

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

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

16 December 2021



Closer

by aa

your curated weekly spiritual booster delivered straight to your Inbox

every
MIRACLE
started
WITH
a problem

Assalammualaikum my Champions,

One of my favourite Ayahs in the Quran is in Surah Adh-Dhariyat,

Ayah 49: "**And We created pairs of all things so perhaps you would be mindful**" and it is only recently that I've realised this beautiful Verse is waaaaaay beyond just the romantic husband-wife pairing that every wedding invitation card seem to have. When I reflected on this Ayah deeper, I realised everything is a pair: night and day, happiness and sadness, rest and exhaustion, wealth and poverty, life and death, and the list goes on.

You simply cannot appreciate or understand one without the other. Which is why Islam is a Deen of Balance.

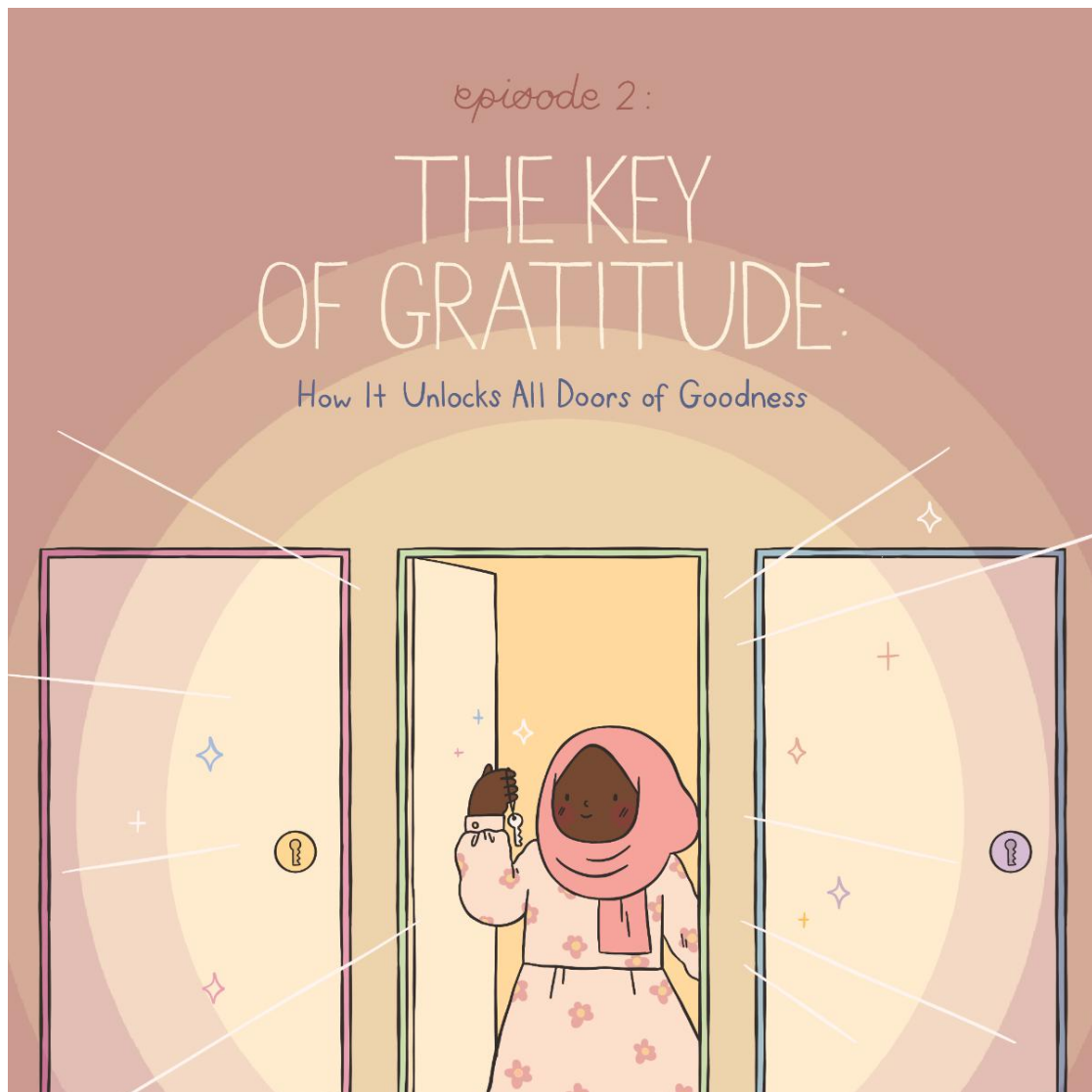
But the one pair that I absolutely love is problems and miracles! I realised that every single miracle in the Quran that Allah SWT revealed to us started out as a "problem". Nabi Musa AS splitting the sea, the problem was Firaun. Nabi Ibrahim's fire turning cool and safe for him, the problem was the disbelieving people. The Ark of Nabi Nuh AS, the problem was also the disbelieving people.

And this made me reflect on my own life, of how some of the greatest blessings that I have experienced in my life actually started with a "problem". The creation of AA Plus is one such example! The problem: I was absolutely lonely when I moved to Morocco. I craved a community of Sisters and I was longing to learn about the Deen under blessed female teachers. But I couldn't find it anywhere, and so the idea of AA Plus was planted ever so subtly by Allah SWT, not even in my mind, but in Karim's! Subhanallah.

So Champs, if you are currently facing a "problem", have full faith that a miracle is near. Hold on to the rope of Allah SWT, and keep making sincere duas for Him to help you through! Remember: Allah SWT is a Master of Miracles, and He can do anything!

Remember that you are praying to the One who simply says, "***Kun fayakun***", ***be and it is!*** :)

This week on aa plus



Asia Study Date: Thursday 16 Dec, 8.45pm SG / Malaysia

ROTW Study Date: Sunday 19 Dec, 7pm UK

Champs, I am a huge believer that having gratitude is the answer to every single problem we have, so I was extremely excited to have Ustazah Syariati choose the trait of Gratitude for this week's episode of "A Beautiful Soul". In this lesson, we will learn that gratitude is not just merely thanking Allah, but it is a way of life that involves filling our hearts up with immense love and indebtedness to the One who has showered us with blessings upon blessings, despite our circumstances.

Join us as we dig deeper into how having gratitude for Allah SWT is the key to unlocking even more doors of goodness in our lives.

[Listen To The Episode Here](#)

[Join Study Date Here](#)

[Read PDF Notes Here](#)

Tip: If you find it difficult to attend the Study Date or to listen to the Class on your own, try starting with the PDF Notes!



2021 GRAD SHOW

20 December, 8.45pm SG
aaplus.co/zoom

How can we bid 2021 goodbye without throwing a celebratory halal party for allllll of you, my beautiful Internet Children! If you've listened to any TKV lessons this year, come to any AA Plus Zoom Call or read any of our Closer emails, then this grad show is for YOU! My team and I have a few things planned up our sleeves for this special event, so make sure you clear your schedule and join us next **Monday, the 20th of December, at 8.45pm SG, 12.45pm UK!** There will

also be a mini award show, so if you have a free minute, head on to the link below to **cast a vote for some special champs** ok? All votes remain anonymous, so be free to nominate as you please!

[Cast Your Votes Here](#)

a beautiful Dua

Ya Allah, remind me
that You are the only
One who owns every
heart, and it is only
You who can move,
soften and heal all
hearts.

aaplus.co

#abeautifuldua

This Dua is inspired by a beautiful Champ who asked so bravely during Tadarus this week on how to invite our loved ones back to the Deen. I am sure all of us knows at least one person in our lives whom we would love to see embrace and practice Islam, but the truth is not even Rasulullah SAW, the best of man, the most beloved to Allah SWT, could do that. Allah SWT aptly reminded us through our Prophet SAW in the [Quran](#) that "you surely cannot guide whoever you like, O Prophet', but it is Allah Who guides whoever He wills, and He knows best who are fit to be guided." What we can do is to be the best sister / friend / wife / mother / daughter to the person in question, and to never ever ever give up on making duas for them. **Remember: Allah SWT loves them more than we love them, so trust that He has a plan for them as well, just like how He is beautifully planning our lives now.** But let's never stop praying to the One who holds all hearts for Him to guide them so that they can also taste this sweetness of faith, Amin! Nabi Nuh did this for 950 years, so let's not give up hope on anyone just yet, no matter how tough it may be!

Your visual reminder



I wanted to create a wallpaper that will remind all of us that we are Allah's, and that He chose us purposefully to be in this world because He instilled in us honour and worth. Sometimes we forget that we are Khalifahs in this world, we forget that we are part of the Ummah of Rasulallah SAW, who is the best man ever lived, and we forget that our hearts are ginormous and we have Allah SWT by our side, so I hope this visual reminder is of benefit to you Champs. :) PS: There's also "dark mode" and "light mode" for this one!

[Download Wallpaper Here](#)

in case you missed it



Ladies, just a heads up that we will be opening AA Plus for registration **for one week only** on the 21st of Dec (next Tuesday) In Sha Allah, so if you know of a loved one who might benefit from joining us, feel free to share the news with them. There will be monthly plans (\$19/month) and yearly plans (\$190/year) available and we'd more than love to welcome friends of our Champs! A number of you have also expressed interest to sponsor sisters on AA Plus - if you are keen in doing so, simply reply to this email and my team will assist you

in doing this beautiful deed for a special sister out there. May Allah reward you!

Registration Opens on the 21st of December

Muslim Meme



This meme reminded me of the very kind and gentle housekeeper that we used to have when I was younger. Her name was Dariyati, and I would call her Cik Yati for short. She would teach me the Quran in the

evenings after school and was always so gentle with me. Once, when we were about to go on a short vacation, my mother asked her, "Will you be ok alone, Yati?" and till today, I always remembered her answering my mother, "I am not alone, Bu. I am with Allah SWT and His angels." She said it with such a beautiful smile and I think that was the very first time Allah SWT was trying to teach me that I too, will never be alone, as I have Him and His angels too. (OK I did not expect this week's meme to get me all sentimental. I miss Cik Yati!)

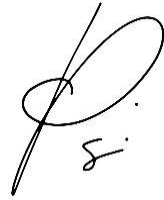
Something to Ponder

I ask Allah to
guide my steps,
but am I ready
to move my feet?



I don't know if you guys remember, but we used to sell our very own notebook, "[Dream Dua Do](#)". I designed it based on the mantra I coined: to begin with a **dream**, and then to **dua** consistently for it, and of course, to **do** the actual work. It's the only notebook I've used for years and I think I've gotten through more than 10 of those notebooks. When I re-read the entries in those journals, I smile realising that the pages are filled with exactly all of those 3 things - my intentions (aka my dreams), my (very sappy) Duas, and my never-ending To Do Lists. It made me realise that whenever I get anxious about something, it is usually because I am not doing enough in taking practical actionables. When I feel lost, it is because I am actually not praying enough for His Help and Guidance. And when I am lazy and unproductive, I know that I've not been dreaming and making grand intentions for a while. So it's always these 3 steps for me: Dream, Dua

and Do. Which brings me to a question I ask myself often: am I always ready to move when I've asked Allah to guide my steps, or do I only stop at dreaming and dua-ing, and not continue with the do-ing?



ending it with His Words

Quran 28:60

We have sent the Quran as such 'in stages' so We may reassure your heart with it. And We have revealed it at a deliberate pace.

Allah's timing and
pacing is perfect

Allah's timing is to
reassure us

(If you are in need of some soulcare, join us @ [our weekly Quran Tadarus!](#))

With that, I hope you guys have enjoyed Closer.

fin
X
a.

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Because you signed up to become an AA Plus member.

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