

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allah, the most Gracious, the most Merciful

9 December 2021



Closer

by aa

your curated weekly spiritual booster delivered straight to your Inbox

ALLAH HEARS MORE
than what we say,
UNDERSTANDS MORE
than what we reveal,
AND GIVES MORE THAN WHAT WE ASK.

Assalammualaikum my Champions,

These past couple of days I've been hit with a serious bout of homesickness. Maybe it's the winter cold, maybe it's because Mama and Baba are also travelling, or maybe it's the fact that this is the

longest I've gone without seeing my family back home. Whatever it may be, the core of the matter is, I've been feeling really lonely. Last night, when I realised I was asking **"Is anyone here? Is anyone listening?"** to NOBODY, to literally an empty room, I knew I had lost it. 😞

"Aida, you cray," I whispered to myself.

But something surreal happened. I don't know if it was a tugging in my heart, or a stirring in my soul, but something from within me whispered, "La tahzan innallaha ma'ana". Do not worry, Allah is certainly with us. And that comforted me, that He is, in fact, here with me. He's closer than my jugular vein.

One of the things I miss deeply is just speaking to someone in Malay and / or Singlish. I miss using the slang of my mother tongue in a conversation, something that I cannot do with anyone here in Morocco in person. But when I realised Allah SWT is with me, and He is all Hearing, I said with a huge grin on my face, **"Ya Allah, Allah dengan Aida kan? Allah dengar Aida kan?"** (*Ya Allah, You are with me right? You are listening to me right?*).

As I am typing this short reflection to you, I now realised something so beautiful. That I was only able to not feel silly, shy nor hesitant to speak to Allah SWT about anything and everything, out loud or in heart whispers, in whatever language and vocabulary, only **because** He decreed for me to move half way across the world, away from my loved ones, away from anything that could have made me too attached to the Dunia.

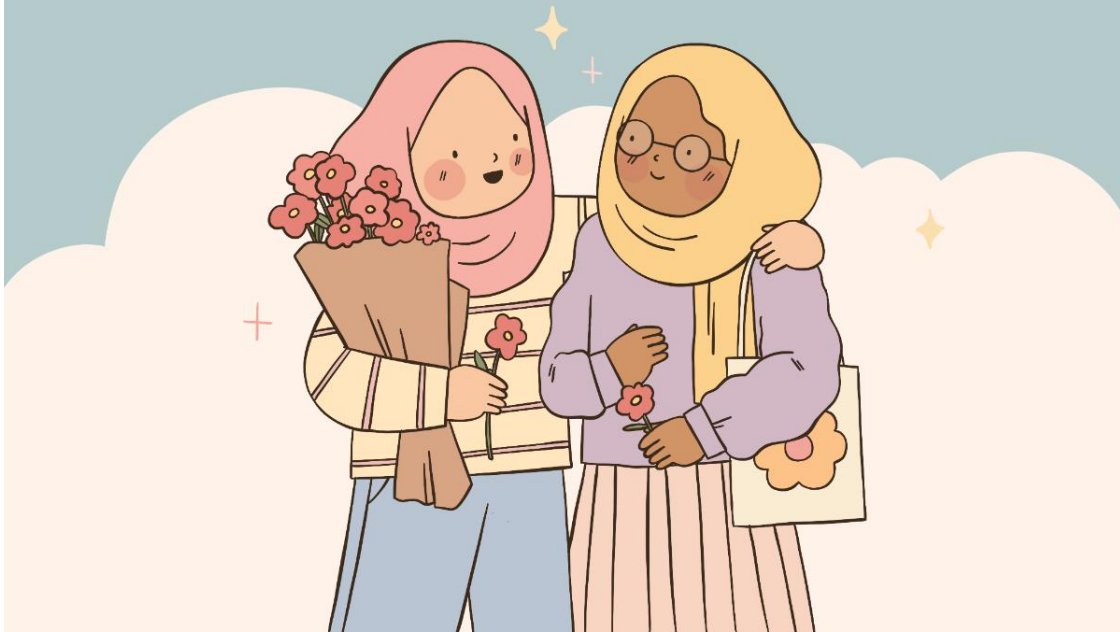
And so I hope if any of you are captured by the claws of loneliness, wondering if anyone is with you, listening, know that He is right with you. And that He is listening. That He hears more than what we say, understands more than what we reveal, and gives more than what we ask. :)

This week on aa plus

episode 1:

THE GIFT OF GENEROSITY:

How Islam Is A Religion of "We", Not "Me"



CHAMPSSS! The day is here! We're finally starting '[A Beautiful Soul](#)', a new TKV series with all of our 4 AA Plus teachers, as we dive into various traits that makes our **ruh** beautiful! For the very first episode, we will be discussing on Generosity - a trait that is beloved to our dearest Ustazah 'Alima. In this lesson, Ustazah shares how being generous entails **more** than just giving money to the poor. We will learn about the different types of charity that we can do according to a beautiful hadith of Rasulullah SAW, and take wisdom from the story of one of the Companions who was poor but whose unconventional charity was **endorsed** and **accepted** by Allah SWT. ❤️ (**Whoa!**)

[Listen To The Class Here](#)

[Join Study Date Here](#)

a beautiful Dua

Ya Allah, allow me
to always be in the
good company of
Your blessed Quran,
of Your angels, of
Nature, & righteous
companions.

aaplus.co

[#abeautifuldua](https://twitter.com/abeautifuldua)

One of the things I was making dua for when I was feeling lonely was for Him to surround me with good and blessed company. Which got me thinking that the definition for "good company" is pretty wide! I count the Quran as a wonderful company, and what an honour would it be to have His pure angels as my "roommate" too. I could not forget about Nature and how beautifully it heals lonely hearts, so that definitely counts as a good companion. And of course, last but

definitely not the least, righteous companions - which I'm grateful to have quite a number in my life (including all of you!). So if you are in need of some company today, I hope this Dua of mine will accompany you and be of benefit. :)

a good deed to try



When Azi shared with us her idea for this week's challenge aka good deed to try, I thought, "OMG! GENIUS?!". I honestly did not expect this sweet challenge from our dear Azi, as she personally admits to listening to heavy metal and loves reading books on crime, vampire and thriller! Ma Sha Allah 😂! The task is endearingly simple,

practical, but so so so beautiful because our prayer garments are our "uniforms" when we meet our Creator! I'm definitely doing it and I hope you guys do this too. It doesn't take too long but the impact of having a clean, nicely pressed prayer garment is *chef kiss*.

champs wall of art



cardigan crocheted by [siti nor hakimah saidi](#), a Kelantanese Champ

OK I gushed so hard when I saw this adorable cardigan that Hakimah crocheted! Isn't it the cutest Ma Sha Allah! I knew I had to share it with you guys in this week's "Champs Wall of Art" section. Also, before you ask, Hakimah is not taking in orders for now. If she did, I'd be the first to do so. :P When I asked her why she got into crocheting, she said she does it to release stress from work, which I thought is enviable, because when I'm stressed with work... I sleep? Some of you may have seen her crocheting in some of our AA Plus calls, which now that I think about it, I hope she wasn't feeling stressed then! 😂

Your visual reminder



Had to bring back this oldie but goodie wallpaper with one of my favourite Ayahs to remind me (and you?) that He is ever-listening. :) On that note, would you Champs please suggest which Quranic Ayah you would love for us to do a wallpaper for? Coz we just might!

[Download Wallpaper Here](#)

Muslim Meme



nada 🇱🇯
@libyanhokage

"You don't look Muslim"

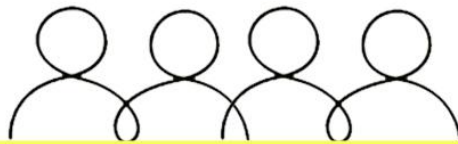
Muslims:



If this isn't the truth! Also, I always have to pinch myself whenever I attend ROTW Study Dates and Tadarus Sessions because I get to see how diverse our Ummah is! <3

Something to Ponder

Faith is a
team sport &
Islam is a Deen
of *we*, not *me*.



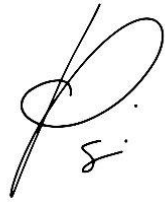
I'm gonna go straight out and say this: I won't be able to do half of the things I get to do today without you. You guys are my champs, my soulmates, my neighbours in Jannah, my AA Plus community. You guys have helped me out so much in my spiritual adventure that sometimes I joke about paying for my very own AA Plus subscription.

🤔😂 Which is why I really believe faith is a team sport. It is. I mean, even Rasulallah SAW, the best of man, the closest to Allah SWT, had companions. He SAW had his own family and community to support him. What more you and I? Do you really think we can do this alone?

In a beautiful Hadith, Rasulallah SAW reminded us that, "The believers in their mutual kindness, compassion and sympathy **are just**

like one body. When one of the limbs suffers, the whole body responds to it with wakefulness and fever." (Bukhari) So thank **you**.

For being my teammates, for being my hand and legs, for being my reminders. **ILYFHS**. (I love you for His sake)



ending it with His Words

Quran 49:13

O humanity! Indeed, We created you from a male and a female, and made you into peoples and tribes so that you may 'get to' know one another.

Be more involved
with the community

Engage more and be
of service to others

(If you haven't been to our weekly Quran Tadarus sessions where we recite and reflect upon the Quran together, [here's a sneak peek of what goes on!](#))

With that, I hope you guys have enjoyed Closer.

fin
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a.

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