

Issue 5

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Bantents

- Stories Of Inspiration
- The worms
- The Student in the Musjid
- The power of words
- Blogs & Bloggers
- Trust in Allah (S.W.T)
- Dua's & Supplications
- Dua's from the Qur'an
- Dua's for Students

- CrossWord Puzzle
- > 1 of the 99 Names + Benefit



THE WORMS

A king was once passing along his way when he saw some animal droppings. And he saw some worms in those droppings. The thought came to his mind that there is no purpose behind the creation of these worms. They are useless, with no real job.

Very soon thereafter he lost his eyesight. Being rich, he spent thousands of rands trying different treatments to restore his eyesight. All to no avail. Then it was mentioned to him that a certain pious Hakeem (natural medical practioner) was very good. The king sent for him.

The Hakeem refused to go to the king and asked that the king come to him. On examining the king, the Hakeem prescribed a powder that was to be put in the king's eyes three times a day. Gradually the king's eyesight returned until he was fully cured.

He went to the Hakeem with lavish gifts which the Hakeem refused. The king said, 'At least tell me what you used in that wonderful medicine.' The Hakeem replied that he used the worms which one finds in animal droppings. He dried them out, crushed them into powder and made the king apply that to his eyes. The king bowed his head in submission to Allah, Who created every atom with a definite purpose.

Never look down on any creation of Allah Ta'ala, for everything is there for a reason. The events that happen to us also have definite purpose. Every human is a valuable treasure who can benefit the world.

THE STUDENT IN THE MUSJID

Qari Muhammad Qayyam (may the mercy of Allah be upon him) related that a great deal of fighting and bloodshed had started prior to the Indo-Pakistan partition of 1947. He said that a very beautiful daughter of a very rich man in a certain community stepped out of her house to visit her aunt, who lived no more than a few streets away. Suddenly a riot erupted as she had gone halfway and she found herself trapped with apparently nowhere to go. She saw a Masjid nearby and quickly wentinside, sitting in the women's section. The rioting continued late into the night and this girl did not know what to do.

The custodian of the Masjid was a very young student there and late at night when he walked through the Masjid before locking up he noticed this beautiful young lady. He was a respectful young man who feared Allah and so politely asked her to leave, saying that if she was found there then both would be dishonored and thrown out. She pleaded with him because of the extreme

danger outside and so he agreed that she could spend the night, and sat down to study at the opposite end of the masjid.

The girl was unable to sleep with the events of the day in her mind and so watched the young man sitting studying by candle light at the opposite end of the masjid. She kept watching him and was very surprised at something she saw. From time to time this young man would extend his hand and keep it over the open flame, only withdrawing it when the flame obviously became unbearable. He then would resume his studies and continued this throughout the night until the dawn broke.

The young man called the Adhan and asked the girl to leave before the congregation started coming to pray since now everything was calm outside. She agreed on the condition that he tell her why he was placing his hand on the candle flame throughout the night. The young man said that that was his own business and so the girl refused toleave until he told her what she wanted to know. The young man gave in and said, "I am at the age of youth and strong desire. We were alone and my desire was

increasing, and although I was studying the Devil (Shaitan) would occasionally put temptation in my heart. Hence whenever! would feel any temptation I would put my hand on the flame and my fingers would burn. I would say to myself that this flame is nothing compared to the fire of Hell."

The girl left the Masjid and reached home, calming her parents' fears as to what had happened to her. She also confided in her mother that she wanted to marry the custodian of the Masjid near their house. She related the night's events to her parents and said that only such a man with true fear of Allah in his heart can be true to his wife. Only such a man who truly fears Allah can fulfill a wife's rights properly.

Hence the poor custodian of the Masjid earned the daughter of a rich household in marriage. He received this honor not because of his looks but because of his character. Everything disintegrates and turns to dust but character remains strong. Honor is not bestowed because of handsome clothes or beautiful jewelry but because of what is in the heart. Knowledge is only beneficial when

it is captured within the heart, and not merely written in books.

-END-

THE POWER OF WORDS

A group of frogs were travelling through the woods, and two of them fell into a deep pit.

All the other frogs gathered around the pit. When they saw how deep the pit was, they told the unfortunate frogs they would never get out. The two frogs ignored the comments and tried to jump up out of the pit.

The other frogs kept telling them to stop, that they were as good as dead. Finally, one of the frogs took heed to what the other frogs were saying and simply gave up. He fell down and died.

The other frog continued to jump as hard as he could. Once again, the crowd of frogs yelled at him to stop the pain and suffering and just die. He jumped even harder and finally made it out. When he got out, the other frogs asked him, "Why did you continue jumping. Didn't you hear us?"

The frog explained to them that he was deaf. He thought they were encouraging him the entire time.

This story holds two lessons:

- 1. There is power of life and death in the tongue. An encouraging word to someone who is down can lift them up and help them make it through the day.
- 2. A destructive word to someone who is down can be what it takes to kill them. Be careful of what you say. Speak life to those who cross your path.

The power of words... it is sometimes hard to understand that an encouraging word can go such a long way. Anyone can speak words that tend to rob another of the spirit to continue in difficult times.

Special is the individual who will take the time to encourage another.



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TRUST IN ALLAH (S.W.T)

BY: NAFISA KADER

"Allah does not burden a soul beyond that it can bear..." (Qur'an: 2:286).

Once a boy found a cocoon of a butterfly and took it home. One day a small opening appeared, he sat and watched the butterfly for several hours as it struggled to force its body through that little hole.

Then it seemed to stop making any progress. It appeared as if it had gotten as far as it could and it could go no further. The boy decided to help the butterfly, so he took a pair of scissors and snipped off the remaining bit of the cocoon. The butterfly then emerged easily.

But it had a swollen body and small, shrivelled wings. The boy continued to watch the butterfly because he expected that, at any moment, the wings would enlarge and expand to be able to

support the body, which would contract in time.

Neither happened!

In fact, the butterfly spent the rest of its life crawling around with a swollen body and shrivelled wings. It never was able to fly.

What the boy in his kindness and haste did not understand was that the restricting cocoon and the struggle required for the butterfly to get through the tiny opening were Allah Ta'ala's way of forcing fluid from the body of the butterfly into its wings so that it would be ready for flight once it achieved its freedom from the cocoon.

Sometimes struggles are exactly what we need in our life. If Allah allowed us to go through our life without any obstacles, it would sometimes cripple us. We would not be as strong as what we could have been and possibly never be able to "fly".

Sometimes we need heat and warmth to ripen fruit and

sometimes cold is needed in certain fruit to complete the ripening process.

So exactly is the same in life sometimes we may have to undergo various conditions that may appear to be unfavourable so that we "ripen" and are ready for the onward journey.

A wise person once said:

"I asked for Strength...And Allah gave me Difficulties to make me strong. I asked for Wisdom...And Allah gave me Problems to solve. I asked for Prosperity...And Allah gave me Brain and Brawn to work. I asked for Courage...And Allah gave me Danger to overcome. I asked for Love...And Allah gave me Underprivileged people to help. I asked for Favours...And Allah gave me Opportunities. I received nothing I wanted ...Yet I received everything I needed!"

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Dua's from the Qur'an

Rabbana atmim lana nurana waighfir lana innaka 'ala kulli shay-in qadir

Our Lord! Perfect our Light for us, and grant us Forgiveness: for Thou hast power over all things.[66:8]

Rabbana la taj'alna fitnatal lilladhina kafaru waghfir lana Rabbana innaka antal 'Azizul-Hakim

Our Lord! Make us not a (test and) trial for the Unbelievers, but forgive us, our Lord! for Thou art the Exalted in Might, the Wise. [60:5]

Rabbana 'alayka tawakkalna wa-ilayka anabna wa-ilaykal masir

Our Lord! In Thee do we trust, and to Thee do we turn in repentance: to Thee is (our) Final Goal [60:4]

Rabbana innaka Ra'ufur Rahim

Our Lord! Thou art indeed Full of Kindness, Most Merciful. [59:10]

Dua's for Students

IN EVERY ISSUE, THERE WILL BE 1 DUA FOR STUDENTS TO RECITE BEFORE THEY STUDY

Dua while studying something difficult:

Oh Allah! I entrust you with what I have read and I have studied. Oh Allah! Bring it back to me when I am in need of it. Oh Allah! You do whatever you wish, you are my availer and protector and the best of aid.

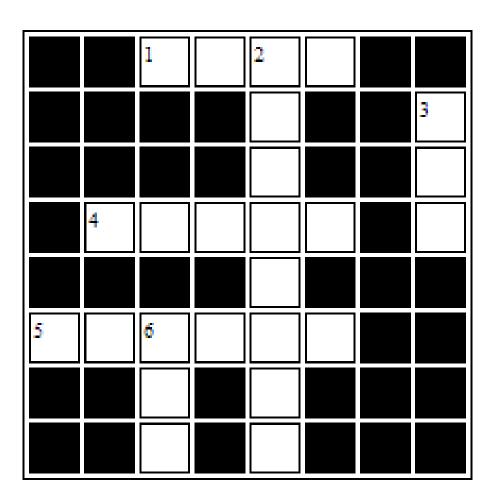
Al-Islam 24 CrossWord

Across:

- 1. The waajib Salaah after Esha Salaah
- 4. The Holy book sent to the Prophet (S.A.W)
- 5. A fruit from Jannah

Down:

- 2. The extra 20 Rakah Salaah prayed only in Ramadaan
- 3. Nephew of the Prophet(S.A.W)
- 6. The Prophet that spoke as a baby to defend the honour of his mother



Answers to CrossWord in Issue 4:

1. Hajj 2. Madinah 3. Adam 4. Injeel 5. Makkah 6. Al Aqsa 7. Zabur



Whoever recites this name of Allah abundantly, Allah will cure all of their spiritual sicknesses.





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