بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَٰنِ الرَّحِيْمِ In the name of Allah, the most Gracious, the most Merciful



# Verily, in the remembrance of Allah do hearts find rest.

Quian 13:28

Assalammualaikum my Champions,

How is your heart today? Is it in a state of rest and contentment? Or is it in a state of anxiousness and worry? The funny thing is, whatever your answer may be now at this very moment, it might change 180 degrees in the next. For that is the nature of the heart, it turns and changes ever so often. Rasulullah ﷺ would make this prayer, "Oh Allah, the Turner of the hearts, turn our hearts to Your Obedience". (<u>Muslim</u>)

I experienced this rapid turning and changing of heart when I went swimming last week. I've been swimming regularly for the past year at the gym I go to, and it's a pool that I am very familiar with. But last week for some reason, as I was swimming well into my 20th lap, my heart panicked. It was racing incredibly fast, and I knew what I was experiencing was a panic attack. I was right in the middle of the pool, far from the safety of both edges and for a split mini second, I forgot how to float.

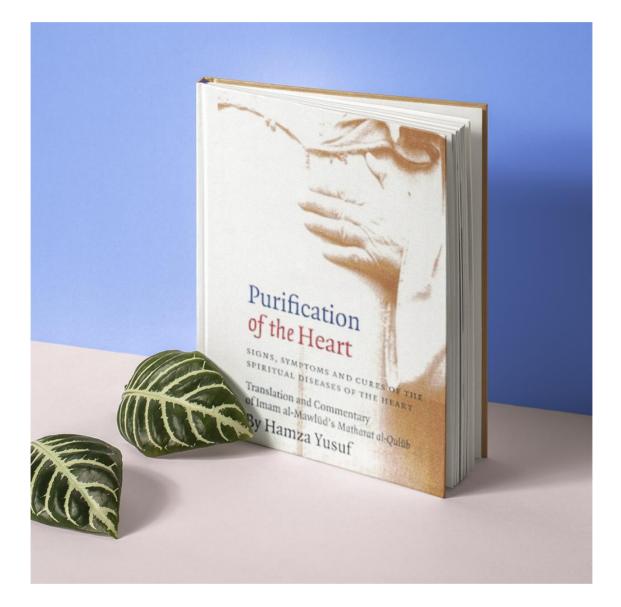
And then quickly and desperately, my heart called out to Him. I went to Him with a state of Istighfar and I repeated the Istighfar in my heart with full yaqeen knowing that He is with me, and that He will keep me afloat. Instinctively, my body followed suit. My legs started to paddle, and my arms regained their strength. And very slowly, I managed to swim back to safety.

I realised there and then that if it was not for the rope of Istighfar, I could have very well drowned that day. Even though I have been swimming for years, the possibility is still there. Similarly, we can be Muslims for years, but without the constant remembrance of Allah, we can very well also drown beneath the strong waves of the Dunia.

Champs, I pray that may this week, and for the rest of our lives, it will be filled with only moments of us remembering Him in all shapes and forms. For it is only in the remembrance of Him, can our hearts truly rest.

And boy, do our hearts want to rest. So let's help it rest.

#### join our mini book club



So this was completely unplanned, but Ma Sha Allah, through the blessings of this sacred month, we have now started a small mini book club during our morning Dhul-Hijjah date sessions! For the next couple of days, at 6AM Singapore / Malaysia time, we will be covering Shaykh Hamza Yusuf's 'Purification of the Heart' after the recitation of Surah Yasin. This is one of my favourite books, and I have re-read it a couple of times over, so it gives me great pleasure to discuss and share this book with you. If you are looking for a morning "get-ready-withme" companion, do join us for these Dhul-Hijjah dates!

Join Sessions Here

## a beautiful dua

Ya Allah, please don't allow me to mishandle the things I've prayed for.

aaplus.co

#abeautifuldua

True Story: I started making this Dua because of my Apple Watch. ↓ I've been wanting one for a while, but once I got it, it took me a grand total of 3 days for the initial enthusiasm to die off, and the watch soon become another accessory I stopped using. Until my husband asked,

"Not wearing your watch anymore?". It was then that I realised "Subhanallah, I'm sure there are many more blessings and gifts that Allah has given me that I just take for granted and forget all about it." I'm happy to report that I am now using the watch more since that realisation, and the prayer I make for Allah to not allow me to mishandle things I've prayed for, has helped immensely too!

#### a visual reminder



I remember one of the conversations I had with an elderly relative I have great respect for where she said, "We as an Ummah have a priority problem. We don't prioritise Allah." Her words were a muchneeded slap to my heart, and it was something I thought of today as we entered Day 4 (or 5 for some of you) of Dhul-Hijjah. Time is flying, and time will be a witness for **or** against us on the Day of Judgement - can we truly stand in front of Allah SWT and tell Him we've done our best to make Him our priority?

**Download Wallpaper Here** 

## #WMPTM



This week's #WhatMyProphetTaughtMe is a little bit more special as we have extracted highlights from our <u>TKV's Class on</u> <u>Rasulullah & Final Address</u> and created a YouTube playlist for all of you to listen to in these blessed days of Dhul-Hijjah. There's something special about revisiting our beloved Prophet & 's final advice during Hajj season, for me personally. PS: We are also watching these videos together during our nightly Dhul-Hijjah dates (10pm SG for Asia Champs, and 10pm UK for ROTW Champs) so if you'd like some company, do join us as we imagine being right there with Rasulullah & at Arafah!

Watch Short Snippets of Rasulullah SAW's Final Sermon Here

### in case you missed it



If you've found time to read our <u>special Dhul-Hijjah PDF</u>, you'd know that we are intending to recite and finish the whole Quran collectively. Alhamdulillah, the pages for the first round of Khatam have all been snapped up (YAY!), so we are now opening up more slots and intending to complete 2 rounds of Khatam for Dhul-Hijjah, In Sha Allah! If you would like to recite one or two pages of the Quran and join us, click on the link below and sign up! You can recite them at your own time and target, as long as it's done before Friday. ♥

Join Our Collective Khatam Here

## muslim meme



2,407

Nobody: Me in Jannah: can you take this picture of me sitting on the cloud

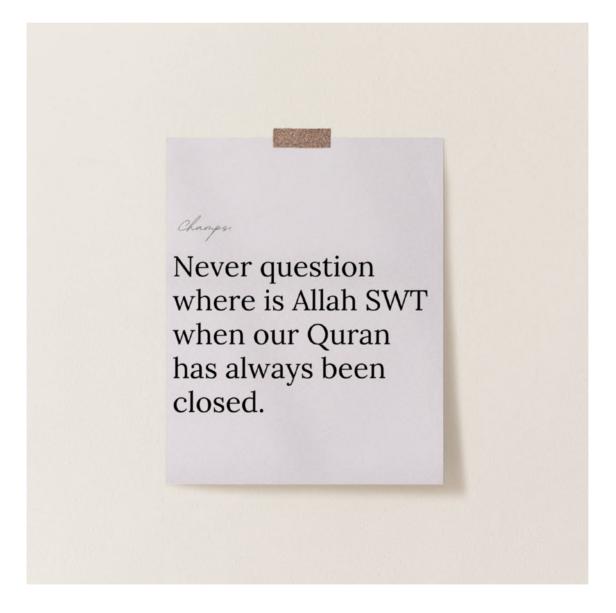
982

1,237

16:57 · 30/6/22 · Twitter Web App

The fact that I see myself doing this too and can relate to this on so many levels scares me! I think you'd catch me trying to take photos at the "pastel" part of Jannah. 😂 😂 😂 😂

## to ponder



Whenever we meet for our Tadarus Circles or any session where Quran is being recited, I always make the intention that all of us on AA Plus will keep coming back over and over again to the Quran and for it to be our main source of healing, strength, inspiration and comfort. It's because I'd remember one of the advice my teachers taught me - that if and when things get really hard, so much so that we might even doubt

His presence in our lives and start to wonder, "Ya Allah, where are You? Where is Your Help?", the question we should really be asking is, "*Where have I been with Allah and the Quran?*". If anything, Champs, let us be a witness for each other on the Day of Judgement that we did open our Qurans together, that we did ponder upon the Quran together, and that we did fall in love with the Quran together. If anything, let us never be those whose Qurans are closed, lest our hearts remain close, detached, and numb too.

PS:

There won't be a Closer email next week as we are taking a break for Eid-Adha. But there's always the archives <u>here</u> if you miss us! :P

With that, I hope you guys have enjoyed Closer!

Tin ×

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