifa.  
We have to spread a message, we reject Jihad by force.  
With tolerance, understanding we spread the truth of Islam

But some Muslims believe otherwise,  
They misinterpret the Qur'an's words  
They teach hatred and intolerance, not love.

They bombed our places of worship  
They killed our beloved people,  
On our sacred day of Jum'a—when we gather to pray

For believing what we believe in  
For doing what has been sent down to us  
Do we deserve to die?

Us Ahmadis are going to change that  
We are going to bring love and peace to all  
corners of the earth  
Love for all Hatred for none, We shall persevere.



# Courage in the Face of Fear

**By: Sister Maariya Bajwa, Gainesville, Florida**

Some of the most memorable events of our lives are the ones about which, even years later, we can still recall vividly where we were, what we were doing, who we were with when we first heard about them. All Americans will tell you that the terrorist attack on the World Trade Centre is one of those days.

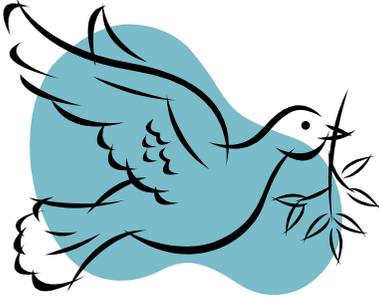
Friday, May 28th, 2010, will live long in all our memories as just such a day. I am sure that, like me, all of you remember how you heard of this terrible news, your family's reactions, the frantic phone calls everyone was making, checking TV stations for updates. Like most of you, I awoke to the panic and worry over the safety of my relatives. I went to my parents straight away to find out more. Sadly, some members of my parents' extended families had indeed been martyred, and some injured. No doubt many of you learned of similar tragedies in your families or in friends' families. It seemed as if there was no-one that had not been touched by this devastating event. My paternal uncle (my Chacha, father's younger brother) was the most seriously injured; his injuries came about because of his heroic actions in tackling one of the attackers. I was amazed, proud and grateful all at the same time. My Chachu is a retired army Colonel. He had the courage and used his training to react and act in ways that others possibly could not. I knew he was a regular at Jum`a but all I could think was that Allah had put him there for that purpose on that particular day; we learned later that certain dreams before the incident proved this.

When tragedy strikes as unexpectedly as this, we feel helpless and cannot understand how or why it happened; it feels as if there's nothing we can possibly do to make the pain go away. I found that along with prayer,

the best thing to do was to talk about it among my family and friends who were equally affected. We all feel as if a part of us died that day too but sharing our feelings with each other is helpful; we can write about how we feel, we can even draw or paint pictures showing our feelings.

One of the most beneficial outcomes of these kinds of tragedies is that they make us stop and try to put ourselves in the place of the people who suffered through it. We try to think about and pray for the children whose fathers, grandfathers, brothers, uncles or cousins will not come home again. Living far away, we may forget after awhile and move on just living our everyday lives. But there are children who will never have the same life again, many are your age or younger. If you feel like you want to do something, you could raise money to donate to the families of those affected by tragedy. Not only would that help raise awareness about the situation against Ahmadis in Pakistan, but you would be doing something so positive to help. It would be a gift that keeps on giving because you feel good about putting your sadness into positive action, too. You could get together with other children in your Jamā`at or your neighborhood and have a bake sale or a car wash. There are lots of ways to raise money for those who need our help. Or perhaps you could start being a pen pal with children who have lost their loved ones, cheer them up with letters or cards.

Another benefit is that we can pause and give thanks again and again because we see how lucky we are to have all the freedom to practice our faith in America. We can remember how important it is to treat everyone with respect, no matter how different they may be from us. No one deserves to die simply because they have different beliefs; we can try our best to stand up and support those who may be bullied or harassed, no matter who they are or what they believe in. For example, a



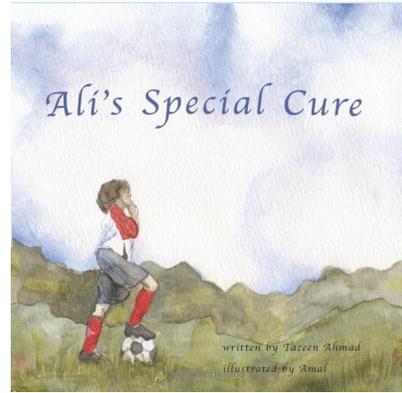
group where I live recently wanted to burn the Holy Qur'an because they disliked the religion of Islam. However, several different religious groups—Christians, Jews, Hindus, and others—all came forward and organized many different peaceful events to show that such actions would not be welcome in our community. This show of support for Muslims was so heartwarming and brought a sense of togetherness to the community. Islam teaches us to be supportive of everyone's right to practice their religion freely. By setting a good example, other people might notice how we act and want to act the same way.

I know that sometimes being scared can overwhelm us and we can feel like nothing we do helps. But that is where prayer comes in. Praying is the best and most effective solution for all of our problems. When you have any concerns, Allah should be the first you turn to because He really is our real Helper all through our lives. There will be times when we wonder if our prayers are being heard, but if we are patient, we shall see that His Grace is the only thing that keeps so many tragedies away from us. Difficult as it seems sometimes, we realize that the Almighty Allah has His own reasons for why things happen to certain people and it is not up to us to question His decisions. We should all pray for the people of Pakistan, especially our fellow Ahmadis, that they are granted the courage and patience to bear everything they have to, and that their situation begins to improve soon, Āmīn. We look forward to the day when such good news arrives from Pakistan that it will be another day we never forget, In Sha' Allah.

# Ali's Special Cure

*Written by Tazeen Ahmad*

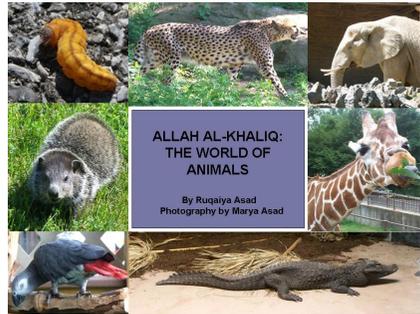
This book is written for children. It is a story of a young Muslim boy who discovers the power of prayer as he strives to become a better soccer player. The book can be previewed and bought online at Barnes and Noble and Amazon websites. Search by the name of the book or by the name of the author.



## Allah Al Khaliq: The World of Animals

*Written by Ruqaiya Asad*

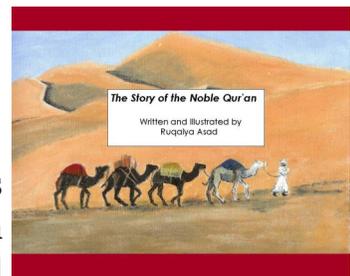
This is a book for children. The book contains original photos and simple text with Qur'anic references and scientific facts that appeal to children's natural interest. Purchase at: [islamicchildrensbooks.webs.com](http://islamicchildrensbooks.webs.com).



## The Story of the Noble Qur'an

*Written by Ruqaiya Asad*

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# Charity

Have they not seen that Allah enlarges the provision to whomsoever He pleases, and straitens it to whomsoever He pleases? In that truly are Signs for a people who believe.

So give to the kinsman his due, and to the needy, and to the wayfarer. That is best for those who seek the favor of Allah, and it is they who will prosper.

Whatever you pay as interest that it may increase the wealth of the people, it does not increase in the sight of Allah; but whatever you give in Zakat seeking the favor of Allah — it is these who will increase their wealth manifold.

It is Allah Who has created you, and then He has provided for you; then He will cause you to die, and then He will bring you to life. Is there any of your 'partners' who can do any of these things? Glorified be He and exalted above that which they associate with Him. [30:38-41]

أَوَلَمْ يَرَوْا أَنَّ اللَّهَ يَبْسُطُ الرِّزْقَ لِمَنْ يَشَاءُ وَيَقْدِرُ ۗ إِنَّ فِي ذَلِكَ لَآيَاتٍ لِّقَوْمٍ يُؤْمِنُونَ ﴿٣٨﴾

قَاتِ ذَا الْقُرْبَىٰ حَقَّهُ وَالْمِسْكِينَ وَابْنَ السَّبِيلِ ۗ ذَلِكَ خَيْرٌ لِلَّذِينَ يُرِيدُونَ وَجْهَ اللَّهِ ۗ وَأُولَٰئِكَ هُمُ الْمُفْلِحُونَ ﴿٣٩﴾

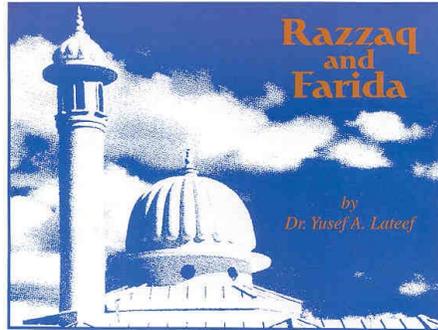
وَمَا آتَيْتُم مِّن رَّبَّالْيَتِيمَ إِلَّا فِي مَوَالٍ النَّاسِ فَلَا يَرْبُوا عِنْدَ اللَّهِ ۗ وَمَا آتَيْتُم مِّن زَكَاةٍ تُرِيدُونَ وَجْهَ اللَّهِ فَأُولَٰئِكَ هُمُ الْمُضْعِفُونَ ﴿٤٠﴾

اللَّهُ الَّذِي خَلَقَكُمْ ثُمَّ رَزَقَكُمْ ثُمَّ يُمِيتُكُمْ ثُمَّ يُحْيِيكُمْ ۗ هَلْ مِنْ شَرِكٍ لِّكُمْ مَّن يَفْعَلُ مِن دُونِ شَيْءٍ ۗ سُبْحٰنَهُ وَتَعٰلٰى عَمَّا يُشْرِكُونَ ﴿٤١﴾

## Razzaq and Farida

A story for children by Dr. Yusef A. Lateef. Send \$1.50 per copy and your mailing address to

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20905.



# Why Charity?

Mahrukh Amir~Age 12~Las Vegas, NV

Charity towards others is a constant theme in the Qura'nic teachings. There are two kinds of charity, obligatory and voluntary. Zakat is obligatory and Sadaqah is voluntary.

Charity is basically contributing a part of our money to the poor or the needy. We are helping people when we donate our money which is known as charity.

It is stated in the Qur'an, "So give to the kinsman his due, and to the needy, and to the wayfarer. That is best for those who seek the favor of Allah, and it is they who will prosper. Whatever you pay as interest that it may increase the wealth of the people, it does not increase in the sight of Allah; but whatever you give in Zakat seeking the favor of Allah – it is these who will increase their wealth manifold." (30:39-40)

The Khalifatul-Masih V (may Allah be his support) said once in a sermon that there are people who due to their greediness and self-indulgence abstain from spending their wealth in the way of religion, nor do they fulfill the needs of the poor, to the point that they become entirely oblivious to the rights of others. They do not wish to spend an iota of their wealth that is given to them by God Almighty. The more affluent people should always be mindful of the needs of their brothers. Feelings of anger and dispute should never prevent them from extending their hand in help to the poor. An Ahmadi Muslim should not indulge in fulfilling his or her own desires alone, but should respect the desires and needs of his brothers, sisters, poor, and others.



The Khalifatul-Masih V giving needy food.

# Hadith on Charity

Sinaan Abdurrehman Younus ~Age 9~Baltimore

Here is a Hadith on Charity:

Abu Hurairah relates that he heard the Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, narrate the following:

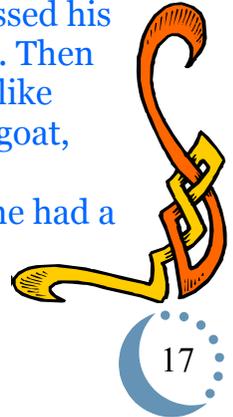
Allah having determined to try a leper, a bald one and a blind one from among the Bani Israel, sent an angel to them.

The angel came to the leper and asked him: What is that you would like best? He said: A good complexion, a clear skin and removal of my affliction on account of which people shun me. The angel passed his hands over him and his affliction left him and he acquired a good complexion. Then the angel asked him: What property would you like best? The man said: Camels. He was given a she-camel, ten months pregnant; and the angel said: May Allah bless it for thee.

Then the angel came to the bald one and asked him: What is it that you would like the best? He said: Lovely hair and removal of affliction on account of which people avoid me. The angel passed his hands over him and his affliction was removed and he acquired lovely hair. Then the angel asked him: What property would you like best? The man said: Cattle. He was given a cow which was carrying a calf; and the angel said: May Allah bless it for thee.

Then the angel came to the blind one and asked him: What is that you would like best? He said: Allah may restore my sight so that I may see people. The angel passed his hands over his eyes and Allah restored his sight. Then the angel asked him: What property would you like best? The man said: Goats. He was given a she-goat, which was carrying a kid.

The animals multiplied greatly, so that one had a valley full of camels, the other a valley full of



cattle and the third a valley full of goats.

Thereafter the angel came in his old guise to the leper and said: I am a poor man, bereft of all resources in the course of my journey and I have no means left for the completion of my journey, save Allah. I beg you in the name of Allah who has given you a good complexion, and clear skin and great wealth to furnish me with a camel that might help me to reach the end of my journey. The man said: I have many obligations. The angel said: I seem to recognize you. Were you not a leper, shunned by people and indigent, enriched by Allah? The man said: My wealth is inherited through generations. The angel said: If you are lying, may Allah restore you to the condition in which you were.

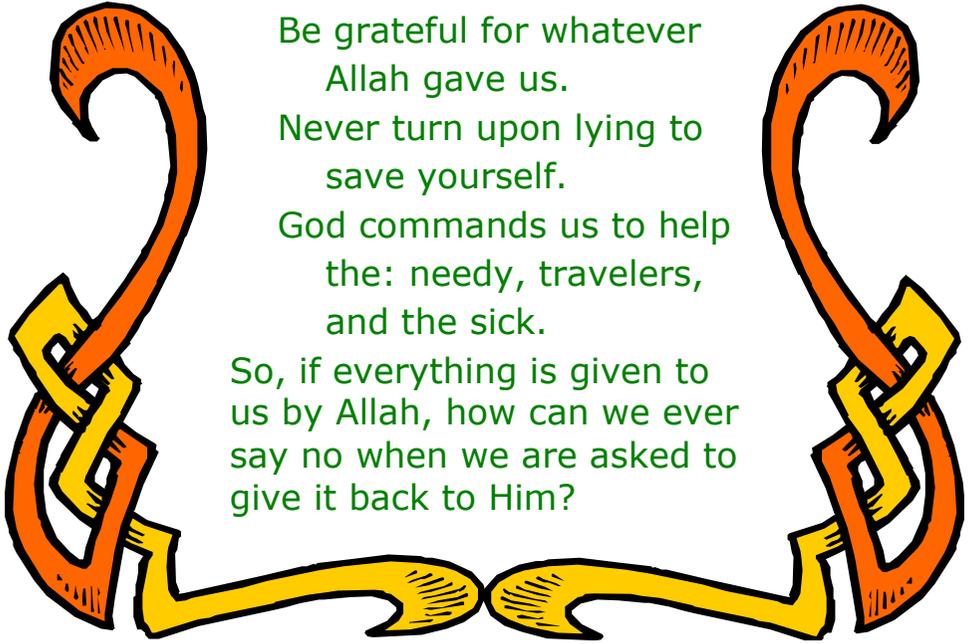
Then he came to the bald one in his old guise, and said to him the same as he had said to the leper. To this one, also he said: If you are lying, may Allah restore you to the condition in which you were.

Then the angel came to the blind one in his old guise and said to him: I am a poor man on a journey. My resources have all given out and I cannot reach the end of my journey, save with the help of Allah. I beg you in the name of Him who has restored your sight to you to give me a goat that might prove of help to me in reaching the end of my journey. The man said: Indeed I was blind and Allah restored my sight to me. Then take what you will and leave what you will. I shall not constrain you in any way in respect of whatever you may wish to take in the name of Allah, the Lord of Honor and Glory. The angel said: Keep all you have. All three of you were being tried. Allah is, indeed, pleased with thee and is wroth with thy companions. (Bukhari and Muslim)

My understanding from this hadith on charity is:

Everything that we have is given to us by Allah (This includes our health, wealth, and life).





Be grateful for whatever  
Allah gave us.

Never turn upon lying to  
save yourself.

God commands us to help  
the: needy, travelers,  
and the sick.

So, if everything is given to  
us by Allah, how can we ever  
say no when we are asked to  
give it back to Him?

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# CHARITY

Shireen Younus ~11~Baltimore

Once, an Arab merchant was traveling through a desert. As he rode, he began to feel thirsty and very hot. Then he noticed that his flask of water was also empty! He looked around as if hoping for a spring of water to appear but, of course, no such thing happened. So he kept on going but it was not long before he began feeling lightheaded, and soon he was almost positive he was about to faint. Just then a poor nomad, barefoot and dressed in rags, appeared in front of him. The merchant blinked in shock, and reared his camel to a halt, because he was sure no one had been anywhere near there before. He thought he was seeing things but then it became obvious that the nomad was real since he spoke, “Ten minutes northwest of here is a spring of pure water. Go there and quench your thirst.” Then he vanished. The astonished merchant did as he was told, even though it was off his route, and there he found the sweetest water he had ever drunk. As he drank, he decided that the nomad he had encountered must have been an angel, and thanked Allah.

Weeks later, the merchant returned to his estate. One day, a beggar came to the door on a rainy night. He begged for refuge from the storm. But the merchant, who had grown arrogant, turned the beggar away with harsh words. Then the beggar revealed that he was the same nomad who had saved the merchant’s life, and that this was all a trial for the merchant from Allah and that he had failed. Then he vanished, and ever after the merchant was kind to the poor, and gave charity in his fear of Allah.



# Sharing is Caring

By Fazeela Wadan~8~Virginia Central

F O S V W C A W X A U E O P T R Z  
B J Y R F H H M S Y V Y Y S V M A  
R X O V T A O I N R K D R D R Y H  
T B T K J R J U L S E I A W R U V  
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CANS  
CHARITY  
CHILDREN  
CLOTHES  
DONATION

FOOD  
GIVING  
HELP  
HUMANITYFIRST  
ISLAM

MONEY  
NEEDY  
POOR  
TOYS  
WATER  
ZAKAT

## CHARITY

Why do we donate to charity?

Areej Khan~age 11~Virginia Central

We donate to charity because we have many things such as food, clothes, and shelter which many people do not have. For example, most of us have clothes that are in good shape but are too small for us and we are about to throw them away. Instead of throwing them away you can donate them to charity. Another example of charity is Zakat. Zakat is giving money to the poor. Zakat is 2.5 percent yearly on the value of unused property cash. That is how we donate to charity.



# ISLAM SERVING HUMANITY

Daaniah Sayed~Age 9~RTNC Jamaat

Islam teaches us to sacrifice money and food for others that are less fortunate than us. Giving charity or Zakat helps people that are affected by dangerous earthquakes, floods or other natural disasters. It helps homeless people and injured people. Sadaqa or charity is the money you give away for a good cause.

Our Jama'at raises lots of money because we all pay towards charity. We raised money for lots of people in bad situations. When Haiti was affected by a huge earthquake, we raised a lot of money to help the people of Haiti. We also sent experienced doctors to Haiti to help the injured.

Zakat is one of the things that are required for every Muslim. Zakat is the second act of worship in Islam. It means cleansing of property and increase of goods. The annual rate of Zakat is 2 ½% paid on unused cash and property gold, silver, or cattle beyond minimum. It goes to poor places near that area.



Allah states in the Holy Qur'an "Take alms out of their wealth, so that thou mayest cleanse and purify them thereby..." (9:103) Also, "They ask thee what they shall spend. Say, 'Whatever of good and abundant wealth you spend should be for parents and near relatives and orphans and the needy and the wayfarer.' And whatever good you do, surely Allah knows it perfectly well" 2:216. Then the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) added, "Your charity is certainly misplaced if you have a near relative to deserve it." And, "Giving charity to the poor hath the

reward of one charity; but that given to kindred hath two rewards; one the reward of charity, the other, the reward of helping relations.”

A good word is better than Sadaqa: With this Hadith you will understand better: *Al-kalimatut-tayyibatu sadaqatun*.  
Translation: *A word of goodness is an act of Charity.*



Explanation: If you tell someone about an act of righteousness and encourage him to do so, then if he preforms that good deed, you too will share an equal reward. So, saying something good to someone and for him to act upon it is like preforming a good act by yourself. All in all charity is very important to humanity.

**We Want to Hear  
from You!!!**

Children are encouraged to send their original writing for publication. Please include your full name, age, city, state and contact number when submitting an article as we may follow-up with the author for clarification. If you would like to send a picture or artwork, please send the original. If you would like the original returned, please include your full name and return address/postage along with this request.

The Children’s Magazine Committee, under the supervision of the Amīr, Jamā‘at Ahmadiyya, U.S.A., will review and approve all submissions before publication.

# Helping Others

Shanzay Khan

Age 14~Central NJ

Helping others brings good feelings to you and to the receiver of the good deeds. Using your special talents to help others can be a reward to yourself as well as making others' lives better, and make the world a better place. You feel more worthy of committing good deeds yourself, your trust is reinforced, and you feel more connected to yourself and to others. Helping others is one of the most important aspects in life today. There are many different ways, and different forms of helping people. Helping others could make another person feel better either inside of them or about themselves. It could be from helping a senior citizen cross the street, or to saving someone's life. Helping others gives you an opportunity to change people's lives, including your own. It gives you the satisfaction of playing a role in someone else's life by helping people who may not be able to help themselves.

Charity is a way of giving back to your community while developing social skills and gaining important work experience all at the same time. Giving to others is important for everybody. Working with charities and helping others is especially important. Often, when people help others, they have an approach of looking for what is in it for them rather than thinking about others while charity work should really be about helping others. People have so much to gain from giving time out and helping others.



for

The similitude of those who spend their wealth for the cause of Allah is like the similitude of a grain of corn which grows seven ears, in each ear a hundred grains. And Allah multiplies it further for whomsoever He pleases; and Allah is Bountiful, All-Knowing. [2:262]

مَثَلُ الَّذِينَ يُنْفِقُونَ أَمْوَالَهُمْ فِي سَبِيلِ  
 اللَّهِ كَمَثَلِ حَبَّةٍ أَنْبَتَتْ سَبْعَ سَنَابِلٍ فِي كُلِّ  
 سُنْبُلَةٍ مِائَةٌ حَبَّةٌ وَاللَّهُ يُضَعِفُ لِمَنْ  
 يَشَاءُ وَاللَّهُ وَاسِعٌ عَلِيمٌ ﴿٢٦٢﴾

# Charity

## Helping Those in Need

Leeza Ahmed~Age 8~Central Virginia Jamat

Islam teaches us to help others. In Islam, there is Zakat which means charity. One way to help others in Islam is to give them food and other things in life. For example, Hadrat Umar Farūq (may Allah be pleased with him), who was the second Khalifa of Islam, used to go outside in disguise to help people. Once he saw a woman's children crying. Hadrat Umar Farūq (may Allah be pleased with him) asked the woman why her children were crying. The woman responded, "My children have not eaten anything in the past two days." The next day, Hadrat Umar Farūq (may Allah be pleased with him) brought all sorts of food to the woman.

Islam also says that 2.5% of your wealth should be used to help others. Some of the money is used to build schools and hospitals in poor countries to help those who cannot see a doctor or go to school. Some is used on orphans and people who are in need.

By helping others, Islam shows us that we should love everyone and help them when they cannot help themselves.

# What does Islam teach us about charity and helping others?

Hira Zaheer  
13, Virginia  
Central

Zakat is obligatory in Islam. Zakat is one of the five pillars of Islam.

Charity is something you should do from your heart. Something that is helpful to others.

Charity can be anything like picking up litter, or tutoring or even giving up some of your time for others. It is even said in a hadith that to say kind word is also charity. Even the smallest things matter. You will not always get rewarded for your charity in this world but Allah knows your intention and you will be rewarded on Day of Judgment. In Islam it says even giving a small amount to someone will grant you twice as much from Allah. This is what Islam teaches us about charity.

## THE HOLY PROPHET (SAW) AND HELPING OTHERS

By Maariya Sayed, Age 11, RTNC Jama'at

The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) laid great emphasis on the importance of helping others. The Holy Qur'an says, *You are the best people created for the good of mankind (3: 111)*. The Prophet of Islam (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) portrayed excellent qualities of this by serving humanity in every way possible. There were a lot of examples of charity in the modest life of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him).

One act of kindness of Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) was when an Arab chief asked him for his land. Without a moment's hesitation, the Holy

Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) generously gave all of the land and the goats on the land to the chief. The man was so impressed by his compassion and munificence that he told his fellow Arabs to become Muslims (Majma az-Zawa'id by Haithami). This one incident demonstrates that the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) would give wholly without any questions and without asking for anything in return.

Whenever a gift or bounty was given to the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be on him), he never waited longer than three days to distribute it among the poor. He has said, "Your charity to others is certainly misplaced if you have a near relative to deserve it." On another occasion, the Prophet of Islam (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) has also advised Muslims that, "Giving charity to the poor hath the reward of one charity; but that given to kindred hath two rewards; one, the reward of charity, the other, the reward of helping relations." With only these two instances, it is clear that the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) was very inclined towards giving charity to the needy.

As you can see, throughout his lifetime the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) was a very pleasant and compassionate person. He holds the highest status in Islam and is a model for all Muslims to follow. In the Holy Qur'an Allah declares, *For you there is a noble example in the Prophet of God (33:22)*. As Ahmadi Muslims, we must continue to strive to match the high morals of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) and instill in ourselves his admirable traits.

# Blessings of Charity

**SARAH MUGHAL,  
AGE 12, SYRACUSE, NY**



charityliquidations.com

The following story is written about the blessings of charity.

Myra gazed out of the carriage idly, observing the richness and luxury of the Yellowstone Street that shed brightness on the strained, polished mansions with the tall, pointy gates. She tried hard to mask her admiration and emotion, but in

the end a grudging astonishment seeped out at the city orphan keep. The place was completely run down, stark contrast to the perfect masoned manors surrounding it.. Minutes later, she was duly deposited in front of the keep, and she looked dolefully at the foster-care agent.

“Here?”

The agent nodded silently, and with gruff hands shoved her deep into the keep’s darkened, outstretched arms.

... \* ...

Myra was not a social birdie; nevertheless, she made many friends at the keep. She also showed a great astuteness for geography, so when the time came when the history/Islam teacher was to give a lecture on “Charity’s geography”, as it were called, Myra was curious and excited. As they took a seat in the ratty classroom, Myra was startled to see not a

map at the front of the room, but a pile of rags. The teacher walked up to the front of the room and held one up, indicating for silence. “Can you imagine”, he spoke, “Wearing this for the entire winter?” So began his lecture. He spoke of poverty on the very street next to Yellowstone Boulevard,



opencart.com

which Myra had driven down to the keep on. He spoke of the conditions of charity, that it is more than the donation of money. It was a major requirement of God, a way to help the needy. He spoke about how when the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) received a Zakat donation, he always said a prayer for the person's

welfare. Then at the end of the lecture he showed pictures. Pictures of children starving in the streets. Of large families evicted from their lowly apartments that were not worth a penny. Myra was destroyed looking at those photos. True, she had lived in ramshackle places before- but none as stricken as this. True, her narcolepsy was a major disadvantage—being frozen in fear every night did not do wonders before a math exam—but she had never not had a home before, despite her orphan-status.

\*

Late that night in bed, on a rare occasion when the horrendous dreams did not disturb her, Myra tossed and turned about in bed, wondering over and over, *What can I*

*do? What can I do?* The only thing she had to give was a thin, worn and loved baby blanket. Myra sat straight up in bed. Maybe...

The next day, Myra dropped her spoon on the rubber scrambled eggs. Mumbling something vague about fresh air, she hurried out, blankie in hand. Looking about worriedly, she muttered under her breath, “Take a left, avoid the right...”

Soon she came upon a neighborhood much more rundown than the orphan’s keep. Despite the lack of buildings, there was not so much as a single person on the streets, which, Myra supposed, was a good thing; the less poverty, the better. She then came upon a half-dead, quivering soul with a bald scalp. She could not even tell if it were a girl or a boy. She knelt and gently draped the blanket around the person’s dagger-like shoulder-blades.

“Stay healthy”, she whispered.

She never did find out what the person said, for she whipped around and ran so fast the wind had trouble catching up to her.

\*

The child could hold it off no longer. Despite the sudden warmth from the blanket, the death-bringer cold was setting in. She took one, last gasping breath, praying that she had had a good life and saying one last prayer for the girl with the grieving look about her. The police buried her in the morn with the blanket still wrapped around her.

\*

That night, Myra quivered in fear as the Raggedy Hag, or so Myra called her, came closer and closer. Just a hair-breath’s away, she suddenly disappeared.

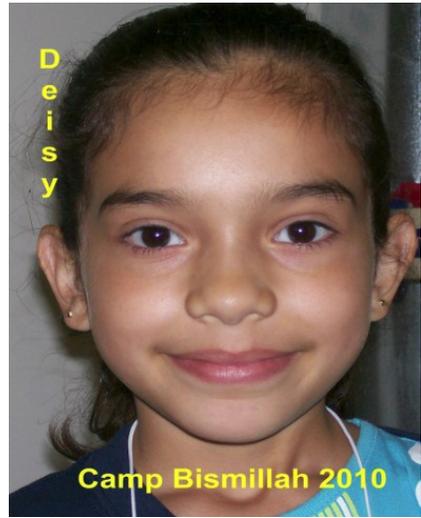
And for the first time in her life, Myra slept peacefully.

# 2010 CAMP BISMILLAH HUGE SUCCESS!

Thanks to all the girls and parents for making the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community's 16th annual Camp Bismillah a resounding success!. Our one week fun and educational camp was fully staffed by the Ahmadiyya women volunteers. Some giving up an entire week from work and family to bring the community girls a week to remember. The one week "free" summer day camp served primarily for girls, ages 7-13. On average, 19 kids and 15 volunteers participated. Each day, two instructors were assigned to each age group, for the scheduled five sessions, "Gett-2-Know U" education,



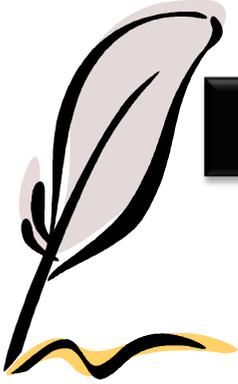
handicraft, lunch, physical activities, and journaling. Additional activities supporting our theme “Be the Best You can Bee!” included lunch preparation for a homeless program, age appropriate spelling words and spelling word competition, crossword challenges, team building exercises, and two field trips (Pringle Nature Center and the Zion Recycle Center). Other activities also emphasized the building blocks of a healthy community, such as acceptance, commitment, cooperation, empathy, recognition of the contribution of others, self-respect and team work.



The week ended with our annual camp picnic for parents and girls where they were awarded prizes, certificates and fun activities.

**Photo of Zion  
Nasirat  
Food Drive to  
donate to  
needy citizens  
of Zion, IL**





# Jihad of the Pen

**Shanaza Arif. I I . North Jersey**

Allah says in the Holy Qur'an:  
*By the inkstand and by the pen and by that  
which they write.*

*"Thou art not, by the grace of thy Lord, a  
madman."*

(Sura Al-Qalam, Chapter 68, Verses 1-3)

Power of the Pen basically means that instead of fighting physically you should write the power of the mind guided by courage.

Jihad is an Arabic word from the root ja•ha•da. It literally means to struggle or to strive. Jihad is struggling or striving in the way or sake of Allah. Jihad takes a very important status in the doctrine of Islam and is one of the basic duties for every Muslim. It has nothing whatsoever to do with the term Holy War. Such a term, or its equivalent does not exist in the Islamic doctrine. The Christian Crusaders in the middle ages invented the ideology of Holy War. There is nothing "Holy" about wars. Wars only involve killings and disasters!

Jihad has many forms. Most important form of jihad is jihad bin-nafs, a struggle against one's self with the objective to improve personal character and morals.

Jihad by the tongue (jihad bil-lisān) entails using spoken word to bring about reformation in the society.

Jihad by the pen (jihad bil-qalam) is to write in defense of good and to eradicate evil.

Jihad by the sword (jihad bis-saif) is to defend oneself against an attack to protect the freedom and rights of mankind.

The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) once said, "Ink of scholars excels blood of martyrs" (Al-Jami' al-Saghîr by As-Suyuti).



## Save Our Environment

By: Ryna Malik, Age 9,  
Virginia central

Energy that we should save  
Nothing should be wasted  
Victory over pollution  
Interesting, the weather can be  
Recycling is important  
Out with global warming  
Never give up  
More we save, the better our eco system  
Everybody should help  
Nothing is impossible  
Take care

### *How can we make the earth a better place to live?*

Mahak Qazi, Age 7, Virginia Central



Make the Earth a better place  
Plant more trees  
Recycle  
Don't litter  
Pick up trash from parks and sideways  
Help make Earth a better place  
It's a gift from God  
So let's take care of it  
Make the Earth a better place



# What can you do to make your town, city and country a better place?

Zoha Qamar~age 8  
Virginia Central

We are all responsible of making our town, city and country a better place. Number of things can be done to achieve this goal but I think most importantly we should help each other. Islam guides us to help others in terms of charity. We, as children, can share many things God has blessed us with. We can lessen the burden on our town, city and country by helping needy people and also get great rewards from God. We should volunteer our time and expertise to improve our town, city and country. In this busy world, time is the most precious thing we can offer to help and make our country a better place.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

The other day our school had a

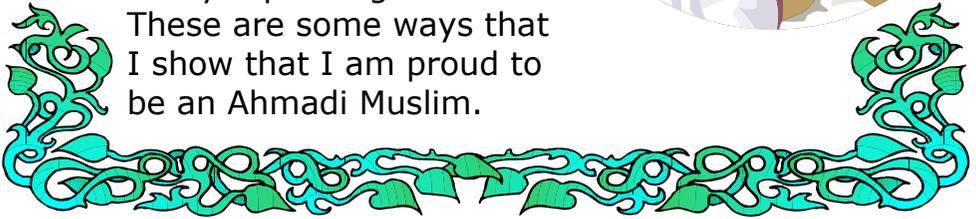
career fair, where we had to do research on different inventors. I chose Erik Rotheim who invented the aerosol

can. Aerosol is a technique for spray cans. Erik Rotheim was born on 19 September 1898 in Oslo, Norway. He earned his engineering degree in Switzerland. He lived most of the time in Oslo, Norway. After lots of experiments, he succeeded in making the aerosol can. He introduced it on November 3, 1927. The aerosol can is important because we can carry liquids in it and dispense them, for example: perfumes, spray paints and air fresheners, etc. To honor him, the Norwegian post office issued a postage stamp in 1998. Erik Rotheim sold his invention to a US company. He died on 18 September 1938. I think that it is a great invention and it is used in our everyday lives. Without it, it would indeed be very different.

Bilal Mian, Age 10  
Oshkosh

# How do you show you are proud to be an Ahmadi Muslim?

I am proud to be an Ahmadi Muslim by showing it many ways. One way is by praying five times a day. Reading the Holy Quran every day. Never lying or stealing, and always speaking the truth. These are some ways that I show that I am proud to be an Ahmadi Muslim.



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# Atfal In Tabligh

Musawir Chaudhry~Age 13~Fitchburg MA

Tabligh is something that us Atfal rarely think about. We do not feel the need to go around for tabligh, but, there are many circumstances in which we as Ahmadis must do our part in spreading the true message of Islam.

In our society today, Islam has a bad image. Some people consider all Muslims terrorists and they think women are being abused when they cover themselves (observe parda/ hijab). Many people cannot see the real meaning behind these practices. For example, if you are at school and cannot get lunch because the school is offering pork, your friends may feel sorry for you, but you must explain to them that pork is prohibited (ḥarām) in Islam. It is not good for the body, and in fact, Christians are not supposed to eat pork either. It is written in the Bible, Deuteronomy 14:8,

"Also the pig is ritually impure to you; though it has divided hooves, it does not chew the cud. You may not eat their meat or even touch their remains."

Pig is a very dirty animal and it is not meant to be eaten. This is an example of tabligh. Just by this little conversation, you have mentioned about what you believe in and in their minds they begin to think about what you said. So, all you can do is introduce them to the real teachings of life.

Tabligh is something that can really help someone who is spiritually lost. Many people do not even bother to believe in

God because they do not see the benefits. If you know a friend who just does not care about religion then try to reach out. If they deny help, then that is their choice, at least try.

The Holy Qur'an says,

"And who is better in speech than he who invites men to Allah and does righteous deeds and says, 'I am surely of those who submit.' And good and evil are not alike. Repel evil with that which is best. And lo, he between whom and thyself was enmity, will become as though he were a warm friend. But none is granted it save those who are steadfast; and none is granted it save those who possess a large share of good." (41:34)

This verse explains that people who invite people to Islam will be rewarded, and you are helping someone find the right path, showing them the teachings of Islam can change their life.

When someone asks you a question about Islam that you do not know the answer of, then make sure to tell your friend that you will get back to them. Find the answer and explain it to them.

Sometimes people do not even care about religion, do not push them or your relationship can be ruined.



As Ahmadi Muslims in the West, we must show people what the true meaning of Islam with our words and actions. Make them second guess what they think about Islam and try to help people get a better understanding of its true teachings.

# Allah the Creator

Seemeen Hanan~8~SVA

Allah created everything in the world, like the animals, humans, food, sky, earth, stars, day and night, moon, sun, and more. Allah created the sun to give us light. God created the earth to give us a place to live. Allah gave us a brain to think. God has given us eyes to look at the world. God gave us hands to work. Allah gave us feet to walk. God gave us night to rest. We should thank God for giving all these things to us.

Al-Hilal

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