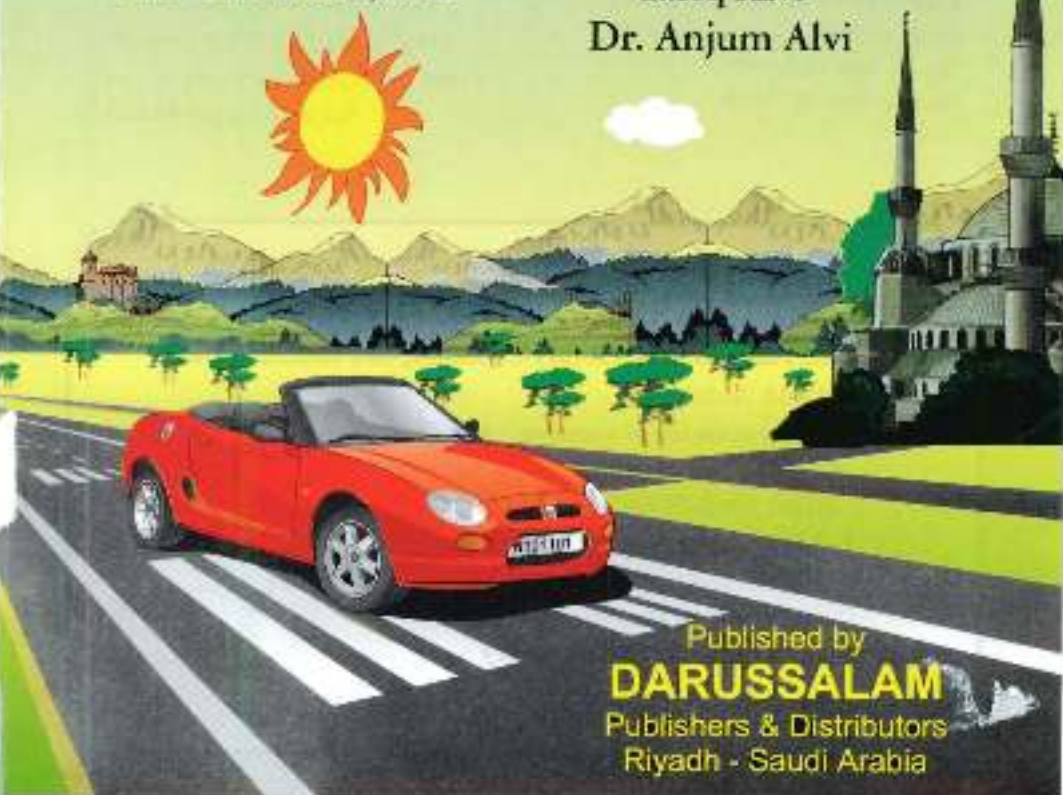


يوم من حياة الطفل المسلم

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A MUSLIM CHILD

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رَبِّ يَسِّرْ وَلَا تُعَسِّرْ وَتَمِّمْ بِالْخَيْرِ

“O my Lord, make easy for me and do not make hard,
and finish (it) with goodness and excellence.”



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

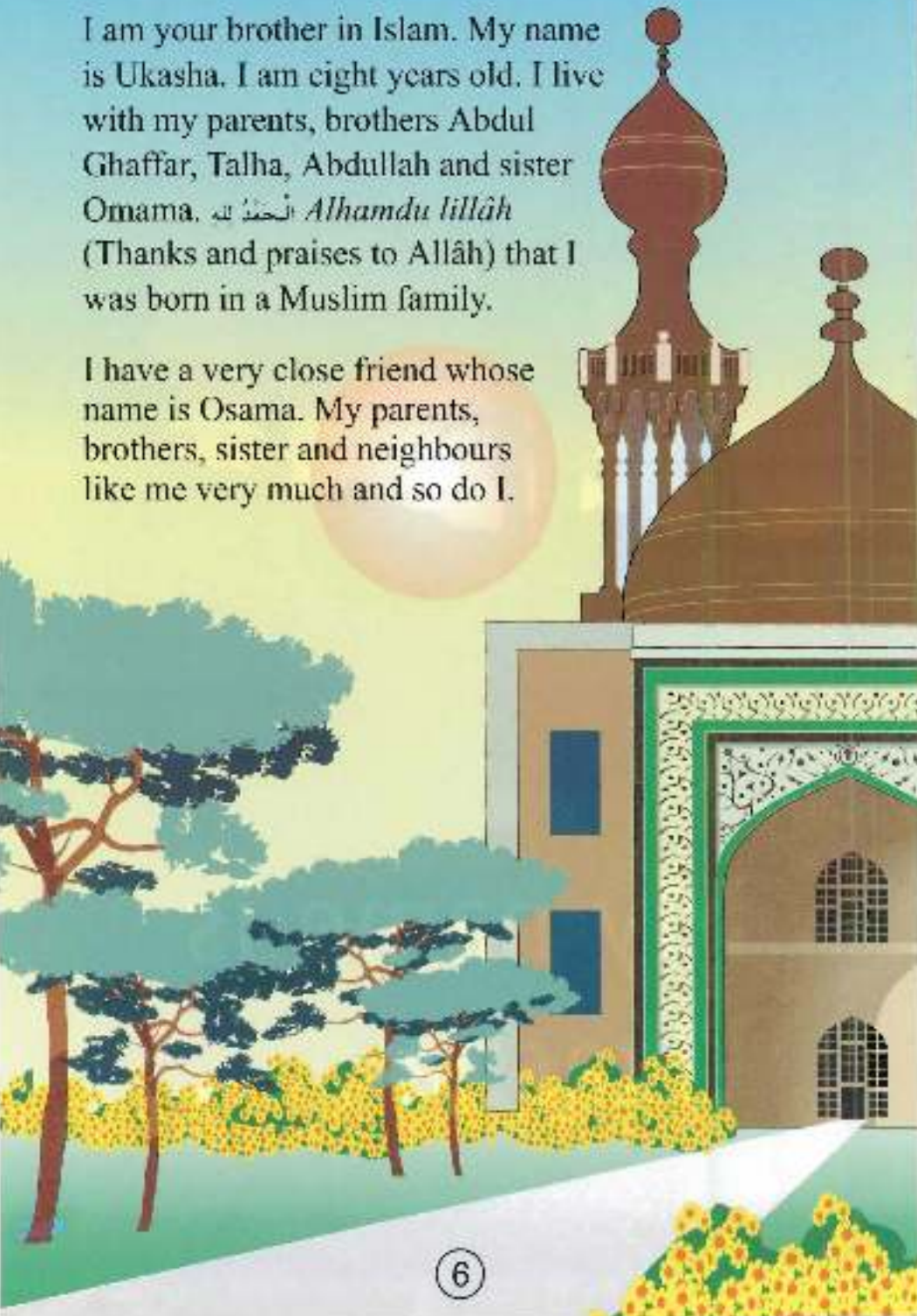
In the Name of Allah,
the Most Gracious,
the Most Merciful



**My name is
Ukasha . . .**

I am your brother in Islam. My name is Ukasha. I am eight years old. I live with my parents, brothers Abdul Ghaffar, Talha, Abdullah and sister Omama. *الحمد لله* *Alhamdu lillâh* (Thanks and praises to Allâh) that I was born in a Muslim family.

I have a very close friend whose name is Osama. My parents, brothers, sister and neighbours like me very much and so do I.



I go to bed early in order to get up early for the *Fajr* (dawn) prayer. It is also a *Sunnah* of Prophet Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم to sleep early after 'Isha (night) prayer. My mother wakes me up for *Fajr* prayer . When I wake up I say my morning supplication:

«الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الَّذِي أَحْيَانَا بَعْدَ مَا أَمَاتَنَا،
وَإِلَيْهِ النُّشُورُ» .

*Alhamdu lillâhilladhi ahyana
ba'da ma amatana wa ilaihinrushûr.*



[Thanks and praises to Allâh who brought us to life after having given us death and to Him we shall have to return]. Then I make my bed tidy. I take my *Siwaak* (a toothbrush made of the root of Araak tree) and go to the bath room. While entering the bathroom, I make sure to put my left foot in first and say the supplication like this:



«اللَّهُمَّ! إِنِّي أَعُوذُ بِكَ مِنَ الْخُبْثِ وَالْخَبَائِثِ».

*Allâhumma inni a'oodhu bika minal khubthi
wal khaba'ith.*

[O Allah! I seek refuge with You
from the bad and evil things].

After urinating, I wash my private parts
thoroughly with my left hand because cleanliness
is very important in Islam.

After washing my hands with soap and
water I come out and put my right foot
out first and say the following
supplication:

«عُفْرَانِكَ، اَلْحَمْدُ لِلّٰهِ الَّذِي اَذْهَبَ عَنِّي
الْأَذَى وَعَافَانِي».

*Ghufrânaka. Alhamdu lillâhilladhi adhhaba
anniladha wa'afâni.*

[I ask for Your forgiveness. Thanks
and praises to Allâh Who removed
from me the suffering and gave me
relief].

We have got a back house and a courtyard. So I prefer to perform *Wudu* (ablution) in the courtyard. First of all I clean my teeth with *Siwaak* because it is very good for teeth and I think in my mind the benefits of *Siwaak*:

- (1) I am obeying Allâh and His Prophet
صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم.
- (2) It keeps the mouth clean as Allâh's
Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم said:

«السَّوَّاکُ مَطْهَرَةٌ لِلْفَمِ، مَرْضَاءٌ لِلرَّبِّ».

[*Miswâk* is an instrument for cleaning the mouth and seeking the pleasure of the *Rabb*(Allâh)].

- (3) It keeps the stomach clean.
- (4) It keeps the voice clear.
- (5) It helps in digestion.
- (6) It makes us active and alert while
Offering prayers, and during recitation
of Qur'ân and supplication.
- (7) It kills the germs in the mouth.

It was the Prophet's habit to put the *Siwaak* near him while going to bed and on waking up he used to start his *Wudu* with *Siwaak*.

Now I make intention in my heart to attain *Tahaarah* (purity) for offering prayer. Then I pronounce aloud **بسم الله** *Bismillâh* (In the Name of Allâh).



I start *Wudu* from the right side as the Messenger of Allâh صلى الله عليه وسلم, loved to start every act from right side especially wearing shoes, combing hairs and making *Wudu*.

I wash my hands three times, then I rinse my mouth three times with right hand. I rinse my nose three times with left hand.



Then I wash my face three times. Then I wash my forearms up to elbows three times. After that I wipe my head with water once. I insert my index fingers in my ear holes, then wipe the back of my ears with thumb and front of my ears with index fingers. Now in the end I wash my feet and rub my toes with little fingers to make sure that water reaches between them. During this whole process I make sure not to waste any water. There is a saying of the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم that even if you are standing on the banks of the river, do not waste any water. After completing the *Wudu*, I say:

«أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ
مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ» .

*Ash-hadu alla ilaha illallâh wa ash-hadu
anna Muhammadan abduhu wa rasuluhu.*

[I bear witness that there is no deity
but Allâh and I bear witness that
Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم is His slave
and His Messenger].





... I go for
Fajr prayer

Now I go for *Fajr* prayer with my father. I pick my shoes from the shoe rack at the entrance of my house. I shake them, in case some insects have gone inside at night. I always put on my right shoe first and then the left. When we leave the house we supplicate like this:

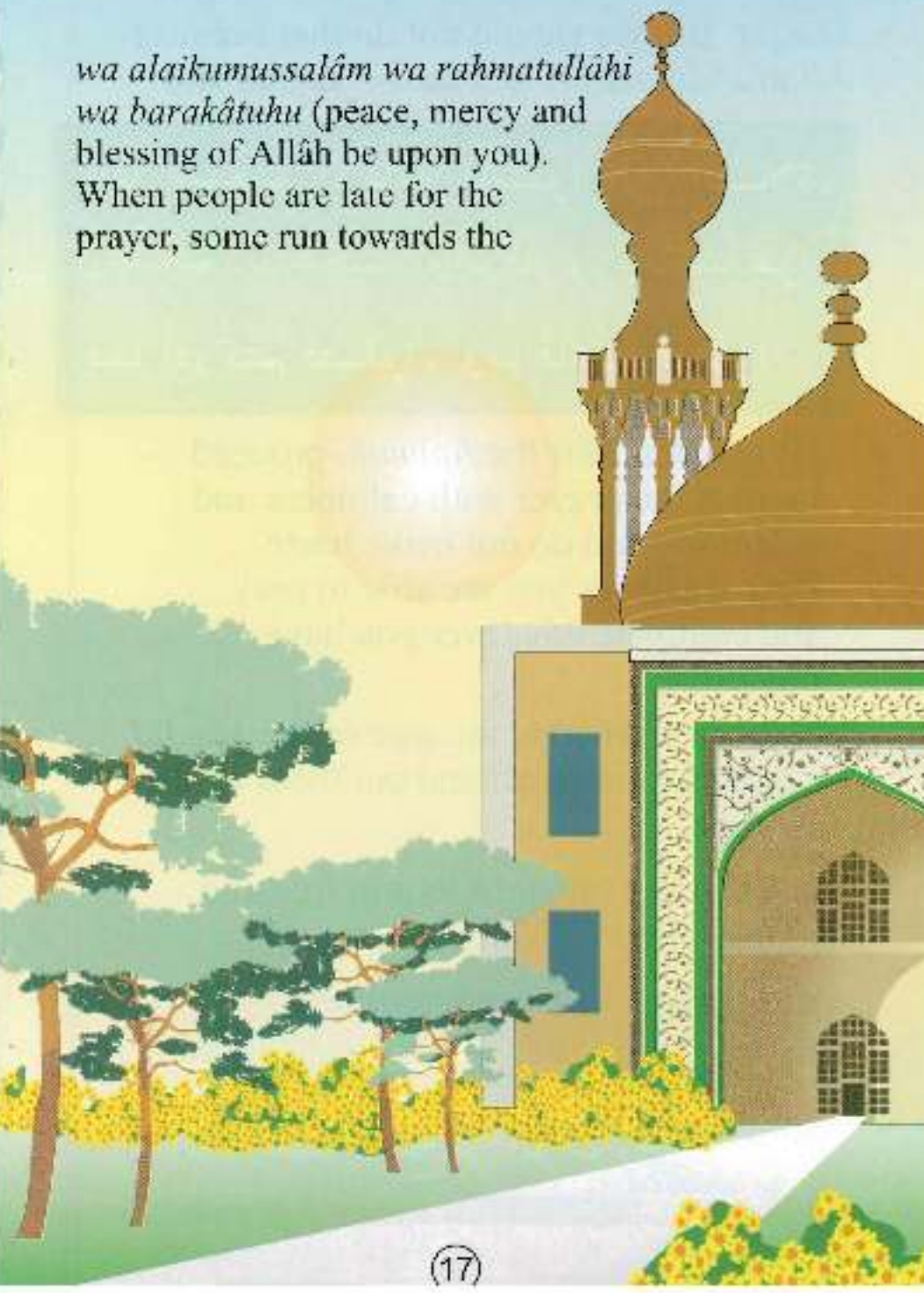
«بِسْمِ اللَّهِ تَوَكَّلْتُ عَلَى اللَّهِ، وَلَا حَوْلَ وَلَا قُوَّةَ إِلَّا بِاللَّهِ».

*Bismillâhi tawakkaltu alallâh
wa la haula wa la quwwata illah billâh.*
[In the Name of Allâh. I put my trust
in Allah and there is no strength nor
power except with Allâh].

We see many people from our
neighbourhood going to *Masjid* as well.
We say *السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكُمْ* *Assalamu alaikum* (peace
be upon you), and they return:

«وَعَلَيْكُمْ السَّلَامُ وَرَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ وَبَرَكَاتُهُ».

*wa alaikumussalâm wa rahmatullâhi
wa barakâtuhu* (peace, mercy and
blessing of Allâh be upon you).
When people are late for the
prayer, some run towards the



Masjid. But we should not do that because Allâh's Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم has said:

«إِذَا سَمِعْتُمُ الْإِقَامَةَ فَأَمُّشُوا إِلَى الصَّلَاةِ، وَعَلَيْكُمْ بِالسَّكِينَةِ وَالْوَقَارِ، وَلَا تُسْرِعُوا، فَمَا أَذْرَكْتُمْ فَصَلُّوا، وَمَا فَاتَكُمُ فَاتِمُّوا».

[When you hear the *Iqâmah*, proceed to offer the prayer with calmness and solemnity and do not make haste. Pray whatever you are able to pray and complete whatever you have missed].

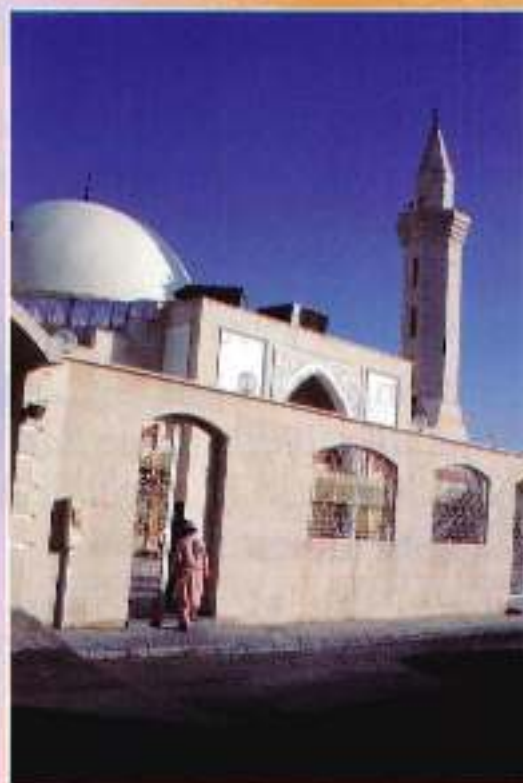
When we reached at the gate of the *Masjid* we took our shoes off and put them on the shoe rack.

My father put his right foot in first and said the following supplication:

«بِسْمِ اللَّهِ، وَالصَّلَاةِ وَالسَّلَامِ عَلَى رَسُولِ اللَّهِ، اللَّهُمَّ! افْتَحْ لِي أَبْوَابَ رَحْمَتِكَ».

*Bismillâhi wassalatu wassalamu ala
rasulillâh. Allâhummaftahli abwaba
rahmatik.*

[In the Name of Allâh and peace and
blessing be upon the Messenger of
Allâh. O Allâh! open for me the
doors of Your mercy].



I also did the same and we entered the *Masjid*. First we offered two *Rak'ah* (unit) *Sunnah* prayer of *Fajr* and then we sat down. While sitting, I raised my hands and started to supplicate because at this time the supplications are answered. Allâh's Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم said:

«لَا يَرُدُّ الدُّعَاءُ بَيْنَ الْأَذَانِ وَالْإِقَامَةِ».

[The supplication between the *Adhân* and *Iqâmah* will not be turned down (by Allâh)].

Some of the children were playing in the *Masjid* and making noise but الحمد لله I do not behave like this. *Imâm* came and *Iqâmah* was called, then he ordered the people to straighten their rows as straightening of rows is part of the preparation for the congregational prayer.

Imâm said اللهُ أَكْبَرُ *Allâhu Akbar* (Allâh is the Greatest), and we also said the same

and we were in the state of prayer. When *Imâm* completed the prayer by saying *Assalmu alaikum warahmatullâh* السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكُمْ (peace and mercy of Allâh be on you), I started supplicating like this:

اَسْتَغْفِرُ اللهَ، اَسْتَغْفِرُ اللهَ، اَسْتَغْفِرُ اللهَ.
اللَّهُمَّ! أَنْتَ السَّلَامُ وَمِنْكَ السَّلَامُ،
تَبَارَكْتَ يَا ذَا الْجَلَالِ وَالْإِكْرَامِ.

*Astaghfirullâh, Astaghfirullah,
Astaghfirullah. Allâhumma
antassalam waminkassalam
tabarakta ya dhaljalali wal ikram.*

[O Allâh! forgive me. O Allâh!
forgive me. O Allâh! forgive me. O
Allâh! You are the source of peace
and from You comes peace. Exalted
You are, O Lord of majesty and
honour].

«لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ، لَهُ
 الْمُلْكُ وَلَهُ الْحَمْدُ، وَهُوَ عَلَى كُلِّ شَيْءٍ
 قَدِيرٌ. اللَّهُمَّ! لَا مَانِعَ لِمَا أَعْطَيْتَ، وَلَا
 مُعْطِيَ لِمَا مَنَعْتَ، وَلَا يَنْفَعُ ذَا الْجَدِّ مِنْكَ
 الْجَدُّ».

*La ilaha illallâh. Wahdahu la
 shareeka lah. Lahul mulku wa lahum
 hamd. Wa Huwa ala kulli shay'in
 Qadeer. Allâhumma la mani'a lima
 a'taita wa la mu'tiya lima mana'ta
 wa la yanfa'u dhaljaddi minkaljadd.*

[There is no deity but Allâh! He is
 Alone. He has no partner. His is the
 sovereignty and His is the praise.
 And He is Omnipotent. O Allâh! no
 one can stop You from giving and no
 one can give which You stop and no
 one can benefit from his wealth when
 You punish].

After that I glorified Allâh by saying سُبْحَانَ اللَّهِ

Subhânallâh 33 times, اَلْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ *Alhamdu*

lillâh 33 times, اَللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ *Allâhu Akbar* 33

times and:

«لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ، وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ، لَهُ الْمُلْكُ
وَلَهُ الْحَمْدُ، وَهُوَ عَلَى كُلِّ شَيْءٍ قَدِيرٌ» .

La ilaha illallâh wahdahu

la shareeka lahu lahumulku wa lahu

hamdu wa Huwa ala kulli shay'in Qadeer.

[There is no deity but Allâh. He is Alone.
He has no partner. His is the sovereignty
and His is the praise. And He is
Omnipotent].

Then I recited آية الكرسي . I saw my father and
when he finished supplication, I joined him at
the gate of *Masjid*. I put my left foot out first
and supplicated like this:

«بِسْمِ اللَّهِ، وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَى رَسُولِ اللَّهِ،
اللَّهُمَّ! إِنِّي أَسْأَلُكَ مِنْ فَضْلِكَ» .

*Bismillâhi wassalamu ala
rasulillâh. Allâhumma inni as-
aluka min fadlik.*

[In the Name of Allâh. And peace be
upon the Messenger of Allâh. O
Allâh! I ask you from Your favours].



... for home after prayer



We left for home after prayer. My father likes morning walk. This is very pleasant time before sunrise. We feel the coolness and freshness of the morning breeze. At this time light exercise is very good for health and one feels fresh after the exercise. The birds chirp on the trees as if they are also glorifying the Creator. I told my father that weather was very beautiful due to the fresh wind. The Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم used to say the following supplication in the morning, so do I:

«اللَّهُمَّ! بِكَ أَصْبَحْنَا، وَبِكَ أَمْسَيْنَا، وَبِكَ نَحْيَا، وَبِكَ نَمُوتُ، وَإِلَيْكَ النُّشُورُ».

Allâhumma bika asbahna, wa bika amsaina, wa bika nahya, wa bika namootu, wa ilaikan-nushoor.

[O Allâh! we got up in the morning with Your blessing and we finish the day with Your help and by Your Name we live and by Your Name we die and unto You we will return].

When we came home, we supplicated like this on entering the house:

«بِسْمِ اللَّهِ وَلَجْنَا، وَبِسْمِ اللَّهِ خَرَجْنَا،
وَعَلَى اللَّهِ رَبِّنَا تَوَكَّلْنَا».

*Bismillâhi wa lajna, wa bismillâhi
kharajna, wa 'alallâhi rabbina tawakkalna.*

[By the Name of Allâh we enter and
by the Name of Allâh we step out,
and we put our trust in Allâh, our Lord]

We greeted my mother and others:

«السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكُمْ وَرَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ وَبَرَكَاتُهُ».

*Assalâmu 'alaikum wa rahmatullâhi
wa brakâtuhu.*

And they replied:

«وَعَلَيْكُمْ السَّلَامُ وَرَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ وَبَرَكَاتُهُ».

*Wa alaikumussalam wa rahmatullâhi
wa barakatuhu.*

My mother and sister were reciting
Qur'ân and my younger brother was
reading a primer.

I and my sister have memorized many
chapters of the Qur'ân. It is very rewarding
to recite Qur'ân at this time of the morning.
Our father tells us stories of Prophets from
Qur'ân. He also advises us to recite
Qur'ân, a guidance for mankind.



It leads us out of darkness to the light and shows us the Straight Path towards Paradise. If we start practicing according to Qur'ân, it will keep us away from Hell. We all turn our faces towards *Qiblah* قِبْلَة (Makkah) and recite Qur'ân wholeheartedly with good voice because Allah's Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم has said :

«زَيِّنُوا الْقُرْآنَ بِأَصْوَاتِكُمْ».

[Grace the Qur'ân with your voice].

We should always do *Wudu* before reciting the Qur'ân, and say :

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ.

*A'oodhu billâhi
minash-shaitânir-rajeem.*

[I seek refuge with Allâh from the Satan, the cursed].

After finishing the recitation of Qur'ân, our mother goes in the kitchen and prepares breakfast for us and calls us for breakfast. We put the Qur'ân in the bookshelf, wash our hands and then go for the breakfast in the kitchen. Our kitchen is quite big, so we usually eat in the kitchen. But when we have guests we go to the dining room. We all sat on our chairs to have our breakfast.

I noticed that there was fresh fruit on the table which my father bought at night from the fruit market. Among the fruits, water-melon was looking juicy and nice because of its red colour. I told my mother:

«مَا شَاءَ اللَّهُ، لَا قُوَّةَ إِلَّا بِاللَّهِ» .

Ma shâ' Allâh. La quwwata illa billâh.

[That which Allâh wills. There is no power except with Allâh]



What a nice melon it is! My mother cut a piece of water-melon and gave it to me. I started to eat it then suddenly I realized that I forgot to say *Bismillâh* بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ. My father noticed that I was little upset then I told him that I forgot to say *Bismillâh* بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ. He told me that our Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم has given guidance on all aspects of life. He taught us that if somebody forgets to say *Bismillâh* بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ before starting the meal, he should say



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ أَوَّلُهُ وَآخِرُهُ *Bismillâhi awwalahu wa âkhirahu*. [I start in the Name of Allâh at the beginning and at the end].

I was grateful to my father and I thanked him like this: جَزَاكَ اللَّهُ خَيْرًا *Jazâkallâhu khairan* [May Allâh give you a better reward].

Then I asked about more manners of eating. My father said: Eat with your right hand, and from what is in front of you.

My father finished his breakfast quickly and supplicated like this:

«الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الَّذِي أَطْعَمَنِي هَذَا الطَّعَامَ
وَرَزَقَنِيهِ، مِنْ غَيْرِ حَوْلٍ مِنِّي وَلَا قُوَّةٍ».

*Alhamdu lillâhilladhi at'amani
hadhatta 'âma wa razaqanihi, min
ghairi haulim-minni wa la quwwatin.*

[Thanks and praises to Allâh Who fed me this food and gave it to me without my strength and power].

After finishing the breakfast I also recited the same supplication and then washed my hands and came to my room. I had already put my books and notebooks in the bag last night.



It was an important day for me because that day we were going to get our test results and later on we had to go for picnic. We were planning to have lunch outside after playing games. We were supposed to come back at 4 p.m.

My father called me: "Ukasha hurry up! Otherwise you will be late for the school." Then I took my bag, put on my shoes, greeted my mother and said my supplication while leaving the house:

«بِسْمِ اللَّهِ تَوَكَّلْتُ عَلَى اللَّهِ وَلَا حَوْلَ وَلَا قُوَّةَ إِلَّا بِاللَّهِ».

Bismillâhi tawakkaltu 'alallâhi wa la haula wa la quwwata illa billâh.

[In the Name of Allâh. I put my trust in Allâh and there is no strength nor power except with Allâh].

When I sat in the car, I greeted my father and said the supplication for the journey.

«بِسْمِ اللَّهِ، أَلْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ. ﴿سُبْحَانَ الَّذِي
 سَخَّرَ لَنَا هَذَا وَمَا كُنَّا لَهُ مُقْرِنِينَ، وَإِنَّا إِلَى
 رَبِّنَا لَمُنْقَلِبُونَ﴾»

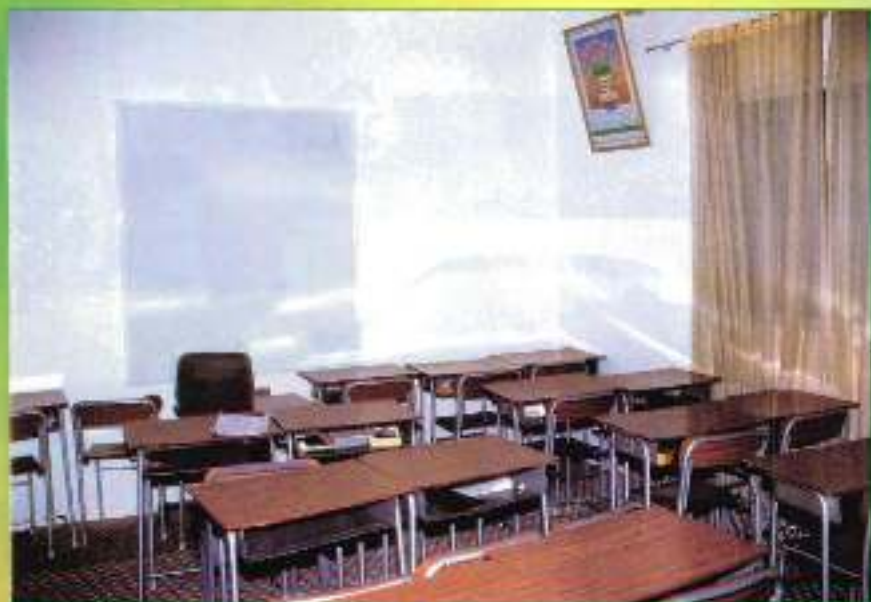
*Bismillâh. Alhamdu lillâh.
 Subhânalladhi sakhkhara lana hadha
 wama kunna lahu muqrineen.
 Wa inna ila rabbina lamunqaliboon.*

[In the Name of Allâh. Thanks and
 praises to Allâh. Glory to Him Who
 has subjected these to our (use), for
 we could never have accomplished
 this (by ourselves). And to our Lord,
 surely must we turn back].

My father started the car and we were on
 our way to the school; and after dropping
 me at the school he had to go to his office.
 We reached school early. My class fellows
 were waiting for me at the gate of the
 school. I could also see Osama talking
 with his friends. I said *السلام عليكم Assalamu*



Alaikum (peace be upon you) to everybody. Everyone was talking about the picnic and they were all very excited. School bell rang and we went to the classroom. Soon our teacher Muhammad Amin entered the class. He is our Math teacher as well. He is very kind to us and always makes sure that we know all the sums well. We all respect him very much and he also likes us very much.



I have not got many friends; but Osama, Hanif and Omar are my best friends. They do not waste their time talking in the class. I have never seen them fighting or abusing. They are always very kind; they attend school regularly and are never late. I know that they also memorize the Qur'ân and offer five times prayers regularly. They live very near to my place.



Class teacher Muhammad Amin took the attendance and told us that the result of the previous day's test would be announced shortly. There was a silence in the class and everyone was anxious to know the result. I was thinking that how conscious we were for this result but we are not worried about the result at the Day of Judgement.

If we are conscious and work now then *In Shâ' Allâh* the final result at the Day of Judgement will also be very rewarding: i.e., *Jannah* (Paradise).

In the meantime our teacher announced the test results and told us not to worry because all of us had obtained good marks except a very few. Thank Allâh that I obtained 95% marks. I thanked Allâh by

«الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الَّذِي بِنِعْمَتِهِ تَتِمُّ الصَّالِحَاتُ».



*Alhamdu lillâhilladhi bini'matihi
tatimmussâlihât.*

[Thanks and praises to Allâh through
Whose blessings good things are
accomplished].

All my friends secured good marks. We all thanked Allâh and congratulated one another. When I left home, it was little cloudy but now when I looked outside through the window, I saw dark clouds with lightning. All of a sudden there was more lightning followed by thunder. Our teacher asked us who remembered the supplication offered by our Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم on such occasion. Osama raised his hand and the teacher asked him to recite.



Osama :

«اللَّهُمَّ! لَا تَقْتُلْنَا بِغَضَبِكَ، وَلَا تُهْلِكْنَا
بِعَذَابِكَ، وَعَافِنَا قَبْلَ ذَلِكَ» .

*Allâhumma la taqtulna bighadabika,
wa la tuhlikna bi'adhâbika, wa 'aafina
qabla dhalik.*

[O Allâh! do not kill us through Your
wrath and do not destroy us through Your
punishment, but grant us safety before
this (happens)].

Teacher :

«جَزَاكَ اللَّهُ خَيْرًا» .

Jazâkallâhu khairan

[May Allâh give you better reward].

O Osama, you have recited the same
supplication which is in the Traditions
(*Sunnah*) of the Prophet ﷺ .

Now it was raining heavily and all the
students were thinking whether it was

possible to go for picnic or not. Our teacher asked us to be attentive and told us that the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم used to recite special supplication when it was raining heavily.

«اللَّهُمَّ! صَيِّبًا نَافِعًا» .

Allahumma sayyiban nafi'an.

[O Allâh! make it a beneficial rain].

All the students were repeating this supplication in order to memorize it by heart and were praying for the rain to stop. After a little while heavy rain turned into drizzle and then it stopped. We thanked Allâh for this as the weather now became pleasant and ideal for picnic.

It was planned that we would go in two buses to the park about sixty kilometers away from our school. We were given green signal to get ready for the trip. After a little while buses reached the school and all the students boarded on the buses. Just



before we moved our class monitor Abdullah announced that Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم used to say this supplication before journey and he recited it in a good voice:

«اللهُ أَكْبَرُ، اللهُ أَكْبَرُ. ﴿سُبْحَنَ الَّذِي سَخَّرَ
لَنَا هَذَا وَمَا كُنَّا لَهُ مُقْرِنِينَ، وَإِنَّا إِلَى رَبِّنَا
لَمُنْقَلِبُونَ﴾. اللَّهُمَّ! إِنَّا نَسْأَلُكَ فِي سَفَرِنَا
هَذَا الْبِرَّ وَالتَّقْوَى، وَمِنَ الْعَمَلِ مَا تَرْضَى،
اللَّهُمَّ! هَوِّنْ عَلَيْنَا سَفَرَنَا هَذَا وَاطْوِ عَنَّا
بُعْدَهُ».

Allâhu Akbar. Allâhu Akbar.

*Subhanalladhi sakhkhara lana hadha
wa ma kunna lahu muqrineen.*

Wa inna ila rabbina lamunqaliboon.

*Allâhumma inna nas-aluka fi safarina
hadha albirra wattaqwa wa minal amali ma
tarda. Allâhumma hawwin alaina safarana
hadha watwi 'anna bu'dahu.*

[Allâh is the Greatest.

Allâh is the Greatest.

Glory to Him Who has subjected these to our (use), for we could never have accomplished this (by ourselves).

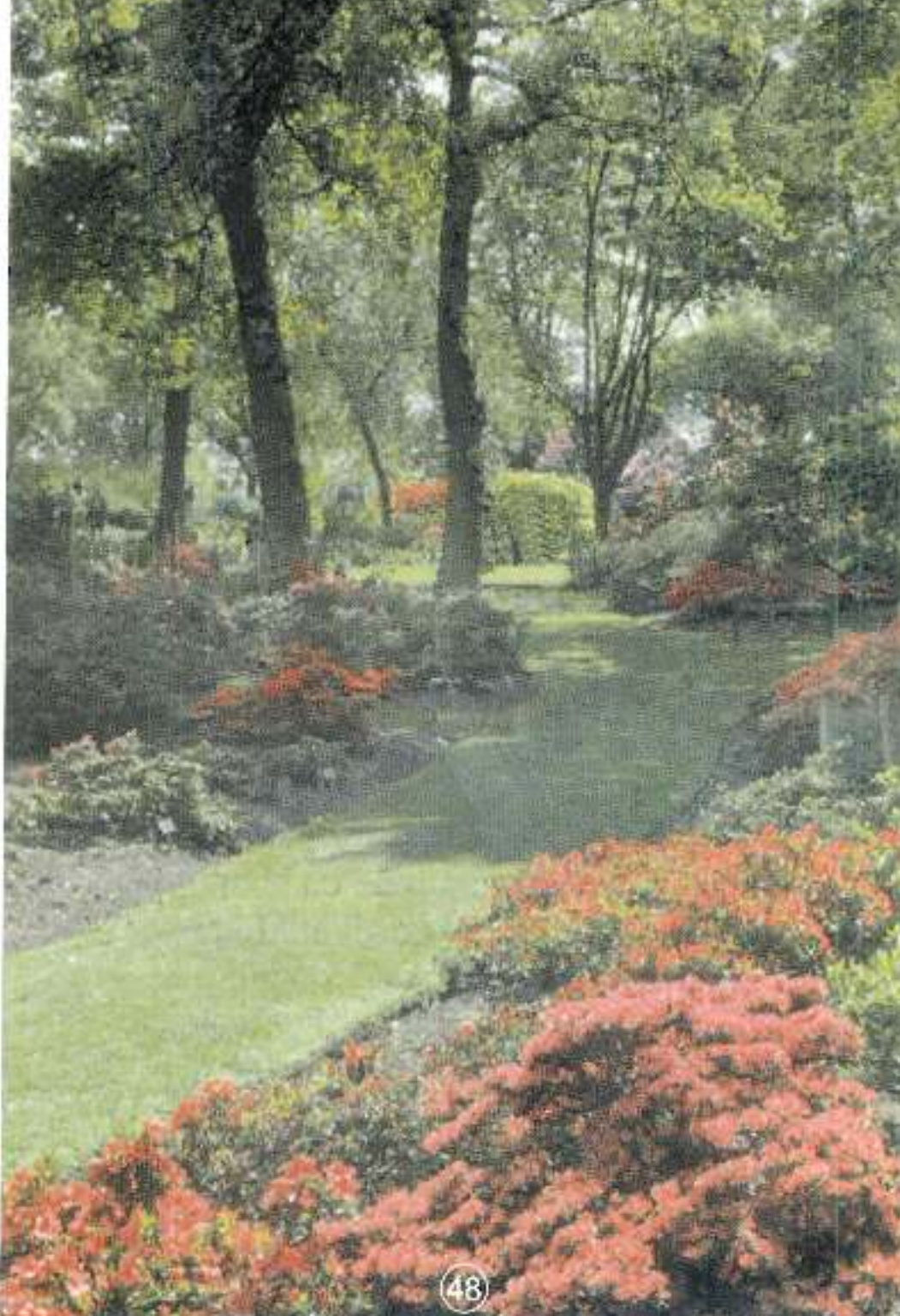
And to our Lord, surely must we turn back. O Allâh! we ask of You, during this journey, virtue, piety and actions that please You.

O Allâh! make easy for us this journey and lessen for us its distance].

All the students said "*Jazâkallâhu khairan*, O Abdullah" and promised to learn this supplication by heart.

Weather was very nice as sun was shining and there was cool breeze.

In the centre of the park there was a small stream, and trees were on both sides. There was also a small hill full of grass and flowers. On the foothill there was a beautiful tent nicely decorated. This park was the property of a city businessman who gave permission to the students for a day out. On the other



side of the hill there was an open space with small sand dunes.

When we got down from the bus along with our class teacher Muhammad Amin, we sat down on the grass and our teacher reminded us that when we come to a place where there is no population, we can recite a supplication which was recommended by Prophet ﷺ. If we recite it, Allâh will keep us safe from any harm. The supplication was:

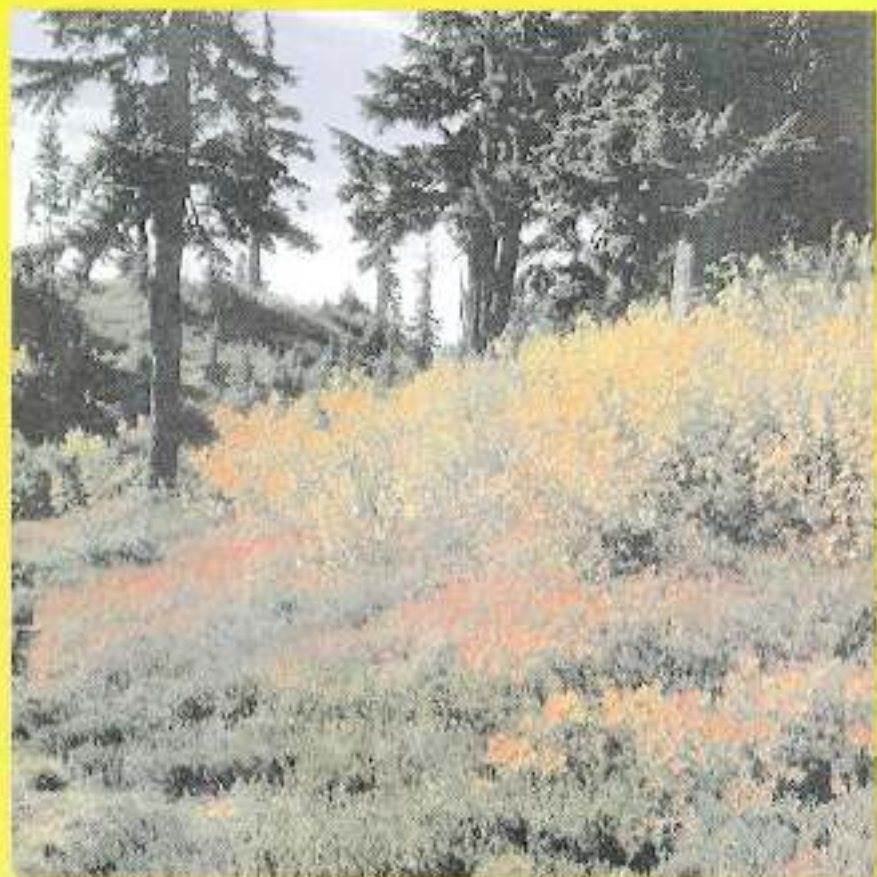


A'oodhu bikalimatillâhittammati min sharri ma khalaq.

[I seek refuge with the perfect words of Allâh from any evil creature].

All the students repeated this supplication and thanked the teacher for giving them the opportunity to remember Allâh.

The program was full of entertainment:



we enjoyed ourselves with ball games, boating in the canal and sightseeing. We had our meals and then we offered *ظهري Zuhr* (noon) prayer in congregation. After sometime we packed up to leave for home. When I was sitting in the bus I realized that my friend Osama was not in our bus. My friends told me that he took



the other bus. I got little upset but then I remembered that it was Allâh's Will, and Islam taught us to say these words:

«قَدَّرَ اللهُ وَمَا شَاءَ فَعَلَ».

Qaddarallâhu wa ma shâ'fa'ala.

[It is preordained by Allâh. And He did what He willed].

We reached home and greeted our parents with *السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكُمْ Assalamu 'Alaikum* and told the whole story of the trip. It was nearly 'Asr (afternoon) prayer time, so I went to the *Masjid* to offer the prayer.

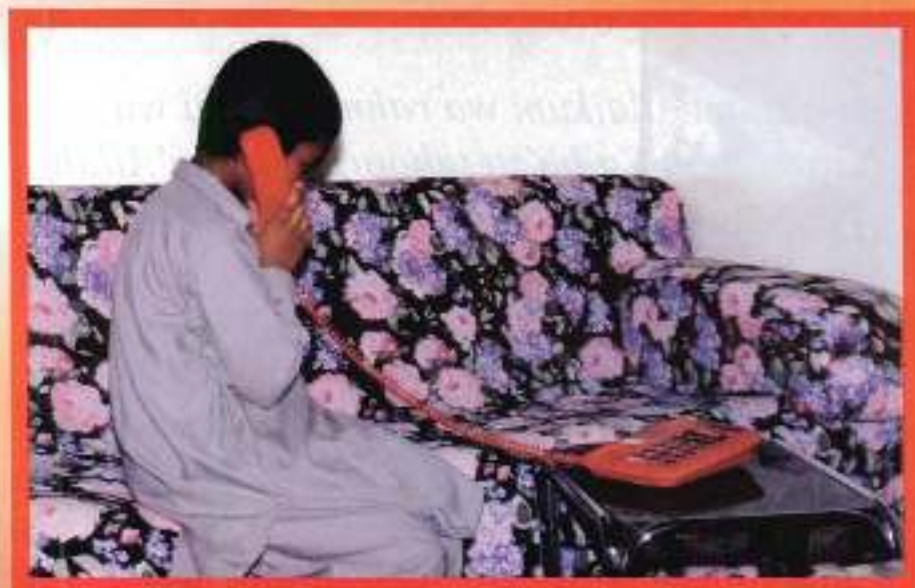
In my absence there was a phone call which was attended by my mother. Osama had an accident; while he was getting down from the bus he slipped. Thank Allāh his injury was not serious but he would have to spend two days in the hospital. He is very dear to me so I took permission from my mother and went to the hospital to visit him.

I inquired at the accident department about Osama. He was in room number 260 and it was on the second floor. So I used the lift to reach there. I knocked at the door and his father asked me to go in. I went in and greeted everybody with *السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكُمْ Assalamu Alaikum*. Osama was sleeping and covering himself with bedsheet. So I asked his father about his

injuries. He told me that **الحَمْدُ لله** *Alhamdu lillāh* Osama had only minor injuries and there was nothing to worry about.

I moved near to his bed and, according to the Prophet's **صلى الله عليه وسلم** saying, I said seven times this supplication:

«أَسْأَلُ اللهَ الْعَظِيمَ رَبَّ الْعَرْشِ الْعَظِيمِ أَنْ
يَشْفِيكَ»



*As'alullâhal 'azeem rabbal 'arshil
'azeem an yashfiyak.*

[I beg Allâh, the Great, the Lord of the
Great Throne, to grant you cure].

Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم said that this
supplication would help the patient to
recover unless it is time of death. After a
little while Osama woke up and when he
looked at me his face was beaming with
happiness. I greeted him by saying:

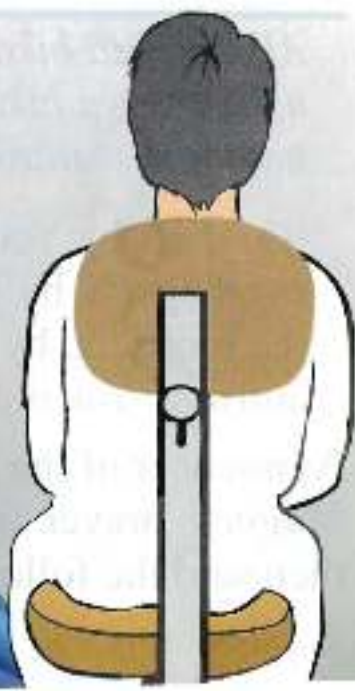
«السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكُمْ وَرَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ وَبَرَكَاتُهُ.
لَا بَأْسَ، طَهُورٌ إِنْ شَاءَ اللَّهُ».

*As-salâmu alaikum wa rahmatullâhi wa
barakâtuhu-La ba'sa tahooran in shâ' Allâh.*

[Peace be upon you and mercy of Allâh and
His blessings. No need to worry. It (this
sickness) is a means of cleaning (from sins),
Allâh willing].

Osama replied by saying عليكم السلام ورحمة الله وبركاته
and asked me to sit down.

I asked him how he was feeling then. He



said: الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ عَلَى كُلِّ حَالٍ *Alhamdu lillâh 'ala kulli hâl* [Thanks and praises to Allâh under all circumstances]. I stayed with him for a little while and then asked for his permission to leave as it is improper to stay too long with the patient because he needs rest.

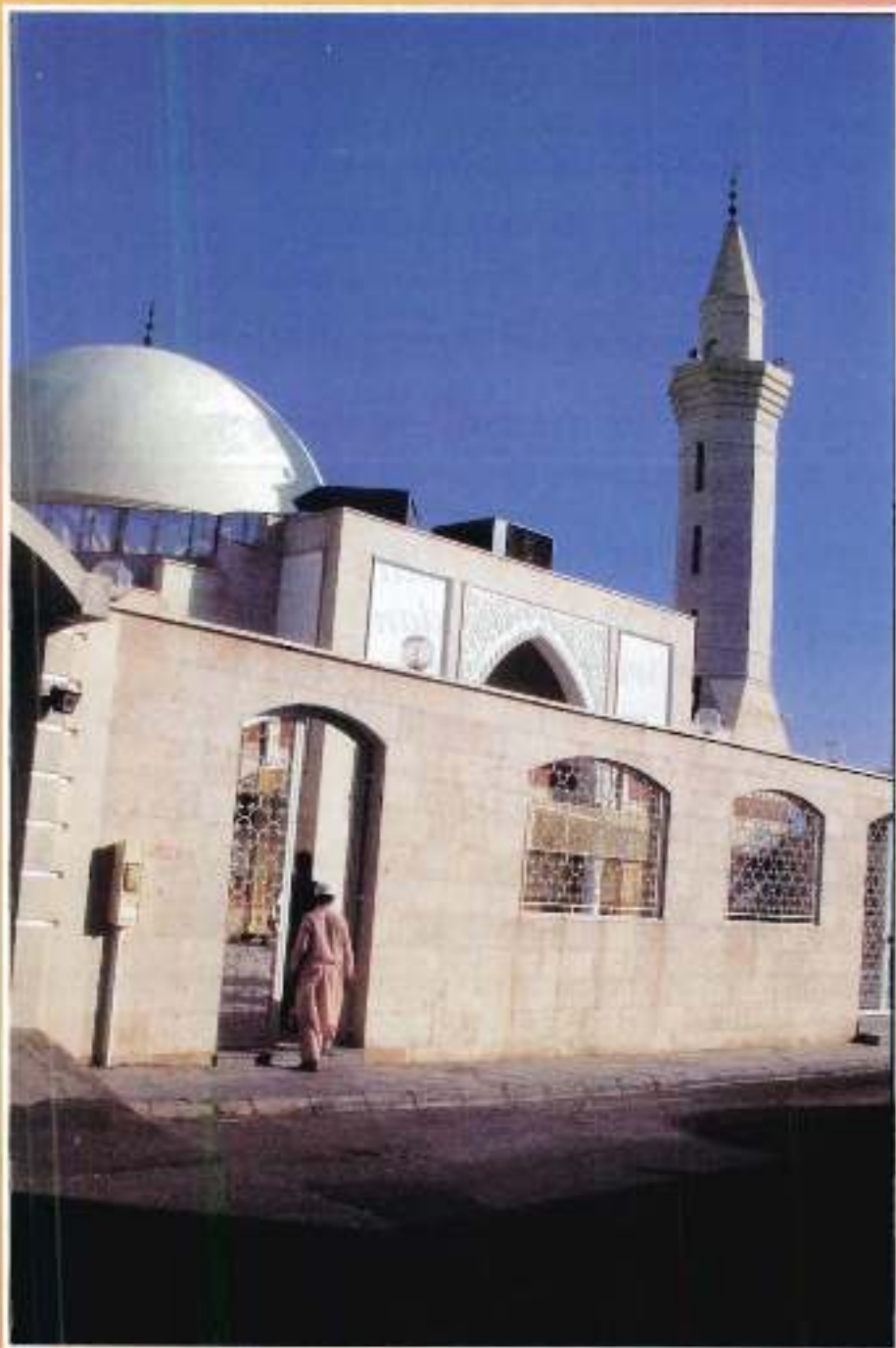
It was nearly مغرب *Maghrib* (evening) prayer time when I reached home back. I opened the window of my room and said:

«اللَّهُمَّ! بِكَ أَمْسَيْنَا وَبِكَ أَصْبَحْنَا، وَبِكَ
نَحْيَا وَبِكَ نَمُوتُ، وَإِلَيْكَ الْمَصِيرُ».

*Allâhumma bika amsaina wa bika
ashbahna wa bika nahya wa bika
namootu wailaikal maseer.*

[O Allâh, by Your leave we have reached the evening and by Your leave we have reached the morning, by Your leave we live and die and unto You is our return].

Announcer of the prayer called for the *Maghrib* prayer and I repeated after him and then said the following supplication:



«اللَّهُمَّ! رَبِّ هَذِهِ الدَّعْوَةُ التَّامَّةُ وَالصَّلَاةُ
الْقَائِمَةُ، آتِ مُحَمَّدًا الْوَسِيلَةَ وَالْفَضِيلَةَ،
وَأَبْعَثْهُ مَقَامًا مَحْمُودًا الَّذِي وَعَدْتَهُ».

*Allâhumma Rabba hadhihid
da'watittammati wassalâtil
qâimah âti Muhammadanil
waseelata walfadeelah wab'ath-hu
maqamam mahmudanilladhi wa'attah.*

[O Allâh, Lord of this perfect call and the prayer to be offered! grant Muhammad the privilege (of interceding) and also the eminence. And resurrect him to the praised position you have promised to him].

I left for the *Masjid* to offer the prayer in congregation. A prayer offered in congregation is rewarded twenty-seven times according to the saying of the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم .

*to see the
new moon . . .*



After the prayer my father asked me whether I knew that it was 29th of Rabee' At-Thâni and it was possible that new moon for Jumada Al-Ula might be sighted that day, and suggested that we better go upstairs and try to see the new moon. I went upstairs with my younger brother and sister to look for the new moon.

All of a sudden he shouted:

"Ukasha, Ukasha there I can see the new moon, look, how beautiful it is".

My father heard us and came upstairs to look at the new moon. He recited this supplication after looking at the new moon.

«اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ. اللَّهُمَّ! أَهْلُهُ عَلَيْنَا بِالْأَمْنِ
وَالْإِيمَانِ، وَالسَّلَامَةِ وَالْإِسْلَامِ، رَبِّي
وَرَبُّكَ اللَّهُ».

*Allahu Akbar. Allâhumma ahillahu
alaina bil amni wal iman wassalamati
wal Islam. Rabbee wa rabbukallâh.*

[Allâh is the Greatest

O Allâh! let this crescent appear to us with peace, faith, safety and Islam.

Your Lord (O moon) and my Lord is Allâh].

My father told me that Prophet

ﷺ used to read this supplication after looking at the new moon.

When we came down, my mother told us that dinner was ready. We offered *عشاء 'Isha* (night) prayer and then we had our dinner.

Afterwards I went to my room so that I could sleep early. The clock was already showing 9 o'clock. I washed my hands, cleaned my teeth with *Siwaak* and then lay down on my bed. I put my right hand under my right cheek and recited thus:

اللَّهُمَّ! بِاسْمِكَ أَمُوتُ وَأَحْيَا

Allâhumma bismika amootu wa ahya.

[O Allâh! by Your Name I die and by Your Name I live].

After that I fell asleep.





هَلْ يَسْتَوِي الَّذِينَ يَعْلَمُونَ وَالَّذِينَ لَا يَعْلَمُونَ
 "Are those who know equal to
 those who know not?" [39.9]



In the Name of Allâh,
the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful.

"Say (O Muhammadﷺ): He is Allâh (the) One.

Allâh-us-Samad

[Allâh - the Self-Sufficient Master,
Whom all creatures need, (He neither eats nor drinks)].

He begets not, nor was He begotten.

And there is none co-equal or comparable unto Him."