

# Raising Children By The Book

Our biggest contribution, greatest legacy, and most beloved possession in this world, without a doubt, are our children. But are we providing them with what they need to create the right future of our Ummah? Learn the answer to this question and a few tips on how to make a contribution to it.

By Uwaymir Anjum



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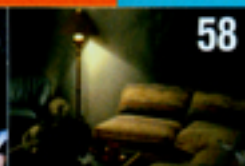
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# The Love of Allah

BY ABU HAMID AL-GHAZALI (D. 505 A.H.)

## An Exceptional Love

The love of Allah should occupy man's heart and get total possession of it; and if it does not seize it entirely, it should at least outweigh the love of all other things in it. Allah says about the believers, "He loves them and they love Him," [5:54] and the Prophet, sallallahu alayhe wa sallam, said, "A man would not have attained faith until/unless he loves Allah and His Messenger more than anything else." (Bukhari) When *Azrael* (the Angel who receives the souls of people at time of death) came to take the soul of Prophet Ibraheem, the latter said, "Have you ever seen a friend take his friend's life?" To that, Allah replied, "Have you ever seen a friend unwilling to see his friend?" Then Ibraheem said, "O *Azrael*! Take my soul!" The Prophet, sallallahu alayhe wa sallam, taught the following *duaa* or prayer to his Companions, "O Allah, allow me to love You and to love those who love You, and to love whatsoever brings me nearer to Your love, and make Your love more precious to me than cold water to the thirsty." (Tirmithi) Al-Hassan al-Basri used to say, "He who knows Allah, loves Him."

## Causes of the Love of Allah

The *first cause* is man's love for himself and his drive to perfect his own creation. This leads directly to loving Allah because man's very existence and attributes are but the gift of Allah whose grace and kindness have brought man from behind the curtain of non-existence into this visible world. Man's preservation and eventual attainment of perfection are also entirely dependent

upon Allah's grace. It would indeed be a wonder if one should take refuge from the heat of the Sun under the shadow of a tree and not be grateful to the tree, without which there would be no shadow at all. On precisely the same way, were it not for Allah, man would have neither existence nor attributes at all.

The *second cause* of this love is that man loves his benefactor, and in truth, his only Benefactor is Allah, for whatever kindness man receives from fellow-creatures is due to the immediate instigation of Allah. Whatever the motive that may have prompted the kindness he receives from others, Allah is the Agent who set that motive to work.

The *third cause* of man's love of Allah is his contemplation of the beautiful Attributes of Allah, His power and wisdom, of which human power and wisdom are but the feeblest reflections.

## Signs of the Love of Allah

Many claim to love Allah. But each should examine himself as to the genuineness of the love which he professes.

The *first test* of how genuine the love is this: he should not dislike the thought of death, for no friend shrinks away from going to see a dear and beloved friend. The Companion Abu Musa al-Asha'ri narrated that the Prophet Muhammad, sallallahu alayhe wa sallam, said, "Whoever wishes to meet Allah, Allah wishes to meet him." (Bukhari) It is true a sincere lover of Allah *may* shrink away from the thought of dying before he is fully prepared to meet his beloved One in the Next World, but a sincere lover, one would think, should work diligently to



## FATAWA

ISLAMIC ANSWERS TO CONTEMPORARY QUESTIONS

The following is a list of the scholars who answered this month's questions:

**Hassen A. Laidi**  
 Publisher and Editor  
 Al Jum'ah Magazine

**Dr. Ajeel an-Nashmi**  
 Former Dean of the Faculty of  
 Shari'ah at Kuwait University.

### Making up for Salah Missed Because of Menstruation

*When a woman menstruates at the time of a particular salah (Dhuhr for example) without having making it prior to the start of bleeding, how should she make up for missing that particular salah after the bleeding stops? Make up for the Dhuhr only or both Dhuhr and Asr? The Imam of our masjid said she should do both.*

#### Answer by Hassen A. Laidi

This is a typical and recurring situation and it is perhaps best if we start answering your question by indicating that there are two possibilities for the way the salah may be missed with respect to

➤ The first situation is such that the time of a particular salah (Dhuhr for example) becomes due and a woman starts her menstrual bleeding way after that without having made that Dhuhr salah. Scholars had varying opinions for such case: first, those who think that this woman does not have to make up for this salah because she did not miss it to begin with. They claim that the fact she did not make it at the beginning of its time does not constitute any violation of the proper way of making that salah—she could have delayed making it to the end of its due time, just before the Asr salah. Second, those who think she should

do a qadhaa i.e., make up for that Dhuhr salah, because it became an obligation upon her the moment its time became due.

Imam Ibn Taymiyyah (d. 728 A.H.) stated that, "Considering the strength of evidence, the correct ruling regarding this issue is that opined by Malik and Abu Hanifah. They say she doesn't have to make up for that salah (the Dhuhr salah) because qadhaa is valid only if there were a new (additional) command requiring it, something which we do not have in this situation—therefore, no qadhaa or make up is called for here. And her delay (by not making Dhuhr immediately after its Aathan time) is an acceptable and reasonable delay that should not have any effect on the qadhaa."

Our recommendation therefore is: no qadhaa is needed for such salah. Yet, if a woman chooses to make up for that salah, as a way of getting out

of difference (khuroojan minal khilaf) or to be in the safe side (Ihtiatan), then she may, because Ihtiat is a reasonable way of dealing with a matter-of-difference where that matter is originally wajib or an obligation—and the Dhuhr salah is definitely an obligation.

➤ The second situation is the case where a woman completes her menstruation cycle and stops bleeding during the time-period of the Asr salah for example. Some scholars state that both of the Dhuhr and Asr salah be made in qadhaa, combined—at the same time. This opinion has been reported from Ibn Abbas. Imams Shafi'ee and Ahmad also share that opinion. They state that when bleeding stops in a time that is shared between two salahs (Dhuhr and Asr or Maghrib and Isha) such that the bleeding stops at the particular time of the second salah (Asr or Isha) then both salahs should be made.

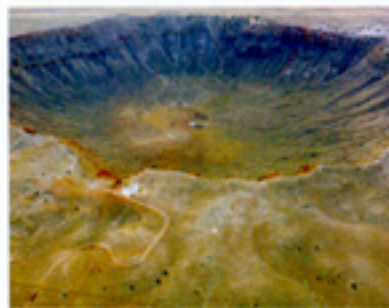
## SOME MIRACLES OF THE QUR'AN - 5 THE WELL-GUARDED SKY

BY HARUN YAHYA

In the Qur'an, Allah calls our attention to a very important attribute of the sky: "We made the sky a preserved and protected roof, yet still they turn away from Our signs." [21:32]

This attribute of the sky has been proved by scientific research carried out in the 20th century: The atmosphere surrounding the Earth serves crucial functions for the continuity of life. While destroying many meteors—big and small—as they approach the Earth, it prevents them from falling to Earth and harming living things.

In addition, the atmosphere filters the light rays coming from space that are harmful to living things. The most striking feature of this function of the atmosphere is that it lets only harmless and useful rays—visible light, near ultraviolet light and radio waves pass through. All of this radiation is vital for life. Near ultraviolet rays, which are only partially let in by the atmos-



phere, are very important for the photosynthesis of plants and for the survival of all living things. The majority of the intense ultraviolet rays emitted from the Sun are filtered out by the ozone layer of the atmosphere. Only a limited and essential part of the ultraviolet spectrum reaches the Earth.

The protective function of the atmosphere does not end here. The atmos-

phere also protects the Earth from the freezing cold of the space, which is approximately  $-2700^{\circ}\text{C}$  ( $-4540^{\circ}\text{F}$ ).

It is not only the atmosphere that protects the Earth from harmful effects. In addition to the atmosphere, the Van-Allen Belt—the layer caused by the magnetic field of the Earth—also serves as a shield against the harmful radiation that threatens our planet. This radiation, which is constantly emitted by the Sun and other stars, is deadly to living things. If the Van-Allen belt did not exist, the massive outbursts of energy called solar flares that frequently occur in the Sun would destroy all life on Earth.

On the importance of the Van-Allen Belt, Dr. Hugh Ross says:

"In fact, the Earth has the highest density of any of the planets in our Solar System. This large nickel-iron core is responsible for our large magnetic field. This magnetic field produces the Van-Allen radiation shield, which protects the Earth from radiation bombardment. If this shield were not present, life would not be possible on Earth. The only other rocky planet to have any magnetic field is Mercury—but its field strength is 100 times less than the Earth's. Even Venus, our sister planet, has no magnetic field. The Van-Allen radiation shield is a design unique to the Earth. (*The Incredible Design of the Earth and our Solar System*)

The energy transmitted in just one of these bursts detected in recent years was calculated to be equivalent to 100 billion atomic bombs, each akin to one dropped on Hiroshima at the end of World War II. Fifty-eight hours after the burst, it was observed that the magnetic needles of compasses displayed unusual movement and 250 kilometres (155 miles) above the