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

## 28 April 2022



your curated weekly spiritual booster delivered straight to your Inbox

May our meeting with our Creator, and our reunion with Rasulullah S&W be our biggest & happiest "Eid" celebration.

Assalammualaikum my Champions,

The thought of bidding goodbye to this blessed month is making me feel all sorts of bittersweet. Ramadan is truly a gift given by Allah SWT to reveal to us our truest potential as His servant and what we are capable of doing and achieving when our hearts are in tune. I pray may the deeds that He has allowed us to do this month be accepted by Him, and may we strive to remain consistent with it as best as we can, post-Ramadan. *Amin*.

As this month is coming to an end, some of us may be busy preparing to celebrate Eid. When I was younger, I thought Eid was all about wearing nice clothes, eating good food and spending time with family and loved ones. But I now realise that Eid, which means "celebration", is really about celebrating the "hard work" we've put in for Ramadhan. And so if you have done your level best this Ramadan, Eid is truly for you! Enjoy it and soak in all of the goodness, for it is YOUR day!

### Jabir ibn Nafir narrates, **"When the companions of Rasulullah** SAW met each other on the day of Eid, they would say to each other, 'taqabbal minna wa minka'. (May Allah accept our deeds from us and you)"

Meaning to say, the Sahabahs of Rasulullah SAW celebrated Eid, with the hopes that Allah has accepted all of the acts of worship they've done for Him and **that**, is how I see Eid now - a cheerful and hopeful celebration of Allah being pleased with us for all of the things we've strived to do for His sake.

But you know what, Champs? As I sit here writing this letter to you, I realised that the true, real, LEGIT "Eid" would actually be us on the Day of Judgement, receiving the good news that we've been chosen to be in Jannah.

# Now that, is the real Eid. The real deal. **A real cause for celebration.**

And now that I think about it, our entire life in this Dunia, is just like Ramadhan. It is short, it will come to an end, and sometimes it might be trying and difficult. To see everyone else "feasting" and "enjoying" while you try to devote yourself for the sake of Allah. Our time in this Dunia, just like Ramadhan, will see us having **our** versions of "searching for Lailatul Qadr" too - where there will be times we are on a "spiritual high" but once that "search for Lailatul Qadr" ends, we go back to being spiritually lethargic. **But just like Ramadhan, our time in this Dunia can also be blessed**. Just like Ramadhan, our time in this Dunia should also be fully used as a means to do good, to prepare for our final meeting with our Creator.

So I pray, that as much as we might be tired, especially nearing the end

of Ramadhan, and especially with the temptation of busying ourselves for Eid, that **we don't lose our focus.** That we don't forget our ultimate destination, our real "Eid" - our meeting with Allah SWT in the Hereafter.

I'd like to share <u>an Ayah in the Quran</u> that has been keeping me going in these last nights, and it's a verse that actually reminds me of all of us in AA Plus. Allah SWT says, "And those who were mindful of their Lord will be led to Paradise in <u>**'successive' groups**</u>. When they arrive at its 'already' open gates, its keepers will say, <u>**"Peace be upon**</u> **you! You have done well, so come in, to stay forever."** 

Champs, I imagine us entering Jannah together, hand in hand, with all of our loved ones, as one of the "successive groups" that He mentioned in this Ayah! And I also daydream about the scene of how we will all be standing in front of Jannah, being welcomed and complemented (!!!) by the angels that we "have done well"! **w w w o So may we do well,** Champs, especially in these last few nights of this blessed month! May He grant us the energy, the good health, and the determination to always do well, in all areas of our lives, for His sake.

coming up in hotel de ramadan



Monday, 2nd May, 10.30pm SG / 3.30pm UK

Champs, it is with a big heart that I invite you to this special Eid Picnic to celebrate the hard and heart work that we've done this Ramadan and this beautiful Sisterhood! As per our AA Plus tradition, we will be doing our own Eid Takbir, there will be games and performances and it will be fun! So come join us, dress in your best clothes and don't forget to bring snacks! This will also be our last gathering before officially "checking out" from Hotel de Ramadan, so let's make it count. :)

Join Eid Picnic Here!

champs collective duas



I have been reading the Dua List that you guys have written and contributed to, and Ma Sha Allah, it's like reading a page of your diaries, as they are all so beautiful, personal and special! We have been reading some of these heartfelt duas during our nightly Tahajud Sessions, which itself holds a special place in my heart, so if you haven't had the chance to come for Tahajud, do try! It's every night at 4am SG for Asia and 3.30AM UK for ROTW Champs. <u>I also promised</u> <u>to share this Video of one of my fav duas</u> during one of the Tahajud sessions. It's by Sheikh Jibril, and he recited this Dua Qunut on the 27th of Ramadan many, many years ago but till today, it is still being listened to by millions. I personally read this Dua every Ramadan and every year without fail, my eyes would not stop crying. **G PS:** We will hold a special dua session to read out some of your beautiful duas after Tadarus of Juzuk 30, so please make time for it!

If you haven't, add your Duas here!

Eid gits for you



We created this special sticker and gif pack as a parting "souvenir" or "momento" for your stay in Hotel de Ramadan! We had so much fun hosting all of you and we couldn't bear to let you leave without gifting you something as a keepsake! Feel free to use it and share it as you please. You can also find these gifs on IG Stories when you search for AA Plus! PS: I will definitely be using the #ChampsOOTD sticker. How about you? Which one is your favourite?

**Download Sticker Pack Here** 

Or use the gifs on your IG Stories, just search for aaplus!



One of our darling champs (she chose to remain anonymous, but duas for her please!) designed these beautiful E-Eid Cards for all of you and I'm just honoured to play "gift-fairy" by sharing them with you! I love how she used the 3 blessed places of Mecca, Medina and Masjid Aqsa for the cards! Here's praying that all of us get to visit these holy

#### lands with our loved ones soon!

### Download Eid Cards Here: Mecca | Medina | Aqsa



THIS IS THE CUTEST! The adab of this 5 year old in making Dua is truly phenomenal! May Allah SWT refine our character, increase us with good manners and allow us to be people of Duas! Amin!

Something to Ponder

This Eid, look out for one other. Help out the overwhelmed friend, protect the vulnerable sister, and reach out to those who are alone. Eid is for all of us.

Champs.

For most of us, this year will be the first year after Covid that Eid will take place "normally" again. We will be able to gather in numbers, and reunite with some of our loved ones whom we haven't seen for ages! And although Eid is usually a joyous and merry occasion, let's not forget to check on one another and look out for one another. Especially if we know if any of our closest and dearest might be feeling anxious, overwhelmed, nervous or alone. Eid is for all of us, so let's not leave anyone behind. Drop a text, ring them up, send them a gift or make lots of duas for them so that Allah SWT, the One who Protects and Oversees all things in perfection will drench them with tranquillity and ease their affairs throughout this festive season.



My team and I will officially be signing off from *Hotel de Ramadan* after our Eid Picnic and will be taking a break till the 16th of May, so all emails / messages / queries will be replied to then, In Sha Allah. On behalf of my team, we seek your forgiveness for all of our shortcomings and we thank you from the bottom of our hearts for making our Ramadan this year such a blessed and special one. We look forward to continuing to be in service to you, and here's wishing you a blessed & joyous Eid!!! PS: I'll be swinging by your Inbox to deliver a special update on the 16th of May so keep a lookout for it then! With that, I hope you guys have enjoyed Closer. Love you all, for His sake.



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