

Al Hilal



Preserving our Natural World

US \$2

A Magazine for Children

2023-2

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 Ahmadiyyat to their daily lives.

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Editor's Note:

The notation (sa) is an abbreviation of the prayer *sallallāhu ‘alaihi wa sallam* (peace and blessings of God be upon him), which we say for the Holy Prophet Muhammad (sa). Though the prayer has not been written in full it should nevertheless be understood as being repeated in full in each case.

Similarly, the notation (as) is an abbreviation of the prayer *‘alaihis-salam* (peace be upon him) and is used at the mention of the Promised Messiah (as) and all other prophets of God.

The notation (ra) is an abbreviation of the prayer *radiyallahu ‘anhu/‘anha/‘anhum* (may Allah be pleased with him/her/them) and is used for the companions of the Holy Prophet (sa) and the Promised Messiah (as).

The notation (aba) is an abbreviation of the prayer *ayyadahullahu ta’ala bi-nasrihil -‘aziz* (may Allah be his helper) and is used at the mention of the current Khalifa (aba).

Dear Reader, As-Salāmu ‘Alaikum!

If we just take time to reflect and notice how incredible, how beautiful our Natural World is and how essential it is for the sustenance of our good health and our lives and the lives of all living things, we realize that we cannot survive unless we live in cooperation with its boundaries. Allah tells us in the Holy Qur’an: *“In the creation of the heavens and the earth there are indeed signs for men of understanding”* [Ch. 3, V. 191].

I am profoundly grateful, therefore, that our children have taken interest and are aware of the urgent need to take action and make important changes in how we utilize these beautiful gifts. Please join me in listening to their heartfelt messages. May Allah enable us all to stand together with them at this important time, enable us to be well informed and be those who participate in preserving our Natural World, *Ameen*.

Was-Salām
Saliha Malik
Chief Editor, Al-Hilāl

القرآن الكريم

Holy Qur'an

إِنَّا جَعَلْنَا مَا عَلَى الْأَرْضِ زِينَةً لَهَا لِنَبْلُوهُمْ أَيُّهُمْ
أَحْسَنُ عَمَلًا ﴿٨﴾

“Verily, We have made all that is on the earth as an ornament for it, that We may try them as to which of them is best in conduct.”

[Ch. 18, V. 8]

وَسَخَّرَ لَكُمْ اللَّيْلَ وَالنَّهَارَ وَالشَّمْسَ وَالْقَمَرَ ط
وَالنُّجُومَ مُسَخَّرَاتٍ بِأَمْرِهِ ط إِنَّ فِي ذَلِكَ لَآيَاتٍ
لِّقَوْمٍ يَعْقِلُونَ

“And He has pressed into service for you the night and the day, and the sun and the moon; and the stars too have been pressed into service by His command. Surely, in that are Signs for a people who make use of their reason.”

[Ch. 16, V. 13]



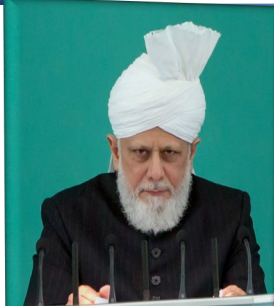
Hadith

The Holy Prophet of Islam (sa) said:

“There is none amongst the Muslims who plants a tree or sows seeds, and then a bird, or a person or an animal eats from it, but it is regarded as a charitable gift,”
Sahih Al-Bukhari (2320).

“Even if the Resurrection were established upon one of you while he has in his hand a sapling, let him plant it”
Musnad Ahmad (12902).

“The earth is sweet and green and verily Allah is going to appoint you as vicegerent in it to see how you act”
Sahih Muslim (2742).



Inauguration Address of Bait-un-Naseer Mosque Augsberg, Germany

Planting Trees of Love

April 11, 2017

Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad, Khalifat-ul-Masih V (aba) greeted the audience saying, 'All respected guests – As-Salamu 'Alaikum wa Rahmatullahi wa Barakatohu (may the peace and blessings of Allah be upon you). May Allah the Almighty always bestow you with peace and security. As one of the esteemed guests just said in his remarks, we have been commanded, in the portion of the Holy Qur'an that has just been recited, to perform virtuous deeds in parallel with offering prayers. True piety involves serving humanity, taking care of the impoverished, looking after orphans and doing other similar good deeds. Thus, when we construct a mosque, we do it with the hope and expectation that we will act upon the aforementioned teachings. Where we aim to fill mosques for the purpose of worship, there we also intend to conduct the task of serving humanity.

This is the fundamental teaching that an Ahmadi Muslim always keeps in view. In poor countries of the world, we serve humanity on this basis. Whilst we construct mosques on the one hand, we build schools and hospitals on the other. In fact, we have built model villages in remote areas of poor countries, to provide water and electricity where there had been no facilities and where the locals could never previously imagine having access to them. I have always said, by way of example, that here in the developed countries we do not truly value water, in spite of the fact that there are signs in hotels and other places asking people to conserve water and utilize it appropriately. However, we get a real sense of



the value of water when we visit the far-off regions of Africa, where village children are unable to go to school, to attain an education, because of poverty. And not only are they deprived of an education, but they also have to walk for miles with buckets on their heads to fetch filthy water from ponds so that at home they can use this water for cooking and drinking. When you then install water pumps or hand pumps in these areas, and provide clean drinking water to people, their excitement is a sight to behold. They are overjoyed and their happiness knows no bounds. Here in the West, in Europe and in Britain as well, people win lotteries and sometimes they win millions of dollars or pounds or Euros and are ecstatic and jump with joy as a result. However, if you could understand the feelings of destitute children who are able to get clean drinking water at their doorsteps, you would realize that for them, this is equivalent to winning millions of Euros in a lottery. In short these are the feelings in our hearts, and this is why, where we invite people towards Allah, there we will also carry out the work of serving all humanity.

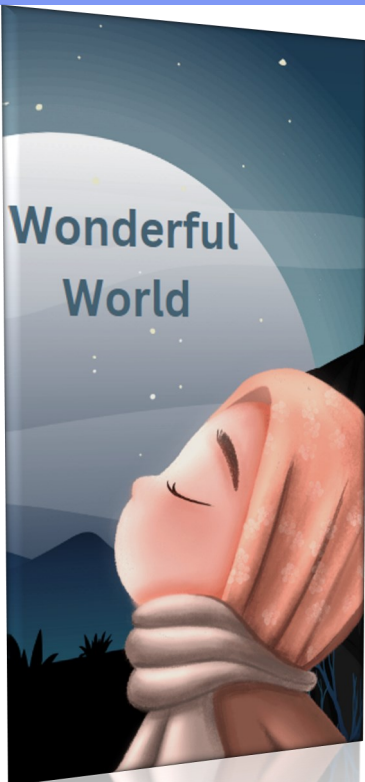
The mayor of this area mentioned that they planted a tree here in the mosque. Trees are planted to beautify the surroundings, to grow fruit and also to make the environment greener and more pleasant. These days there is a lot of emphasis on climate change and pollution, therefore a lot of plantation is taking place. However, aside from physical trees, we endeavor to plant trees of love. We wish to plant trees that not only beautify the area, keep the atmosphere clean and bear fruit, but trees that will also bear fruits of love. From us, our neighbors should receive only love and affection and the fulfillment of their rights. Thus, a tree has a physical identity, but this tree also has a spiritual identity for which we keep in mind and which every Ahmadi should keep in mind.

(Excerpts from Huzoor's (aba) Inauguration Address of Bait-un Naseer Mosque in Augsburg, Germany)



This Wonderful World

Amani Rahman/ Age 13/ Los Angeles



In the winter, I play in the snow
In spring, it rains for a while
During the summer, many flowers
grow
Throughout autumn, the leaves all
flow

How grateful I am to Allah for this
wonderful world!

In the morning I saw lots of birds
The leaves in the trees blew and fell
There were many sounds of nature
that I heard

At the beach I found a pretty shell
How grateful I am to Allah for this
wonderful world!

The oceans are full of calming waves

In the fields I love to run

I love exploring the dark cool caves

I love my world a ton

How grateful I am to Allah for
this wonderful world!



FIRST SAVE TREES

Hareem Bilal/ Age 10/ Virginia North

Trees are a part of nature. Trees are useful to mankind as well as animals in many ways. Life on earth is dependent on trees and sunlight. Trees are the most valuable source of life and provide us with oxygen, food, medicine, and shelter for living. Cutting trees without proper replanting plans should be stopped. People should plant more and more trees and we should not harm the trees because they keep us healthy by providing nourishment to our bodies and minds. To save life on earth we should first save trees.





🌸🌸~🌸🌸 **Atia Wali/ Age 13/ GA-SC** 🌸🌸~🌸🌸🌸

Did you know that without bees, we wouldn't have fruits and vegetables to eat? In fact, bees are the biggest pollinators on Earth. They not only pollinate, but they also produce honey, pollen, royal jelly, beeswax, and other substances that we can use. Bees also help with the production of medicine. Who could imagine that a small thing like bees could help cure diseases? Bees are so important that Allah Almighty named a whole chapter of the Holy Qur'an after them, **Surah An-Nahl**. But scientists predict that if the population of bees keeps on falling, the quality and quantity of fresh produce will fall at a very fast pace, which will negatively impact our nutrition intake.

You're probably thinking if bees are so important, how can we save them? Luckily, there are many ways to save bees including stopping the use of pesticides, growing a bee garden with plants they like, and planting more flowers. But the easiest action of all is not to kill them. If they come near you, just walk away.





Farwaa Rashad / Age 7 / Austin

When you go to the beach to have fun, play, eat, drink juice, or do other activities with your family, please do the following things:

- Pick up all the trash that you see, so that it doesn't get washed into the ocean.
- Don't throw things into the ocean because it is harmful to the animals that are living in the ocean.
- Don't leave anything behind. For example, bottles, trash, food, umbrellas, toys, and clothes.

We shouldn't throw stuff into the ocean because that will hurt the sea animals. They are Allah's creation, and we need to protect them. That is why we must take care of our oceans and keep them clean.



THE CHANGE WE NEED TODAY

Maya Almashhadny/ Age 10 / Buffalo

The ocean is piling up with plastics. I watched a documentary on PBS and I was shocked at the amount of plastic that is on the beaches. They said that birds were eating plastic thinking that it is actually fish. They also found a whale that had washed ashore with 90 pounds of plastic in its stomach. The experts predicted that by the year 2050 there will be more plastic than fish in the sea.



We use so much plastic. Look around your house; how much single use plastic do you see? Our fruit, bread, pizza, chips, maple syrup, and, of course, water bottles, come in plastic. Count the items in your kitchen that are in plastic that will be soon thrown away. How many did you find? 10? 20? Everything around us that we throw away on a daily or regular basis is in plastic. It is destroying our oceans and the planet that Allah gave us to live on.

What can we do? Experts in the PBS video said start small and then scale big. We can use metal and glass and other products besides plastic. Here are some things you can do starting today:



Instead of using plastic water bottles, get a filter that attaches to your sink faucet so you have clean filtered water. Now, you can buy a refillable stainless steel water bottle and take it everywhere you go instead of taking plastic water bottles.

When you throw your garbage away, pay attention and make sure you are putting recyclables in the recycle bin.

Instead of using plastic saran wrap they now sell wax paper wrap that can be used to keep your food fresh and will not be around for thousands of years as plastic wrap is.

Check out the website litterless.com and search for a store in your area that uses little to no plastic at all. Every state has a location or many locations.



I wish that they could ban plastic as it would be the change that we need today. What you can do is start to use plastic less and less. Once that happens, they may stop producing it if people are not using it. Do you have any ideas? This is the only way that we can start to preserve our natural world and prevent plastic from choking the oceans.



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A Perfect Place

Bashir Emanuel Ahmad/ Age 11/ Austin

Allah says in the Holy Qur'an, Ch. 55, V. 11.

“And He has set the earth for His creatures”



In this verse, Allah tells us He has given us a gift by creating a perfect place for us to live, so we should take care of what Allah has given us. Regarding taking care of the planet, I will be talking about the environmental problems on earth and how we can improve the situation. Major

environmental issues on our planet are pollution, burning fossil fuels, and deforestation. Pollution is when people litter or release harmful chemicals into the air. Fossil fuels are plants and animals from a long time ago that we use to produce energy. Deforestation is the action of clearing forests to grow crops or build cities.



In January 2021 while talking to Waqifeen-e-Nau Indonesia, Huzoor (aba) said that the increasing population is causing deforestation. He suggested that, “Deforestation is also causing climate change ... Whenever any tree is cut, you should plant two to replace it.” This is a great



idea! In fact, it is narrated by Anas bin Malik that the Holy Prophet (sa) said,

“There is none amongst the Muslims who plants a tree or sows seeds, and then a bird, or a person or an animal eats from it, but it is regarded as a charitable gift for him” (Bukhari).

This shows us the importance of planting trees, which is a part of our faith. By planting a tree, we will have cleaner air to breathe.

Another aspect of fighting climate change is to reduce, reuse, and recycle. We reduce so that we can cut back on the amount of trash we generate. Islam instructs us to not be wasteful as it is stated in the Holy Qur’an:

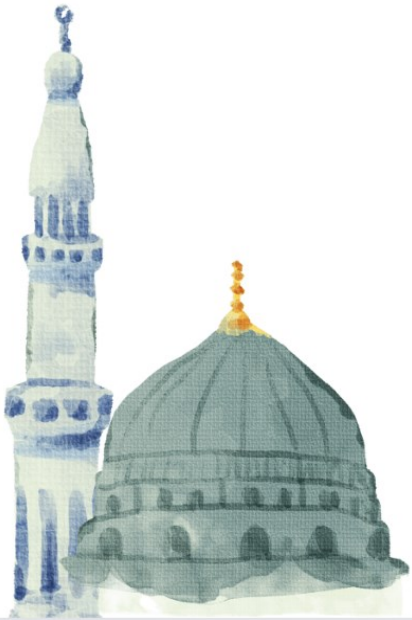


“O children of Adam! look to your adornment at every time and place of worship and eat and drink but exceed not the bounds; surely, He does not love those who exceed the bounds.”

[Ch. 7, V. 32.]

We reuse so that there is less trash in landfills. And we recycle so that some products do not go in the trash landfills. We must also conserve water. By conserving water, we will have enough for us in the future.

May Allah enable us to follow His guidance from the Holy Qur’an and take care of His gifts, *Ameen*.



EVERY ACT COUNTS!

Narmeen Rashad/ Age 11/ Austin

Have you ever wondered how much trash has been dumped into our oceans? Or how many animals are dying each year? I know I have! To help protect the ocean, there are many articles that explain how doing small acts can help improve the situation. Even though we are small, and our actions may seem like they are not making an impact, every act counts!

Have you ever gone to the beach and stepped on a piece of trash or plastic? I know I have! Beaches are a shared space, and so we all have a responsibility to make sure our beaches stay neat and clean. Here are some tips:

- 1) If you see any trash or litter when you're at the beach, pick it up immediately and throw it away in the nearest trash can.
- 2) If anyone you are with litters, politely tell them to pick it up and throw it away.
- 3) Remember not to litter yourself. Littering is bad for the environment, the animals that live at the beach, and for us. The more litter there is, the worse that environment will become.

Besides the ocean, we have a lot that we take for granted including the fact that we're breathing fresh, clean air every day. Allah has created many natural means for providing oxygen, including grass, bushes, trees, etc. But how do plants create oxygen for us? Well, plants produce oxygen through a process called photosynthesis.

Most life on Earth depends on photosynthesis. It's how plants make their own food and produce oxygen for us humans to breathe. Plants capture energy from the sun to produce oxygen, while storing glucose, a type of sugar that plants produce for their food. In fact, did you know that grass produces more air than trees do? Lawns are an excellent source of oxygen. While a backyard can produce enough



oxygen for a family of four, one acre is enough to produce oxygen for about sixty-four people. That's pretty cool!

Trees not only produce oxygen but are also a source of shade on a sunny day or a place to rest your back against after a long day. However, the sad reality is that people are cutting down trees for wood and lumber, resulting in deforestation. Deforestation is harmful to the environment and to us. Fifteen billion trees are being cut down each year, meaning less oxygen for us humans and animals. But on the bright side, approximately two billion trees are being planted each year. We can continue to improve this situation by planting trees, small shrubs, or flowering plants in our backyards.

Planting more trees also helps protect the bees. Have you ever reached for a jar of honey, tasting some and letting the

delicious taste linger on your tongue? I have! But have you ever wondered where this sticky and delicious substance comes from? It comes from bees! Bees collect pollen and nectar from flowers and then bring it back to the hive. Did you know that a bee may have to visit one thousand flowers in order for its honey stomach to be full of nectar? Imagine all the hard work bees put in to make the yummy, sticky, substance we all enjoy as honey.

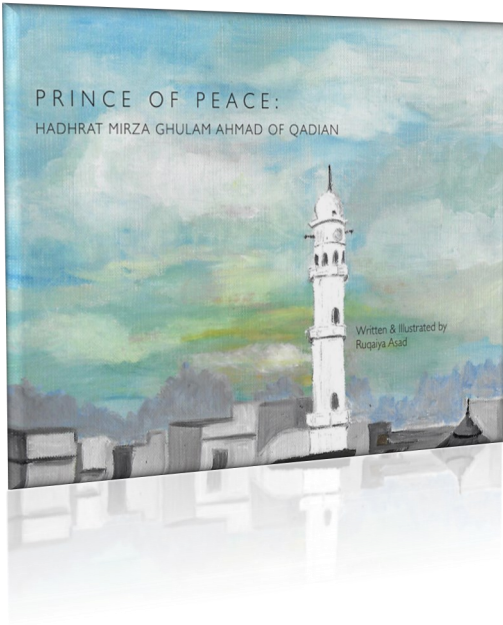
Bees are essential for ecosystems and for us. If bees die out, our food supply would decrease significantly.

In conclusion we need to work together to make sure that we keep our environments safe and clean for generations to come. I hope that we all take action to keep this world clean and cared for, *Ameen*.



New Children's Book

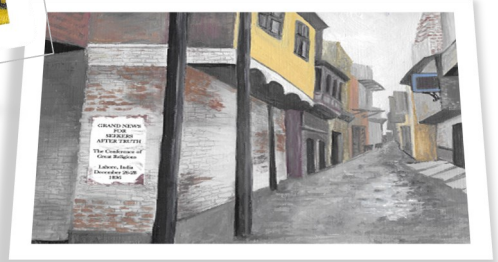
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TREES



AAKIFA FAZAL AHMED, AGE 9, OSHKOSH

Allah created trees
Now, take care of these!
Trees make air
We need this air to breathe.



Trees give us food and shade
A place to stay and to play
Their work helps us every day!



We need clean air
So, to make this fair
Don't chop too many trees
Plant more of them please.

You see, global warming is bad
So stop wasting stuff or I'll be sad
And trees will be mad.



Please help stop global warming!
The universe is giving you a warning
So, start reforming...

Let's work together
To save the weather
Some people say 'whatever'
But us altogether
We'll be happy forever!



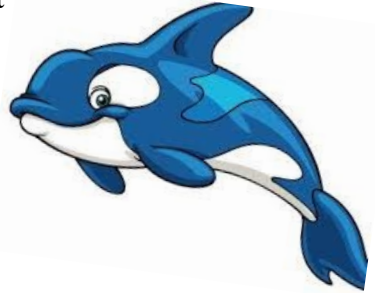
If we are wasteful..


Sabeeka Kamran Syeda/ Age 11 / Fort Worth

In The Holy Qur'an Allah says:

"O children of Adam! look to your adornment at every time and place of worship and eat and drink but exceed not the bounds; surely, He does not love those who exceed the bounds." [Ch. 7, V. 32]

To preserve our natural world, we must use less, waste less and recycle. We can help save the environment by planting trees. Remember to recycle paper so that the wood cutters need not cut down so many trees. Instead of using fossil fuels or coal we could create electricity by using water dams or by putting solar panels on our roofs. Did you know that only 3% of the earth's water is fresh? We should not just waste water, we should also not pollute it. Think about the many animals that live under water! They might get sick or even die if they eat all that trash that we throw. If we are wasteful God might take everything away from us.





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Complexities of our Natural World

Lailah Rehman / Age 15 / Los Angeles

Allah has created our beautiful world and we all need to take the time to explore the beauties within it. Often, we just take our world for granted and never really think deeply about everything that Allah has created on Earth and how everything has a purpose. Allah says in the Holy Qur'an:

“Therewith He grows corn for you, and the olive and the date-palm, and the grapes, and all kinds of fruits. Surely, in that is a Sign for a people who reflect.” [Ch. 16, V. 12]

And this is what we need to do now - we need to reflect on everything that Allah has given us in this beautiful natural world.

I would love to talk about the importance of plants and trees. Without plants, we wouldn't be able to survive because plants give us oxygen which we use to breathe. It was incredible learning about the details of photosynthesis and the long and detailed processes Allah has created for plants to go through to provide us with oxygen. Plants also provide food for most animals in the world. Some animals eat the plants themselves while others gain sustenance from the fruits and vegetables they produce.

Trees and plants are also vital in conserving water. For instance, many animals in the desert depend on desert plants like cacti to get water. Allah has created these miraculous plants as a way for these creatures to survive in such a hostile environment.

As we can see, this is just a small example of the many complexities and beauties that Allah has created in our natural world. *Al-Hamdu Lillah!*

ADVANTAGES AND IMPORTANCE OF TREES

Malaika Khan/ Age 14/ North Jersey

Trees are of priceless importance to our environment and to human wellbeing. Plants and Trees fight the climatic



changes that are destroying the earth. Trees absorb the harmful chemical gasses and odors from the environment. Also, they take in the harmful carbon dioxide and give out oxygen. They give us the

air that we breathe. They are the source of maintaining water and producing fresh oxygen on earth. Cutting trees means destroying life on earth. Trees help to reduce noise pollution. Trees help clean the soil, especially the bigger trees as they suck up more contaminates through their roots faster than smaller trees.

The diversity of tree species brings many benefits. They give us food, shelter and many more things that we are usually not aware of.

Besides, they never demand anything from us! They help prevent soil erosion and water evaporation. Trees keep the temperature cool. Trees help to reduce landslide risks. Trees help create pleasant and beautiful spaces to live and play. Above all, they help to control and manage the effects of wind, sun, and rain.



How to save the trees?

People have become more aware and serious about the need to save trees. We must plant more trees and use organic fertilizer to help them grow. We can use less paper and choose recycled paper products. We can use reusable alternatives to disposable products such as napkins or bags. Go paperless for bills and unsubscribe junk mail etc.

The forest department and government have now banned the illegal cutting of trees. And they are going to use different technology to save paper which will reduce the number of trees being cut down for making paper. So, the time has come for us to be responsible and start finding ways to save our beautiful green trees.



<http://www.mta.tv>

A screenshot of the MTA International website. The header features the MTA International logo on the left and navigation links for Google play, Phone, and Roku on the right. Below the header, there are menu items: Home, Schedules, Programmes, and Live. A search bar is also present. The main content area is divided into two sections. The left section is titled 'ON DEMAND' and features a play button icon, the MTA logo, and the text 'A comprehensive online resource of MTA International's programmes'. The right section is titled 'LIVE STREAM' and features a large play button icon and the text 'CLICK HERE TO WATCH'.

HOW I HELP REDUCE PLASTIC WASTE

AMTULBASIT AHMAD / AGE 12 / GA-SC

Plastic waste is a serious problem for our planet. Plastic waste is choking our oceans. When plastic pollutes our oceans, a lot of the animals we love die because they get tangled up in plastic or even swallow it. Plastic waste negatively impacts our planet. Plastic is very harmful to our environment causing chemical pollution and endangering land



animals. We should do something to help. One of the things I do to help reduce plastic waste is recycle. Recycling can play a big part in reducing plastic waste and it can lower the impact plastic has on our planet and animals. This is how I help reduce plastic waste.



Plastic Waste



Affan Hadi Tahir / Age 8 / Dallas



Plastic is very destructive to our planet. It affects forests, oceans, rivers, deserts, canals, and animals. Plastic harms all these things because it is polluting the environment. Animals like deer, cows, dolphins, whales, fish, bears, and even hedgehogs are at risk

from plastics entering their bodies. Making plastic also gives off fumes that affect our air quality and cause global warming, which in turn greatly harms human beings.



Allah has warned human beings about climate change in Surah Al-Anbiya' when He says:

“And We have made the heaven a roof, well protected; yet they turn away from its Signs.”

[Ch. 21, V. 33]



Impacts of Climate Change



Sabeeka Ahmad/ Age 12/ Austin

Climate change is making a huge impact on our planet. The increase in Earth's temperature is rapidly changing weather patterns. Almost all of the Earth has experienced heat waves recently. This can result in wildfires that start and spread quickly. The recent Canadian wildfires have burned millions of acres, displaced thousands of people, and polluted the air quality.

The increase in temperature is also melting ice sheets and glaciers, especially in Antarctica and Greenland, which is contributing to rising sea levels. This will cause many coastal areas and islands to be at risk of becoming submerged in the future.

Global warming is also causing more intense storms like the recent Hurricane Idalia, which devastated parts of the southeastern US. These extreme storms result in flooding, landslides, tornadoes, heavy wind gusts, and storm surges.



Some rivers like the Mississippi River, and lakes like Lake Mead in Las Vegas are shrinking quickly due to the Earth's rising temperatures. These drying bodies of water mean less drinking water, less water for growing crops, and the loss of aquatic habitat for plants and animals.

Climate change has also been causing droughts in countries such as Somalia, where millions of people do not have enough food due to water shortage.

The extreme weather conditions created by climate change are not only shrinking food and water supplies, but also resulting in natural disasters that ruin communities, destroy livelihoods, displace people, and lead to poverty.



the
Review of Religions

Magazine of Comparative Religious Thought

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

BEE KIND!

Maheen Mirza/ Age 11/ Virginia North

Have you ever had a fear of bees? Did you know that bees are important for the Earth? Without bees, we wouldn't have as much food to eat. Why?

As one of the world's most important pollinators, we rely on bees to transport pollen from one flower to the next in the life cycle of fruits, vegetables, and many other plants. Bees are also important because they provide food for wildlife and prevent soil erosion. In fact, bees are so important that they are mentioned in the Holy Qur'an! In **Surah An-Nahl**, Chapter 16, verses 69-70, bees are said to be Allah's miracles. If bees disappear, humans would have only four years left to live! The Holy Prophet (sa) said: **"By the One in whose hand is the soul of Muhammad, that surely the example of a believer is like that of a bee. It only eats pure things and indeed provides a pure thing"** (Musnad Ahmad bin Hanbal).



Bees make honey, and honey is good for sore throats and coughs! In the Holy Qur'an, honey is described as a source of healing and raw honey is said to have strong medicinal benefits. The Holy Prophet (sa) would put honey in his water in the mornings. Honey is also mentioned as one of the foods of Paradise.

As you can see, bees are an important part of our ecosystem and provide an important source of food and healing. One way we can help save the bees is by protecting current bee habitats by planting wildflowers and other plants. Another way is to not use harmful pesticides.

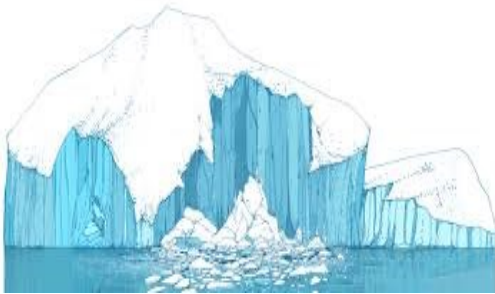
I hope the next time you see a bee you won't be so scared, as you will remember all the wonderful things they do for humans and planet Earth!



WHAT WE CAN DO...

Sarmad Ahmad / Age 11 / Virginia South

Helping the earth at its current state is very necessary because the direction it's going in now will make our arctic glaciers melt completely and flood our oceans all around the world by up to one hundred and fifteen feet! Even more,



some places will reach up to one hundred and thirty degrees in summer every day by 2100! This seems very unpleasant, but there are quite a few things you can do to help with this problem of ours to make the Earth a better place.

Firstly, we need to talk about the cause. It's mainly carbon, methane, nitrous oxide, HCFC's, HFC's, and ozone that trap heat into our atmosphere, which makes the heat take longer to leave because when it hits these gas molecules, it reflects back to earth and makes our weather warmer. But luckily, plants like eating carbon, and it's beneficial for their survival. And even better, they give us better and cleaner air, which is exactly what we need. But there aren't nearly enough plants to make a big difference to this problem. One thing you can do to help is to plant a few trees every few weeks. Doing this takes out carbon from the atmosphere to make this change of heat slow down. The more you plant, the better!



Or you could look at it from nature's side. Since fossil fuel cars are terrible for the environment, (because of the gasses they put into the air) another thing you can do is to use your car less and bike or walk more.

You should also cut down on throwing away trash (especially plastic) because that too affects plants and all the animals around it. It even affects us! How? Because, when you throw away plastic, 11 %of it gets burned which isn't exactly helping as it only adds more toxins into the air.



Most of it (65 % of it) ends up into the ocean, which is an entirely different problem as it affects the ecosystems and disrupts the food webs of billions of animals. It means they can die due to plastic and the trash we throw away. Over 101 million animals in the ocean die each year because of littering, or just because of plastic in the ocean. Not to mention the plants... and even after that, we're still adding more toxic things into the ocean! So, try using paper straws instead of plastic. Avoid buying plastic cutlery, bowls, and cups, unless you really have

to. You can find all of them in paper, which, when recycled, is **way** better than using a plastic version.

Speaking of recycling; recycling is awesome. Instead of buying another plastic bottle after throwing one away, just recycle the bottle by either using it again, or throwing it away in the recycle bin. That alone saves up to thirtysix pounds of carbon! Recycle everything you can. Paper, books, boxes, bottles, and old notebooks/workbooks are all great things to recycle, and you can recycle cans, too. You can even recycle glass an infinite number of times, and if you can't put glass into the recycling bin, then just clean it and use it again! But, sadly, 65% of people just throw it away. This plus the fact that only 24% of all trash is recycled makes it more crucial to recycle.

A very simple and effective way that you can help with this ongoing problem is by praying to Allah. Climate change is also being caused because people are getting greedy and just for the sake of money, are making more plastic, and generating more harmful gasses into the air from factories. We must pray to Allah! May they change their minds and realize that they are doing something wrong. Or may what we and many other organizations are doing regarding the environment actually fix or help the current state our Earth is in, *Ameen*.



Some of this information comes from [Kurzgezagt's YouTube channel](#) in their multiple videos about climate change. The [World Meteorological Organization](#) also made an essay which I researched, as well. You should also take a look at recyclenow.com.

Butterflies

Amna Ahmad/ Age 8/ Virginia North



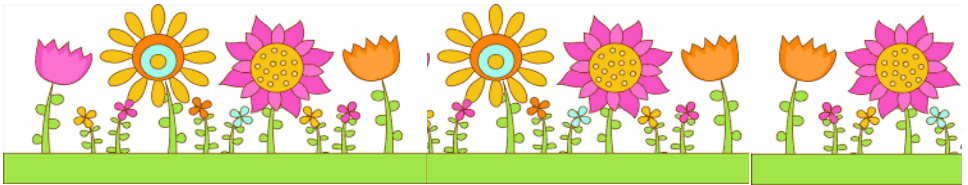
Why are butterflies important to us? Butterflies, bees, and birds do 75% of the world's plant pollination. Pollination helps fruits, vegetables and flowers to produce new seeds. Visits from pollinators also produce more flavorful fruits and higher crop yields. Did

you know there are about twenty thousand different types of butterflies? There are seven hundred and fifty types of butterflies in the USA. Monarch butterflies were one of the most common types of butterflies in the USA. However, Monarch butterflies were declared endangered in July 2022. They are endangered because of using too many chemicals in agriculture and construction.



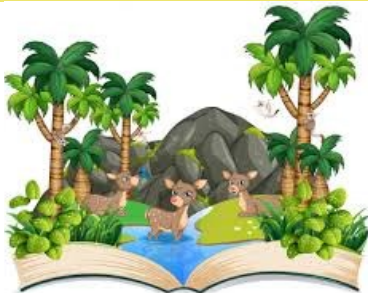
Here are ways we can protect butterflies:

- Avoid using pesticides.
- Plant milkweed which provides food and a place for them to lay their eggs.
- Create a garden with plants that have lots of nectar.



Conserving the Natural World

Manal Ahmad/ Age 10/ Virginia North



Many people forget how much we depend on nature. No matter who you are, we all need water to drink, food to eat, and oxygen to breathe. In that way, we all are very similar to each other. But many of us forget that all our needs come from nature. The air is purified by plants, we drink from freshwater sources, and we eat plants, crops, and animals from nature. One of Allah's names is *Ar-Rahman*, which means The Most Merciful. Mercy falls into the category of providing. Allah provided us with freshwater to drink, plants to purify the air, food to eat, and nature. So, it is up to us to thank Him through our five daily prayers, reading and understanding His Holy Book (the Holy Qur'an), and protecting and preserving his creation.

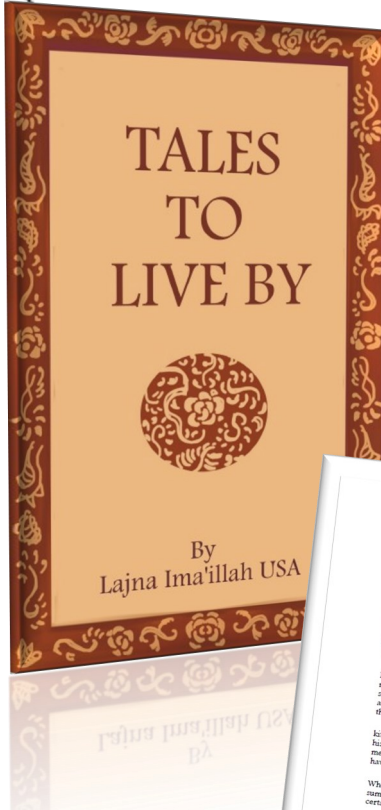
We must do our best to preserve and protect nature to give our thanks to Allah and protect our future. We can use less water when brushing, showering, and washing the dishes. We can use less disposable plastic and instead use reusable bottles, forks, knives, spoons, cups, and plates. Instead of throwing away your trash, try composting, or reusing and recycling. If you do all of this, then you protect your future and nature, and, above all it will please Allah!



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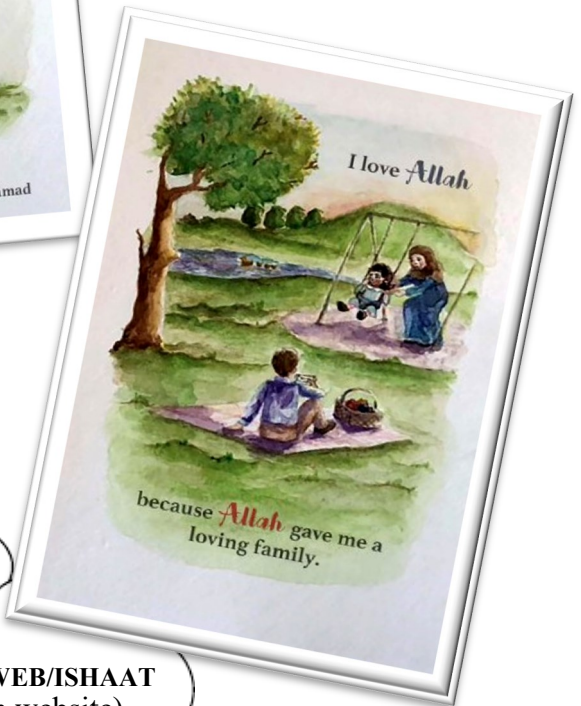


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THE EARTH IS IN TROUBLE!

Nymah Farid/ Age 14/ Minnesota

The Earth is a blessing. Allah Almighty gave us this wonderful planet to live on and take care of, but people haven't been doing the best job. Our home is now facing many challenges, mostly caused by mankind. Global warming, rapid deforestation, and pollution are some of the biggest problems. Sometimes people forget that the small things they do, like littering, can cause severe harm to the planet in the long run.

Pollution and global warming are some of the greater threats to the environment. There are three kinds of pollution that many people contribute to daily: land, water, and air pollution. Some main causes of land pollution include littering, construction, and urbanization. Things like glass bottles, aluminum cans, and plastic bags take decades to decompose. Before they decompose, they cause problems for a lot of wildlife, sometimes being mistaken by animals as food and harming plant growth. A lot of their items end up in landfills, which release many toxins into the environment.

Water pollution is a lot like land pollution. Marine life chokes to death because of the plastic and paper thrown into the ocean. That isn't even mentioning oil spills. Oil spills in water are toxic for marine life and can cause fires to spread across the oil that floats atop the water. When land or marine animals are poisoned, the toxins become part of their body. If humans eat animals that have consumed toxic chemicals, we will also be affected by these chemicals.

Air pollution is caused by gasses and chemicals. A lot of air pollution comes from automobiles and factories. Poor air quality is a huge hazard to the health of so many living beings, as all of them need oxygen to survive. Air pollution is also a cause of climate change. The more greenhouse gasses that are released into the air from cars and factories, the more the Earth heats up. Global

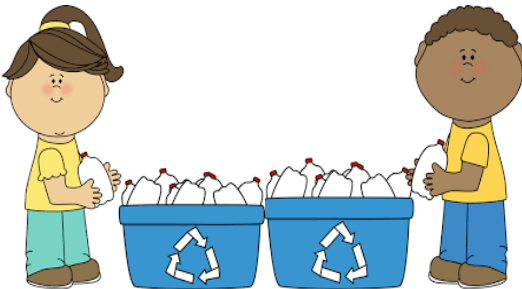


warming is an alarming situation which is causing a lot of problems on our planet. These include the melting of glaciers, sea levels rising, extreme weather conditions, and so on.

Another thing that severely harms air quality is deforestation. When trees are cut down faster than they can be replaced, there are less plants to turn carbon dioxide into oxygen. Deforestation also causes many animals to lose their habitats and become endangered, sometimes going extinct. Using up natural resources faster than they form is going to cause the collapse of humanity at some point. We've been using too much fossil fuel, cutting down trees too quickly, and urbanizing too many places. As the years go on, the amount of natural resources, especially non-renewable resources, has been decreasing. If we don't do something about it, then we're going to run out of our limited resources far sooner than we should.

There are many things that we can do to help the environment and conserve our resources. You've probably heard of the three Rs: reduce, recycle, and reuse. By reducing waste, reusing items, and recycling things to make new items, we can easily decrease the amount of waste that ends up in landfills daily. Picking up trash and avoiding littering will help reduce land and water pollution as well. To minimize air pollution, people can carpool, or walk more or go by bike.

We should also do our best to minimize our usage of electricity, and make sure to not waste water or food. People have urbanized many places on Earth, but the remaining natural habitats should be left alone and allowed to thrive. These lives that Allah Almighty has given each of us will not last forever, but we should take great care to keep the Earth in good condition and not cause any more harm to the environment, so that future generations can live their best life as well.



Surely those who pray, and take care of the creatures, plants, and people around them will be those who reside in heaven in the hereafter, *In Sha' Allah.*

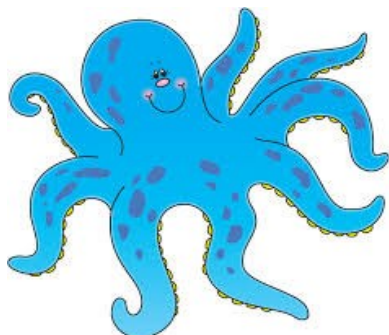
Save Our Oceans!

Hibba tul Malik Wali / Age 9/ GA-SC

Day by day, our oceans are getting more polluted. Because of that, the animals and fish that live in the oceans are dying. We have to save our oceans. We just need to follow some rules to save our oceans, but if we don't do it right now, it may be too late. Here are some things you can do:

- If you go to the beach and see trash, pick it up.
- Don't throw trash in the ocean.
- Participate in beach clean ups.
- Use reusable bags.
- Reduce, reuse, and recycle.

If everyone starts following these rules, soon our oceans may be clean and the animals that live in the oceans will be safe, *In Sha' Allah*.



Kashifa Nadeem/ Age 8 / GA-SC

To save our oceans, we have to keep trash and plastic away from the sea. People treat oceans as a trash container, which makes them dangerous for living creatures. People find plastic stuck in the throats of animals, like seals, and sometimes they die due to eating plastic. The most important thing is not to put anything in the ocean and keep it clean. We get much of our water from big bodies like seas and oceans and it's our responsibility to keep them clean. May Allah guide us to the right path, *Ameen*.



Save Our Oceans!

Eshal Ayaz/ Age 9/ Milwaukee

Stop putting plastic into the ocean! Allah has made beautiful creations in the sea like fish, turtles, and jellyfish. If you put plastic in the ocean, the sea animals will get entangled. But how can we help stop it? Just do the three Rs: reduce, reuse, and recycle. Reduce by using as little plastic as possible. Reuse by making something out of the plastic. Finally, if you have something that can be recycled, then recycle it. If you reduce, reuse, and recycle, you can help Allah's creation



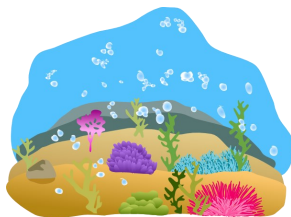
Zuhair Ubayd Tahir/ Age 11/ Dallas

In the Holy Qur'an, Surah Ar-Rahman, Allah states:

"That you may not exceed the measure" [Ch. 55, V. 9].

Allah has imposed a balance on earth, and we should not disturb it. Two-thirds of our planet is made up of ocean water. It may be where life began on Earth, and it still affects our lives every day. Oceans are where we get half of our oxygen from. Oceans also affect the climate. A few ways of saving our oceans could be by using less water to reduce the flow of wastewater into the ocean. We can also try to minimize the use of pollutants such as plastic, fossil fuels, and other toxic chemicals that enter the ocean. Practical ways that families can help the ocean are by shopping mindfully, using reusable bags, recycling all your plastics, cardboard, and glass, and not littering. In Surah Ar-Rahman Allah says:

"And He has set the earth for His creatures" [Ch. 55, V. 11].



How I take care of plastic waste



Zara Talha/ Age 6/ GA-SC

1. Throw all plastic waste in the recycling bin.
2. Buy reusable containers, jugs, silverware, bottles, and straws.
3. Always use reusable shopping and grocery bags.
4. Keep trash and recycling bins separate in the kitchen and garage.
5. Don't use too much plastic! If lots of people use too much plastic, it will end up in local landfills.
6. Keep catalogs and menus online.
7. Use fewer plastic laminators.



JOIN A CLEANUP GROUP!

Mahnoor Khan/ Age 13/ Virginia North



“... and create not disorder in the earth after it has been set in order. This is better for you, if you are believers.” [The Holy Qur’an, Ch. 7, V. 86]

Allah put us on Earth for many reasons. By being reckless and taking Earth out of its natural state, we are disrespecting Allah’s creation. People are polluting the Earth more and more every day. Most big corporations have a

combined output of 30.56 billion tons of greenhouse gasses. The average American tosses 4.5 pounds of trash every day. Since the 1600's, around six hundred and eighty vertebrate species have gone extinct due to carelessness.

There are many simple things that can be done every day to reduce our carbon footprint. For example, conserving water can be done easily through daily tasks. Another thing that can be easily done is recycling and being more aware of how much trash we are producing. Finally, if we want to make a difference, we can join a volunteer cleanup group in our community.



PRESERVING OUR WORLD

Sofia Shahid/ Age 9/ Chicago



Earth is our home, but it seems as if we don't care if it is hurt. We cut the trees which give us fresh air, we pollute the oceans which hurts the fish, and it seems as if we don't care.

So here are some ideas to help the environment. Greenery makes the Earth look clean and trees clean the air. If there were no trees, we would all die because trees produce oxygen. Please help the Earth by planting trees. We leave trash on the ground, which as it degrades causes pollution; please put litter in the trash can. We put plastic waste in the ocean which hurts the fish and then we eat them. This could be bad for our health as well. Hurting the environment also hurts us. In a nutshell, preserving our world is like preserving ourselves. As the Holy Prophet (sa) said **“Cleanliness is a part of our faith”** (Muslim).

Preserving our Natural World

Word Scramble



Shafiq / Age 11/ Los Angeles

ESTRE _____

EDESTRONOATFI _____

RLODW _____

LSNMIAA _____

ANOCE _____

NASLTP _____

DSRLWEIFI _____

IRCARNHESU _____

ITMCLAE ENHGAC _____

HATER _____

LAALH _____

EDESTR _____

SILAM _____

YERAPSR _____

Save Our Planet

Jaziba Ahmad/ Age 14/ Austin



Every day, we hear the urge to stop our global temperature from rising. First let's understand what global warming is. Global warming is the rapid rise of the Earth's average temperature due to greenhouse gasses. Greenhouse gasses keep the heat inside the Earth's atmosphere, not allowing it to escape, and, over time, this heat warms up our planet. Even though many greenhouse gasses form

naturally, some of the things we do are increasing the formation of these gasses. For example, cutting down trees, burning fossil fuels, and raising livestock all increase the Earth's temperature. So then, what can we do?

There are a few ways to help. The energy used to power our homes comes from burning fossil fuels. We can reduce the amount of energy we use by using LED light bulbs, turning off unnecessary lights, and using energy-efficient devices. We can also switch to solar or wind power as an energy source for our homes. Cars and airplanes are also big contributors to greenhouse gasses. For shorter distances, we should try walking or taking a bike. For longer distances, we can take the train/metro/bus or carpool with someone. Another option is buying an electric car. These cars don't use fossil fuels to run, but instead use electricity, charging them like we charge our phones. Most importantly, we must remember to reduce, reuse, and recycle. Even though these things sound simple and make a small impact, over time, these little things will make a huge impact. If we can all do our part, we can save our planet.

A SHARED OBLIGATION

Tanzeela Ahmed/ Age 11/ Virginia North



The protection of our natural world is a responsibility that falls upon all of us. It's crucial to understand the importance of safeguarding the environment. Our environment not only delivers awe-inspiring landscapes, but it also fulfills our basic needs and promotes a sustainable future. Sadly, it faces threats from practices like deforestation and pollution. One significant aspect of the natural world is its ability to provide us with tranquility and serenity. Whether it be standing amidst lush green valleys or hearing the melodious chirping of birds, preserving these places allows us to escape the chaos of modern life and find solace in the beauty of nature.

Furthermore, our environment offers essential resources that support our daily lives. Forests not only provide valuable timber but also act as natural air purifiers and serve as vital habitats. Oceans, on the other hand, not only supply food but also play a crucial role in regulating climate patterns and creating economic opportunities. By protecting these resources, we can foster a sustainable balance with our surroundings. Yet the natural world is currently facing significant challenges. Deforestation and pollution, driven by human actions, have become pressing issues. The loss of forests and destruction of habitats, as well as the contamination that affects ecosystems and human health, require us to take immediate action. Together, we can prioritize forest conservation and adopt practices that reduce pollution, such as recycling and minimizing plastic consumption.

Preserving our natural world requires a collective effort. As Nasirat, we can raise awareness among our peers, organize events

focused on environmental conservation, and support local groups dedicated to protecting our surroundings. Education plays a crucial role too. By incorporating environmental studies into our curriculum, we can nurture environmentally conscious individuals and demand sustainable practices from those in power. Together, we have the power to protect and nurture the environment that sustains us all.

FLORAL EARTH

Afia Ahmed/ Age 15/ Milwaukee

Almighty Allah has created wonderful, magnificent creations with such great purposes. Take a look at the intricate designs on these flowers. *Ma Sha' Allah*. Allah is Al-Musawwir, the Shaper of Beauty.



SPREAD THE MESSAGE OF PEACE

Sophia Chaudhry/ Age 13/ Virginia North

Preserving the world doesn't always have to do with nature but by helping our community through volunteering and participating in things that will end up benefiting the community and everyone in it. Islam teaches that it is important to help educate people about Islam and spread its message, which includes making



sure our world is a peaceful place. The Promised Messiah (as) said "Our Community should become exemplary. Whosoever in our community shows a poor example or displays weakness in his deeds is cruel." This quote itself shows how much the Promised Messiah (as) cared about his community and how people

were treated, and we should likewise care for our community and world and help preserve these values.

Another way to preserve our world would be to spread kindness and positivity throughout our lives. Allah Almighty says in the Holy Qur'an:

"Verily, Allah enjoins justice, and the doing of good to others; and giving like kindred; and forbids indecency, and manifest evil, and wrongful transgression. He admonishes you that you may take heed." [Ch. 16, V. 91].

This verse shows that we should abstain from being indecent towards anyone and we shouldn't be unkind to anyone or do wrong to others.



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18 MARCH 2022 / VIRTUAL MULAQAT WITH ATFAL USA

Tifl: *What should children do to come nearer to Allah?*

Huzoor (aba) How old are you?

Tifl: *Nine*

Huzoor (aba) Now you should offer your five daily prayers. We have five daily prayers – you know it? You offer five daily prayers: Fajr, Zuhr, Asr, Maghrib and Isha, right? And pray to Allah the Almighty in your prayers



that Allah makes you a good Muslim so that you come nearer to Him. Secondly you read the Holy Qur'an daily and if possible, you also read the translation of it. Try to learn the translation of it so that you know what is written in the Holy Qur'an. And when you know what is written in the Holy Qur'an, then you try to practice it. You follow what Allah the Almighty wants from you.

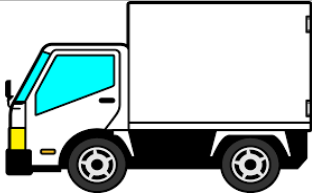
When you do all these things, when you see what Allah the Almighty wants from you that you become a good person who worships Allah the Almighty five times daily; you are the person who reads the Holy Qur'an and finds the commandments of Allah the Almighty from the Holy Qur'an; you are the person who behaves well towards your parents; you are the person who is good in dealing with your siblings; you are the person who respects your teachers in the school; you are the person who is also kind and friendly to your fellow students; you are the good students in your school not the naughty students, then you will become such a person who Allah the Almighty loves and then you will come nearer to Allah the Almighty, Okay?

Tifl: *Okay.*

Huzoor (aba) smiles and says: As-Salamu 'Alaikum!

GHOSTS IN THE CORNER HOUSE

Adult submission / Phoenix



Every morning, a big truck came to a screeching halt in front of John's home disturbing the quiet of the neighborhood. The driver of the truck dropped a bundle with a big thump and sped away as fast as it had come. The noise of the clunky engine of the truck woke up John from his deep sleep in his comfy bed.

He knew that it was the time to deliver newspapers in the neighborhood.



He changed his jammies and wore a warm

pair of clothes suitable for the morning chill. He loaded the bundle on his bicycle and off he went around his neighborhood to deliver the newspapers. He had to be careful today not to miss a new home added

to his route. He paddled away to deliver the newspapers. He slowed down in front of the homes he had to deliver a paper and softly threw the paper in the porch at the front door. Most homes were dark. Some homes had some lights on.

John approached the new home and threw the paper in the porch. As he passed by the living room window of the house, he saw ghosts. Ghosts in white flowing robes.



He was scared.

He paddled fast to the security of his home. He had not seen ghosts before. His parents were up by now. He shouted as he entered the house. “Ghosts live in the new home. Yes, they do. I saw them, wearing long white robes, standing in a row. Yes, I did.” “Okay, John. I believe you. We will drive with you tomorrow when you go to deliver newspapers.” His mom said.

John was very excited when he came back from school. He talked to his parents about ghosts. He read a ghost story before going to bed. He saw some good ghosts in his dreams that night.



The truck came with a roar next morning and dropped the newspaper bundle with a big thump. John’s parents followed his bike in their car. John dropped the newspapers along his route.

He dropped the paper at the new home, and look, there were ghosts in the living room! John stopped. The car stopped. They looked at the ghosts. One of the ghosts came to the front door, opened it, and said, “Can I help you?” John’s parents came out of the car. Pointing to John, his mom said, “Our son, John here, delivers papers.”

“Nice to meet you, John, and your parents,” the ghost said. “You looked scared yesterday when you left after dropping the paper.”

“I thought you were ghosts. I was scared. With your long white robes, you looked like ghosts in the dim lighting in the living room.” John responded.

The ghost said, “We wear these robes for our dawn prayers. We stand in a row and pray together.”

“Welcome to our neighborhood,” John’s dad said. “John won’t be scared anymore delivering paper at your home.”

Care for the Environment

Zaviyar Ahmad Khan/ Age 10/ Detroit

Islam, our religion, teaches us that caring for the environment is essential. The Holy Qur'an describes mankind as being stewards of the earth and, therefore, Muslims must care for the earth. The Holy Qur'an highlights this point:

“Corruption has appeared on land and sea because of what men’s hands have wrought” [Ch. 30, V. 42].

There are teachings in Islam that, if followed, will help the environment. The first way is not to be wasteful. Once, a companion of the Holy Prophet (sa) used too much water. When the Prophet (sa) saw it, he said, “What is this extravagance?” The companion responded, “Is there extravagance with water in ablution?” The Prophet (sa) replied, “Yes, even if you were on the banks of a flowing river” (Ibn Majah).

Although three-quarters of our planet is water, there is still not enough clean drinking water for many people living in underprivileged conditions. We should not waste water as it is an essential resource. Conservation of resources is an integral part of protecting and preserving the environment.



Another way that we can protect the planet is by protecting the ozone layer from damage. The ozone serves as the protective layer of the earth. It prevents dangerous radiation from the Sun and other stars. Humans have been using air conditioning, refrigerators, and motor vehicles that release chemical gasses that destroy the ozone layer. The Holy Qur'an states:

“Allah it is Who has made for you the earth a resting-place, and the heaven a canopy, and has given you shape and made your shapes perfect and has provided you with good things. Such is Allah, your Lord. So blessed is Allah, the Lord of the worlds.”

[Ch. 40, V. 65]



We can use bicycles to move around the city to protect the ozone. In cases where cars are needed, electric cars can be used to reduce pollution and protect our planet.



HOW TO MINIMIZE PLASTIC WASTE

Mirza Jaazib Fazal Ahmed/ Age 8/ Oshkosh



Using too much plastic waste causes pollution of our environment, which is bad for us and other living things such as fish, trees, and plants. This is true! Now here are some tips on how to minimize plastic waste.

First, we could recycle more, meaning put less in the garbage bin. We can also pick up trash, even if it isn't ours. For example, when you go to the beach, always pick up any plastic you see. Also, when you go to the park, you should collect trash and put it in the proper recycling bins. You could also use plastic bottles to make different things instead of throwing them away in the garbage. Instead of plastic use paper straws, paper cups, or glass cups. You can also snack on uncut fruits because they don't come in plastic containers.



Additionally, we should avoid using plastic toys, and instead, we could use wooden or fabric toys. We could also use reusable lunch boxes instead of Ziplocs, but **most importantly, never litter!**





Urooj Masood Khan/ Age 9/ Detroit

Planting trees is a good deed because trees provide oxygen and food, not just for humans, but also for many other animals. Many animals have homes in the trees. Trees are a blessing from Allah. Trees help prevent erosion of the topsoil in which farmers grow crops. Trees also help to prevent droughts and floods. A Hadith narrated by Anas ibn Malik narrates that the Holy Prophet Muhammad (sa) said, “There is none amongst the Muslims who plants a tree or sows a seed, and then a bird or a person, or an animal, eats from it but it is regarded as a charitable gift” (Bukhari).



We should not cut or damage trees and should water plants whenever possible. We should plant as many trees as possible as it is an act of charity.

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EXPLORING THE INCREDIBLE BENEFITS OF TREES

Samreen Farooq/ Age 14/ Oshkosh



You might be wondering, why trees are important? Well, many living things benefit from trees and they play an important role in our lives. Trees provide shelter and food for us humans, as well as for animals. Trees also give off the oxygen that we need to breathe. It is important to plant as many trees as possible, in order to create a healthy environment. Trees are a living part of nature, so it is our job to treat them with respect and cause no harm to them.



Trees are a special part of our world and there is even an olive tree in Bethlehem that has stood for five thousand years, which means it is older than Islam. Planting trees is an act of charity. The Holy Prophet (sa) said “There is none amongst the Muslims who plants a tree or sows seeds, and then a bird, or a person or an animal eats from it, but it is regarded as a charitable gift for him” (Bukhari). Just think about it, if you were to plant a tree, many things would benefit from it. For example, if you planted a fruit tree like an apple tree, we would be getting nutrients from that apple. Trees are so significant, especially because it has been mentioned in the Holy Qur’an that there are trees in the afterlife.



Nadia Ahmed/ Age 8/ Virginia South

Have you ever wanted to save the trees and stop them from being cut down? Well, I found some ways.

The first way is to plant more trees and use organic fertilizers to help them grow. The second way is to use less paper and opt for recycled paper products whenever possible. The third way is to minimize the use of disposable wood material.

You know, cutting down trees is one of the causes of climate change. Trees absorb carbon dioxide and help the environment to cool the planet, but when we cut trees, carbon dioxide will remain in the air and warm up the environment. Plants are necessary for us, and if we cut them down, we would not have sufficient oxygen.

The Holy Prophet said, “There is none amongst the Muslims who plants a tree or sows seeds, and then a bird, or a person or an animal eats from it, but it is regarded as a charitable gift for him” (Bukhari).



Let's Save the Bees

Fareeha Iqbal/ Age 11/ Virginia North

Why should we save the bees? In the Holy Qur'an, Allah tells us the importance of bees. Bees make honey that can heal you because it is good for your body, and it can cure many illnesses. So how can we save the bees?



1. By planting flowers and taking care of our plants, we can help bees get enough food to make honey.
2. Planting and taking care of trees will also help bees get plenty of food. Trees also give bees shelter. Maple, red buds, and black cherry trees attract bees the most.
3. Create a bee bath. Bees work very hard collecting nectar and can get very thirsty. To create a bee bath so that they can drink, fill a shallow bowl with clean water and put in some pebbles and stones so that they break the water's surface. Bees will land on the stones and drink the water.
4. Support your local beekeepers. Local beekeepers work hard to help nurture bees. We can help and appreciate them by buying local honey.



Islam's response to Climate Change

Jazbia Farooq/ Age 15/ Oshkosh

How many of us have heard of climate change? How many of us have tried to find ways to reduce or prevent the effects of it? I'm pretty sure we all have heard of it, but not many of us are doing much to help Mother Nature's suffering. I think we all should start finding ways to help prevent this issue because if we don't, soon it'll be too late, and we'll be done for. People have been taking so much from Mother Nature but aren't giving back. People need to make good use of the natural resources we have because if we run out of some of them we might lose them forever, so we have to protect them for the future generations.



Allah has sent us as His servants, so we must do whatever we can to please Him. Abu Sa'id Khudri reported that the Holy Prophet (sa) said, "The world is sweet and green and verily Allah is going to install you as a vicegerent in it in order to see how you act" (Muslim). This hadith shows us that Allah is testing us to see if we take care of His creation and whether we are grateful.

Let's be responsible by becoming role models for each other. Do simple things like planting trees every few months because without trees, we won't have oxygen. Furthermore, if you plant a tree, it is counted as charity as the Holy Prophet (sa) said, "There is none amongst the Muslims who plants a tree or sows seeds, and then a bird, or a person or an animal eats from it, but it is regarded as a charitable gift" (Bukhari).



Whenever Hazrat Khalifat-ul-Masih V (aba) inaugurates a mosque, he usually plants a tree. So let's take care of animals, plants, fungi, and bacteria because even though they might look scary and harmful, most of them are not. They are just doing the tasks that Allah has given them and every single one of them is crucially important in our ecosystem and to all creatures including you. As the Holy Prophet (sa) said, **“There is a reward for serving any living being”** (Bukhari).

The Importance of Trees

Hibba Iqbal / Age 13 / Virginia North

Here are a few reasons why trees are important for us and our environment. First, trees absorb the greenhouse gasses that cause climate change. In fact, trees and plants store carbon dioxide, which help reduce its buildup in our environment. Trees also give us health benefits. Spending time outdoors, like going for a walk in the park, can help reduce anxiety and depression. Trees are also home to many insects and animals. So, protecting the forest is important because it is home to many species.

The environment needs our help! We can all help our Earth by preserving existing trees and planting new ones.



Saving our Oceans

Soha Ahmed/ Age 13/ Virginia North



Allah has blessed us by giving us life and allowing us to live on this beautiful creation known as the planet Earth. To thank Allah, we should appreciate this blessing and take good care of our earth while keeping balance with our other needs. Sadly, rather than doing that, our planet is being corrupted

in many ways. One of the places this is happening, is in our oceans. How can we save them?

First, let's talk about some of the main problems which include littering, runoffs, and vehicle emissions. These are serious issues but there are some small ways we can all contribute to the solution of these problems within our own communities. We can conserve water!

We could do this by taking fast, efficient showers daily. While taking long relaxing showers feels good, it is better to take them only occasionally. We can also conserve water by turning off the water when washing the dishes and while scrubbing the pots. If you want to take a bigger step, you can volunteer in a beach cleanup group nearby or you can donate to a cleanup group. We can reduce vehicle pollution by walking or cycling rather than using a car if the distance isn't far.



These small gestures can help the beaches and marine life, but most of all, it can show our appreciation to Allah's creation and help restore the balance of the earth. After all, in the Holy Qur'an Allah states:

"Then, We made you their successors in the earth after them, that We might see how you would act" [Ch. 10, V. 15].



Islamic guidance on taking care of our world

Jaziba Munir/ Age 7/ Virginia North



Did you know that Islam teaches us to take care of our world?



The Holy Prophet (sa) said, “**All creatures of Allah are His family**” (Miskhatul Masabih). So it is our job to take care of Allah’s creation on this Earth. Allah put everything we need to survive on the Earth. All of our food, our water, our shelter, and our oxygen comes from the Earth. Allah made it all for us to survive. The minimum we can do is take care

of our Earth.

If we litter, the trash will affect the ocean and animals will die. There are so many animals that are extinct and endangered, just because our Earth hasn’t been taken care of properly. At least for those animals that are still here on Earth, we should actually take care of them and feed them.



Allah is the Creator and Provider and He made our world for us to live in. So, we should take care of the Earth to please Allah and be grateful.

We are the Earth's Stewards

Sufia Tahir / Age 14 / Buffalo

We Muslims hold that all of the Earth's natural resources are gifts from Allah (our Creator), and that on the Day of Judgment, we shall be judged in part based on how we utilized, preserved, and protected these gifts.

Protecting the Earth and its resources is something we are required to do by our religion.

Some environmental lessons and Ahadith mention that we are the Earth's stewards, so we should avoid excess and wastefulness and take lessons from the detrimental effects we are seeing in our world. Additionally, caring for Allah's creation is an act of charity. All people are seen as stewards of the earth in Islam. God lays out explicit guidelines for this stewardship in the Holy Qur'an, including taking care of oneself, other people, and the environment. We must not litter even tiny items like a bottle cap or a candy wrapper.

We must respect God's creation. Plants, animals, and humans remain content and healthy by maintaining a clean





environment. The earth must not be used for human exploitation. Like a honeybee, we should be mindful of the environment in whatever we do and take care to protect Allah's lovely world. Even during battles and wars, Islam forbade unethical and excessive environmental destruction. As God's Messenger, the Holy Prophet (sa) always gathered his followers before battle to remind them: do not kill women, children or the elderly, and do not cut down trees or crops. All actions that hurt vulnerable people and wreak havoc on the environment are prohibited.

It is also not advisable to disturb the natural order. For instance, killing animals or removing vegetation may result in famine from a lack of food. God created the earth, and it is up to us as humans to keep it in the same condition that we found it. Humanity has a duty to safeguard and maintain the harmony of God's creation. The fact that trees provide us with oxygen and help us by filtering the air we breathe is one of the most important natural processes. They give animals food, water, and shelter in addition to reducing natural disasters from flooding or erosion. Regarding climate change, we should not waste food because by wasting resources, we are harming our climate. Furthermore, Islam emphasizes the concept of "amaanah" which means trust or responsibility. The earth is our **amaanat**.



Preserving Water

Shafiya Munir/ Age 10/ Virginia North

“Cleanliness is half of faith” (Muslim) is a hadith of the Holy Prophet (sa). He says that cleanliness is important, but if our water is dirty, we cannot be clean. That is one of the many reasons that preserving water and keeping water clean is important. In this article, I will explain how and why we should keep water clean focusing on ablution, showers, faucets, and littering.



Ablution:

One reason that we should keep our water clean is because we do wudu [ablution] before salat. If we do this with dirty water, it is the same as not doing wudu at all. We should be clean when we are presenting ourselves to Allah.

Showers:

We should not take long showers or baths. We should take quick and short showers, using as little water as possible.



Faucets:

We also should not leave the faucet running when we are washing dishes, washing our hands, brushing our teeth, etc. We must also make sure that the faucet is fully off when we leave so we do not waste water.

Littering:

Littering is another way that water is polluted. Some people do not care and litter, but then the trash goes into sewers, oceans, rivers, lakes, and ponds, etc. This is also bad because we need to drink that water. So, if you see any trash, pick it up because you are helping the Earth and pleasing Allah.



Pollution:

There are two main kinds of pollution: air and sea. Air pollution comes from factories and smoke that mixes with evaporated water, and when precipitation falls, the pollution goes with it. Sea pollution is litter from the land that washes into water sources. That also endangers the life and habitats of the sea animals.



We must preserve water because about 70% of our planet Earth is water, but only a little bit of it is usable. Animal habitats are also destroyed by water pollution. All living things need water to survive. We also need it for drinking, showers, ablution, and fulfilling the teachings of the Holy Prophet (sa). So, hopefully, you can see why we need to save our water.



Preserving Our Natural World

Sanaya Raja/ Age 9/ North Virginia



As we all know, Islam means peace. So, not only should we live in peace and harmony with our Creator, Allah, and with our friends and family, we should also be aware that it is just as important to live in peace with nature by caring for our earth itself. So I ask myself, what can I do to protect our beautiful natural world?

One of the most important ways of saving our earth is by stopping pollution. Pollution can cause a lot damage and can kill animals. You may be wondering; how does pollution kill animals? Well, imagine you throw a plastic bag in the water. An animal could think that it's food, so when it tries to eat it, it will die. Another way to protect our earth is by not wasting water. Did you know that the Holy Prophet (sa) would use as little water as possible while performing ablution? He also told us that we should protect animals, plant trees and keep our environment clean and safe.



If all of us together try to follow in the footsteps of the most perfect human being, Muhammad Mustafar (sa) who Allah created this whole world for, we can protect our beautiful natural world together!

Preserving Our Natural World

Bareera Agha Khan/ Age 9/ Virginia North

Allah Almighty says in the Holy Qur'an:

“Then, We made you successors in the earth after them, that We might see how you would act” [Ch.10, V. 14].

Allah is Gracious and Merciful, and He wants us to be mindful of the environment and the habitat of every animal. The best practice for preserving the world is to pick up the trash and save the earth for future generations by reducing, reusing, and recycling. Also, to put recyclable materials in the recycling bin, and trash in the trash bin.



We can use plates made from glass, ceramic or stainless steel to help the earth.



Producing more trash causes more pollutants to go in the air because it all gets burned, and the smoke becomes nitrogen oxide which is horrible for your lungs. Another way that trash is disposed, is by being thrown into a hole that is dug in the ground, which are known as landfills. These cause bigger problems for the communities that are around it or built on the same ground later. The Earth can only hold so much trash! But when something is recycled, it can be turned into something better.

Save the Bees!

Ali Ahmad Khan/ Age 12/ North Jersey



When most people think of bees, they think of noisy and annoying insects. People focus on the most “dangerous” part of the bee, which is its stinger. Some of us have unfortunately been stung by a bee. Maybe it was during the summer, while at a picnic eating some watermelon, its sweet juices running down our fingers. Maybe a bee decided it wanted to join in on the fun, and getting stung was the end result.

While bees can be dangerous to some, they have a huge impact on our everyday lives that most of us don't even notice. One thing we should keep in mind is that Allah the Almighty creates everything for a purpose. He created bees for the benefit of human beings. We should realize that without bees, we would likely lose all plants that bees usually pollinate. This plant-based food shortage could eventually affect almost all living creatures on the planet.

Global warming is something that will take a long time to reverse, if it is at all possible, but slowing down global warming can help keep the bee population from dying out. The reason global warming affects bees is because it causes some flowering



plants to bloom earlier or later in the year than they usually do. This means the bees don't get the nutrition they need at the correct time, and they miss out on blooming seasons. The use of pesticides is very harmful to bees.

If we want to save the bees, there are a few things to do. We could plant a garden for bees with flowering plants and trees. We should not be using pesticides and insecticides in the garden, and we should provide water, mud, and nesting materials for our bees.



Unfortunately, the number of bees in the world is declining. I propose that everyone should make an effort to save the bees because of their importance in agriculture, economics, and our everyday lives. So, we must educate ourselves and others about the importance of bees and how to protect them.

Unfortunatly, the number of bees in the world is declining. I propose that everyone should make an effort to save the bees because of their importance in agriculture, economics, and our everyday lives. So, we must educate ourselves and others about the importance of bees and how to protect them.

Saving the bees will help us in our lives. Small things will all help save the bees.

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Let's change a few things...

Emaan Ahmed/ Age 14/ Virginia North

Imagine a cub who hasn't had any water in days, and he finds a stream of water and kneels to take a sip but a few hours later he gets extremely sick because the water was polluted by humans.

We get oxygen from the living trees and from the same tree we get paper. We can get clean drinking water from a nearby lake or stream if we could just think about what we throw away. Our world is a blessing, and it is our job to make sure that we keep it clean and safe. The only way we can preserve our world is if we change a few things in our daily lifestyle.

The first thing we will need to change in our daily lifestyle is to make sure waste doesn't end up in the recycling bin, and the recycling doesn't end up in the waste. Putting the wrong trash into the wrong bin can cause everything to get incinerated. So, it will help the environment if we all do our best to put the right trash in the right bin.



Another way we can preserve our world is if we volunteer to do clean ups. This could be helpful to our community, so if you have finished cleaning your own house don't stop there. Join a volunteering



group where you can help clean the parks etc., because the only way we can make a difference is if we work together to make it clean and safe.

A third way to preserve our world is for us to shop wisely and only buy the things we need. For example, when we go to the store and we see cheap, fancy plastic cups, we should think what we really came for. So, before you think of buying things that may be cheap, but you know it isn't good for the environment, the right thing might be to avoid buying it.



Finally, the main thing is how we are polluting our oceans. Animals swim in these waters and get caught in the plastic trash that we pollute the oceans with, causing them to choke. The best way we can stop polluting our waters is if we reduce, reuse, and recycle.

Ultimately, we should be preserving our world so that we go to sleep knowing that we live in a clean and safe world. The only way we can make that happen is if we work together, if we put trash in the right bin, volunteer to help with cleanups, only buy things that we need and stop polluting our world!



The Importance of Trees!

Hassan Ahmad Khan/ Age 11/ North Jersey

Allah is the Creator, and He creates everything for our benefit. He creates the trees, which are very important in our lives.

Trees are an essential part of the environment. Without trees we can't survive. Trees give us oxygen, which we need to breathe. Trees are important because they purify air and provide fruits, wood, paper and much more. Trees provide food for birds and animals. Trees can help to reduce flooding by slowing down the flow of rainwater, absorbing rainwater, and reducing erosion.

Trees are the greatest collectors of the sun's energy. All energy comes from the sun, our trees collect and store more of it than anything else in the world. Trees help to control pollution, and also provide shade, medicine, timber and tools. They also add to the beauty of life. It would not be wrong to say that without trees, life on earth would not be possible.



Saving our Oceans!



Ziha Shafique/ Age 11/ Virginia South

In this article I will be making three points about saving our oceans. Firstly, why is it important to save our oceans? The oceans play an important role in food security, accounting for 20% of global animal protein consumption and over 50% in developing nations. Also, the ocean provides climate regulation, food, jobs, livelihoods, and economic progress. Lastly, and the most important point is that the ocean feeds us, regulates our climate, and generates about 50% of the oxygen we breathe.

My next point is, what will happen if there are no more oceans on earth? If there were no oceans on the planet earth, clouds would stop forming, and precipitation would stop as a result, implying that the weather would be directed predominantly by wind patterns. And as a result, the earth would be much hotter than it is right now. That's because the ocean absorbs the heat from the sun and spreads it more evenly around our planet. Following that, plants and animals would begin to dry out immediately. The forests would have a hard time growing due to a decrease in rain. Eventually everything would become so dry that fires would span the continents.

My last point is, why is it important to keep the oceans clean? It is important to keep the oceans clean because ocean pollution has devastating effects on marine life and the ecosystem. For example, plastic waste can harm animals causing suffocation, entanglement, laceration, infections and internal injuries. Lastly, our oceans mitigate non-renewable industry pollution by absorbing 25% of all carbon emissions, while generating 50% of oxygen we need to survive.



Our Oceans



**Asher Nayel Malik/ Age 8/ Maryland
Helped by Mother, Farhana Malik**

Today, I will be talking about our oceans. Oceans provide beauty and a home for a lot of sea life, some of which we consume. There are four oceans: Pacific Ocean, Atlantic Ocean, Indian Ocean and Arctic Ocean. The planet Earth is the only known planet in the Galaxy with oceans present on it.

There are five layers of the Ocean. The first one is the sunlight (Epipelagic zone). Then the twilight (Mesopelagic zone). The midnight (Bathypelagic zone). The fourth one is the abyss (Abyssopelagic zone). The last zone is the trench (Hadalpelagic zone).

In the Holy Qur'an Allah says:

“Or their deeds are like thick darkness in a vast and deep sea, which a wave covers, over which there is another wave, above which are clouds: layers of darkness, one upon another. When he holds out his hand, he can hardly see it: and he whom Allah gives no light - for him there is no light at all.” [Ch. 24, V. 41]

It is amazing that the Holy Qur'an had already told us the different layers of the Ocean years and years before scientists discovered it. Oceans have also been a way of transporting ships and boats for years.



In the Holy Qur'an, Allah says:

“He has subjected to you the ships that they may sail through the sea by His command, and the rivers too has He subjected to you.” [Ch. 14, V. 33]

There is a lot of life in the oceans. It is our responsibility to take care of the oceans and learn from them. We should not throw trash in the sea or pollute the oceans. This is also part of the Earth, and we should care and protect it. Oceans make up much of our planet, totaling 71% of the Earth, so we should take extra care of it!



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Preserving the Natural World by Saving Water

Zara Laiq/ Age 14/ North Virginia

Allah says in the Holy Qur'an:

“And We sent down water from the sky according to a measure, and We caused it to stay in the earth – and surely, We have the power to take it away.” [Ch. 23, V. 19]



In this verse, Allah the Almighty is telling us that He has sent down water for us according to a measure. If we don't think about how we are using water, there won't be enough to go around for everyone else.

Animals and plants will suffer because people want to keep their water running to brush their teeth. In our everyday lives water indeed plays a significant role. We use it in almost every task of ours and sometimes we even abuse it. We don't understand the importance of water as much as we should.

According to the Washington State Department of Health, the average person wastes about thirty gallons of water a day. Minor changes in your lifestyle can significantly decrease this number. If everyone decreases the amount of time they spent in shower by only 2-3 minutes, then we could save up to ten gallons of water. Just opening our water tap halfway can make such an important impact. We need to think more selflessly, especially as other people around the



world are facing such scarcity of water.

According to the Save the Water organization, an average American family uses one hundred and seventy six gallons of water per day compared to five gallons of water that the average African family uses each day.



There are many organizations around the world that are trying to solve the worldwide water crisis especially faced by underdeveloped nations. Humanity First is one such organization which is working towards solving the problem of people around the world lacking access to safe drinking water. In an effort to provide clean drinking water to poor communities, Humanity First not only installs new water pumps and wells but also repairs the existing pumps that have stopped working.

Just like Humanity First, we can all individually try to make efforts in our homes to save water and make our homes more eco-friendly. Instead of hand washing your dishes you can use your dishwasher to clean them which can save more than twenty gallons. You can also wash your car less since it takes thirty eight gallons of water! Only wash it when you absolutely need to. Lastly, having certain days to do your laundry during the week also helps save water by preventing unnecessary wastage.



Humanity First
Serving Mankind

The Holy Qur'an teaches us an important lesson. Allah the Almighty says:

“O Children of Adam! Look to your adornment at every time and place of worship and eat and drink but exceed not the bounds; surely, He does not love those who exceed the bounds.” [Ch. 7, V. 32]

Sometimes, because of our carelessness, we do little things that have a huge impact. Oftentimes at Jalsa many people get water bottles and don't completely finish them. When it's time to clean the tables, you notice dozens of half full bottles

that wouldn't have to be wasted if the person drank it all or took it with them. Just like it's said in the verse above, you shouldn't take more water than needed because that same water that you wasted could be used for someone who needs it. Everyone who thinks this won't make a difference is one more person who is contributing to the wastage, which does make a difference in the end.

In order to avoid wastage and preserve the world's resources, we need to start making changes beginning with ourselves. One small change in our lifestyle will make a huge difference for all our society.

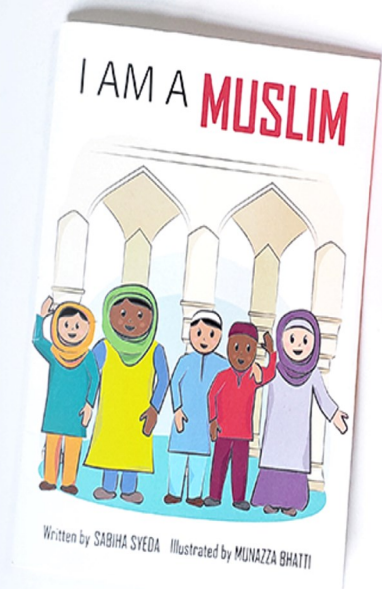


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Preserving our Natural World

Mehreen Raja/ Age 11/ Virginia North

Allah has created this very beautiful world for us and says in the Holy Qur'an:

“Allah it is Who has made for you the earth a resting place, and the heaven a canopy, and has given you shape, and made your shapes perfect, and has provided you with good things. Such is Allah, your Lord. So blessed is Allah, the Lord of the worlds.” [Ch.40, V. 65]

As Muslims, it is our duty to preserve this natural world, which is a beautiful gift from our Creator, Allah.

Recycling is a very good way to help protect the earth. If you have a plastic water bottle, you can recycle it and it can become playground equipment, clothing, or even car parts! The Holy Prophet (sa) would mend and reuse his clothes and shoes. What a great example for us to follow.



Littering is also a very big problem on our Earth. Let's say you are eating a bag of chips and when you are done, you do not see a trash can. It would be easy to just throw it on the floor and walk away, right? But something bad could happen! For example, your bag could get blown into the ocean. Ocean pollution is a big problem because it can damage the water and the creatures in it! Next time you have trash, make sure it goes in the trash can! Other ways to protect our natural world are saving water, planting trees and walking instead of driving to shorter distances. After all, if someone gave you a beautiful gift, would you just throw it away and ignore it? Of course not! Just like that, we should be mindful of our earth and respect our gift from Allah.





Mayeda Awan / Age 11 / Willingboro

Climate scientists put out a report stating that if the carbon emissions of the world continue at the rate that they are currently, then the world temperature will rise to such a level that the tsunamis and the hurricanes, and the different climate effects that we are seeing today, will only get worse. But, if people change their lives, we could make a difference. Allah has given us free will. Allah has given us the ability to do right and wrong. But, when we do wrong, it affects the world around us.

Allah states in the Holy Qur'an:

“Corruption has appeared on land and sea because of what men’s hands have wrought, that He may make them taste the fruit of some of their doings, so that they may turn back from evil.” [Ch. 30, V. 42]

This statement explains that corruption on our planet is a result of human wrongdoing. It is within our capacity to do better and to change the world for the better.

In the world today, many people are separated from nature and are disconnected from the world around us. People spend most of their time indoors on their devices and at work, leaving them with little time in nature. Many children don't know where their food comes from or what a farm looks like.

A UK study had eighteen thousand people engage with nature for thirty days. Results showed what was already expected: nature has positive effects on people. Spending time in nature for



thirty days improved people’s health and happiness by 30%. Children exposed to nature showed an increase in self-esteem and learned to take risks, unleashing their creativity and sense of discovery.

We must preserve our earth because it does so much for us. One of Allah’s countless favors is that He has perfected a planet for us to thrive in and fulfill our purpose of creation – to worship Allah. We must protect our earth so we can achieve this purpose. Fortunately, there are many ways you can do your part.

1. Reduce, Reuse, Recycle. Cut down what you throw away. Follow the three “R’s” to conserve natural resources and landfill space.
2. Volunteer. Volunteer for cleanups in your community. You can get involved in protecting your watershed, too.
3. Educate. When you further your education, you can help others understand the importance and value of our natural resources.
4. Conserve water. The less water you use, the less runoff and wastewater that eventually ends up in the ocean.
5. Eat more vegetables. Eating more vegetables, fruits, whole grains, legumes, nuts, and seeds, and less meat and dairy can significantly lower your environmental impact.
6. Shop wisely. Buy less plastic and bring a reusable shopping bag.
7. Use long-lasting light bulbs. Energy-efficient light bulbs reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Also, flip the light switch off when you leave the room!
8. Plant a tree. Trees provide food and oxygen. They help save energy, clean the air, and help combat climate change.
9. Don’t send chemicals into our waterways. Choose non-toxic chemicals in the home and office.
10. Bike more. Drive less.



Letter dated
September 19, 2023.



**A Special Message
From Huzoor to all the children**

Huzoor Anwar (May Allah be His Helper) has received your letter and a copy of the children's magazine Al-Hilal for 2022 on the topic of "Truthfulness," Jazakumullah.



May Allah increase the knowledge and understanding of all the children who read this booklet, inspiring them to cultivate and promote truthfulness in every aspect of their lives. May they always walk the path of sincerity and may Allah's grace and guidance be forever upon you all, Amin.

LET'S WORK Together

Sajeela Ahmad/ Age 12/ Virginia South

In the Holy Qur'an, Allah states:

“Corruption has appeared on land and sea because of what men’s hands have wrought, that He may make them taste the fruit of some of their doings, so that they may turn back from evil.”

[Ch. 30, V. 42]

This verse quite clearly describes the state of the natural world today. Humans have been hurting Allah’s creation for decades now, through the thickening atmosphere and plastic waste. We continue to make plans to try and stop ourselves and then we push back the date when we will start working for a change. This verse is a warning; we already see so many storms and dangerous weather conditions all around the world because of a simple rise in temperature. We are tasting the fruit already.

One question we all may have after reading all the news about the effects of climate change is: What can we do to stop it? As an individual, recycling more and using electricity will not stop the core problem. We as humanity need to work together to save what Allah created for us.

We must call leaders to action like our Beloved Huzoor (aba) calls them towards peace. Telling our leaders to start making changes for climate change and world peace **now** will help save our planet and help us turn back from creating disorder.



Allah Makes the World a Most Beautiful Place

Lailah Rahman/ Age 15 / Los Angeles



The sky was blue
The sky was pink
The sky was yellow,
And what do I think?
Allah makes the world
A most beautiful place
Therefore, we should take
care of it
And not let it go to waste.
Winter was cold
Winter was warm
Winter was freezing,
And what do I think?
Allah makes the world
A most stunning place
Therefore, we should pray
for it
And not let it go to waste.
The leaves turn green
The leaves turn brown
The leaves fall down,
And what do I think?
Allah makes the world
A most lovely place
Therefore, we should
thank Him
And not let it go to waste.

Answer Key



ESTRE

EDESTRONOATFI

RLODW

LSNMIAA

ANOCE

NASLTP

DSRLWEIFI

IRCARNESU

ITMCLAE ENHGAC

HATER

LAALH

EDESTR

SILAM

YERAPSR

TREES _____

DEFORESTATION _____

WORLD _____

ANIMALS _____

OCEAN _____

PLANTS _____

WILDFIRES _____

HURRICANES _____

CLIMATE CHANGE _____

EARTH _____

ALLAH _____

DESERT _____

ISLAM _____

PRAYERS _____



Glossary

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

Adhan: The call to prayer

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 Qur'an.

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.)

Bukhari: A collection of Ahadith. The author of this collection.

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, Hazrat]: His Holiness

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

Ḥuḍūr [Ḥudhūr, Ḥuzūr, Huzoor] 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.

Ijtema: gathering

Jalsa Salana: Annual Convention

Jama`at: Community

Ma Sha' Allah: What Allah wills, Well done!

Muezzin: caller to Prayer

Muslim: Believer, one who submits to Allah

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

Sadaqah صدقه : alms



English Books for Kids

Prices as on amibookstore.us with free shipping

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Ḥaḍrat Māriyah Qibṭiyyah^{ra}

Ḥaḍrat Zainab^{ra}

Ḥaḍrat Juwairiyah^{ra}

True Story of a Prince

Rabia's Eid

Ḥaḍrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud

Ahmad, the Promised Reformer
(may Allah be pleased with him)

Hadhrat Safiyyah

(May Allah be pleased with her)

Ḥaḍrat Nuh (peace be on him) and
the Great Flood

Ḥaḍrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad
(may Allah have mercy on him)

Ḥaḍrat Hud (peace be on him)

Hadhrat Ruqayya

(may Allah be pleased with her)

Points to Ponder: \$2

Ahmad and Sarah: \$3

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Ḥaḍrat Ammāñ Jan^{ra},

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\$7

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by Ruqaiya Asad: \$10

I love Allah: \$10

Tales to Live by: \$7.00

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The truth is:

The natural world is changing. And we are totally dependent on that world. It provides our food, water and air. It is the most precious thing we have, and we need to defend it.

David Attenborough: “Force of Nature”
October 27, 2012



AHMADIYYA
MUSLIM COMMUNITY
United States of America

*Muslims who believe in the Messiah,
Mirza Ghulam Ahmad Qadiani*



Al-Hilal