19 January 2023



your curated weekly spiritual booster delivered straight to your Inbox

May we remember that we need Allah SWT on our best days just as desperately as we need Him on our worst days.

Assalammualaikum my Champions,

I have one of those "one-liner" journals that I have been consistently

writing in for the past year or so and one of the things I love to do is to go back to a random date and re-read what I've written that day. (Do you do this already? If you don't, I highly recommend it!) What I have come to realise is that no matter if it's a "good" day or a "bad" day, there's always a line or two somewhere in the entry where I'd confess:

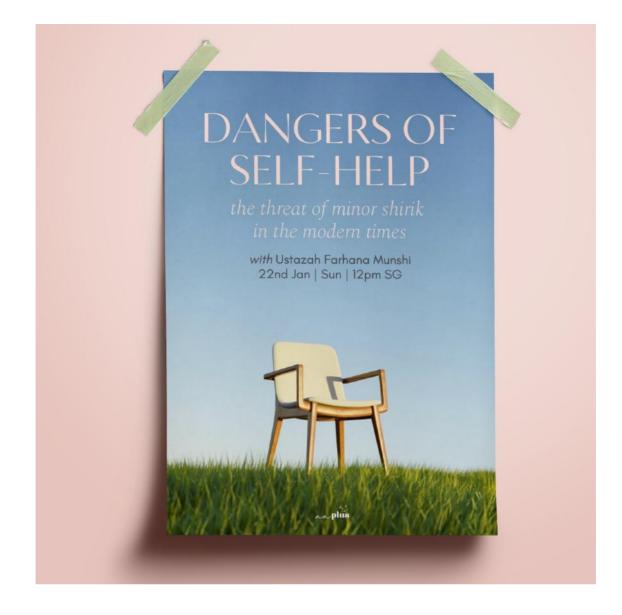
"Ya Allah, what would I do without You?"

Which brings me to my theory: that as believers, perhaps we don't have "good" or "bad" days, but we only simply have "I need Allah" days. ۞

Think about it: we need Allah SWT for anything and everything. To blink, to swallow, to breathe, to move, to think, to speak, to listen, to love, to live - we need Him in every aspect of our existence! Unfortunately, we tend to remember this only when we are being tested, but not when our life is "sorted". And it's only "sorted" because Allah SWT has perfectly taken care of every single detail of our lives!

So Champs, no matter which season of your life you are currently in, wether it be ease or difficulty, blessings or difficulties, **the common and consistent Truth is that we will always need Him**. May our pride not let us forget this, and may we be comfortable in doing both: leaving our burdens with Allah, but also in celebrating our blessings with Him too! For He is al-Muhaimin (the All-Protector), but He is also as-Shakur (the Ever Appreciative) too!

get excited for



Champs, I've been looking forward to this Sunday's special lecture with Ustazah Farhana for a while now and I hope you'll make grand intentions to come for it! I believe I am not the only one who is exposed to the world of "Self-Help" and with so many books, podcasts,

YouTube videos and the likes available out there advocating misleading things, such as we can take control of our lives (only Allah SWT is in full control), that we can "manifest" things into existence (only Allah SWT can manifest things) etc etc, it's important to draw the line and know what our Deen says about all of this. This lecture was also inspired by one of our dearest Champs who came up to me and confessed that her Aqidah might be in danger for she has consumed too much of these Western ideologies, and it has thrown her into a pool of massive confusion. So **if you are big into Self-** Development, and you would like to do it adhering to the Quran and Sunnah as close as possible, this is the lecture for you! PS: Please note the timing of this lecture - ROTW Champs,

this will happen on your Saturday night at 10pm CT.

Join this special session here

Add this session to your GCal

heartwork that heals

heartwork ^{5°}uard vour tongue and thoughts with zikin ^{5°}uard vour tongue and thoughts with zikin

13:28 - "Verily, through the Remembrance of Allah, do hearts find rest." This is the Ayah that I held on to when I was going through one of the darkest moments in my life. The word Allah SWT used in the Ayah is "*Zikir*" and this changed how I saw Zikir completely. I used to limit Zikir and thought of it as only something you can do with your prayer beads, on your prayer mat. But being in "Zikir" can be done anywhere, anytime and with anyone for as long as you are remembering Him. You reading this Closer email is Zikir, you meeting a girlfriend in a cafe, and having a beautiful conversation about His Love is Zikir, and you being in Nature is also Zikir! There are *so many* instances and examples of Zikir, and once I opened myself up to its true definition, my life began to change. Today, I'd like to challenge you to do your Zikir through your tongue and your

thoughts. For example, <u>replace songs with selawat</u>, and negative thoughts with <u>loving ones</u>, and then see how your heart feels. \heartsuit

save the date

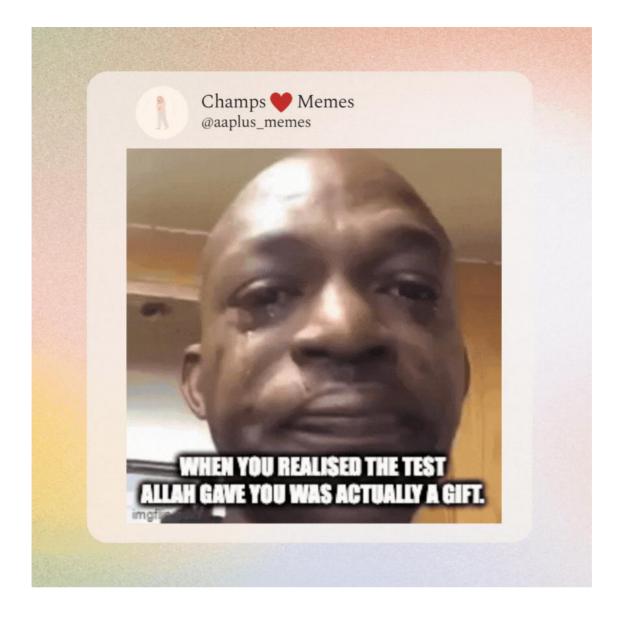


With the intention and hope of sharing my love of Zikir, I am inviting all of you to join in any (if not all!) of our short and sweet Zikir Dates that will be happening on Monday, Wednesday and Friday next week, In Sha Allah at 12pm SG / 10pm CT (the day before for ROTW Champs due to time difference). These calls will only be about 20 minutes long, but I promise you it will add lasting tranquillity to your day/night. I will also be hosting these Zikir dates in the blessed cities of Medina and Mecca, In Sha Allah, and it would be such a joy having all of you together with me. May these Zikir Dates be a "kickstarter" for all of us to be consistent in our Zikir routines, Amin!

Join Zikir Dates Here

Add <u>Mon</u> | <u>Wed</u> | <u>Fri</u> | <u>All</u> Session to your GCal

muslim meme



This was me a few days ago when one of our Champs shared with me something beautiful that happened to her. She was asked to stay late at work to finish some tasks, but she was already beyond exhausted at that point. In tears, she did her work, and by the time she finished, it was already 11pm. However, when she boarded the train home, she soon learned that the train she was supposed to take if she had not gotten delayed at work had actually gotten stuck in a tunnel for 3 hours! Allah SWT was actually saving her from being stuck in a dark, claustrophobic cabin by making sure she stayed safe at work! Champs, I am sure there are many instances in your life where you also realised

His "tests" are really just blessings, so if you are currently going through a difficulty, I pray you will remain faithful in His Love and

Mercy for you. Remember, Allah SWT only wants you to win!

to ponder



I remember speaking to a wise elderly lady once who asked me if I wanted to perform Hajj. I was only in my early 20s at that time so I told her, "I don't have any money saved, and the queue to go in Singapore is super long." She then said firmly, "I didn't ask about money or logistics. I asked if you wanted to perform Hajj." I nodded my head decisively and said, "Of course I want to!" and the elderly lady smiled, saying, "then pray to Allah for it because He is the One who will provide you with the money, and He is also the One who can make that line go away. Allah can do anything, so you just pray for it, my child. Never forget you are praying to Allah, the al-Malik, the Mighty King!" Champs, if you find yourself making monotonous, robotic, or worse, doubtful prayers as of late, remember Who Allah SWT is! **Remember His greatness when you ask, not your** weakness.





Champs, here's a gentle reminder to submit your duas if you'd like me to recite it for you when I am performing my Umrah in a few days, In Sha Allah. Hundreds of you have done so, Ma Sha Allah, but if you'd like to add more, please go for it! Remember that we would be asking from the Most Generous, the Most Kind and the Most Merciful. \heartsuit

Submit Your (Anonymous) Duas Here

With that, I hope you guys have enjoyed Closer!



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