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Journal Entries

25thSeptember, 2015

We decided to celebrate the first day of Eid in Medina. I woke up at 3 AM for the preparation of the Eid prayer. After performing Eid prayer in Masjid-Al-Haram with my brothers and cousin,we came back to the hotel for some rest. While traveling back home, we decided to pilgrimage to historic places. We made our stops at Badr (Where the battle of Badr took place), Ohud (where the battle of Ohud took place) &Waadi-e-Baidah (commonly known as Waadi-e-Jin). Waadi-e-Baida is a mysterious valley where any object or even a car moves by itself even without a driver. There are many rumors about Wadi-e-Baida, some of it even calls it a “Ghost Town”. Therefore, I was excited to go there and have a firsthand experience myself. After visiting these places, we ended our journey with a big dinner and headed home.

It was very valuable experience as I learnt more about Islamic history & celebrated eid in Masjid Al Haram, Madina. And what’s more better than celebrating eid in Al-Haram?

30thMay,2017

It was around 10 am of the 3rd day of Ramadan. The fasts were amazing but life was not so well. Actually, it was boring. One of my friends proposed an idea, why not we go to Makkah? as it was the month of worship it is always a one-of-a-kind. I loved the idea and set our ways to Makkah. The scenes on the highway were spectacular. The sparkling sun was setting behind the black rocky mountains of Arab & the camels were roaming freely in the vast, limitless desert. It does not matter how many times you have seen it; the experience is always breathtaking. Time flies by as we were lost in admiring the beauty of the Arabian desert & reached Makkah. By the time we reached Masjid-Al-Haram, it was already the time of Maghrib so we took a break for iftar. We prayed Maghrib prayer and then started Tawaf. After completing Tawaf we performed Sayi (umrah). During the Sayi (umrah) we started the race from to Safa mountain to Marwa mountain and vice versa. After completing Sayi, one of a man, who was also performing the Sayi, cut our hair and thus we completed our umrah. After performing umrah we prayed Tarawih and then ate shawarma at a local restaurant nearby. Then we set back to the bus.

It was a memorable trip as I first time went to road trip with my friends. Maybe next time we could do this differently as if we break our fast in Madina. And what’s more better than breaking your fast in Makkah or Madina?

5thJanuary 2018  
  
As I was moving to Pakistan for good, I just want to make as many memories as possible in Saudi Arabia. So I and two of my friends decided to make a plan to go to Jabal-e-Noor, also known as Ghar-e-Hirah. We set our way off to Jabal-e-Noor around 3:30 PM & reached at 5PM. The starting point of Jabal-e-Noor is too steep. This is too steep that a person can get tired by just covering about 20-30 steps. After covering this distance, there were rocky stairs which contain thousands of steps as the mountain is 642m high. After covering these steps, there was a cafeteria, benches, and prayer area. We took snacks & water from the cafeteria and performed the prayer. After doing this we continued our journey and reached the cave of Hira. There were two ways to go inside the cave. One way is too narrow and another one is at some height. We preferred the narrow one. The narrow path was a bit dangerous as it is narrow and has sharp edges of rocks. We safely went into the cave, where we performed another prayer, and came back to the cafeteria. We bought water and shawarma then set our ways back.

We learnt about Islamic history as our beloved Prophet (SAW) used to go there and first revelation was reveled there. It was also very adventurous memory as we went to the top of the mountain.

9thJanuary 2018

Today was a hectic day as it was my last day in Saudi Arabia. I woke up around 12 PM, did breakfast, and went shopping with my mom as I wanted to buy some stuff. We came back in the evening, took some rest, and went to meet some relatives. I had plans for the night. So, my friends were waiting for me. After meeting with relatives, we came back home. I and my friends gathered together and went for dinner. After that, we went to my friend’s house, and around 11:45 PM I came back home and started to pack my things for my travel.

10th January 2018

It was a very emotional day as I was going to Pakistan forever from Saudi Arabia. Two of my friends bunked school and came to my house. We did breakfast in a restaurant that was near my house. After breakfast 2 more friends came there to join us. One of them met and went back to his home but 3 of them decided to see me off for the last time. They helped me with the luggage and we took off to the airport. At the airport we got emotional and I hugged my friends and took selfies as it was our last picture. One of my friends got too emotional and started to weep. I hugged him and went to the airport's waiting lounge and got on the plane. When I reached Karachi, I met my relatives and came to my khala’s house. I was too tired at that time and decided to go to bed for some rest.