

celebrating
the joys of
submission!

radiance

LIVING AND LOVING THE YOUNG MUSLIM LIFESTYLE

High five
Radiance!

Messed up
strategy

Meet thy
writers

A Bird's nest in the
window

The road to
real success





**ARABIAN
JEWELLERS**

A DREAM COME TRUE

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High Five Radiance

Bismillah-hir-Rahman-nir-Raheem

Assalamualeikum warahmatullahi-wabarakatuh!

Wooow... that was fast! Subhan'Allah! It's hard to believe that five years have passed since Radiance launched its first issue in January 2013.

A magazine that aims to celebrate the joys of submission by our tweens and teenagers who in their sweet voices tell the world that they are 'living and loving the young Muslim life-style.' They echo out that we won't jump on the bandwagon in pursuit of all that is glittery and flashy because if everyone else does it, it doesn't make the thing right. Just because your friend jumps off a bridge doesn't mean you are going to do it too. Hopefully not! *smiles*

Radiance came to break the deafening silence that stems from fear and apathy and lingers

on. Overcoming this silence requires valour and that's what the contributors of this magazine have exhibited. They have chosen to disrupt the silence and tell their stories in their own words. From a personal reflection to a commentary on social construction to a dear diary housing musings of a frivolous mind - the topics of this magazine are intimate, and most importantly, self-critical. So in this issue, we tell you a little about each writer too Insha'Allah on page no 6. Hey wait, there's more before you skip over to the 'meet thy writers' page already.

We also have a competition lined up for all our energetic budding writers. Send in your stories soon and Insha'Allah in the upcoming ceremony in February 2018 we will be giving out the certificates and prizes to the winning individuals.

We sincerely hope that the conversations

started in the radiant articles do not end here. We want you, the readers, to echo your voices and join us in constructive dialogue. Thus with this special issue, we also introduce two new sections to your Radiance: 'expressions' and 'seek and solve'. Turn over to pg 19 to find out how to be a part of it all.

We keep hearing about the thousands of lives that have been enriched by the Radiant rays emanating from its pages but that is not all. Radiance heralded better things to come when it started its Radiance kids Whatsapp group last year. The first group of its kind, its purpose was that where children the world over waste their time and energies on these fancy gadgets, these radiant kids spend productive time learning Surahs, Ahadith, duas, creative writing skills, activities and much more. And then we had a fun-filled grand party in May 2017 to award the successful participants with prizes, and thus finally we got to see the lovely faces of these kids for the first time. There was also an online course conducted on E baitussalam by your Editors by the title 'Girls Galaxy' for teenage girls and together we tried walking towards Jannah Alhamdulillah.

Acquiring Ilm is not once in a lifetime occurrence, instead, it is a life-long endeavour. We would keep focusing on bringing more programs, opportunities and partnerships to Radiance to help our readers turn their dreams into reality. *Abhi ishq ke imtehaan aur bhi hain...*

All of this would not have been possible without the foundation set forth by our respected patron, who realised the vision of Radiance. Surely the duas and blessings of our elders are the surefire way to success in this world as well as in the hereafter. Alhamdulillah, it's Allah

subhanahu wata'aala's infinite blessing that I'm also able to work with such a talented and dedicated staff - a team of writers, designers, marketers, thinkers, innovators-who have chosen to make noise with vibrancy and poise. And now it's your turn, dear readers....

We like to thank you for supporting Radiance as a platform that fosters an environment that contributes to the free flow of ideas and reshaping the young minds of our Ummah. We hope you will keep praying, supporting and spreading Radiance to your friends, classmates, cousins, teachers, etc and be an ambassador of bringing progressive change in the society. May Allah ﷻ make Radiance a great source of sadqah-e-jaria for us all. Ameen.

In the next few moments, we are going to walk you through all that is delightful and awe-inspiring. Hope that this issue meets and exceeds your expectations as we look forward to continuing to contribute to excellence.... so lets dive right in.

Wishing you many more voyages in the radiant oceans of ilm, as you try discovering the pearls within yourselves

High five Radiance!

Wsalam,

Bint Zahid

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Meet thy Writers

Zawjah Zia

is a pretty plain Muslimah; trying to strive upon the path towards her Lord by doing tiny deeds. Among these little efforts lie trying to be a good wife, a responsible mother, a student of ilm, a writer and a constant learner. Her aim, only Allah's acceptance.



Bint Aftab

Reading has been a relentless hobby since I can remember, and I started writing stories at a very young age. It was my mother who found a positive outlet for my passion and got me connected with Bint Zahid, with whom my journey as a "writer" began. I've taken a break this past year but Insha'Allah I will try to contribute to the magazine and fulfil my dream of providing young people with good, Islamic literature and influencing lives for the better.

Ayesha Marfani

lives in the land of positive vibes that seem mystical and fantastical to the world. To her power of belief is extraordinary. She puts the pains, fears, happiness and peace into words. Reading, writing and being creative are the things close to her heart.

Zawjah Junaid Mukaty

teaches at Madressah Usmania, Karachi and conducts workshops on various topics.

Hafsa Kamal

ha:ffsa caa:maal/
noun

1. An aspiring writer, avid-reader, senior teacher slash tutor and a constant student of deen all rolled into one.

"We need to grab the latest issue with Hafsa Kamal's article in it!"
synonyms: awesome, funny, witty, fabulous, hard-working, driven;
More

Afeera Zainab

is living in Saudi Arabia for the past 19 years and is enjoying motherhood with three kids. She loves learning and teaching. She is an Urdu poet as well. Alhamdulillah, she loves being a part of Radiance.

Zohra Nausheen

is an aspiring writer, who dreams of becoming a student of Ilm one day. A marketer by profession, she loves nothing more than curling up with a good book and a blanket.

Nose

always buried in books, **Rabia Khalid Lakhani**, aged thirteen, resides in Karachi. A student of Arabic language and O'levels, her favourite pastime apart from geeky things, i.e, reading and writing, is arts and crafts.

Maria Armoghan

is a 12 year old teenager who is currently a seventh grader at the Intellect school. Her one and only hobby is reading and she is really enamoured of it. She has her likings in the subject Chemistry and wishes to graduate in it too. Maria likes to play throw ball. She is also a frequent writer of the Radiance magazine and an ardent fan of it.

Maira Sheikh

is a 14-year-old hijabi living in Lahore. She loves writing and playing cricket, obviously not to forget chocolates. Besides, she is a foodie and a book lover. She spends her free time in reading, eating and sometimes on the computer.

Zawjah Aamir

I am a jack of all trades, master of none kind of woman. I am a textile designer by academics, illustrate and paint for freelancing and write to satisfy my passion. I am a stay at home mother and love to teach my girls the knowledge of Deen and Duniya as best as I can and in the process, Allah ﷻ has blessed me with the opportunity to learn every day. Alhamdulillah!

Asiya Marfani:

I am just an ordinary teen struggling and yearning to aspire and inspire people through my writings be it spiritually, physically or emotionally. I love making people feel better about themselves and think good about other people too. Longing to be a peacemaker and goodness preacher one day insha'Allah.

Zawjah Usama

is a fun-loving girl who likes to read and cook. She enjoys spending time with her kids and blogging.

Whizz up, kids!

It's competition time...

Every month we eagerly wait for the latest issue of the Radiance and devour it as soon as it lands on our doorsteps. We love the stories, share the articles with our friends, and smile after reading the witty comics. Once we've read every word, we pass it down to our younger siblings or carefully preserve it in our bookshelves.

But... what do we actually learn from it? After all, every section of the magazine is meant to contain a lesson for the readers. All the contributors of this magazine hope to have inspired you towards Deen and influenced your life for the better.

And now you can tell us if we've succeeded in our mission. This month, to celebrate our 5 years of fabulous readership, the Radiance team invites you to participate in a writing competition and tell us exactly how much Radiance has taught you.

The rules of the game are simple: Write an essay, story or poem on the following topic and send it to us via email before 30th January' 2018. The most deserving entries will be published in the magazine and the winners will get certificates and rewards in our soon-to-be party.

For 5-9 years: Three things I learnt from the Radiance magazine and implemented in my life.

For 10-14 years: How can I contribute in Dawah efforts.

or

An analysis on any article from any issue of Radiance. The takeaway from it and how did I apply it in my life.

50% Discount Offer

The radiance magazine wants to share its joy with its readers by also offering a substantial half price discount for the month of January on all back issues. The discount is available for purchases done from the Baitussalam book stores at phase 4 and phase 6 DHA, Karachi as well as you may order it at your door steps by sending us an email. So this is your lucky month giving you an opportunity to also gift Radiance to inspire and delight others, and who knows, they might end up cherishing it more than chocolates and candies.

Messed up strategy

by Asiya Marfani

Once again I hunted for my old self
For the human I once used to be
When I wasn't angry
Outrageous and furious all the time
When I was joyous and cheerful and totally fine
I tried transforming into the sweet person I earlier was
When aggression hadn't totally overtaken me
And when I enjoyed every bit of life.

I am yet struggling to be a regular person
So I struggle every moment to stay calm and quiet
I watch multiple serials to feel relaxed
I eat bulks of rich, delicious and tempting foods
Or I try to flood people with rage and bad tempers
Thinking that all this would help
In letting out the frustration within me
But I end up being an even worse form of human every time.

Then I fight again, against my evil conscience
I indulge myself in tasks totally futile
And wonder about things completely fantasised
I yearn to escape the reality
Thinking that all this would help
In letting out the frustration within me
I do this and that
But nothing, NOTHING helps
And I end up being an even worse form of human every time.

Today, I am standing here
On the top of a building
To cease my aggression
To cease my frustration
To cease every evil within me,
To cease myself

But then there comes a figure
It holds me from behind
Tight and firm
Clenches my fist
And takes me down the mount
Makes me sit and relax
And when I get conscious, I look around
I see no one

I hear a voice, strident yet beautiful
It says:
You wanted to escape life,
Just because things don't seem fine
Or you can't find any means
To be a good human you had always been
And your approach to various methods didn't help it be
So oh you!
Listen to me
Your strategy is all messed up
It has holes in it
Which ought to be filled
Fill these holes with the sayings of Almighty
Listen to what He says
Attend to His calls
Believe in Him
Follow His commands
Pray to Him
He is there
Forever and always
He will hear you
And help you always
In letting out the frustration within you
For sure, He's the Lord of Majesty

The road to real success

Hafsa Kamal gives a new meaning to our struggles for success; a perspective which can make you successful every moment of your life Insha'Allah

I can rack my brains for the reason behind success but I'd come to a pinpoint blank. What is success? Google makes it pretty precise, "Success is what you define it as. Success means the accomplishment of an aim or purpose. Modern society has programmed you to assume that success means making a ton of money, being happy, and/or being famous. But you don't have to be confined to that. In fact, many people wouldn't feel successful even if they achieved that."

So the ball is back in my court. Success. It is what I make it. And looking around me, I think it has turned out to be the luxury of living well with a huge house, comfy convertible and good food on the plate. Not really but that's an exaggerated definition of how people take it. The privilege of donning into branded clothes, accessories and being able to afford whatever one wants to one's brim. May it be traveling or shopping or earning money, doing well in one's business etcetera. That is what I think society is seeing success as. Me? I am still young. I am still learning.

Growing up in a family with an Islamic perspective has really helped me see things in the true light. What is real success? On one hand we have physical and temporary success; this life and all the comfort it professes to give. People have spent their days and nights slaving for moments of happiness. If only we knew we could easily get that by trying to get 'Real Success'!

The problem is, we think that success is an accomplishment. We take success literally, as what it has been stated like - a noun. I think it should be taken as a verb. A state of success - a lifestyle. When we realise that every step we take should be successful, we stop trying to get it and start living it.

When I put my forehead to the ground and breathe Allahu Akbar, I feel successful. Now that's an accomplishment, isn't it? Alhamdulillah. Walking on the cool, smooth surface in front of the Ka'abah and taking Allah's name makes me feel extremely successful. Being given the ability to perform Umrah at a

We take success literally, as what it has been stated like - a noun. I think it should be taken as a verb. A state of success - a lifestyle. When we realise that every step we take should be successful, we stop trying to get it and start living it.

young age. Being blessed to observe pardah at a young age. That's real success. And I'll continue feeling it as long as I keep doing something to accomplish it.

If one wants to feel the fresh freedom of success, one has to enslave themselves to Allah ﷻ.

وَمَا تَوْفِيقِي إِلَّا بِاللَّهِ

"My Success is only by Allah"

I can give a beautiful example from our beloved Prophet's ﷺ life. Success and failure, respect and dishonour, are both in the hands of Allah. He can bestow both on whom He wishes. So, our Prophet ﷺ faced the torment of taunts and tests yet he braved through it by beseeching peace through piety and prayers. He was thrown stones at by the street urchins of Taif to the extent that his shoes were filled with blood. Yet, this quickly turned into a gateway to the seven Heavens as Allah ﷻ called the Prophet ﷺ on Mai'raj to receive the gift of Salah.

What is success? Darkened by the brutality of the heated master and sitting under the weight of a stone in the scorching sun, the Negro screamed, "Ahad! Ahad!" He was not considered handsome, his tattered pockets were often empty, his body was marred through the torturous acts inflicted on him yet his heart was alight, his lips were smiling,

his eyes twinkled and his mind was at ease. For him, his closeness to Allah was the only objective. To get that was the biggest success. To have his footsteps heard by the Prophet ﷺ in Jannah was real success.

You know what this teaches me? It shows that an extremely wealthy person like Fir'aun can be a failure and a homeless person like Prophet Ibraheem ﷺ can be successful. It teaches me that success has nothing to do with wealth and failure has nothing to do with poverty.

أَفَحَسِبْتُمْ أَنَّمَا خَلَقْنَاكُمْ عَبَثًا
وَأَنَّكُمْ إِلَيْنَا لَا تُرْجَعُونَ ﴿١١٥﴾ فَتَعَالَى
اللَّهُ الْمَلِكُ الْحَقُّ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا
هُوَ رَبُّ الْعَرْشِ الْكَرِيمِ ﴿١١٦﴾

"Did you think that We had created you in play (without any purpose), and that you would not be brought back to Us? So Exalted is Allah, the True King: none has the right to be worshipped but He, the Lord of the Supreme Throne!" (Surah Al-Muminun: 115-116)

Would you like to know what 'Real Success' means by my definition? Finding my purpose in life and working hard to achieve it. May Allah give us all the ability to walk upon the right track towards our goal i.e. Jannah. Aameen

Let's enjoy this refreshing musing
by Bint Nadeem on a love-hate relationship
with some acquitted companions in her house

There is a pair of pigeons that have been nesting and breeding in our house for a few years, slowly and gradually blooming into a huge family with newborn babies falling out of the nest (rescued by us), some eggs falling and breaking before they even hatched or some half-grown birds getting stuck on the terrace while learning how to fly.

It all started with an innocent cute nest in one of the windows of our rooms which when became a huge nuisance was removed during the renovation process of the house a few years ago. These birds, though, have a lot of perseverance. They were back a few months later with a new plan. It was a new spot this time which

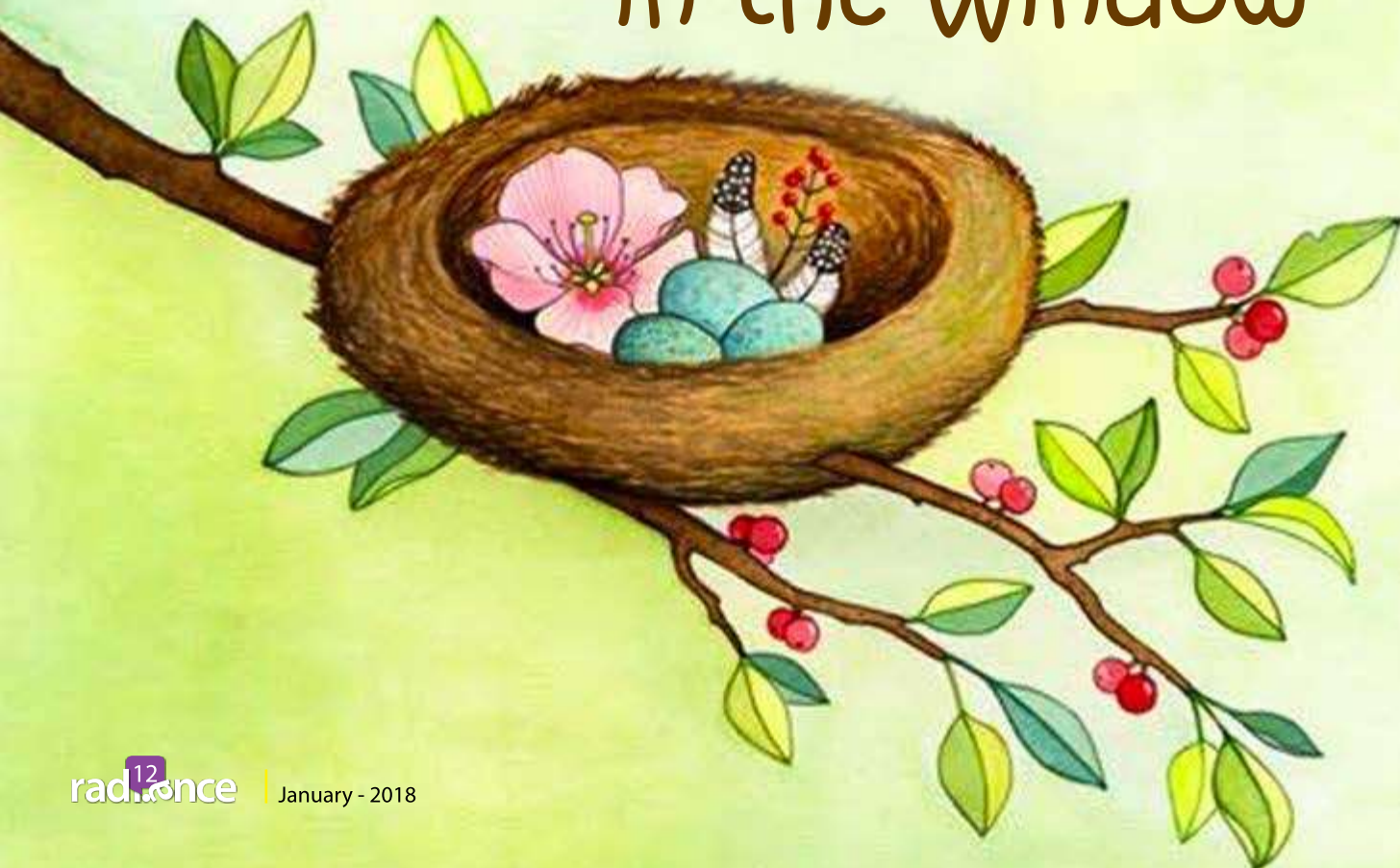
was an empty space above the guest entrance. It is a difficult place to reach for us scrawny humans and definitely a much better place for the birds, as it gives them the freedom to lay as many eggs as they want without the fear of them breaking or getting eaten by crows. This has resulted in an even bigger family than last time they were living with us.

The only and most obvious drawback of these birds sharing our house is the mess they make from their droppings, to put it nicely.

Our whole outer porch is dotted with their waste which is cleaned on a daily basis. It does not matter whether its day or night, apparently they will decorate the floor when least expected to. It is especially embarrassing when there are uninvited guests over and we have to explain the whole pigeon situation in order to escape their judgmental *Astaghfirullah-don't-you-clean-your-house* looks.

Recently, while studying the explanation of Surah Naml, we came

A Bird's Nest in the Window



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across these ayahs where it was explained in exquisite detail about the birds and animals and how each specific one is made for a specific purpose; no creation being made in vain. According to Imam Shaf'i Rahimahullah, pigeons are the most intelligent birds. Therefore, one should not treat them badly or badmouth them. It is also the decree of Allah ﷻ that where each animal will get its sustenance from. Therefore, if some birds or animals are getting their rizq through you, it should be a moment of reflection and happiness that Allah ﷻ has chosen your house as a source of sustenance and livelihood for that particular creation of His.

However, as expected, we humans have to first complain and make the worst of any situation instead of reflecting or looking at the positive side. We will dwell on what a great deal of mess the birds make and how we have to clean it up every day. How 'our house' has to be spick and span for 'others' to see. How we are making such a huge comprise by not throwing out these birds along with their nest and babies. How we are sacrificing such an important place in our house for these birds to live

in because 'oh where will they go if we throw them out?'

Actually, they will be just fine even if we do dislocate them from here. Allah ﷻ is taking care of them, their housing, food and survival facilities. On the contrary, it is us who will be at the biggest loss! We would have earned the displeasure of our Most Merciful Rabb by showing zero empathy to these completely innocent birds. We would have given up on the sadqa e jaariya by having them eating the food provided through our house. We will lose the mercy that descends on our house because of their pre-dawn azkaar when we are fast asleep in our comfy beds.

The Messenger of Allah ﷺ said, "Those who are merciful will be shown mercy by the Most Merciful. Be merciful to those on the earth and the One in the heavens will have mercy on you." (Sunan al-Tirmidhi)

What other motivation do we need to earn these easy good deeds? Why would we give up such amazing opportunities to earn His pleasure while sitting at home and literally not doing anything!

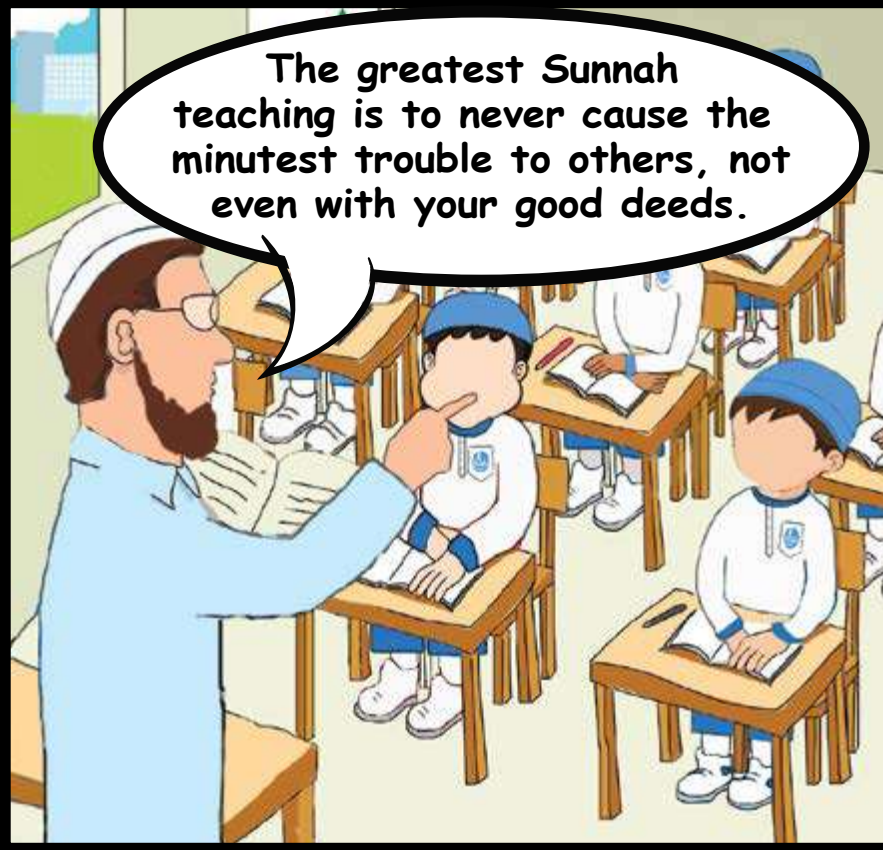
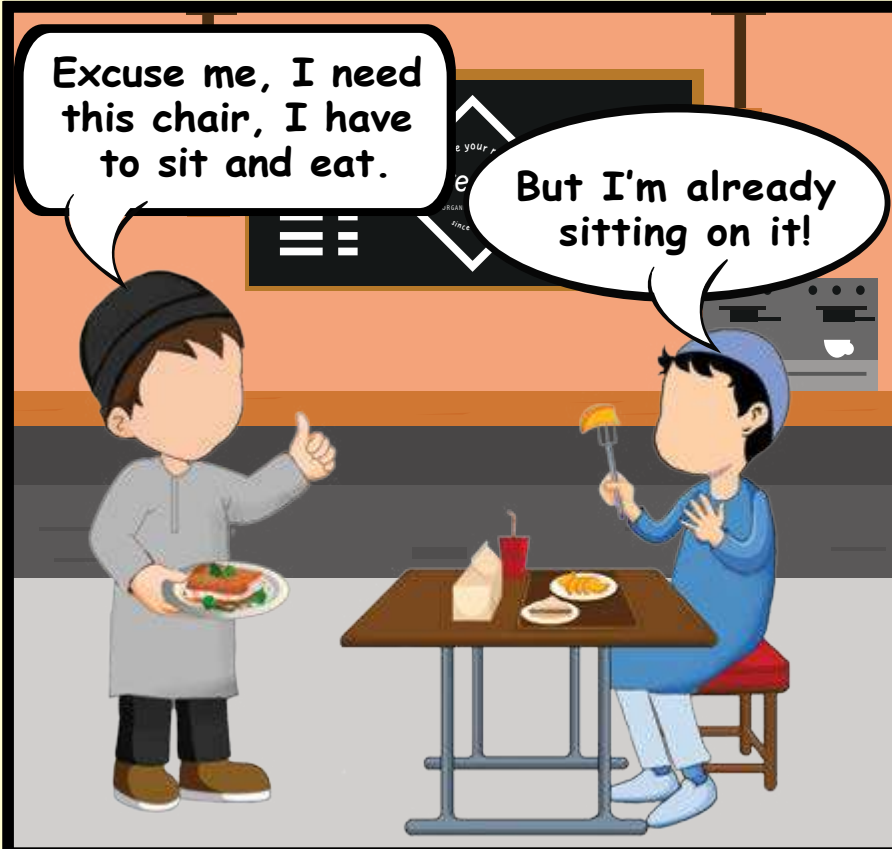
Allah ﷻ has mentioned in the Holy Quran: "On the Day a man will flee from his brother, And his mother and his father, And his wife and his children." (80:34-36) meaning that on the Day of Judgment, man will be so selfish and greedy about his good deeds that he will run away from his immediate family afraid that they might ask him for help or for one of his good deeds.

Can we imagine the amount of regret we may feel if we are out of just a few good deeds on that day only because we were too ignorant to bear with some other creation of Allah ﷻ? It was of more importance to us what people might think about us and about our temporary house in Dunya than what Allah ﷻ will think about us and our permanent abode in the Aakhirah.

Each day that we live our lives, every experience that we go through, has a hidden lesson for us to learn and find out our purpose in life. Every time we choose this world over the next, we have failed the test. Even if it's something as small as a bird's nest in the window

Trying to get to jannah the wrong way

Concept by Zawjah Zia
Artwork by Zawjah Jahangir



Not easy being a teacher!

Teacher: Our topic for today is Photosynthesis.

Teacher: What is photosynthesis class?

Student: Photosynthesis is our topic today.

Teacher: John is climbing a tree to pick some mangoes. (Begin the sentence with Mangoes)

Student: Mangoes, John is coming to pick you!

Teacher: What do you call mosquitoes in your language?

Student: We don't call them, they come on their own.

Teacher: One day our country will be corruption free. What tense is that??

Student: Future impossible tense.

Teacher: How can we keep our school clean?

Student: By staying at home.

English Grammar class

Teacher: What's the difference between "He cleans the plate" and "the plate is cleaned by him."

Student: In the first sentence, 'he' is not married, but in the second sentence, 'he' is married...

WORDSEARCH

B	J	Q	S	N	S	J	E	R	U	S	A	L	E	M
V	T	L	X	D	Q	F	M	B	T	H	R	K	G	A
Z	S	N	K	Y	U	N	K	W	P	S	A	H	S	R
F	A	M	R	X	B	R	M	T	A	I	F	A	F	W
V	F	A	S	M	A	K	K	A	H	K	A	Y	Y	A
B	A	D	R	I	V	D	H	V	I	H	H	B	R	C
M	L	I	K	N	J	R	L	P	R	Z	U	A	J	Z
N	H	N	R	A	Q	N	H	Y	A	T	H	R	I	B
T	H	A	W	R	S	R	T	B	T	P	U	Z	Y	P
C	H	U	D	A	I	B	I	A	H	K	D	X	J	M
G	P	Q	L	D	Y	X	L	G	V	M	Z	C	F	W

MAKKAH	YATHRIB	QUBA	MADINA
HIRA	SAFA	BADR	JERUSALEM
UHUD	THAWR	MARWA	HUDAIBIAH
MINA	ARAFAH	TAIF	KHAYBAR

All the above places have some connection to the life story of our Prophet (pbuh). Can you find out how they are connected?



Egg Bubbles

This fun science experiment for kids focuses on some of the interesting characteristics of eggs. Prove the existence of a small air pocket inside an egg as well as thousands of small holes in the shell called pores, while learning what air does as it is heated.

What you'll need:

- A clear glass or jar
- Hot water (adult supervision is a good idea when using hot water)
- An egg
- A magnifying glass

Instructions:

1. Place the egg carefully into the glass or jar.
2. Carefully pour hot water into the glass or jar until it is nearly full.
3. Leave the glass or jar on a table or flat surface and watch the egg closely for a few minutes (the glass may become hot so be careful).
4. Use your magnifying glass to closely examine what is happening.

What's happening?

After surrounding the egg with hot water you will notice tiny bubbles forming on the egg shell which eventually bubble their way to the surface.

An egg contains a small air pocket at its larger end between the shell and egg white. When the air trapped inside this small pocket begins to heat up it expands and tries to find a way out of the shell, but how does it escape?

They're too small to see under normal conditions but with the help of a magnifying glass you can see that egg shells contain thousands of small holes called pores (human skin has pores too).

The pores allow air to pass through the shell, making it look like the egg is breathing as the air expands and is forced through the shell.

MARCH TO MOUTA



María Armoghan shares an exhilarating combat from seerah and explains it well with the help of a story of every child's life

It was Tuesday, Hanzala's favourite day. But he looked very glum and gloomy today. On the way from home to school, he was as quiet as a mouse, back home, he didn't even eat his lunch. He closed the door of his room and did his homework there quietly. He didn't even recite the Holy Quran today. He also did not talk to anyone.

So Hanzala's Ammi decided to talk to him about his behaviour. He was close and frank to his mother so when she asked him he burst out saying, "You won't understand Ammi! No one will be able to apprehend my problem! Everyone in class thinks of me as a fool! They think that just because I do not say anything to anyone, they can fool me around and make fun of me. I really hate them all Ammi!"

You know what; yesterday Ali, Hamza and Tufail were absent, leaders of the big gang! They missed yesterday's Islamiyat lecture so Sir told me to explain them that lecture. Then during recess, while I was explaining them the lecture, then in spite of listening to it, they started laughing and teasing me. Tufail even pushed me and called me a book-worm and a fool! Everyone gathered and started laughing at me. Then as angry as anything I slipped away from there and this really made my day worse mom..."

"I can realise your feelings dear. Things like this happen in life to make us tough but nonetheless, we should not lose patience. Rather we should take inspiration from the Seerah and from the lives of our dear sahabah. Battle of Mouta my dear, is the greatest example."

She continued, "Hadhrat Haris bin Azdi was sent by Rasoolullah to the Governor of Syria (at that time) Shurahabeel. Hadhrat Haris tried to make him embrace Islam but that merciless Shurahabeel martyred him. When this news reached Rasoolullah, he decided to give him a befitting reply.

Preparation of war

The Holy Prophet prepared an army of 3000 Muslims for war. Firstly, the leader (Ameer) of the army was Hadhrat Zaid bin Haris, after his martyrdom Hadhrat Jaafar bin Abi Talib was to be the Ameer, after his martyrdom Hadhrat Abdullah bin Rawaha and after his martyrdom, the Muslims were to choose an Ameer from amongst themselves.

Muslims confront the Roman Empire

When the Muslim army reached Aman (Jordan), Heraclius was ready to fight with them. According

to their expectations, they expected to meet Shurahabeel but here there was a change of events!

The army of Romans

Heraclius brought with him an army of 100,000 soldiers. On the way, other tribes also sent in another 100,000 soldiers so Heraclius was ready with an army of 200,000 soldiers to confront only 3000 Muslims!

Muslims' reaction to the Roman Army

After seeing a huge number of men, Muslims suggested to ask Rasoolullah to send more men. But Hadhrat Abdullah bin Rawaha called out a motivating call which spirited up the Muslims and they set up camps at Mouta.

In this battle, Hadhrat Khalid broke nine swords!"

War events

The battle began. Soon after, Hadhrat Zaid was martyred. Hadhrat Jaafar then took the lead. Arrows consecutively struck both his hands and finally his chest. Hadhrat Abdullah bin Rawaha then taking the lead attacked the enemy but he was also martyred.

Then Hadhrat Khalid bin Waleed was appointed the Ameer and he fought with great valour forcing the enemy to flee. Muslims returned victorious to Madinah. In this battle, Hadhrat Khalid broke nine swords!"

Then Hanzala's ammi concluded by saying, "So you see my son, there were many trials in the lives of the Sahabah Karam but they never gave up hope, even if that meant giving up their lives. Who could have thought that an army of only 3000 Muslim will confront 200,000 soldiers of the enemy and yet return victorious. But it was their yaqeen on Allah and the power of their Imaan that they never got frightened no matter what the circumstances."

Not only Hanzala but we all also learn a lesson of patience and Tawakkalullah

New sections in Radiance



new year, new look, new fun



Expressions

Radiance is going to ask you folks a question in each month. If you want your answer to be featured in the next issue in the 'Expressions' section, then send your answers to radianceteam8@gmail.com along with your name, age and country before 31st January' 2018.

Next issue's question is:
"3 things I'd take along if I were stranded on an island"

Seek and Solve

Be it something that is bugging you, or just a question or a confusion you are seeking an answer to, your "seek and solve" section is the place for it. Here you are guaranteed to find a doable solution to your problems Insha' Allah be they related to religion, spiritually, emotional help, social problems, you name it. No deadlines for sending them in. They will stay in our pipeline and will be published on a first come first serve basis. You can keep your identities anonymous too.



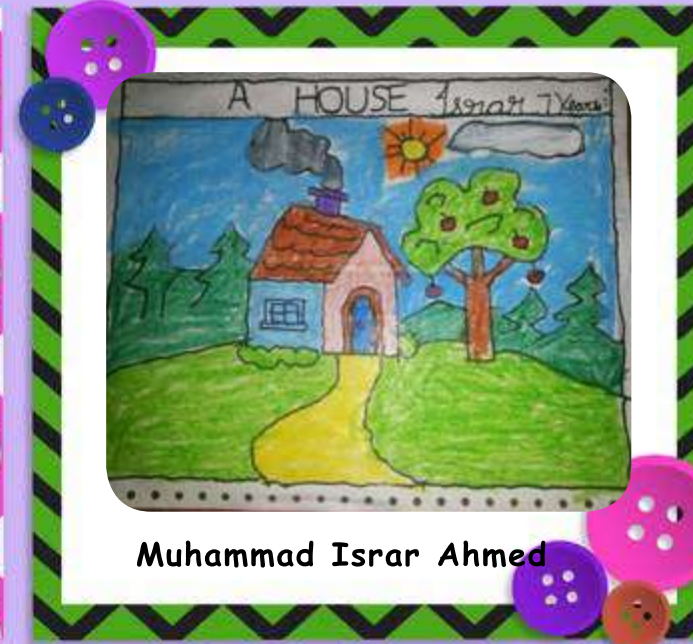
M.Ibrahim Khan



Hazila Murtaza
8 years



Yumna Haseeb



Muhammad Israr Ahmed



Hisham Ahmed



Zaigham Ali



Umaima Zahid
11 years



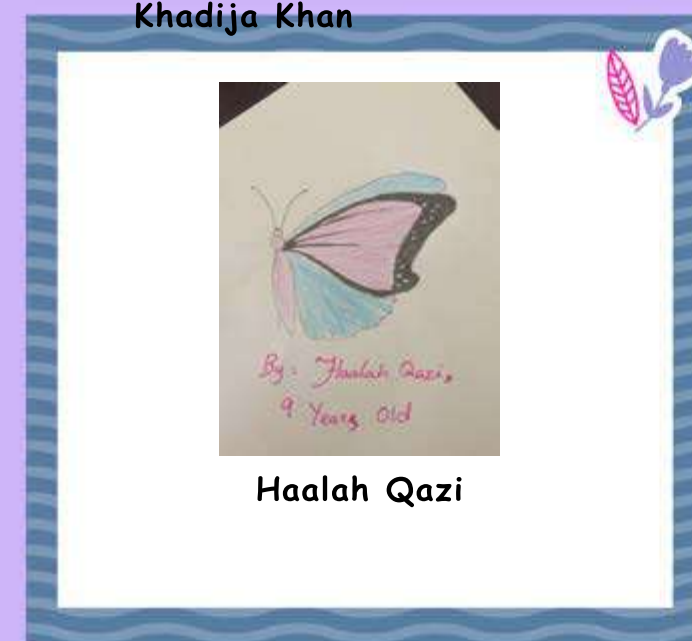
Hayyan Haseeb



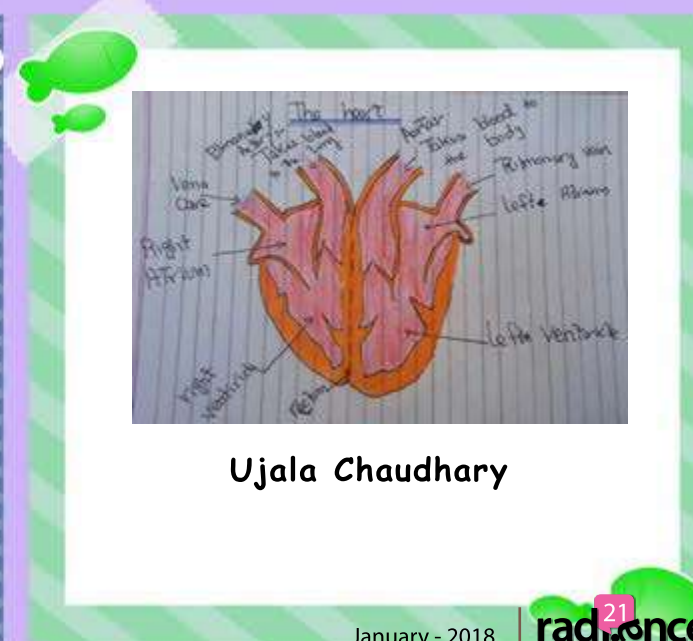
Abdullah Ali
7 years



Khadija Zubair
8 years



Haalah Qazi



Ujala Chaudhary

Hadhrat Abu Zar Ghiffari رضي الله عنه

Zawjah Junaid Mukaty spellbinds us with the life narrations of a magnificent sahabi, Hadhrat Abu Zar Ghiffari رضي الله عنه

Hadhrat Abu Zar Ghiffari's ﷺ real name was Jundub bin Janadah. He belonged to the tribe Banu Ghiffar which was a branch of Banu Kinanah tribe. This tribe was famous for robbing caravans but Hadhrat Abu Zar preferred to live an honest life then also. Piety was a part of his nature and its colour was visibly seen all over him. Islam was like a magnet to such people who were thirsty to satisfy their souls. Therefore when he heard that a man in Makkah was declaring himself as a Prophet of one and only God, he quickly sent his brother to gather some information about that Prophet ﷺ.

Conversion to Islam

Hadhrat Abu Zar Ghiffari's ﷺ brother, Anees, was a great poet of his time. He investigated the matter and concluded that neither that man was a poet nor a magician or a conjurer like the Makkans said but he only called the humanity towards righteousness and stopped them from wrong. Abu Zar Ghiffari ﷺ was pleased to hear this and set off to Makkah to find out more. He stayed there for a few days but could not find Hadhrat Muhammad ﷺ as he didn't know him and also didn't find appropriate to ask about him of others.

One day Hadhrat Ali ﷺ discreetly asked him his reason of arrival. He was desperate to find Hadhrat Muhammad ﷺ so he quickly told him his purpose of travelling. Hadhrat Ali ﷺ took him to the Messenger of Allah ﷺ where he immediately accepted Islam. Hadhrat Abu Zar ﷺ was an early convert: fourth or fifth Muslim in number.

Persecution by the Makkans

After a few days, when Hadhrat Abu Zar ﷺ had learnt about Islam from the Prophet ﷺ, he got the orders from the Prophet ﷺ to go back to Banu Ghiffar and invite them to Islam. He was about to leave but before his departure,

He was about to leave but before his departure, he went to Kaaba and pronounced his new faith right in front of the polytheists. This was too much for the already enraged Makkans who attacked him savagely, without realising that he bled badly.

he went to Kaaba and pronounced his new faith right in front of the polytheists. This was too much for the already enraged Makkans who attacked him savagely, without realising that he bled badly. Hadhrat Abbas intervened and rescued Hadhrat Abu Zar, explaining to the Kuffar that he belonged to Banu Ghiffar and if he got killed, none of their business caravans would be able to pass safely from their area.

After this situation, Hadhrat Muhammad ﷺ ordered him to go back to his native clan and spread Islam there and return when Islam would come up in strength. Therefore he returned to Madinah after the Battle of Trench.

Affection of Muhammad ﷺ for Abu Zar Ghiffari ﷺ

Our beloved Prophet ﷺ was very fond of Hadhrat Abu Zar ﷺ. He praised his companion often with endearing words. Once he saw him and said, the sky has not shaded anyone and the earth has not carried anyone on its shoulders who is more truthful than Abu Zar. Messenger of Islam ﷺ appreciated his piety and the love he had for Allah and His Messenger by rewarding him with a title "Maseeh ul Islam".

Hadhrat Abu Zar Ghiffari's love for his master can also be determined by the fact that he had presented himself in the service of the Prophet ﷺ selflessly. Thus his main duty was to look after thirty-two she-camels which he took to Zee Qard, a place 12 miles away from Madinah, in order to take good care of them.

Another touchy example of this attachment is when the time of departure of Prophet ﷺ from this world came near, he called Abu Zar ﷺ. Abu Zar ﷺ dotingly bent over him and the Prophet ﷺ took his

hands and kept them over his chest. Subhan'Allah what amazing warmth can be felt between them. This was the reason Hadhrat Abu Zar Ghiffari could not bear the desolation after the demise of our beloved Prophet ﷺ and left for Syria.

Simplicity

Hadhrat Abu Zar Ghiffari's main attribute was his simplicity. He disliked being materialistic and therefore preferred to spend a life of poverty. He not only practised this trait himself but always preached it to the other Muslims too. This topic also created a minute conflict between him and Hadhrat Ameer Muawiyah. Hadhrat Usman Ghani, Caliph of that time, called him back to Madinah and at last, he settled in Rabzah.

Death

Hadhrat Abu Zar Ghiffari departed from this world in thirty-one or thirty-two Hijra. Rabzah was not a populated area but friends of Allah are always protected and helped by Allah himself. He was also helped by his Creator when a caravan travelling with the intention of Hajj, passed by during his last moments. This caravan had a companion of Prophet ﷺ known as Sea of Knowledge, Hadhrat Abdullah bin Masu'd ﷺ. He led the prayers of funeral and buried him there.

Hadhrat Abu Zar Ghiffari ﷺ left a wife, Laila and a daughter. His son, Zar, was martyred in the year sixth after Hijra. Hadhrat Abdullah bin Masu'd took his family with him back to Madinah and handed them over to Hadhrat Usman who took care of them.

May Allah be pleased with this dignified personality and may we have their neighbourhood in Jannah. Ameen

My journey towards light

by Hamna Salman

15 years

Hifz student at Madrassah

Markaz-e-Fahmedeen

In August 2015, I was guided by Allah ﷻ to make a decision that transformed my life. Alhamdulillah, I enrolled in Hifz classes at Markaz-e-Fahmedeen, DHA, phase-4 in Karachi. I left my school and decided to catch up on my studies through private tuition in the afternoons.

My experience at the madrassah had been amazing! The environment there is so peaceful, so tranquil, plus our Quran teachers, the Muallimaat as we call them are always there to help us out. Their mission is not only to have us memorise the Quran but also that we should implement it in our lives. We have regular taaleem sessions which are truly beneficial. Occasionally, we are honoured to have special bayaans by Hadhrat Maulana Abdul Sattar Sahab DB which prove to be very enlightening.

Every so often, our Muallimaat arrange a “shar-

ing day” in which each student brings a food item and shares it with others. We consider it a fun day as we enjoy playing games with our class fellows and teachers and also get to try out a variety of delicious food!

We also have the annual programs which include the Quran Quiz, in which participants make teams and compete in a question and answer session. There are also role plays, naats, hamds and qiraat by our very talented classmates.

Overall, I can't exactly describe my feelings, but I am really thankful to Allah ﷻ for choosing me on His path, and I make dua to Him to always keep me steadfast on my journey towards light. Ameen. Also, I am very grateful to my lovely Muallimaats who have dedicated themselves in the path of Allah ﷻ to teach us the Holy Quran. May Allah ﷻ reward them abundantly. Ameen



A proud daughter of Islam

By Sanober Aziz Sheikh

Imagine you went to a party and suddenly you are rushed to an unknown place. What will you do? Ever imagined?

Saba was very happy because today she was going to a party at her friend's house.

“Mom I have packed the gift! May I go please?”

“Yes sure, she must be waiting for you. Okay, Allah Hafiz and take care.” She hugged her mom and went to Aisha's house.

Finally, she reached there. “Assalam o Aliakum!” exclaimed Saba.

“Walikum Assalam, how are you??” Both of them were coming closer to each other but suddenly firing started. Everyone started running here and there. Aisha was dead because the bullet passed right from the middle of her body. Saba ran as fast as she could. She ran and

ran until she fainted.

When she woke up she was scared, alone and tired. Where am I? She asked herself. Where are you, Mama? Baba? She placed her head on her knees and started crying. She was crying hard but no one was listening to her. There were cries, running feets, and sounds of explosions everywhere. She listened! She listened silently.

And then she heard the voices of some strange men. They were coming towards her. She quickly got up to run but one of them caught her and took her with them. They were laughing and making videos of her. She was in tears and then she bravely asked one of them. Why are you doing this with us? What's our mistake?”

He shouted, slapped her and said, “We are doing this because you are a ‘bint e Islam’, you are a follower of Islam. If you stop following it, we will leave you.”

“No, never!!! I will never leave Islam. Do whatever you want to? Wanna kill me? Sure you can. I will forever remain a proud daughter of Islam!” And then she started crying. She was crying very hard but they tortured her and posted the captured video of her on social sites. And at last, she was killed by them.

Where are the people who used to say that Muslims are terrorists? Wake up, dear Muslims! Raise your voice for your brothers. There are millions of videos on social networks which show that Buddhist are eating the meat of poor Muslim kids. They are killing our Muslim brothers. But no one is saying anything. I repeat, raise your voice for them. Pick a pen and start writing, start debating, and also keep praying for them. The whole Muslim community is with you. Don't be frightened because above all, Allah is with you

Sibling Rules

What we do...

- RESPECT
- ENCOURAGE
- HELP
- PLAY FAIRLY
- INCLUDE
- LOVE
- SHARE
- SUPPORT

What we don't do...

- HIT
- EXCLUDE
- LIE
- PUSH
- KICK
- NAME CALL
- BITE
- PINCH
- RIDICULE

Siblings love
radiance



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