

# Al-Hilal

*Spreading Peace in Our World*



US \$2

A Magazine for Children

2018-2



## 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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Cover by Sumera Ahmad

## Prayer for Sustenance and Peace

All the prayers that the Ḥaḍrat *Ibrāhīm* (Abraham), may peace be upon him, recited when he was building the *Ka'bah* were accepted. These prayers were for Makkah to be a peaceful town, its inhabitants to receive sustenance and his progeny to be saved from idolatry and associating partners with God.

رَبِّ اجْعَلْ هَذَا بَلَدًا آمِنًا  
وَارْزُقْ أَهْلَهُ مِنَ الثَّمَرَاتِ مَنْ آمَنَ مِنْهُمْ بِاللَّهِ وَالْيَوْمِ الْآخِرِ-

(2 [Al-Baqarah] :127)

My Lord, make this a town of peace and provide with fruits such of its dwellers as believe in *Allāh* and the Last Day.

## Prayer for the Guidance of Mankind

At the time of building the *Ka'bah*, the House of God, Ḥaḍrat *Ibrāhīm* (Abraham), may peace be upon him, offered a grand prayer for the guidance of mankind. A prayer about which the Holy Prophet Muḥammad, may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, said that he was the product of the prayer of his father *Ibrāhīm* (Abraham).

رَبَّنَا وَابْعَثْ فِيهِمْ رَسُولًا مِنْهُمْ يَتْلُوا عَلَيْهِمْ آيَاتِكَ وَيُعَلِّمُهُمُ الْكِتَابَ وَالْحِكْمَةَ  
وَيُزَكِّيهِمْ إِنَّكَ أَنْتَ الْعَزِيزُ الْحَكِيمُ-

(2 [Al-Baqarah] :130)

And, our Lord, raise up among them a Messenger from among themselves, who may recite to them Your signs and teach them the Book and Wisdom and may purify them; surely, You are the Mighty, the Wise.

## Prayer of Thanks for Righteous Actions and Pious Children

It is mentioned in the traditions that the first person to offer this prayer was Ḥaḍrat Abū Bakr, may Allah be pleased with him, His prayer was accepted and as a result his parents, brother and all his children accepted *Islām*.

رَبِّ أَوْزِعْنِي أَنْ أَشْكُرَ نِعْمَتَكَ الَّتِي أَنْعَمْتَ عَلَيَّ وَعَلَى وَالِدَيَّ وَأَنْ أَعْمَلَ



صَالِحًا تَرْضَاهُ وَأَصْلِحْ لِي فِي ذُرِّيَّتِي إِنِّي تُبْتُ إِلَيْكَ وَإِيَّيَ مِنَ الْمُسْلِمِينَ-

(46 [Al-Ahqāf]:16)

My Lord, grant me power that I may be grateful for Your favor which You have bestowed upon me and upon my parents, and that I may do such good works as may please You. And make my seed righteous for me. I do turn to You; and truly, I am of those who submit to You.

## Prayer of Peace for Godly People

The Holy Prophet, may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, was taught this prayer of peace for the holy people:

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ وَسَلَامٌ عَلَىٰ عِبَادِهِ الَّذِينَ اصْطَفَىٰ-

(27 [An-Naml] :60)

All praise belongs to *Allāh*, and peace be upon those servants of His whom He has chosen.

## Prayer for the Improvement of Faith and the World

Ḥaḍrat Abū Hurairah, may Allah be pleased with him, relates this prayer of the Holy Prophet Muḥammad, may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him.

اللَّهُمَّ أَصْلِحْ لِي دِينِي الَّذِي هُوَ عِصْمَةُ أَمْرِي وَأَصْلِحْ لِي دُنْيَايَ الَّتِي فِيهَا مَعَاشِي،  
وَأَصْلِحْ لِي آخِرَتِي الَّتِي فِيهَا مَعَادِي، وَاجْعَلِ الْحَيَاةَ زِيَادَةً لِي فِي كُلِّ خَيْرٍ،  
وَاجْعَلِ الْمَوْتَ رَاحَةً لِي مِنْ كُلِّ شَرٍّ-

O Allāh, improve this faith of mine which is a means of strength and steadfastness in my affairs. Reform my worldly affairs of earning a living. Make my life to which I have to return after death, better. Make my life prosper in all good aspects and save my death from every evil and make it a source of peace.

(Selection of Prayers from *Prayers*, Compiled by Hafiz Muzaffar Ahmad, Translated by Bushra 'Ishrat Sheikh)



# Attainment of Inner Peace

Ḥaḍrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad (may Allah's mercy be upon him)

Peace is, firstly, to be at rest with one's own desires and ambitions and having a balance, which is an internal affair, and secondly, to have peace with the world around and to assure everyone that one poses no threat of danger to them—'no danger will emanate from me in the other's direction.' It is this wider concept of peace which you find in major religions. In this concept of peace, no one can be at peace with himself until he is also at peace with his neighbors and with others. This is also the concept of peace in Islam.

In Islam, the concept of peace is two-fold. Firstly, to be at peace with God and then, secondly, to be at peace with oneself and with the rest of the world.

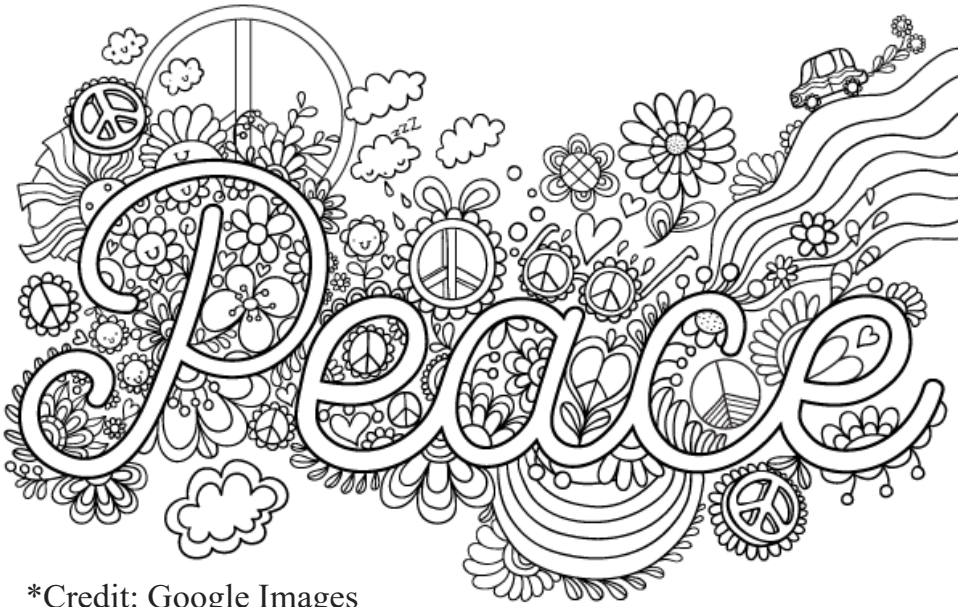
The concept of peace in Islam is the most comprehensive of all the religions and philosophies... and the key to it lies in the fact that in Islam the word 'peace' does not only mean to be at rest or to have a compromise of a perfect understanding with the rest of the world, it also means submission. The meaning of this one single word has two aspects. One is peace as ordinarily understood and the other is peace in the sense of submission. So, according to the Qur'anic concept of peace, no peace on earth can ever be conceived, not to mention established, by human effort. It cannot even be conceived theoretically without man finding God, the Creator, without recognizing the hand of the Creator universally at work in nature.

(Excerpt from "Attainment of Inner Peace," Ḥaḍrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad (may Allah's mercy be upon him), *The Review of Religions*, February 1997)





# COLORING PAGE



\*Credit: Google Images



\*Credit: Google Images

# Peace Poem

Maheen Waqar, Dallas, Age 13

All we want is joy and peace  
Let these horrid wars come to cease  
Reach out and give a helping hand  
Bring peace to your beloved land  
Forgive your enemies, make amends  
Make the hatred in your heart finally end  
These ferocious storms can't last forever  
Don't hold a grudge, spread love wherever  
Rich or poor, black or white, we're all equal  
All those who discriminate are truly evil  
And remember, inner peace is where it starts  
Because you can't fight a war  
Before fighting the one in your heart

---

## How Can I Create Peace?

Imran Mahmood Khan, LA East, Age 6

I can create peace in the world by sharing the teachings of Muhammad (may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). Islam began through his example, and the word Islam means peace. At school, I can create peace by being friendly, kind, sharing and caring. This goes along with following the "golden rule," which is to treat others how you want to be treated. At home, I can create peace by listening to my parents and being a good son. Instead of fighting with my big brother, I can tell him to think about the life of the Holy Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). I can also think about others' feelings and try not to start any arguments.





# Government and Achieving Peace

Raza Ahmad, Silver Spring, Age 12

Before stating how our society can become peaceful, one must look at what problems stand in the way of peace. A major problem is out-of-touch politicians. You see, politicians have a large influence over our government. If we vote for a candidate who runs a good campaign, but does not focus on achieving peace, it can have a negative impact on our country and international peace. Even though politicians, including our President, can be removed or voted out of office, it can be very difficult for this to happen. So, we should take care in how we vote. Sometimes, people who want peace do not vote. Not nearly enough people vote. Only around 30% of people voted last year out of eligible voters. We should incentivize each other to vote and contribute to the decisions being made in our country.

Another major problem is violent crime and corruption. We should think carefully about having stricter penalties on crime. To commit a crime is to show disloyalty to your country and its laws. Huzoor (may Allah be his helper) has said, "Loyalty is the true standard of faithfulness."\* This means that in order to form a more peaceful society, we must remain loyal to our faith, which includes being faithful to our country. Allah has commanded humans to fulfill all of their pledges and all of their promises.

Even though these are big issues, we can do our best to be aware of them and be better citizens.

In conclusion, some important issues in order to establish peace are electing more responsible, peace-loving leaders and working against crime and corruption.

\*Ahmad, Mirza M. *World Crisis and the Pathway to Peace: A Compilation of Speeches and Letters of Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Masroor Aḥmad*, 2016.



# Dar-uz-Zikr Mosque: Lahore, Pakistan

Afshan Mian, Boston, Age 12

(Author now lives in LA West)

When I was younger, we used to go to Pakistan every summer to visit my grandparents. We used to go to a big mosque called Dar-uz-Zikr in Lahore for Friday prayers. I really liked that mosque. The mosque had a main door through which you walked into a courtyard. Women had to climb spiral stairs to the first floor, where we would sit in a U-shaped Hall. I remember the constant humming of fans in the ceiling. The Friday sermon was in Urdu, so I did not understand a lot, but I still enjoyed listening to the voice of the Imam. I was always amazed by how many people would be there for Jumu'a prayers. There were many rows of people, but there was always silence and no one talked. After Friday

prayers, many ladies would come and meet my mother and my grandmother and tell them how cute I was. I enjoyed all the hugs. Then, we used to come down and meet my grandfather. I always saw a table and chair in the courtyard where a man would sit and collect chanda and issue receipts. My grandfather would give me some money to give as sadaqa to the man, who would then give me a receipt. Near the exit, there was a



bookstall from where my grandparents would find a few books for us to bring back to Boston. Now we have a library at home!

We last visited Pakistan in 2007. I often remember this mosque and compare it to the mosque in Boston, which is much smaller, and holds only a few people.

On May 28, 2010, I had the shock of my life when I came home from school and my mom was crying. She told me that some people had gone into Dar-uz-Zikr mosque with guns and grenades and attacked people offering Friday prayers, just like we used to! I could not believe that someone could do that. I saw videos of the attack on TV and pictures on the Internet. It really hurt me to think that there were people who were willing to harm innocent Ahmadis offering Friday prayers. My mom told me to pray for all the people and their families, and I did. I had a lot of questions for my parents. Based on what I have learned about Pakistan and intolerance towards Ahmadis, I am grateful to Allah that we live here in the United States. Here, I have freedom to express my religion. I also wonder why I am in America, yet other girls my age are still suffering in Pakistan. I have realized that I have to continue to be grateful to Allah and listen to His words. I need to regularly go to the Masjid. Masjids should be a place of peace. We should all work together to make sure that we can all enjoy the peace and blessings that a mosque can bring you. I will, In Sha Allah, go to Dar-uz-Zikr mosque one day again to pray for all the martyrs and for myself that I may be a good and strong Ahmadi, In Sha Allah. Āmīn.



## What is Peace?

Zoya Malik, Dallas, Age 9

What do you think of when you hear peace?

Moms think of a clean kitchen with not a spot of grease

Dads think of a deal where everything is free

Teachers think of a classroom where noise starts to cease

Doctors think of a day when they stopped a disease

Firefighters think of a day they put out a fire in trees

Police think of a day when their work starts to decrease

Boys think of a day when their high score  
on a game was beat

Girls think of when the number of their  
clothes start to increase

Cats think of a day with no fleas

Dogs think of a day when they can run and enjoy the breeze

Squirrels think of hiding in their home with plenty of  
food at the very least

Rabbits think of having a carrot feast

Bears think of an entire day to sleep

While a Giant Panda wants the whole day to eat!

So what is peace to me? Peace is a nice house  
with a loving family, yes, this is peace to me!



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Kashaf Dania Naveed, Bay Point, Age 14

## Ramadan Brings Peace

As Ramadan comes every year, I get excited because it is my favorite time of the year. Every Ramadan, I try my best to

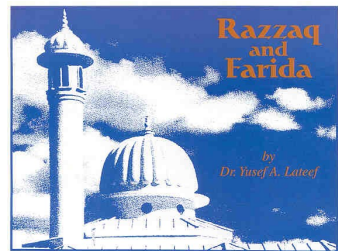


become a better person and be more peaceful. I try to stay away from playing around or watching TV, and focus on reading the Holy Qur'an. During the month of Ramadan, I try to finish the Holy Qur'an at least once. I read one part (sipara) every day, which takes me about an hour. After finishing the sipara, I read, draw, knit, or maybe even sleep. My Ramadan fasting schedule is to fast for one day and then skip the next day, which totals up to fifteen fasts for the whole month. One of my favorite things about Ramadan is going to the mosque on weekends. There, I get to break my fast (Iftar) with my friends. Also, during Ramadan, we have a lot of guests for Iftar at my house. Keeping a fast for about sixteen hours is not that easy. There are many good benefits of fasting. It cleans out your body spiritually and it is healthy, too! I feel like fasting also helps me gain more patience, which spreads peace to others around me. In Sha' Allah, I will keep more fasts next year, and maybe even finish the Holy Qur'an twice!

### Razzaq and Farida

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# How I Will Become a Good Daughter



**Richmond Virginia Nasirat**

We have so much time to play  
We must make time to pray  
Our beloved Huzoor will always say  
Believe in Allah and the Prophet  
(Sallallahu 'Alaihi Wa Sallam) obey  
Nasirat cannot let their duty delay  
Ahmadiyyat is different we say  
Our parents will also pray  
That we grow to become good daughters  
someday  
Oh dear friends let us keep evil away  
This is the message of Ahmadiyyat we  
convey



## My Impact on the World



**Aumena Choudhry, Central Virginia, Age 13**

The Holy Prophet Muhammad (may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) prophesized that a time would come when the practice of Muslims would move far away from the original teachings of Islam. He said that this decline would continue for a long time. After this time period, Allah, the Almighty, would send a person as the Imam Mahdi and as the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him). He would come to guide the Muslims towards the real and true teachings of Islam.

My impact on the world is in fact the impact of Ahmadiyyat on the world, as I am a member of the Ahmadiyya Muslim community. I try to pattern the activities of my daily life after the true teachings of Islam as described in the Holy Prophet's (may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) prophecy. The Promised







Messiah (may peace be upon him) has defined the key objectives of his advent when he said, “The task with which Almighty God has appointed me is that I remove the malaise that has formed between God and His Creation and restore the relationship of love and sincerity between them.” (Lecture Lahore, page 47)

We Ahmadis are continuously working hard to create peace, love, affection, and to present the true concepts of Islam to the world.

This is why our motto is “Love for all, hatred for none.” Allah the Almighty says: “O ye who believe! Be steadfast in the cause of Allah, bearing witness in equity; and let not a people’s enmity incite you to act otherwise than with justice. Be always just, that is nearer to righteousness. And fear Allah. Surely, Allah is aware of what you do.” (Holy Qur’an, Surah Al-Ma’idah, Verse 9). These are the golden principles: to have peace, love, and affection.

Ahmadis have persevered through troubled times and In Sha’ Allah, we will come through today’s troubled times as well. Although we have limited human and financial resources, Ahmadis have been providing free education, medical treatment, and emergency supplies to poor people around the world under the banner of “Humanity First.” Additionally, our missionaries in various areas have helped by building schools for children.

There are two major goals in my life. First, I want to create a relationship with God. My second goal is to fulfill the responsibilities of mankind. Huzoor (may Allah be his helper) described Ahmadis “as those who fulfill the rights owed to God and those who fulfill the rights owed to God’s creation. Without acting upon these teachings a person cannot claim to be a true Ahmadi Muslim.”

As an Ahmadi girl, I try my best to be a positive role model. I participate in school as much as possible while maintaining good grades. I am kind to others and in my future, In Sha’ Allah, I hope that I will be able to help humanity and show the world the true picture of a peaceful Islam.

# Getting Rid of Evil in This Day and Age

**Ujala Yousof, Central Virginia, Age 13**

Islam is a religion of peace which teaches the oneness of God. To please God, we must please His creations. Islam does not teach evil practices, but good practices. Unfortunately, people are practicing acts that are against what Islam teaches. If I practice my religion and show people the real Islam, I might be able to make a difference in others' lives and society. Some ways in which I can help improve society is to share the teachings of our beloved Prophet Muhammad (may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). Our Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) taught us to love others, be kind to our parents, elders and even young ones. He taught us to be honest, trustworthy and truthful. So, in your day-to-day life, think about how your actions can impact those around you and how you can be a betterment to our society.



## Spreading Peace

**Labeena Qadir, Cypress Houston, Age 7**

Spreading peace means giving justice around the world and listening to Allah. As a member of Nāṣirāt, I can help spread peace by listening to Huzur, and by following his advice. I can be good role model by being kind to my brothers, sister and my class fellows. We are sharing this world with a lot of people, so we must respect everybody and love them. We must be peaceful and kind because Allah is watching us.



# “Islam” Means Peace

Maya Barkatullah, Orlando, Age 10

My mother was the first person to tell me that the word Islam means “peace.” I think it’s important to ask questions about my religion to understand it. My friends at school ask me many things also, like why I don’t eat pork. When we lived in Mississippi, we were often asked about our religion since there were relatively few non-Christians living there. My friends in school used to ask me why I didn’t go to church every Sunday. I told them that, as Muslims, we worship at a mosque. They didn’t really understand much. I did teach a few of my friends how to say Salām in Arabic and a couple of other words in my language. Some people did not have a good image of Muslims in their head because of what has been going on in the world. There are many bad people doing bad things who happen to call themselves Muslims.

The most important thing my mother has taught me is never to judge anyone based on what religion they are born into. I try to treat everyone nicely. One time in school, two of my best friends stopped talking to one another. They put me in the middle of it, and that made me very uncomfortable. I did not really know how to handle the situation. They would talk badly about the other with me. I knew in their hearts, they really missed each other. I thought the only way to keep the peace and end this conflict would be to keep quiet and just tell them how they both miss each other. Why hurt one another as that will not help anyone? So, I took a stand and decided not to tell what one was saying about the other and instead let the love between them win over. I told my mother how I handled the situation and she was very proud of me and said that is what a good human and a true Muslim would have done. Through this small example, I hope we can all continue to grow in spreading peace and being better Muslims.

## Spreading Peace

Sonya Hayatt, Orlando  
Age 12

As an Ahmadi Muslim, spreading peace means helping people and respecting them so everyone is happy. One way that I can do this is respecting my family members, neighbors, and classmates. For example, if I help my classmates with homework, they will help me with mine. If people feel respected, they will want to give respect back. This is how peace works. I can also help out peers by doing them small favors. If you do small favors, they can turn into big thankfulness! For example, if I give my classmate a pencil, he/she might return the favor one day if I need a pencil. This is what peace means to me and this is how I can spread it.



## Spreading Peace

Hamda Saleem, Chicago East  
Age 10

What is peace?  
Peace is when everybody is nice!  
I am an Ahmadi girl,  
And this I will confirm.  
When you are down,  
I will turn your frown upside down.  
When you are in trouble,  
I will help you in the double!  
When I see a bully,  
I am filled with fury!  
When you are feeling alone,  
Call me on the phone.  
Come to a peace parade,  
You will be glad you stayed!  
When you spread peace,  
You feel at ease.  
Peace will bring you closer to God.  
He is not a fraud!  
Peace is Islam.  
It makes you feel calm!

# The Mission of Spreading Peace

Aleena Dard, RTNC, Age 13

What is Peace? Peace is the freedom from disturbance, war, or violence. Our religion, Islam, literally means peace and submission. Now that we know what peace is, the real question is, how do you spread it?

*“May peace be upon you.”*

One of the main ways that all Muslims spread peace is by saying our Islamic greeting: Assalāmu ‘Alaikum. The direct translation of this saying is, “May peace be upon you.” It means that people need to treat each other justly and fairly. Another way that you can spread peace is by being kind and respectful to each other. We should start practicing these rules from home.

The Holy Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said: “He who is not kind to our younger ones and does not recognize the right of our elders, is not from among us (Abu Dawud).” For example, in school, respect your teachers and speak kindly to your peers. Don’t pick fights with anyone, whether it be physical or verbal. You should also treat other people the way you want to be treated. You can also spread peace by treating your neighbor with respect and love. These are very simple practices to spread peace that ALL ages can do.

If our homes, neighborhoods, and communities are peaceful, then the country will also be peaceful. May Allah guide us to live our lives peacefully. Āmīn.



<http://www.reviewofreligions.org/>

# Spreading Peace in Our World



Amtul Kaffi Butt, Chicago East, Age 14

As Muslims, it is our duty to spread peace in the world. Before we can do that, first we need to spread peace in our own homes. This can be achieved by having positive thoughts, not worrying too much, always forgiving others, and trying to create peace within our own hearts.

I would like to share an example of a time when I tried to create peace within my own home. There was a day when my siblings and I were doing our homework. The atmosphere was very calm and peaceful. All of a sudden, I heard my sister yell very loudly at my brother. He also got angry and yelled back. As I quickly intervened, it turned out that my brother accidentally moved the table, which made my sister lose focus and make a mistake on her homework. They both stopped, but it didn't feel as peaceful as it was before. I told both of them to be patient with one another and my brother to apologize, even though his actions were not intentional. My sister, too, asked for forgiveness, and things were able to go back to being peaceful.

In conclusion, the best way to spread peace is to have inner peace and to develop a connection with Allah by praying regularly, being patient, smiling, being understanding, controlling one's anger, and being kind to others.



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# Spreading Peace in Our World

Esha Ahmad, Chicago East, Age 14

What is peace? Peace is a sense of calmness and tranquility, a state of being free from violence, and disturbances. In today's world, we can promote peace in many ways. Controlling our emotions, displaying acts of kindness (big or small), promoting nonviolence, and many more.

Controlling our emotions is one way we can promote peace. Doing this will enable us to stop, think about the situation, and decide whether our reaction may be suitable for the situation. This will not only prevent us from harm that was caused by impulsive reactions, but will also prevent us from hurting others' feelings. When we are angry, we are not able to control ourselves and may overreact to the situation by saying things that could escalate to bigger problems.



Another way we can promote peace is by displaying kindness. This can include helping the needy and the poor. Extending a helping hand to those who are in a difficult situation is our responsibility. This may also encourage others to help, too.

One more way we can promote peace is by encouraging non-violent acts. For instance, when enemies attack you with their weapons, instead of attacking them back we should pray for them to have a peaceful heart. Attacking them only aggravates the situation. Instead, by enduring and displaying patience, we show that we are promoters of peace. These are just a few ways in which we can promote peace in our daily lives.

## Spreading Peace Among My Classmates

Dania Amjad, Chicago East,  
Age 13

I would like to share my experience when I made peace between two students in my class over an argument that disrupted the classroom. Both parties stood up for their argument and neither of them were ready to let go. However, I was observing and paying close attention to their arguments. I came up with an unbiased opinion that I thought both students could agree to. This helped the students calm down and see the other's side. I was so happy that the dispute did not escalate.



**Hold Hands for Peace**  
Zoya Malik, Dallas, Age 9

Hold Hands around the  
world  
Hold Hands for Peace  
Every Boy and Girl  
See the Rainbow  
Red, Yellow, Green and  
Blue  
Hold Hands For Peace  
Peace for me and you!

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# Spreading Peace in Our World

Tamseela Mumtaz, Central Virginia, Age 7

As an Ahmadi, I believe that we need to spread the message of our beloved Khalifa. In a parliamentary address delivered in Canada on the 17th, October 2016, Huzoor emphasized the need for justice and peace. He stated, “Irrespective of differences of background, I believe that based on Humanity, we are all joined together, and should therefore be united.” One of the best ways to spread peace in the world is to recognize your own capacity to bring peace into the little things you do every day. Each small pebble you drop into the pond of humanity radiates out into the world with untold potential. Here are some of my thoughts to spread peace in to the world. Smile more. Even a smile is a kind of peace work. Recognize each and every effort of someone and thank him/her. Stop complaining and start loving each other. Lastly, spread the message...

**“LOVE FOR ALL HATRED FOR NONE!”**

## Spreading Peace in Our

Maleeha Bushra, Central Virginia, Age 12

The world is full of bad things, but we should always see the good in people and in other things, too. There is still peace left. Our job as Ahmadis is to spread the message of Islam. Peace falls under the category of Islam. A lot of people around the world think that Islam teaches violence. Ahmadis have always promoted peace. If we fight against people or start using violence, we will be going against, “Love for all, hatred for none.” We are trying to make the point that we want peace, that we don’t want violence. We want peace. We want the world to be a good place.

## Spreading Peace in Our World

Attiyat Al Suboo, Central Virginia, Age 7

The Arabic root of the word Islam, salima, refers to be safe and secure. Its use extends to being in a mutually peaceful environment, greetings, rescue, safety, being secure, finding peace, reaching salvation and wellbeing or being far from danger, attaining goodness, comfort and favor, keeping away from troubles and disasters, submitting the self and obeying, respect, and being far from wrong. Since it's in our religion to spread Islam (submission, resignation, reconciliation [to the will of God]), we should follow the guidelines of the Quran for spreading peace in the world.

# Spreading Peace in Our World

Amal J Ahmad, Central Virginia,  
Age 14



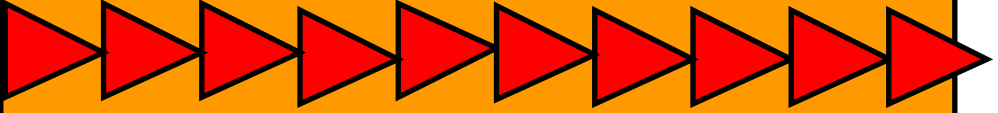
World peace. We all want it, but know it may never happen. It is said that all men are created equal, but we take this fact, shove it in a box, and lock it away. No one cares that all men are equal, for all that matters in this life is if one person is more superior than the other. Now, I am not speaking for everyone, for many are actually making an effort to infuse this world with its much-needed tranquility. The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community would be a major example, as our main focus is on world peace. A lot of people associate Muslims with terrorism, and the fear of Muslims is so common, it actually has a name, Islamophobia. So the question is, how does a small community (that some people are even afraid of) replace the entire world's craving for war with feelings of peace?



The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community plans to do so by spreading the message of the true Islam. We call it the 'True Islam', because of the misconception of Islam in today's society.



## Spreading Peace in Our World



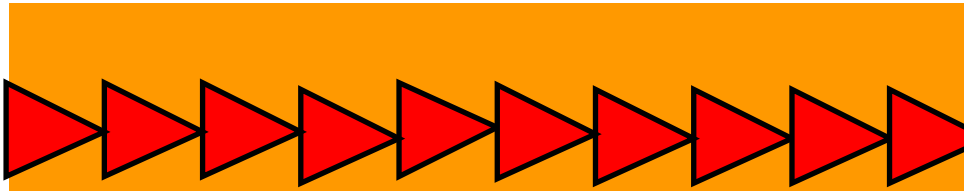
Areeba Ali, Central Virginia, Age 10

I am an avid fan of peace and harmony. If it were up to me, I would end all the hatred in the world nowadays. Everyone should feel at ease and peace, so much so that other people's problems should not pester them. I believe that to have a loving and peaceful world, we must start with having peace in our own hearts. The best way to resolve conflict is to engage in healthy dialogs and attentively listen to each other. Also, helping other people without any prejudice will help bridge gaps and misunderstandings.

I went to Fazl-i-Umar Mosque in Dayton, OH and was impressed with Humanity First displays and presentations. Humanity First is the Aḥmadiyya Muslim Community's world-known non-profit organization whose entire mission is help people. Through Humanity First, the Aḥmadiyya Muslim Community is spreading much-needed love and peace as well. May Allah help those who volunteer for these services. Our beloved book, the Holy Quran has many stories mentioned where people went out of their way to help each other and have peace. Peace can be achieved in many ways, but it will not sustain unless one's heart is pure because that is where peace resides.







There are many terrorists saying it is “for their religion,” while in truth, they are doing the opposite of “their” religion. These actions are strictly forbidden in Islam, and it is even said that ‘whosoever has killed a person, (unless it be wartime) it is like they have killed all of mankind.’ These terrorists are violating pristine teachings of the faith. Islam revolves around peace, and has no relation to violence.

Ahmadiyyat can spread its message through modern-day technology, such as social media, television, booklets, etc. We host countless Tabligh (spreading message of Islam) events, which are attended by very educated and important minds worldwide. What we are trying to accomplish is to get the entire world to hold the common belief in the oneness of God and understand that the only purpose of life is to worship Him. When this happens, people will realize that there is no reason for all this arguing and competition amongst each other and instead will view everyone as their equals, In Sha Allah.



# Spreading Peace in Our World

Nabeeha Tahir, Orlando, Age 10

Did you ever wonder how you could spread peace in our world? I believe that to spread peace, I have to first start at home. I remember that one time my twin sisters, Sabah and Sehar, were mad at each other because they couldn't agree on how they should play. So, I told them that they should take turns and try playing both ways. Sabah didn't like that idea at first but when I started playing with Sehar, she decided to play with us. So I helped to make it a peaceful situation between them. There are so many other things I could do to make someone happy and spread peace in the world. It doesn't just have to be at home. Peace can be spread in school, college, work and other places. Our religion, Islam, means peace, so the main goal of our life as Muslims is to attain peace in ourselves and spread it to others. We should always remember Allah and this will help us to do the right thing. We should follow the example of Prophet Muhammad (may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) by being compassionate to all and treat others the way you want to be treated. We should listen to the sermons of Huzoor (may Allah be his helper) and obey his advice. If we cannot help those far away in the world, we can always pray for them. All of these things will help spread peace in the world.



# What I think About Peace

Munifa Tariq, Dallas, Age 10

*“There has come to you indeed from Allah a Light and a clear Book. Thereby does Allah guide those who seek His pleasure on the paths of peace, and leads them out of every kind of darkness into light by His will, and guides them to the right path.” (Surah Al-Ma'idah, 5:16-17)*

In a country, peace is a term that most commonly refers to an absence of violence, aggression, and hostility, but I think peace isn't just about the absence of these things; it is about the presence of justice. In a society, peace happens when different needs of different people are in harmony. Peace is based on many things: culture, education, family values, experience, and history, just to name a few.

It is not enough to stand around asking if world peace will ever happen. Actions speak louder than any words. If everyone starts living in a peaceful, loving way, things will change. Someone has to start and lead by example. We are Ahmadi Muslim girls. Our motto is “Love for All, Hatred for None.” It will be disgraceful if we are not the ones to make a change. The tiniest thing can cause a chain reaction. The Holy Quran teaches us lots of ways of achieving peace. It guides us to do the right thing and make the right choices in our everyday lives.

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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.

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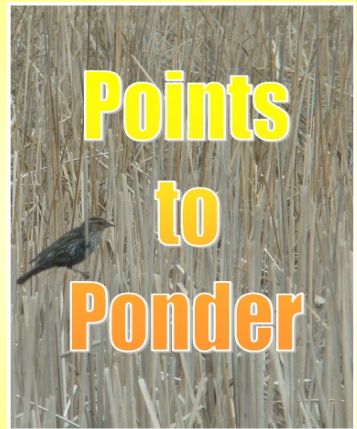
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## **Peace is Important**

Qasim Mangla, Buffalo, Age 10

As we all know in Islam peace is very important. Even the word Islam means peace and submission to the will of Allah. So that means that as a Muslim you must be a peaceful human being. The Holy Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said that a Mumin is the one who does not use his tongue or hands to harm others. Without peace, everyone would constantly fight. Al-Hamdu Lillah, we Ahmadis follow the message of the Holy Quran and the Holy Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) so much so that we are one of the most peaceful communities. Whenever I go to Jalsa Salana (in Canada or USA), I notice that thousands of people come from all over the world, but we all listen to speeches, say our prayers and eat together with so much love and peace. We can only pray that rest of the Muslims and non-Muslims will also submit to Allah and follow the teachings of Holy Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and become peaceful.

## **Spreading Peace**

Maryam and Mahum Luqman, Portland, Age 11 and 10

Did you know that the word Islam means peace? That is why we as Muslims should try to spread peace around us. Peace means that there is no fighting or wars in our homes and the world. If there is peace, there is calmness around us.

Hazoor has mentioned in many of his sermons that peace starts at home. For example, when parents don't fight or yell at home, they create a peaceful home. By being peaceful with and around your family, your children become peaceful, too. Children then spread peacefulness by being kind to their friends. When they become adults, they pass the same acts of peacefulness to their family. When they become leaders of the future, they can spread the same peaceful teachings they learned from their childhood, and spread peace around the world. May Allah help us to spread kindness and peace around the world, Aameen!

## Tranquility

Iman Qureshi, York Harrisburg, Age 11  
Assisted by Mariam Khan (Mother)

Right now, our world isn't as peaceful as we want it to be, but, there are ways we could make our planet a more tranquil one.

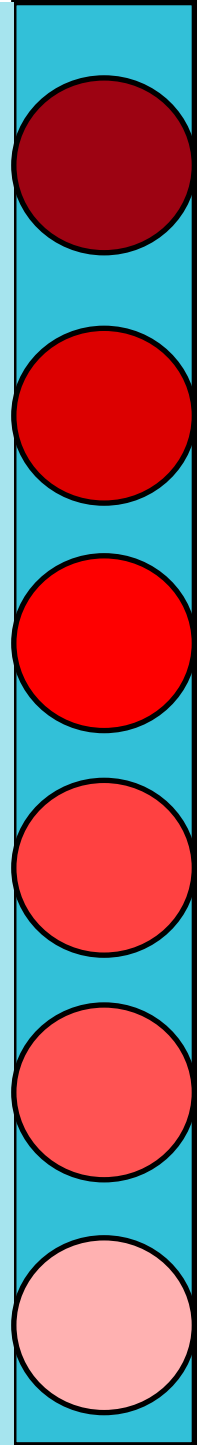
It says in the Holy Quran, "There has come to you indeed from Allah a Light and a clear Book. Thereby does Allah guide those who seek His pleasure on the paths of peace, and leads them out of every kind of darkness into light by His will, and guides them to the right path"

(Surah Al Ma'idah [5] :16-17).

This surah says that if we follow the teachings given to us, Allah will guide us on the right path, which will lead to a peaceful life.

There are many occasions where I have tried to create peace in my own home. Once, my siblings were fighting over a toy, I tried telling them examples of ways they could take turns and share the toy. At the end, both siblings got what they wanted in a peaceful way.

If someone is being rude, you shouldn't react violently, which would lead to more problems. For instance, if someone at home is doing something you don't like, a better way to approach this is to politely ask them to stop, instead of yelling at them. We all know the story of the Holy Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and the woman who was throwing trash on him. Everyday, the Holy Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) was dumped with trash while out walking. One day, the lady wasn't there, so the Holy Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) went to look for her. When he found out she was sick, He visited



her and comforted her. If we follow his forgiveness and kindness, it will make the world a more humble and peaceful place.

Tranquility and peacefulness can make our world a kinder place. If all the nations in the world followed the teachings of the Holy Prophet's (may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), then the world would benefit from the outcome. Our Khalifa Ḥadrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad (may Allah be his helper), said at the recent Peace Symposium in the UK that if governments fulfill the rights of the citizens and are just, there would not be so much strife and suffering in this world. The poverty and war created by cruel actions of nations is one of the main reasons for the state of the world today.

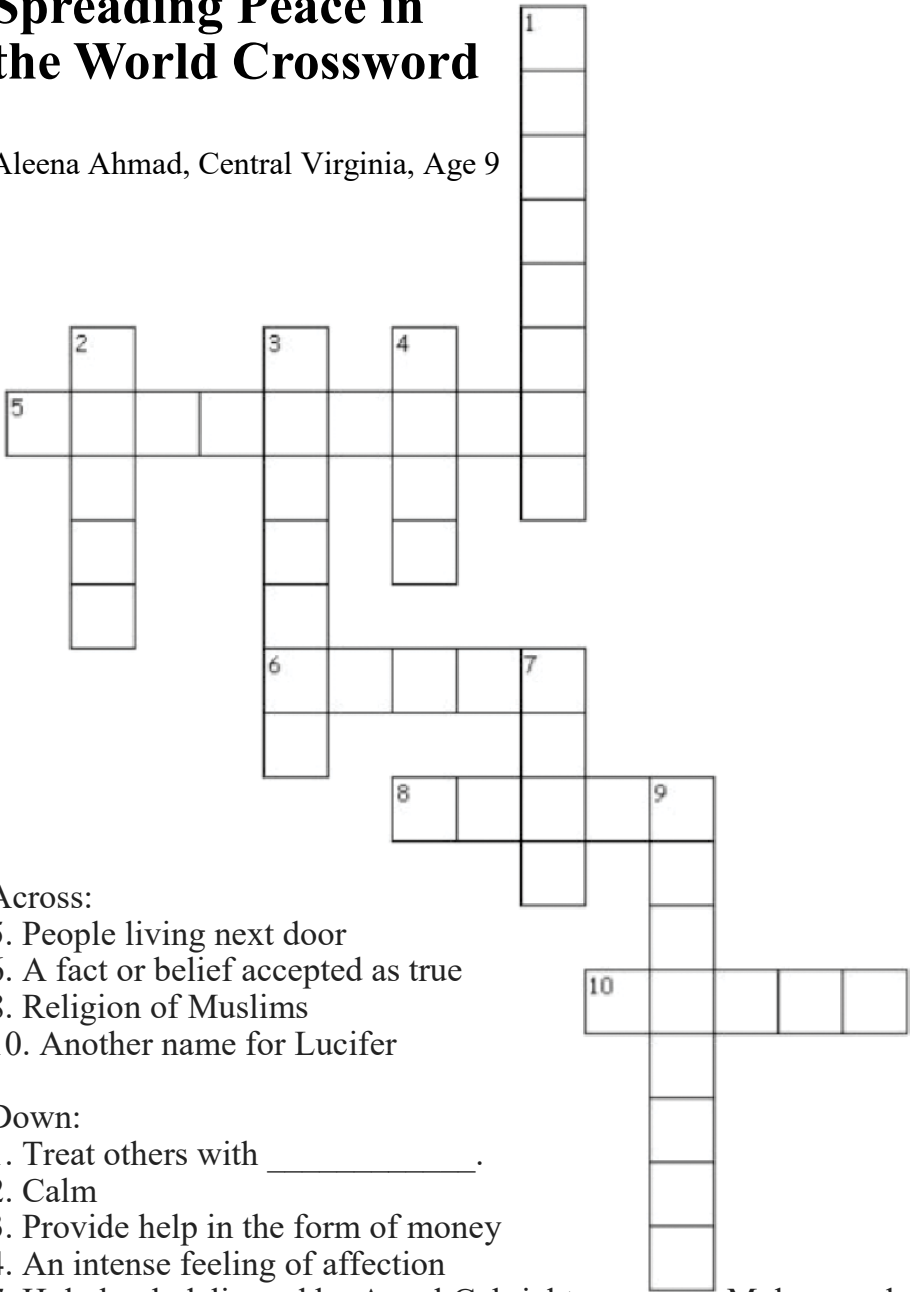
May Allah enable us to follow the example set by the Holy Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), the unparalleled example during the conquest of Mecca and forgiveness given to all his tormenters.





# Spreading Peace in the World Crossword

Aleena Ahmad, Central Virginia, Age 9



**Across:**

- 5. People living next door
- 6. A fact or belief accepted as true
- 8. Religion of Muslims
- 10. Another name for Lucifer

**Down:**

- 1. Treat others with \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2. Calm
- 3. Provide help in the form of money
- 4. An intense feeling of affection
- 7. Holy book delivered by Angel Gabriel to (may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him)
- 9. The prophet of Islam

Muhammad



# The Power of Peace

Armaan Asad, Silver Spring, Age 10

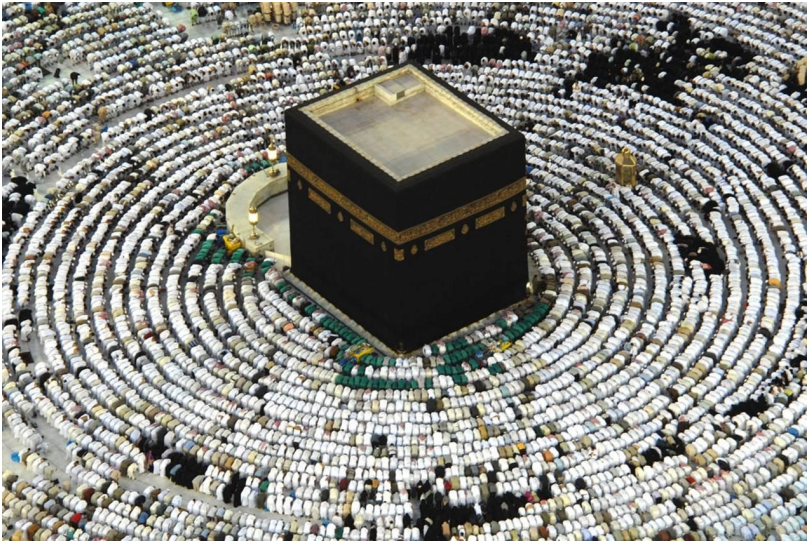
*He who is not kind to our younger ones and does not recognize the right of our elders, is not from among us (Abu Dawūd)*

According to this Hadith, our elders must treat their youngers with kindness and respect instead of looking down on them. Similarly, our younger ones must show kindness and respect to their elders.

This Hadith emphasizes that it is forbidden for any group of society to look down upon another one because the other group may become better than the first. An easy way to incorporate this Hadith into our lives is to show kindness to the people in our family.

If all of us help improve family relationships, we can create peace in our homes. It is important to start with peace in your own home so that you can then begin spreading peace to others. Any small action you can make towards spreading peace can have a big impact. Instead of thinking you are better than another, you should first listen to the other person and, if you disagree, rather than arguing your point and getting upset, you could be the better person and think of a way for both people to compromise. We see this in the life of our Holy Prophet Muhammad (may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), the prince of peace. When the Meccans were arguing over which tribe would put the black stone in the Ka'ba, Muhammad (may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) told each leader of the four tribes to hold the four corners of the cloth the black stone was on and carry it together. Muhammad (may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) himself took the black stone from the cloth and placed it in the Ka'ba. By doing this, he showed the tribe leaders the importance of compromise and working together to be peaceful.

From this, I have learned to improve my attitude and respect my parents and siblings, and I will continue doing so, *In Sha Allah.*



# Mosques Make the World a Better Place: A Trip to Faisal Mosque

**Haris Mahmood, Miami, Age 10**

Last summer, I visited Pakistan to see my family. We visited a couple of awesome mosques over there. Mosques are a place of worship and a place you can go to bring peace to yourself. My favorite one is Faisal Mosque, Islamabad! When I walked towards the mosque, the first thing I noticed was a beautiful, huge building entirely made of white marble. Inside the mosque, I spotted an awesome water fountain. There was a huge Holy Quran inside a locked room. I was able to see the beautiful view of Islamabad from the roof of the mosque. It has a huge prayer hall that only opens at the time of prayer.

The mosque was completed in the year 1986. The designer of the mosque is a Turkish architect, Vedat Dalokay. The designer of the mosque won the Agha Khan Award for his unique design. The mosque is one of the most beautiful mosques around the world. It is the biggest mosque in Pakistan. The mosque looks like a white marble tent with four pillars in the corners. The capacity of the mosque is 200,000 people. The construction cost was 120 million U.S. dollars.



My favorite part of the mosque is the water fountain and the huge fish aquarium. I recommend all my readers to visit this mosque whenever you get a chance. I hope you will like it as much as I did!

# Glossary

Abū Dāwūd ابو داود : A collection of Aḥadīth. The author of this collection.

Al-Ḥamdu Lillāh اَلْحَمْدُ لِلّٰهِ : All praise belongs to Allah.

al-Hilāl الهلال : The new moon.

Āmīn [Āmeen, Aameen] آمين : So be it. Amen. Ceremony to commemorate the completion of the first reading of the Holy Quran.

As-Salāmu ‘Alaikum اَلسَّلَامُ عَلَيْكُمْ May peace be upon you. (The formation assalam-o or assalam-u is incorrect as there is no waw و after mīm م, hence the abbreviation AoA or A.O.A. or A-o-A is also incorrect.)

Chanda: چنده Monetary contribution, donation. (The ha at the end is to indicate a fath on dal, and is not pronounced, so should not be explicitly written in the transliteration of the word.)

Ḥaḍrat حضرت [Hadhrat, Ḥaḍrat]: His Holiness

Aḥmad, Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Masroor (1950-...) حضرت مرزا مسرور احمد, may Allah strengthen him with His mighty support: Fifth successor (2003-...) to the Promised Messiah (peace be on him).

Ḥuḍūr [Ḥudhūr, Ḥuzūr] حضور : His Honor, His Holiness, Your Honor, Your Holiness. In Urdu, it is spelled Ḥaḍūr [Ḥaḍoor, Ḥadhūr, Ḥadhoor, Ḥazūr, Ḥazoor].

Iftār افطار : breaking the Islamic formal fast at sunset

Iftārī افطاری : eating to break Islamic formal fast.

Nāsirāt ناصرات : helpers (feminine). A member of Majlis Nasirat-ul-Ahmadiyya, association of young Ahmadi girls.

ṣadaqah صدقه : alms

ṣallallāhu ‘alaihi wa sallam صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ : peace and blessings of Allah be on him.

Sipara سپاره : One of the thirty parts of the Holy Qur’ān. [sī سی : thirty. pāra پاره : part] Juz ٢٢ in Arabic.



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وَاللَّهُ يَدْعُوا إِلَى دَارِ السَّلَامِ  
وَيَهْدِي مَنْ يَشَاءُ  
إِلَى صِرَاطٍ مُسْتَقِيمٍ

And Allah calls to the abode of peace,  
and guides whom He pleases  
to the straight path.

(Holy Qur'an, 10 [Yūnus] : 26)

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