

DCI Youth Magazine

3rd Edition Oct 2025

Featuring youth stories, art, and imagination

Celebrating Young Voices
And Creative Minds



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Edited and Compiled by Faria Arif

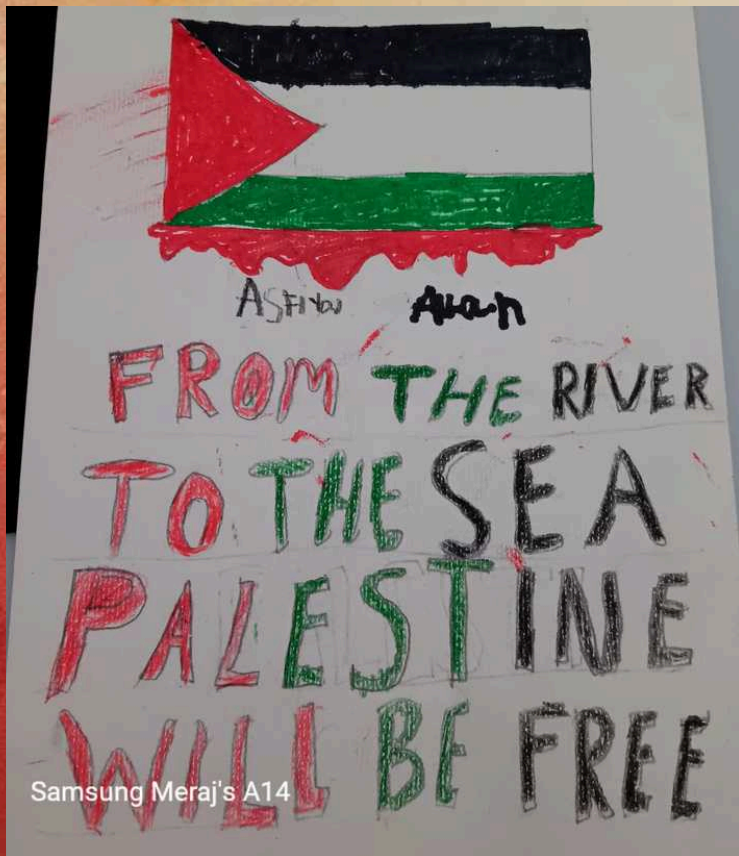


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pPRIMARY CATEGORY 1

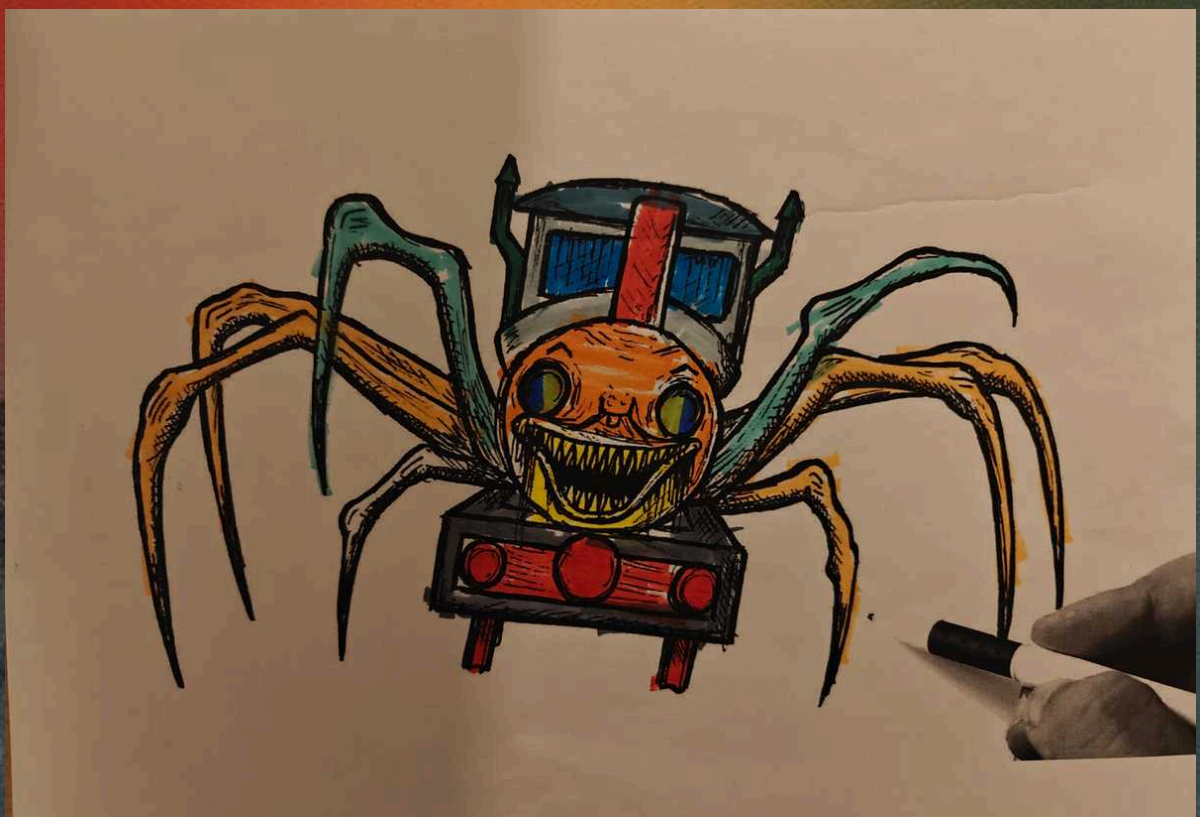




AMATUL ASFIYA KHAN, 6 YRS



SALWA PATEL, 6 YRS



ZOHAN KHAN, 6 YRS



AYESHA SIDDHIQA, 6YRS



MUHAMMAD NOAH PATEL, 8 YRS



RIDA'S FOREST

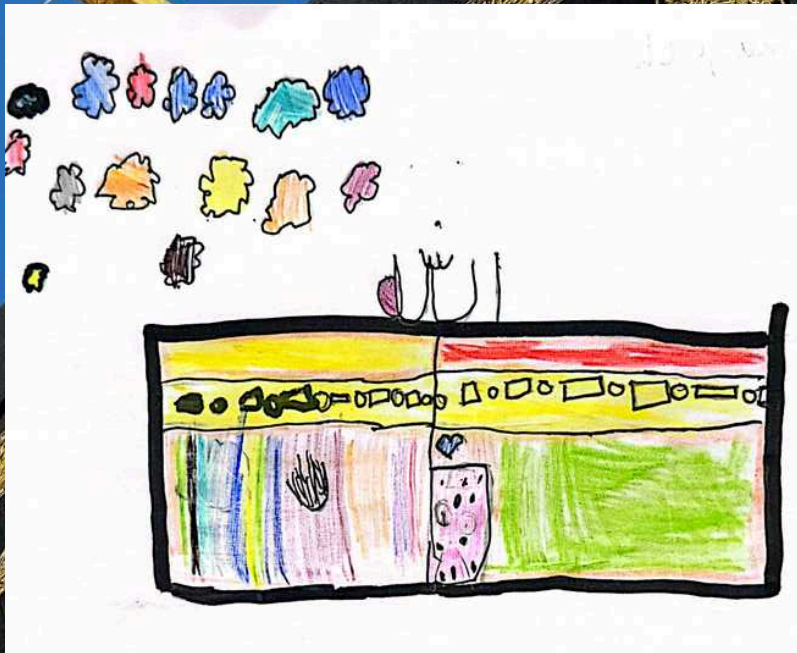
RIDA AHMED, 6 YRS



MUHAMMAD DAWOOD ASLAM, 8 YRS



ISMAIL BODA, 8 YRS

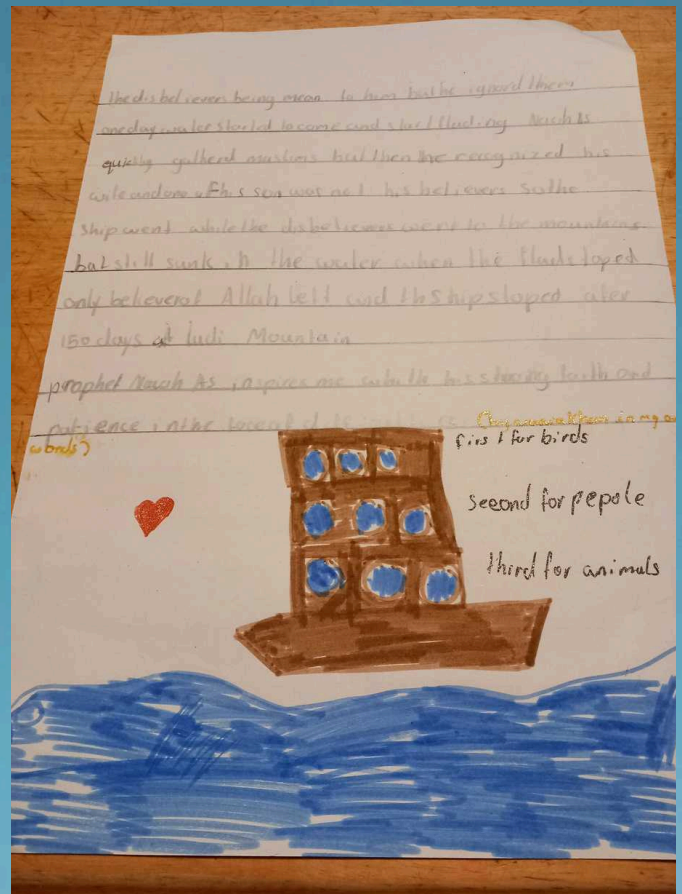


SUMAYYAH AWAN, 6 YRS

The Story of Prophet Noah (A.S)

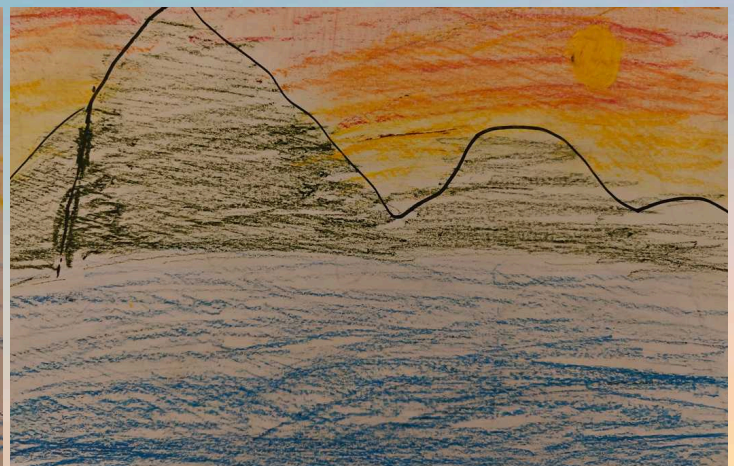
Many years ago, a prophet name Noah (AS) who was sent 1000 years after Adam (AS).

Noah (AS) was there to teach the people about Allah (SWT), some disbelievers ignored him and continued worshipping the idols and after that there were two group of people, one group who believes in Allah (SWT) and other is disbelievers. The group who believes Allah, Noah (AS) teach them morning and night about Allah (SWT), while the disbelievers would throw rocks and beat him with the sticks. Noah (AS) ignored them and keep teaching them about Allah (SWT). They learned for so many years. One day Noah (AS) sat in the grass and then prayed. Allah (SWT) tala spoke to him and asked him to grow plants. Noah (AS) started planting them, after 100 years Allah (SWT) says to build the ark, so he gathered his people and started building the Ark on a mountain for days. The disbelievers being mean to him but Noah (AS) ignored them. One day water started to come and started flooding. Noah (AS) quickly gathered Muslims then he recognized his wife and one son was not in his believers. Ship went while the disbelievers went to mountains but still sunk in the water. When the flood stopped, only believers of Allah (SWT) were left and ship stop after 150 days at the Judi Mountain. Prophet Noah (AS) Inspire me with his strong faith and patience in the face of difficulties.



WANIA KHAN , 8 YRS

Nature



ZIDANE KHAN , 9 YRS

SPORTS

- SPORTS
1. It gives you energy.
 2. Make you strong.
 3. you can make new friends.
 4. If you practise more you will get better.
 5. If you are good at sports you can play for your country.
 6. I learn to play basketball.
 7. I learn to do cool tricks.
 8. I feel good at basketball.



ZAIN ARIF, 7 YRS

Why I Love Planes!

I like planes because they can fly high in the sky. It is really fascinating and cool. They are one of the best inventions in the world its very thrilling and fun to fly in an aeroplane and I also like the food they serve in the plane.

One day I want to become pilot and fly a plane.

I am also passionate about making paper planes. I made 4 boings from different airlines with just paper. This is my favourite pass time, I can sit hours making the planes.

I also watch planes from my window, they all go from my area, I enjoy seeing Emirates, Qatar and Etihad planes they look so big and its satisfying watching them.



**ARFEEN MUZZAFER AHMED
8 YRS**



ZOYA AHMED, 9 YRS



HAROONA BODA, 9 YRS



JASMINE ALI, 8 YRS

Helping at Home

My name is Safwan Khan. I am studying in the first class at the Muslim National School. I am going to explain how I help my family members at home from morning till evening, although I ask my mum for help with typing words that are a bit difficult for me.

First of all, I love my family very much, and I always like to help my mum, dad, and my siblings at home in different ways. Helping at home makes me feel happy and proud. There are many small things I can do to make my home a better place. Every morning, I wake up and make my bed, even though it's hard to fold the blanket. I ask my sister to help me, and I keep my room clean and tidy. I get ready myself without asking my parents for help, and I help my mum in preparing my school bag by filling the water bottle and packing the lunch box. When I come back from school, I organise my shoes and wash my lunch box. I also help my mum by setting the table before meals and clearing it afterwards. I put my toys away after playing.

Secondly, I assist my dad in various ways, like bringing his phone and car keys before he leaves and helping him in charging his phone. I also help my mum with shopping, carrying the bags, and choosing vegetables and groceries in the shopping centre. At home, I help her fold the clothes and put them in the cupboard. I always try to keep the floor clean by picking up litter wherever I see it. Helping at home teaches us to be responsible and kind. It also makes my parents happy and proud of me. I believe every child should help their parents and keep their home neat and clean.

Finally, I am learning how to pray salah/Namaz and remembering the small, small doas and surah's.

SAFWAN KHAN, 7 YRS

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L

P

GOOD MANNERS.

Good Manners are very important. When we talk we need to be polite. We should respect every one around us. Say please to ask something, say thank you to be grateful or appreciate when someone does good to you. Say sorry when we did something wrong. Say excuse me when we bother someone accidentally. We should not leave anyone left out on yard. We should visit our friends when they are sick and care them.

Sorry

Thank you

By, Mahira Amtul
Majid
2nd Class

Please

Excuse me

Assalamu alaikum

You welcome!

Walaikumassalam

MAHIRA AMTUL MAJID, 7 YRS

Who is Khalid Ibn Al-Walid?

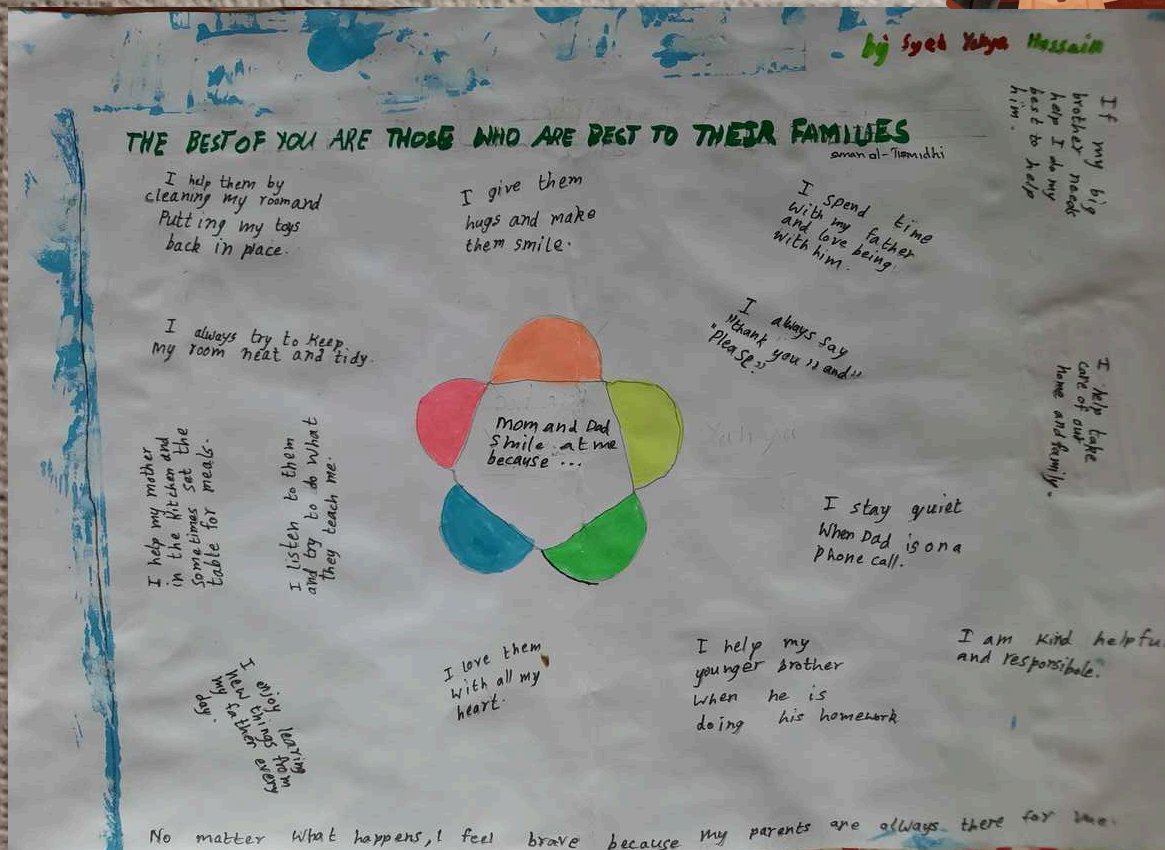
He is the military leader and the Sword of Allah. He reverted to Islam after the Muslims did the first Umrah. When he saw the Muslims perform the Umrah, it had a profound effect on him and inspired him to accept Islam.

At the battle of Mu'tah, when all the leaders of Muslims got martyred and the flag was on the floor, the Muslims chose Khalid Ibn Walid Radiallahu Anhu (RA) to pick up the flag and be the leader because he was a brave, courageous and strong person. During the battle of Mu'tah, Khalid Ibn Walid RA knew that the enemy was big, so he was fought very courageously, and planned to pause the battle so the Muslims can be saved and can come back with a plan and fight again. This is exactly what happened and Allah granted them victory. Khalid Ibn Walid RA never lost a battle even before he became a Muslim. He is well-known as Saif-ullah i.e. the "Sword of Allah" as Rasoolullah Sallallahu Alaihi wa Sallam (SAWS) called him famously in a Hadith close to meaning "What a good slave of Allah and member of the tribe Khalid bin al-Waleed is! [He is] one of the swords of Allah that Allah, may He be glorified and exalted, has unsheathed against disbelievers and hypocrites" [Musnad Ahmad 43]

We learn from him the bravery on the battlefield and the trust in Allah that we will fight the enemy again and win.



MOHAMMED MUSTAFA RIYAZ, 8 YRS



SYED YAHYA HUSSAIN

MY TRIP TO KERRY

Me and my family and our family friends went to Kerry. The car ride was sooo fun! We ate candy, listened to music, and played games with my friends. I felt super happy. But it took sooo long — like one or two hours! I kept asking, “Are we there yet?” 🤪

When we finally got to the hotel, we settled in. Then we took another long drive to the beach. The beach was so nice! I played with my friends and got sand everywhere. After that, we went to a restaurant, and the food was really yummy. Then we just chilled for a bit before going back to our hotel. I was SO excited because there was a bunk bed! 🥳 I got to sleep on the top one!

The next day, we prayed Fajr, but we were so tired we went back to sleep again 😴. Then we woke up and had breakfast. After that, we played some games and prayed Dhuhr. Later, we went to explore Kerry and found a really nice restaurant. The food was so good again!

After lunch, we went back to the hotel, played some more games, and explored a bit more. We had dinner at the hotel, and then it was time to pack up. I didn't want to go home yet!

On the way back, everyone was sleepy. I fell asleep in the car, and we stopped at a gas station for snacks. Then we prayed Asr and Maghrib at a nearby mosque. Everyone was tired, but we finally made it back to Dublin. I felt happy but also a little sad because the trip was over. We went to our family friends' house for a bit, and then we finally went home.

It was the best trip ever! 🥳🚗🌊

AMMAR MOHAMMED
8 YRS

HOW TO HELP THE WORLD

1. How to save water .

This is how to save water, whenever you put the tap on and use it you should close it when you're finished and also when you brush your teeth and you need to put the tooth paste on your brush but before you do that you wash your brush but after, straight away turn the tap off so you don't waste water.

2. How to respect people.

Always respect people anywhere you go and also be kind to them and be nice to them and don't be angry to them or saying bad things to other people and also treat others how you want to be treated and always be happy and thankful.

3. How to respect food

This is how to respect food ,whenever someone gives you food don't say “eww I don't like this, it's gross!!” - be nice and say thank you and eat kindly and carefully and if you're full don't throw it away, try finishing it or cover it with a plate, or feed animals like birds, cats, dogs or any other pets or animals.

SYEDA AMANAH AFAQ
9 YRS

How can I help at home

I always set up help routine for homework. Create a dedicated study space check on assignments and promote literacy by reading together I pray 5 times a day. I try to read Quran with meanings and try to learn all 99 Names of Allah Subhana talah. At every Night I thank to Allah Subhana talah for all Blessings and go to sleep.

how I help at School.

I help at school as a volunteer in classrooms, assist in the library, contribute to school events by preparing food and attend school-related activities, I am so active I am so kind and helpful.

— o —
RAZINAH

"My choice is to become Good Muslimah."

What it means to be a good Muslim according to the holy Quran.

- Do Not Be rude in a speech. → Lower your voice.
- Restrain anger. → Do not Be Jealous.
- Be good to others
- Do Not Be Arrogant.
- Forgive others for their Mistakes.
- Speak to people mildly.

RAZINAH
FATHIMA

Creatures Near my Area

These are the creatures near my area. Some are nice like a lady bug and a butterfly, and some are scary like a spider. Allah made all of these creatures thank you Allah for making this world beautiful.

3rd CLASS

→ BUTTER FLY



→ DRAGON FLY



→ SPIDER



→ LADY BUG



→ SNAIL



→ WORM



RAZINAH FATHIMA, 9 YRS

pPRIMARY CATEGORY 2





SEHAR, 10 YRS



SHIZA ZEESHAN, 11 YRS

One of the Best Women of Paradise

Khadeejah ibn Khuwaylid Radiallahu Anha (RA) was the first person to accept Islam. She was also the first wife of Rasoolullah Sallahu Alaihi wa Sallam (SAWS). She belonged to the tribe of the Quraish. Khadeeja RA had six children with Rasoolullah SAWS. She was a very good wife and Prophet SAWS loved her a lot. She comforted the Prophet SAWS when the angel Jibreel peace be upon him (PBUH) first came down in the cave of Hira and said to the Prophet SAWS "IQRA!" "IQRA!" meaning "READ!" "READ!". Then the Prophet SAWS said close to meaning that he doesn't know how to read. And angel Jibreel (PBUH) squeezed Prophet SAWS twice. Prophet SAWS again said closely he doesn't know how to read. Then Angel Jibreel (PBUH) squeezed Prophet SAWS 3rd time very hard and said "IQRA!" and Prophet SAWS repeated that he doesn't know how to read. Angel Jibreel (PBUH) then released Prophet SAWS and recited the first few verses of the Quran that are recorded in Surah 'Alaq [Ayahs 1 -5]. After that incident, the Prophet SAWS went home and said to Khadeeja RA close to meaning "Cover me!" "Cover me!". Khadeeja RA comforted him by saying profound words close to meaning "Allah will never disgrace you. You unite relatives and keep the relations, you bear the burden of the weak, you help the needy and the poor, you entertain your guests and endure hardships in the path of truthfulness".

She is our role model. She was a determined and intelligent business woman. She was a noble, generous and kind woman. She always stood by the side of Prophet SAWS with immense sacrifice and supported his noble endeavours. Rasoolullah SAWS called the year she died as the Year of Sorrow when she and Abu Talib died. She was sent Salam by Allah Subhanahu Wa Ta'ala and was promised a palace of jewels in Jannah during her lifetime. And she's one of the leaders of women in Jannah.

AMINA RIYAZ, 9 YRS

Salahuddin Al-Ayyubi

SALAHUDDIN AL-AYYUBI
The Hero of Justice

Early Life

- Born: 1134 in Tikrit, Iraq
- Family: son of Najm al-Din Ayyub
- Good riding, learning and horses
- Learned police and wisdom from father
- Learned of helping people and uniting the Muslim world

The Battle of Hattin (1187)

- For almost 90 years the Crusaders controlled Jerusalem, including the sacred Masjid Al-Aqsa
- Salahuddin led his army with faith and courage
- Won the Battle of Hattin, defeating the crusades

The Return of Al-Aqsa Mosque

- When Salahuddin entered Jerusalem, he ordered no robbery or harm to anyone
- He opened the gates for Christians and Jews to live safely
- He personally cleaned and purified Masjid Al-Aqsa, which had been turned into a church and stable by the crusades
- The Aqsa (call to pray) was heard again in 88 years - a moment of great joy for Muslims everywhere

Learning to be a Leader

- Moved to Damascus (Syria) as a boy
- Trained under his uncle under Shirkub, general of Saladin of the Zangids
- Learned about courage, kindness and justice
- Became Commander of Egypt at age 31!

Becoming sultan

- In 1173 Salahuddin became Sultan of Egypt and Syria
- Unified the Muslim lands that had been divided
- Built schools, hospitals and mosques
- Known for fairness, humility, and care for all people no matter their religion


The kind Conqueror

- Showed mercy even to his enemies
- Helped King Richard the Lionheart he fell ill
- Sent him food, he gave medicine
- Treated all people with respect
- His enemies admired him for his noble character and justice

The End of his Journey

- Died in 1193 in Damascus, Syria
- Left no wealth, because he gave away everything to the poor people
- His people mourned deeply - Muslims, Christians and Jews alike

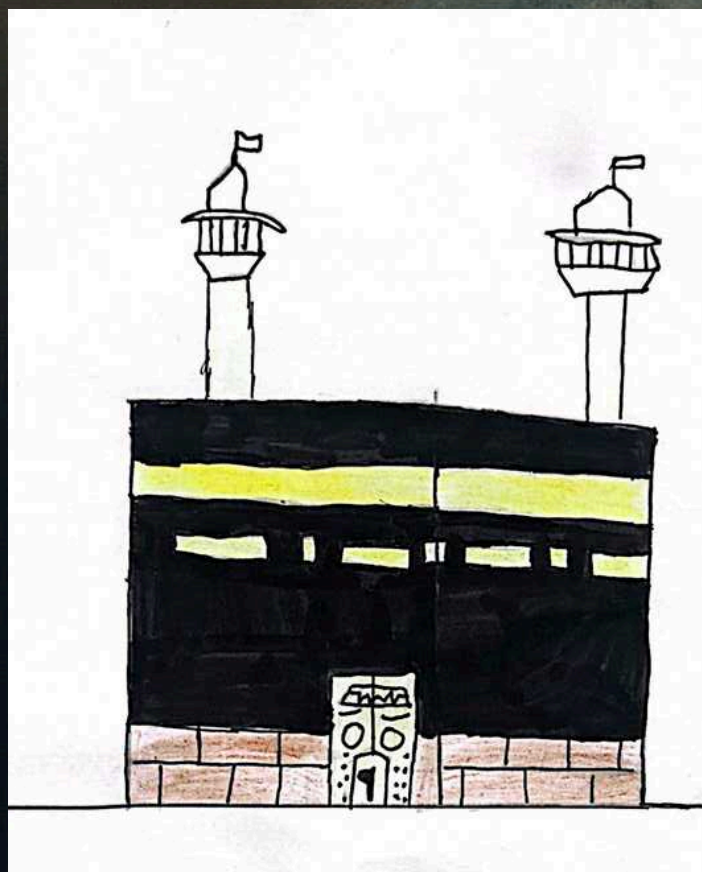
AL-AQSA MOSQUE



SYED ZAYN HUSSAIN



RAYAN ABDULLAH, 10 YRS



MUHAMMAD ISA AWAN, 10 YRS

My Favourite Moment or Event

“Peace In The Forest”

I wandered around thought bythought,
as I swift past the trees,
I caught a glance of escape,
or could it be a tease.

My fingers ran across the bark,
getting further from home,
remembering the lovely days at the park
when my hair was smoothly combed.

I kind of like it now....
I think I changed my mind,
but something feels wrong.
Did I leave something behind?

I put my hands back, and slowly lay down,
it felt more of a relieved smile than an aching frown.
It was so peaceful listening to the birds chirp.
I was about to fall asleep when I felt a strange jerk (nudge).

WAKE UP ! WAKE UP !!
my sister screamed,
my favourite moment - WAS JUST A DREAM !!!

SYEDA ANABIYAH AFAAQ, 11 YRS



Ramadan & Eid



My Favourite Event

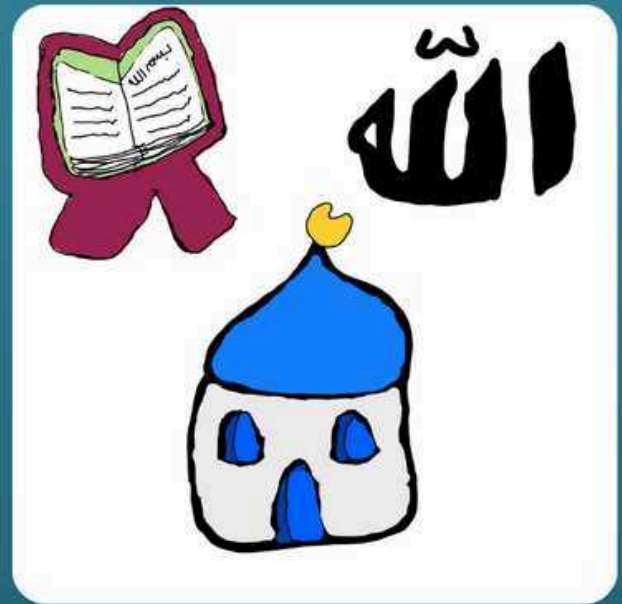
Importance of Ramadan

- Ramadan is a special month because the Quran was revealed in this month
- In the last 10 days of Ramadan, there is a special night called Laylatul Qadr, which is better than 1000 months of worship
- On Laylatul Qadr, The Quran was revealed to Prophet Muhammad please be upon him, by Angel Jibreel
- In Ramadan people fast, which is one of the five pillars of Islam
- In Ramadan, fasting gives the us patience, helps us to control ourself, and gives us empathy for others



Eid-ul-Fitr

- Eid ul Fitr is a special day after Ramadan and it is a special occasion for Muslims to celebrate.
- On Eid, you go to the Masjid and pray Eid prayer.
- The day before Eid, people prepare by cleaning, picking out their clothes, buying gifts, putting decorations and putting on henna.
- People make yummy foods and dishes on Eid ul Fitr.
- It is a celebration after one month of good deeds, praying, charity and fasting.
- Eid ul Fitr happens once a year.



Challenges in Ramadan

- Waking up in the early morning for Suhoor
- Bearing the hunger for the whole day is hard
- It is difficult to play sports because you will get tired and have no energy
- When it is almost Iftar and you are making Dua, the food in front of you is making you impatient
- You should always remember you are fasting and not break it



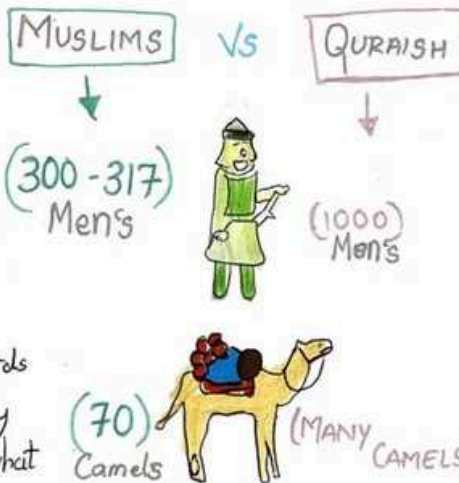
Amra Arif, 11 Yrs

THE BATTLE OF BADR

Battle of Badr - RAMADAN 2.A.H.

When the muslims migrated to Madinah they had to leave behind everything whatever they had. The Quraish greedily seized everything from the muslims, claiming it was theirs. In Madinah Allah allowed the Muslims to fight back with Quraish. Prophet Muhammad (Saw) heard a large Makkian trade caravan heading towards

As Sham. Seeing an opportunity of obtaining at least part of what the Quraish took from Muslims, So Prophet (Saw) decided to overtake the Caravan. Abu Sufyan the leader of the caravan changed the route when he heard about this. Then Makkians gathered a large army and set out for Badr.



Preparations

The muslims were not prepared for war. When they learnt that the caravan had escaped and they were now facing a huge army. Prophet (Saw) discuss with sahaba about their opinion. They told they will sacrifice their lives so the truth could live on.

MEETING OF THE TWO ARMIES.

The two armies reached Badr on the night of 16th Ramadan. Muslims built small shelters made of palm branches. They made a strategy, they stored water for themselves in reservoirs so the enemy can't use it. The prophet (Saw) spent whole night praying to Allah for help. Allah heard the dua and sent Rain and Refreshing sleep & Angels.

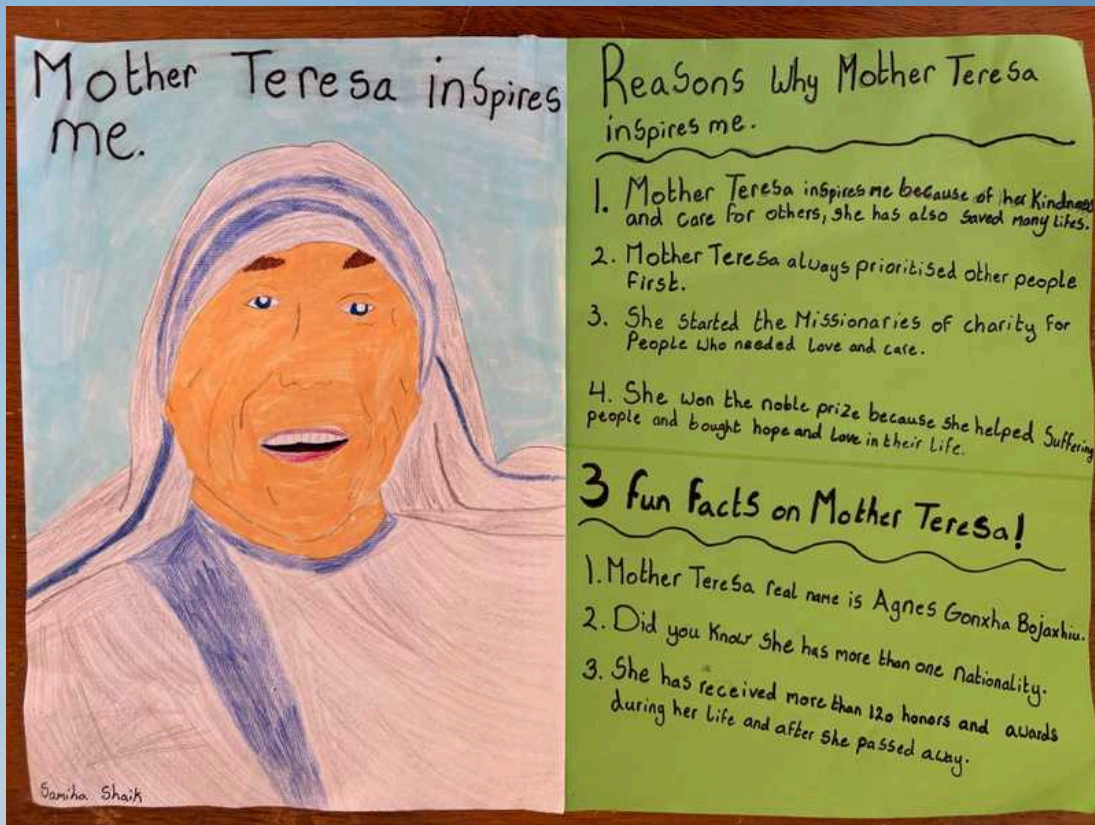


THE BATTLE

The muslims attacked with full force. The Quraish fell one after the other and retreated. The muslims followed them, killing and capturing the disbelievers. 70 were killed and 70 were captured. Many important leaders of Quraish were killed including Abu Jahal, Uthah Bin Rabee'ah, Umayyah Bin Khalaf and Nadar Bin Harith. 14 muslims were also martyred.



[Abdul Moeed]
4th class



SAMIHA SHAIK, 10 YRS

Prophet Yunus (A.S)

Prophet Yunus told the people of Nineveh to worship one God, but they didn't listen. Feeling frustrated, he left. A whale swallowed him, but he prayed and was released. The people of Nineveh later said sorry and changed their ways. God forgave them and saved their town.

Yunus A.S. story shows God's kindness and the power of saying sorry is inspire me.



WAQAS KHAN, 11 YRS

My Favorite Moment

My favourite moment is just a few months ago I came to Irland🇮🇪. To come to Irland I had to leave Portugal where all my friends were. I was very nervous to start a whole entire new adventure! When the plane landed I was already jumping around in excitement. As soon as we stepped out of the airport my whole face changed, it felt like I came to a new world! My dad called a taxi, it had to be a big one to fit all of our laugeges. On our way to our new apartment, I was looking out the window of the car but it all looked normal like i was still in Portugal! But then we finally arrived to our new apartment.

I was so excited to live in the new apartment! But mostly when I saw my room I jumped and layed in my new bed I couldn't wait to sleep there every night! The next day was already my first day of

school in Ireland. I was so nervous also because i didn't have the uniform yet. At first I went to the secretary with my parents. After half an hour the principal came and introduced himself to us kindly, then he asked how I was felling I said I was 'super nervous' but actually kinda excited aswell. But he told me that everyone in the school in very friendly. I started from 4th class just two months before holidays. Soon after the principal took me to my class. The teacher greeted me with a smile and I said 'hello' to all of my new classmates. Soon they all introduced themselves. They were very nice and I got to sit beside a girl. At break-time a kind girl started to play with me and soon I made a lot of friends. The School was fun but weekends were so boring at home. I used to see girls playing in front of my balcony. I really wanted to play with

them but never had the courage. But that day I was waiting in front of our door for my mom, when the girls were walking passed me and asked if I wanted to be their friend. And I said 'yes'! From than on I started to play with them every single day after school. They have become my very good friends. But still I miss my friends in portugal. Hence, my life is going like that! 😞

MAHRIN TAJNOOR TAIBA, 10 YRS

My Culture

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكُمْ وَرَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ وَبَرَكَاتُهُ

My name is Mariya Arsheen Khan, and I am studying 5th class at Muslim National School. In this essay, I would like to explain about a culture that I really like, and which makes me feel special is the culture of Saudi Arabia. I lived in Saudi Arabia for almost ten years, and I want to share with you all what makes Saudi culture special.

The culture of Saudi Arabia is based on Islam. People pray five times a day and fast during Ramadan. They celebrate Ramadan with joy. Mecca and Medina, two holy cities for Muslims, are in Saudi Arabia. Every year, Muslims from all over the world come to perform Hajj and Umrah, which makes this country more special.

I feel like people of Saudi Arabia give importance to family life. People love and respect each other, elders and their parents; they take care of their parents, relatives, and enjoy spending time together. Families often have meals and celebrate special occasions together. Elders are respected, and children are taught to be polite and kind.

Another quality of Arabs is hospitality, which is also a big part of Saudi culture. When guests come to visit, they are welcomed warmly. People serve dates and Arabic coffee, showing their love and generosity. In Saudi Arabia, visitors are treated like family.

Clothing of Saudi Arabia, The traditional clothes in Saudi Arabia are beautiful. Men wear a white robe called a thobe and a headscarf called a ghutra or shemagh. Women wear an abaya, which is a long black dress that shows modesty. People wear these clothes with pride.

I would like to tell the most important aspect is food, Saudi food is very delicious! I love dishes like Albaik and kabsa, which are made with rice, meat, and spices. People also enjoy Mandi, Jareesh, and sweet dates. Families eat together, and sharing food shows love and friendship.

Saudi Arabia has many celebrations. They celebrate Eid al-Fitr after Ramadan and Eid al-Adha during Hajj. These are joyful times filled with prayers and family gatherings. On September 23, they celebrate Saudi National Day by wearing green clothes and waving flags to show love for their country.

I love the music and dance of Saudi Arabia. The Ardah, or sword dance, is performed on special occasions to show pride and unity. Traditional songs and poetry are also important. Even though Saudi Arabia is growing with new cities and technology, it keeps its traditions and values. People follow Islamic teachings, respect others, and stay humble. This mix of old and new makes Saudi culture special.

People in Saudi Arabia are known for their respect, faith, and generosity. They help the poor, are honest, and treat everyone kindly. These values make the country peaceful and strong. I am proud of Saudi culture, which teaches me to be kind, respectful, and thankful to Allah.

In the end, I am proud to say that I was born in Saudi Arabia, a land of faith, kindness, and pride. It's not just about the clothes, food, or festivals; it's about how people live and care for each other.

MAYO

On the 13th of August 2025, my family and two other families went to a big hut in Mayo. The drive was 3 and a half hours long. When we got to the hut it was peaceful. Nice beaches, and we could hear our own echos. Then we got introduced to our rooms. All the boys shared a room. Since there were a lot of people, the boys had a toilet, the girls had a toilet, and the parents had a toilet. I might have said toilet a bit too much but here is the good bit. There were tennis rackets and a net to believe it or not, play tennis. And there was also a ping-pong table. But here is how my experience went.

Day 1

We drove from Dublin to Mayo. On the way we stopped and had a very good picnic. We reached the hut and started settling in. We checked the place and picked the rooms. After we got our bags in, we went to the beach. This beach was nice and wavey. We got swallowed by waves and did a little water fight. We prayed namaz together. The next thing that happened was we did some karaoke and ended the day with biryani.

Day 2

We started the day by surprising one of the aunties with a nice breakfast because it was her birthday. After that we went to Clare Island on a boat. It was very nice, and I even bumped into my second-class teacher on Clare Island!!

When we got back, we went to another beach. But there was jellyfish! Disaster struck! One of the kids got stung! So, we left and ended the day with an amazing BBQ cooked by uncle and we done some stargazing as it was the most perfect location and conditions for this.

Day 3

Today we were leaving Mayo but I'm not talking about Mayo. I'm talking about Connemara. The drive from Mayo to Connemara is very scenic and beautiful. We learned a lot of History about the Irish Famine along this route.

Before you read any more of this don't go to Connemara unless if you want to be stung and get itchy! We walked up about 1 quarter of the mountain. It was hard because we were hot and itchy. When we finished, it was 2 and a half hours long drive until we got home.

Conclusion

Overall, I had an amazing trip with family and friends. We made so many wonderful memories that will stay with us all forever.

I'm still thinking about how many times I said toilet in the introduction. Well, Mayo was nice. Allahafiz everyone!!!!



My First Umrah

I woke up on a breezy morning to find out me and my family were going Umrah in 2 weeks of time. My excitement for Umrah grew stronger everyday. I even made a calendar and crossed out the days one by one, watching the days shrink between me and the sacred journey.

Finally, the special day arrived. As my family and I got ready for the ride to the airport, I thought of the great things I was going to see. A happy grin spread across my face. My heart raced as I walked towards the car, every step filled with excitement and disbelief that the day had finally come.

My dad's friend drove us to Dublin Airport. I waited for what felt like forever in the airport, my eyes constantly drifting towards the departure screen, my heart swelling with anticipation for the journey ahead.

The long hours melted away as the plane soared into the sky, each passing cloud bringing me closer to the inviting city of Jeddah. As I stepped down the steep, metal stairs towards the bright sun of Jeddah, the warm, humid air rushed to my face.

From Jeddah we took a taxi to Medinah which took 4 hours long. We enjoyed Al-Baik, a popular Arab fast food chain while watching the beautiful nightlights of Jeddah drifting past us.

I woke up as the car gently rolled to a halt. At last, I was in the peaceful, welcoming city of Medina. My dad led us to our hotel. It was a fantastic view from the hotel's window which was thankfully close to the Medina Mosque.

I woke up to the birds chirping as the sun rose slowly casting a golden blanket over the peaceful city of Medina. My family and I went to the beautiful mosque of our dear prophet Muhammad (PBUH).

As I stepped into the mosque, i was awestruck by the intricate designs and towering arches and the detailed arabic that was neatly written on those smooth, beige walls. After our calming prayer my family headed home.

We got ready and headed to some beautiful mosques across the city. One of those was Masjid Al Quba. That dazzling mosque is the first mosque of Islam to be built.

2 days flew by. We were going to the mountainous and beautiful city of Mecca. I walked into Medina train station, alive with the hum of travelers, echoing trains and the faint scent of coffee.

We arrived in Mecca a few hours later. As I walked out of Mecca train station, the towering silhouette of the Clock Tower came into view. My eyes flashed with astonishment, the tower was soaring into the night sky, as I gazed at it, I realized it really was scraping the sky!

At approximately 11 o'clock in the night, my family and I got ready for Umrah. We left the hotel and went on a remarkable bus specially for clients from our hotel with me and my elder sister sitting together on the bus. We arrived at Masjid Al Haram 15 min later.

The masjid was alive with the hum of worshippers, every corner filled with people while moving in quiet harmony. Footsteps and whispers blended with the soft rustle of prayer garments, creating a rhythm of devotion. Despite the massive crowds, there was a profound sense of peace, as if the air carried a calm atmosphere and blessings of the Almighty Allah.

As we all walked through the majestic masjid, I was thinking about the Ka'abah I was going to see seconds later.

Less then a minute later we arrived. I couldn't believe my eyes! The most mesmerising house of existence, the holy Ka'abah!

We circled around the Ka'abah exactly 7 times while reciting dua's from the holy Quran additionally with our own duas. After that unforgettable moment, we went to Al Safa and Al Marwa where we had to walk from mountain to mountain 7 times. As we were walking on the marble made path between the mountains, I thought of the hardship of our dear Bibi Hajera. In panick Bibi Hajera had to run, not walk, 7 times mountain to mountain on the hard mountains barefoot!

After this tiring but memorable moment we headed outside of the mosque where I had to shave my head!

We stayed at Mecca for 3 more nights, praying regularly everyday at Masjid Al Haram and gathering beautiful memories and sense of spiritual connection with Allah and all the memories for us to bring home.

I will adore this trip for all of my life. It holds beautiful and unforgettable memories that will always stay with me. This was my favourite moment and it will always be!

My Culture, My Story.

Some of the traditions of Islam include the Salat, or five times of daily prayer in the direction of Mecca. Others are the Zakat, or giving of alms, and the Hajj, the pilgrimage to Mecca meant to be undertaken once during one's life.

My Culture.

My culture in Islam expresses such as language, dress, food and art are only permissible but are part of what makes the Ummah richly diverse. However, Islam draws a clear line: culture is acceptable, as long as it does not contradict Islamic principles. When it does, it must be abandoned.



HAMDAN

6th
CLASS

My Islamic story and a person who inspires me
Story about myself is when I wake up in the morning, I brush my teeth and do wazu, after wazu, I pray fajr and read quran then go to school, after coming back from school, I eat my lunch and take rest then read quran for few minutes, after that I take some rest again then eat my dinner then go to sleep.

The person who inspires me is my most beloved prophet Mohammed (S.A.W) (P.B.U.H), the Prophet (P.B.U.H) transcended all of these perceived difference through his character, from the beginning to the end his honesty; his treatment of women and minorities and his behavior towards non-Muslims set the standard that would inspire all of his followers.



My favourite moments or events.

My favourite Moment was I had an football match and won the trophy in school, I was very proud with my team, and myself.



Hyderabad

History and formation of Hyderabad city

Hyderabad is one of India's most historically significant & culturally diverse cities, and it is now the capital of Telangana state. Established in 1591 by Sultan Muhammad Quli Qutb Shah. The city served as the capital of the Qutb Shah dynasty, followed by the seat of power for the Nizams of Hyderabad. One of the richest royal families in the world. The city was established along the banks of the Musi River as a new capital to relieve the overpopulated Golconda Fort area. In the Quli Qutb Shah period, iconic landmarks were built like Charminar, Mecca masjid, and Golconda Fort. The city was also known as "City of Pearls." The Mughal Empire and Emperor Aurangzeb captured Golconda Fort in 1687. Later, Asaf Jah former Mughal governor, declared independence and founded the Asaf Jahi dynasty. He was also given the Title Nizam of Hyderabad. Famous places built during this Era are Chowmahalla palace, Falaknuma Palace, Purani Haveli & Osmania University. In 2004, Telangana was carved out of Andhra Pradesh (officially formed in 2014), and Hyderabad became its capital. Today, Hyderabad is recognized as a major IT hub and home to companies such as Microsoft, Google, and Amazon, as well as numerous start-ups.

Culture of Hyderabad

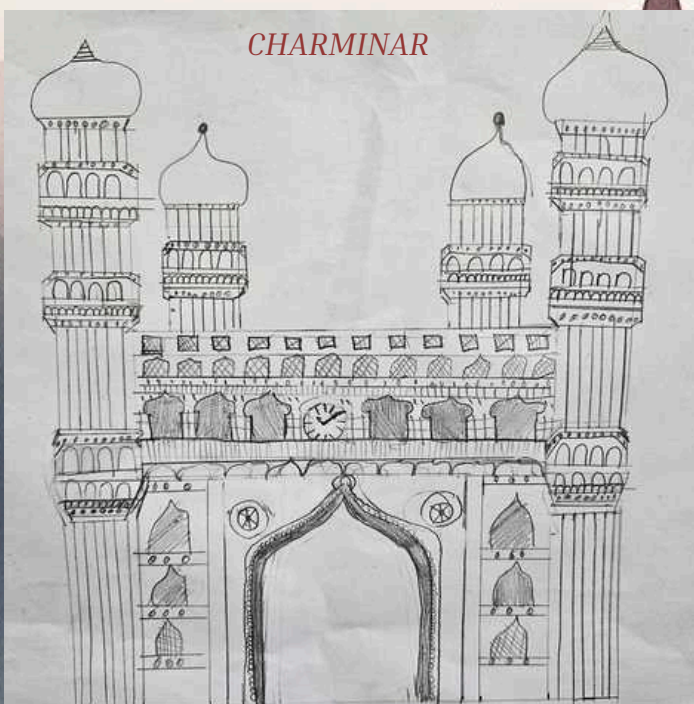
The culture of Hyderabad is a harmonic blend of North and South Indian traditions, enriched by Persian, Mughal, and Telugu influences. It's one of the few cities in India where Hindu and Muslim heritage blend so seamlessly, shaping everything from its architecture and language to food and festivals. In Hyderabad, faith is not a myth, as the city always wakes up to the ringing bells from the temple, the church choir on Sundays, and the adhan from the mosque. Even after that, nobody complains; they feel comforted as if soothing ocean sounds pass by them. At the heart of Hyderabad lies its world-famous cuisine, steeped in centuries of traditions. Hyderabad eats food such as Haleem, mirchi ki salaam, seekh kebab, Shami kebab, Hyderabadi biryani, chicken 65, and Pather ka gosht. Sounds tasty, right?

Sport

Hyderabad is also known for its popular sport Cricket. The professional team is Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH) owned by Kalanithi Maran. They play in IPL which is a big cricket T20 tournament.

Education

Hyderabad is also known for Centre for research and innovation in India. There are many top universities and institutions like Osmania University, University of Hyderabad, IIT & IIIT Hyderabad etc. Lastly, I would like to say that I really love Hyderabad, as it is my parents home city and I visit there quite often, I have my extended family there, I like to enjoy the food, attending weddings, shopping for clothes and exploring the many beautiful places around the city!



MUNAZZA AMTUL MAJID, 11 YRS

Prophet Ibrahim (A.S)

A Person IN HISTORY

WHO Inspires ME PROPHET IBRAHIM

A long time ago in the village of Ūr, there lived a sculptorist called Āzar. He used to carve idols in any shape and size, and sold it to people who worshiped these idols. Āzar too worshiped these idols.

As time passed he got a child called Ibrahim who grew up to be a kind and gentle person, and Allah chose him as a prophet.

He, Ibrahim realised it was wrong to worship these idols, they can't protect themselves and they can't harm anyone, all they can do is sit in the same place and do nothing. He told his dad about this, but this made Āzar very angry. When the people of Ūr heard about this they kicked him about.

After many years Ibrahim had 2 wives called Sarah and Hajar, he also had 2 sons

Ismail (son of Hajar) and Ishaq (son of Sarah).

One day as Ibrahim was sleeping he saw a nightmare in which he was sacrificing his own son Ismail. Then Ibrahim mentioned this to his son about the test from Allah. Who happily said: Dear father, do as you have been ordered, you shall find me of the patient ones. (Quran 37:102)

Ibrahim took Ismail to slaughter him, but on the way Shaytan (Satan) tried to change his mind. Ibrahim pelted rock at Shaytan at 3 different places.

When Ibrahim reached the place he layed Ismail down but knife wouldn't cut. Allah wanted to see if Ibrahim would do as he said. Allah sent a ram from Jannah (Heaven) and told Ibrahim to sacrifice it instead. Allah loved the action of Ibrahim so much that he ordered all the Muslims to sacrifice an animal at Eid-Al-Adha. Ibrahim is a great role model for everyone. He did everything for Allah.

MOHAMMED YAHYA, 11YRS

Prophet Yusuf (A.S)

A Person in History who inspires me Yusuf A.S

Yusuf A.S was born in Paddan aram southern burkey. Allah had given him the superpower of knowing the meaning of a dream. He was so handsome when Zalikha got some women to cut a fruit they instead cut their fingers by seeing the beauty of Yusuf A.S.

One day the king of Egypt, whose name was Rayyan ibn wald dreamed a dream. He saw seven fat cows eaten by seven thin cows & seven sheaves of corns and seven dry. The minister woke up and said these jumbled words make nonsense and while getting a drink his drink server remembered Yusuf A.S he said he would be able to find the meaning. The king rushed to the prison & asked Yusuf A.S the meaning. Yusuf A.S said It means "you shall sow for seven years which you harvest leave it for a little which you eat".

After these years come in which you will be able to eat the food you had left (keep safe).

"Finally a year will come when people will have plenty crops."

ABDUL JAMEEL, 9 YRS

My Culture

by: Hooreen Aneel
4th Class Pink



What do we do in our tradition

First: we have to find the moon if don't find the moon we have to fast after that day. In Ramadan we always celebrate together and that my favourat thing to do.

Next: we decorate our home with decoration and I and my mum makes some: pasta, sandwiches, some rice, chicken, milk shake in banana, strawberries, mango, fruit tart and more

After: Now I will tell you my fast. your Ramadan. I woke up at 4:00 am I ate some food then I prayed then I went back to bed. then I woke up at 9:00 clock. I play and helped my mum makes some foods to make my time faster and it is OK if you eat food or water by mistake when you are fasting. if you are older then ten years old. Then you have to fast for 29 or 30 days.

Finally: The Day we have wait for it is time for Eid. Let me tell you what happen in my last year Eid. first I woke up for Eid prayer me and my family got ready then I eat breakfast then we went festival and in the festival was a bouncy castle and cakes and food then we went to get some ice-cream then we went to the park. Our neighbors give us a goodie bag it had chocolate bar, chips and small toy. Then we ate the cake that we got from the festival. then the next day we got our Eid gifts.

HOOREEN ANEEL, 9 YRS

My Favourite Event

Eid

• Finding the Moon: Inaya Aneel
6th class


• When It's the last day of Ramadan, most muslims go outside in the night to find the moon. But for some people it's hard to find the moon. Instead they on there tv and they see if the Saudi's finds the moon or not. If they did then it will be Eid tomorrow but if they did not then Eid will be after tomorrow.

My Eid:

In the early morning we go to the Masjid to do our Eid prayer. After the prayer we go to Spar for to get some sweets.

After few hours we went to a festival and there was food, parties and a bouncy castle. After that we got some ice cream I got lube chocolate and bubble gum flavor.

After After shopping we went to play in the park it was fun.



INAYA ANEEL, 11YRS

My Favourite Event

It was Sunday I woke up and I had a football match at 10.30 so I woke up at 9.30 .
I brush my teeth then I changed my clothes and went down stairs and had breakfast
and then I left at 10.20 I reached there at 10.27 then the match began . I scored 2 goals
And we won 3-2 it was a nice weather then I came back and took a shower after a bit
we went to a restaurant and the food was so good
Me and my family came back. I Was so tired
I went to bed early.

MUHAMMAD HUZAIFA AHTAZAZ, 10 YRS

A PERSON IN HISTORY WHO INSPIRES ME

My name is Saad Khan, and I am studying the fourth class at Muslim National School. In this essay, I would like to explain about a person whom I like most in history. Many great people in history have inspired the world, but the person who inspired me the most is Prophet Muhammad(peace be upon him). He was the last messenger of Allah and the greatest teacher for all of humanity, and his life is full of lessons about kindness, honesty, patience and faith.

Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) was born in the city of Makkah in Saudi Arabia in the year 570 Hijri. His father, Abdullah, died when he was born, and his mother, Amina, passed away when he was very young. He was then cared for by his uncle, Abu Talib. Even as a child, he was known for being truthful and trustworthy. People in Makkah called him al-Amin, al-Sadiq, which means the honest and trustworthy one.

When Prophet Muhammad(peace be upon him) grew up, he worked as a trader. He was always fair and honest in his dealings. People respected him because he never cheated or lied. At the age of 40, Allah chose him to be his messenger. The angel Gabriel brought him the first message from Allah. From that day, Prophet Mohammad(PBUH) began spreading the message of Islam to believe in one God, to do good deeds and to treat other people with love and justice.

Even though many people in Makkah did not believe him at first and treated him badly, Prophet Muhammad never gave up. He continued to preach with patience and kindness, he forgave those who hurt him, and always prayed for their guidance. His gentle behaviour and beautiful character touched many hearts, and more people began to accept Islam.

Prophet Muhammad(PBUH) taught us many important lessons. He said the best among you are those who have the best manners. He also said, “none of you truly believes until he loves his brother and what he loves for himself” These sayings show how much he cared about love, respect and equality. He also taught the people to help the poor, care for orphans show mercy to animals. he treated everyone, rich or poor, young or old, man or woman, with kindness and fairness.

He was a loving husband, a caring father and a wise leader. When the people were hungry, he shared his food; when they were sad, he comforted them. He lived a simple life and never chased wealth or luxury. Everyone should consider him as an inspiration for his qualities like patience and forgiveness, even the people threw stones at him or called him names, or he never became angry or cruel; instead, he prayed for them and asked a lot to forgive them. His heart was full of mercy and compassion.

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) passed away in the city of Medina, but his teachings still guide us today. Muslims around the world try to follow him as an example in their daily lives by being honest, helping others and worshipping Allah. Sincerely. To me, Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) is not just a person in history, he is a role model, teacher and source of light for all humanity. His life shows us how to be good, kind, faithful people. I pray that I can follow his example and live my life in a way that makes Allah pleased.

SAAD KHAN, 10 YRS

A PERSON IN HISTORY WHO INSPIRES ME

The person who inspires me is Khadija (R.A). Some of her Achievements:

Successful entrepreneur:

Khadija was a successful businesswoman It's been said that, her Caravans to be as large as all the other caravans of Quraysh combined .

Generous and charitable :

She was known for her generosity using her wealth to help orphans, the poor, the widows and the sick. She provided food and money for everyone in need.

Successful Leader:

She was called the Princess of Quraysh or the leader of the woman of Quraysh , because of her qualities and achievements during that times.

Role in Islam:

Khadijah was the first person to believe in Muhammad's mission and embrace Islam. She protected him and encouraged him to continue his mission without giving up.

Moral and spiritual strength

She was a pillar of emotional strength from Muhammad especially during time of hardship.

Lifestyle:

Khadija was a successful business merchant and a generous woman who supported early Islam with her wealth and living a life of influence sacrifice and faith before marrying prophet Muhammad sallallahu alaihi wasallam. She gave her entire fortune to support the early Islamic mission

Although she was not the first person to accept Islam, but she was the first person to believe what prophet Muhammad (PBUH) said.

Facts:

When she met Muhammad (PBUH) about 595 CE , she hired him to help her with business but soon thought he would be a good husband. Khadija has been married twice before so she was also a widow. She had six children with prophet Muhammad (PBUH) and her name means early baby trustworthy and respected.

After her father's death she took over the family business making it even more prosperous. Her nickname due to her honesty she was called altahira meaning the pure one

SYED AIMAN SARAH, 10YRS

THE STORY OF THE PROPHET IBRAHIM (A.S)

Prophet ibrahim (as) was born in the kingdom of babylon along time ago. He was blessed with wisdom even when he was a child and this made him very special the prophet was born at the time when people worshiped the sun, the moon, the stars and they even worshiped idols made of stone. Ibrahim's father was a sculptor and he used to make the stone idols with his own hands. his father never used to worship Allah (swt) at all. As a child he would watch his father carving out these statues from stone. The prophet got curious about these funny looking statues and sometimes he would play with them but when he saw but when he saw the same statues in temples he got confused he wondered why people were prostrating before these stone idols. One day he decided to ask his father about it, he asked why people were worshipping these toys that you are making, his father said they represent our gods. The prophet asked, why does it have big ears? His father replied the big ears represent his deep knowledge the prophet couldn't control his laughter

as time went by ibrahim (as) grew knowledge and wisdom he knew Allah (swt) was the only true god his hatred for the idols grew larger the prophet now turned 16 whenever he went to the temple with his father, he was sad to see people still praying and giving sacrifices seeking forgiveness of their sins to the idols one day the prophet left his home in search of Allah (swt) the true god, he walked for a very long time and finally reached a mountain he climbed the mountain and sat in a cave he sat there for a long time and when he looked up he saw a shining star he wondered if the star could be Allah (swt), but after a while the star disappeared he realized the true god wouldn't disappear than the moon came he wondered if the moon could be Allah (swt) he sat there for a while and the moon set he realized the true god would never set like that. Then the sun came he thought the sun could be Allah (swt) since it was way bigger, but then the sun set sooner or later he realized the true god can't be created he prostrated to Allah (swt) for making him realize that Allah (swt) can't be created later on in his life he did more miracles like surviving fire the miraculous sacrifice of a goat in place of his son ismael (as) and the creation of zamzam water he did so many miracles and that just amazes me and that's why i admire him so much

MUHAMMAD HARIS AWAN, 12 YRS

Bilal-Ibn Rabah (RSA)

My favorite person that I was very impressed with is Bilal-Ibn Rabah (RSA).

I came to know about him a few months ago when my uncle named his son “Abdul Ahad Bilal”. That’s when I came to know about Bilal RA in detail. He was the companion of prophet Muhammad PBUH and was well known for his troubles when he embraced Islam.

Bilal-Ibn Rabah also known as “Sayyid al muadhineen”- the chief of all muadhins

His father Rabah was an Arab. His mother was Hamama, a princess in Abyssinia. They were both taken as slaves in the year of the elephant. Hence, Bilal RA was born in Mecca to parents who were made slaves, so Bilal RA grew up as a slave in the Arab world.

He was slave to one of the royals in Mecca, because he was known for his abilities, strength and intelligence. He was very handsome, being dark and muscular with hazel eyes that were piercing. The best slaves were given to people of the royal classes of Mecca. Bilal RA was the slave of a man called Ummayah ibn Khalaf who was one of the staunchest opponents of the Prophet Muhammad.

One day Bilal heard Ummayah and others talking about and slandering the Prophet Muhammad PBUH. He believed in Rasool-Allah SAWS and his message just from hearing people talk. So Bilal started to say ‘ahadun ahad’- one, one.

For this he was tortured and pushed to death over and over again. He was tied up in the house, starved and dehydrated. They put a collar around him and dragged him in public. They spit on him, humiliated him and whipped him in front of everyone. They placed heavy rocks, heavy enough to break his ribs on his back. But he only said “ahadun ahad” [one God, one God].

After that Abu Bakir RA rushed to buy Bilal RA and asks Ummayah ibn Khalaf. Ummayah says 10 dinars, which was a big price back then, but Abu Bakir gives it to him without hesitation. Then Ummayah says “If you negotiated, I would’ve given him to you for one dinar”, to which Abu Bakir says “If you were to sell him for 100 dinar I still would have bought him”. People started to say he was showing off but Allah SWT revealed in Surah Al-Layl, that Abu Bakir only spent it to please Allah. In the battle of Badr, when Bilal saw Ummayah he said I will not survive if he survives, I will not live unless he dies, both of us cannot live.”

Allah SWT allowed Bilal RA to kill Ummayah. Bilal RA was chosen to be the first person to do the Adhan on the Kaaba, on Masjid-e-Nabawi and on Masjid al Aqsa. Before Bilal RA would call the Adhan, he would go ask the Prophet Muhammad PBUH if he could do it, so he would meet the prophet 5 times a day. When the Prophet PBUH came back to Mecca and Bilal RA climbed the Kaaba and started giving the adhan some disbelievers started saying “You have this slave climbing the Kaaba”. But that is what Islam came to crush. You knew Bilal RA was not the muadhin because he was black. He was the muadhin despite being black. So, when Bilal RA and the Prophet went back to Madinah, when the prophet PBUH became sick Bilal RA would come to inform the Prophet SAW about the salah and he would find him sick. Bilal RA would start crying. When the prophet SAW was about to die, Bilal RA said “I wish I had never lived to see this day”. When the Prophet SAW passed away, Bilal RA stands in Madinah to give the adhan, it was the salah right after the prophet passed away and when he got to {Ash-hadu anna Muhammadan Rasool Allah}, he couldn’t say the name of Prophet Muhammad SAW. While he was there he would just start to cry and he remembered all the moments he had with the Prophet SAW. So, in Madinah when he looks he remembers the Prophet SAW was there with him, when the Prophet SAW smiled at him, when the Prophet SAW looked at him so he asked Abu Bakir RA to send him out to battle.

“I don’t want to be here.”

And the next time Bilal RA would call the adhan would be on the day of the conquest of Jerusalem of Al Quds. Now, Umar RA asked Bilal RA to share in that historic moment. He said, “Oh Bilal, give us the pleasure of hearing your adhan once again.” And Bilal RA didn’t want to but Umar RA pressured him. So Bilal RA was the first muadhin to say “Allahu Akbar, Allahu Akbar” in Jerusalem, in Al Quds.

And he climbs up there and when he gets to {Ash-hadu anna Muhammadan Rasool Allah}, all of them started crying. Umar ibn Al-Khattab’s beard became wet from tears. Towards the end of his life, Bilal RA continued in the conquest of Al-Shaam and he actually passed away in Aleppo, which is where Bilal RA was buried. And as he was dying, Bilal RA was happy. His wife was grieving when Bilal RA says, “Don’t be sad.” He told her to say [waa farhataa] What a great joy! Tomorrow I will meet the Prophet SAW.



TALHA MOHAMMED, 9 YRS

secondary CATEGORY 1



Football

My favourite hobby is football due to the fact it is an amazing sport, and the most followed sport in the world with 3.5 billion supporters. Its unique as well like in most sports you have to be a certain height but in football all you need is passion for the sport and a dream.

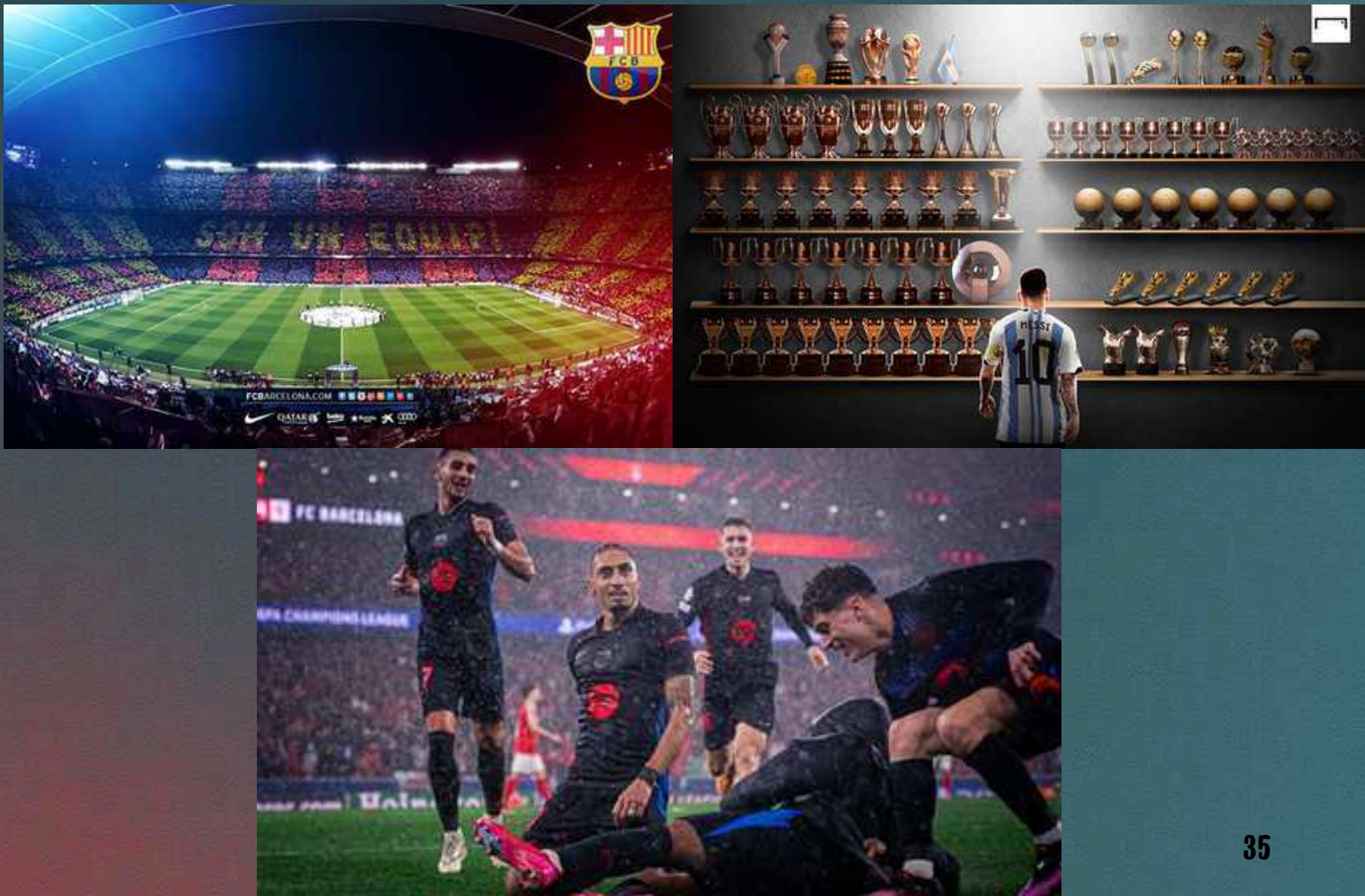
My Favourite Football Club

Supporting a football club varies across a range of people some might support their local team or some might go and support a big club e.g. AC Milan, Manchester United or Inter Milan but for me I support FC Barcelona although they haven't been at their best in the past few years other than their domestic treble in the 24/25 season last year and winning 4/4 classics not too much after the departure of Lionel Messi in 2021, In my opinion Barcelona is the football club in the world because of the way they play entertaining football and make crazy comebacks or remontadas in Spanish. Barcelona often get told they are poor because of their financial crisis but without that money they ended up winning a whole lot of trophies.

My Favourite Football Player

My favourite footballer is Lionel Messi because when I watched him he did not just pass normally he passed as if he was an eagle and he would dribble past players and make them rethink their careers and then shoot as if there was no keeper and if you are looking at trophies and stats he has 40 trophies but almost 100 including individual trophies and he boasts the most goals in a calendar season, Most G/A in football and a whole lot more, The most G/A in a football season and that's only 3 of tens of more, right now after he left everyone put their attention on Lamine Yamal but the person that stood out to me was Pedri I am not saying Yamal or Raphina is bad but he really stood out.

ABDUL SAMAD ALI KHAN, 12 YRS



The Seerah and Me: Lessons that Shaped My Heart

The Seerah is the life of the Prophet ﷺ. Everything in it is beneficial to us and our lives. The Seerah teaches us many things, for example, it teaches us the result of persistence and hard work, that is the evident from the great conquest of Makkah in the Seerah.

Here are a few lessons that continue to inspire me:

- The Seerah teaches us that after hardship there is ease. The Prophet ﷺ and the Muslims were tortured and persecuted by the Quraysh in Makkah. Allah سبحانه وتعالى commanded them to not fight back and be patient. Then they did Hijrah to Madinah and were finally given permission by Allah to fight back. In Madinah life was easier than in Makkah. The Muslims started to gain the upper hand, starting from the Battle of Badr. This is one of the many examples in the Seerah. Allah also revealed in Surah Sharh Ayah 5: إِنَّ مَعَ الْعُسْرِ يُسْرًا (So surely with hardship comes ease).
- The Seerah also teaches us that if you are merciful when you have the choice of being not merciful it will have its results, and it will end up in your favour. For example, when Prophet ﷺ, when he was at Ta'if, the people there ridiculed him and threw stones at him. When he finally escaped from them, Jibreel عليه السلام came and told him that the angel of the mountains will crush the city of Ta'if if that is what the Prophet ﷺ wanted, but he chooses to be merciful and made dua that the children of the people of Ta'if accept Islam. And that is exactly what happened after the conquest of Makkah.
- The Seerah also teaches us the result of obeying Allah سبحانه وتعالى and the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ. For example, when the Muslims were deciding what to do for the battle of Uhud (when the Quraysh were 3000 in number while the Muslims were 1000 then later down to 700) - whether to meet the Quraysh in an open battlefield or just defend Madinah, the Prophet ﷺ wanted to just defend Madinah but the youth went ahead to fight as they wanted to meet the Quraysh in an open battlefield. That resulted in 70 Sahabah martyred including Hamza رضي الله عنه (the uncle of the Prophet ﷺ) and Musa'b ibn Umair رضي الله عنه (the one who first taught Islam to the people Madinah before the Hijrah and was the flag bearer). This was a clear example where victory of Muslims was reverted because of not following the instructions of Prophet ﷺ. In the next battle, the Battle of Khandaq, the Muslims followed exactly what the Prophet ﷺ instructed them to do and they were victorious.
- One thing that really impacted me was that the Prophet ﷺ and the Sahabah never stopped struggling for the Akhirah (hereafter) regardless the situation, whether in victory or defeat, in wealth or poverty or in freedom or in chains, their goal was the Akhirah. Always.

These lessons teach us that when we are in a challenging time, we should be rest assured that if we struggle enough, Allah will definitely reward us and make it easier for us.

The Seerah teaches us that mercy pays off eventually.

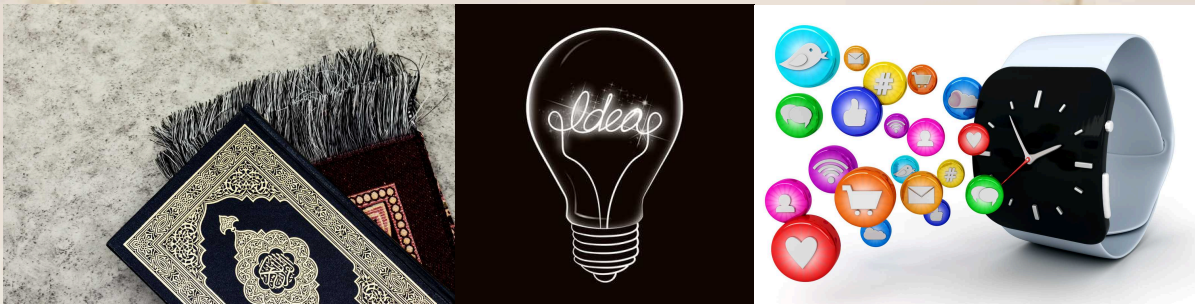
It also shows us that nothing is more important than the Akhirah and that no matter what happens, the Akhirah should be our goal.

And most importantly it teaches us to have trust in Allah's plan and to always obey Him and Rasoolullah ﷺ.

Innovative Ideas To Improve Everyday Muslim Life

Assalaumlaikum everybody! There are so many innovative and creative ideas that can make every day Muslim life easier and more fun. Imagine a smart prayer mat that helps you find the qibla direction and make it easier to pray. Another idea is a Ramadan challenge app where you track fasting and good deeds and it reminds you to make duas. Another idea would be to make a Quran learning game which makes it easier to memorise surahs. Another innovative idea is a Muslim habit tracker that tracks your prayers and good deeds. Another creative idea is to have an app on devices that can show you nearby mosques and nearby halal restaurants and halal shops. All these fun and creative ideas can come together to make Muslims lives across the world easier, smarter, and more meaningful and rewarding, InShaAllah!

MINSA SALAHUDDIN, 12 YRS



Innovative Ideas To Improve Everyday Muslim Life

Hello my name is Syeda Alishba Afaaq and I will be discussing how to improve everyday Muslim life.

Let us start with a Dua to seek understanding before reading. "Allahumma la sahla illa ma ja'altahu sahla, wa 'anta taj-alul hazna idha shi'ta sahla". This dua means "O Allah, there is no ease except what You make easy, and You can make the difficult easy if You will".

There are a lot of Muslims in this world that are under the age of seven or newly reverted, ideally these Muslims wouldn't know how to pray properly or how to make wudu. This is why I have considered creating an adhan clock that has many functions. This adhan clock would not only recite the adhan aloud but it could also go over all the steps of wudu a few minutes after the adhan. Later the adhan clock would read Surah Fatihah, other surahs, and at tahiyyatu. Basically all the stuff you would read in namaz and all the steps. There would be a feature in the adhan that would let you change around the surahs after Surah Fatihah, as the children and the reverts wouldn't want to be reading the same surahs everyday.

This product is also designed to help children pray salah on time by addressing a common issue: many children around 6-7 years of age are new to praying and may forget to pray or delay it. This product might be considered useless because an average person would think that the parents or sibling could just remind the child, although realistically people also forget sometimes and would not have time to guide their child 5 times a day, plus the parents would need to pray themselves as well.

This is why I think this product would help Muslims in everyday life eliminating the need to guide your child excessively if they do not understand this is helpful towards reverts as well.

SYEDA ALISHBA AFAAQ, 13 YRS

My Favourite Hobby!

My favourite hobby is **reading**.

Reading books has always been one of my **favourite hobbies**. Ever since I was a kid, I loved reading with all my heart. I would read all kinds of books such as **Stories, Comics, Educational books, novels** etc.

I love reading because it takes me on **amazing adventures** and helps me see things from **different perspectives**. I end up getting lost in good book and **learn** and **discover** new things.

My Favourite Books

There are many good books I have read over the past years but I think there are some books that stood out to me the most e.g. **Harry Potter, Ghostcloud, War horse, The Butterfly lion, Dork Dairies, Running on roof of the world, Private Peaceful, Diary of the Wimpy kid, The boy in Striped Pyjamas** and **The Outsiders** (which I'm currently reading at school)

How I Started Reading

I **started reading** when I was about 8 or 9 years old. **Whenever I was bored** or didn't know what to do, I would always go looking in the shelves at home to find anything to do and every time, I end up finding a book with some other stuff.

Then, I would find **somewhere cozy** like my bed and read the books. Even at school, there would be a bookshelf and I would take a book and read it when I finished my work, at lunch or even **on the bus**. Sometimes I would end up reading all the books in the house or if I was really bored, I would repeat the books multiple times. I would also bring the book I was reading at school, home and finished it that day or on the **weekend**. Sometimes, we would go to the **Library** and I would always come back with so many books, that I can't carry them all.

Some of my **friends** say that I'm **addicted** to books because most of the time, I'm reading and I take that as a great **personality trait** because it shows that I always make room for my **hobbies** and it's not something like a '**one time thing**' and that I actually have an **interest** in it.

Why Reading is Good for You

Reading is good for you because it exercises your brain, reduces stress and improves focus and memory. It also helps you learn new words, think more critically, and understand others better.

- **Mental workout:** Reading uses multiple parts of your brain and strengthens it's connections, helping to keep it sharp.
- **Improves memory and focus:** Following a story strengthens your memory, and the act of concentrating on the words improves your ability to focus on other tasks.
- **Builds vocabulary:** You naturally come across new words when you read, it expands your vocabulary and helps you communicate more effectively.
- **Enhances critical thinking:** Analyzing plots, characters, and ideas help you develop your ability to think critically and solve problems.
- **Boosts empathy:** Reading about different people and situations can increase your understanding of others.

“

Reading is not my hobby anymore. It is now my need.

”



Author: Faria Arif

Age: 13yrs

Teamwork Makes The Dream Work

Considered a quite common phrase, cliché at times and mocked for being so overused, and at times I agree, yet after researching for this piece, my mind had changed.

When Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W) built the first mosque in Medina, every companion old or young, rich or poor, carried the stones with their own hands; together it wasn't just a building rising from the ground, no, it was a symbol of what muslims could achieve if we worked together. From that moment on teamwork has become the stones of foundation in our faith. Not just in devotion to Allah, but in changing our world this has made an impact. The Masjid still stands today, the first mosque in the world, the Quba Mosque, a shining model of teamwork, in Saudi Arabia, in 7th century CE.

So how have the displays of teamwork impacted us today?

We have all heard of the Ottoman empire. Well, they became who they are by working as a team. Their skills of massive architectural and educational projects along with an immensely powerful army, are recognised as amazing achievements. As Steve Jobs, founder of Apple Inc, once said, “One person alone cannot accomplish great things in business. They're done by a team of people.” This quote highlights the importance of teamwork in success - even the most brilliant leaders rely on collaboration, communication, and collective creativity to turn their ideas to reality.

Taking flight together - just look at the Wright brothers, known worldwide for inventing the airplane. Wilbur and Orville Wright were self-taught inventors who owned a bicycle shop, but their ambitious ideas led to their path to flight. They became intrigued by flight in the late 1890s. They learned and tested day and night for years, improving their results each time, until finally in December 1903 they perfected their airplane and went on to start the Wright company, for commercial aviation, and together they soared through the skies. Imagine not having planes now? The world would be certainly different without the wondrous teamwork of the Wright brothers.

There are so many examples of teamwork everywhere; in fact, just look around you. If we look at our everyday items, from light bulbs (by Thomas Edison and his team) to the internet, the first car to the moon landing, or even the translation of our Quran, countless things have been achieved by teamwork. Teamwork is not about sharing a load; it is about sharing an understanding that we are all in this together.

Every skill and every mind is different, but coming together we can share perspectives, combine skills and open minds. We make each other better by working together, achieving a better world. Side by side, hand in hand, anything you want to achieve is possible as a team. Back to our title phrase - Team Work makes the dream work.

MANHA PALLIKAL, 13 YRS



Do You Know What Teamwork Really Is?

It's not just about getting things done or crossing items off a list. It's about people. Real people—with ideas, emotions, flaws, and their own ways of seeing the world. It's about learning how to move forward together, even when things don't go perfectly. It's about patience, honesty, and the willingness to grow beside others who are just as human as you are.

When you start working in a team, something changes. You stop thinking only about your own role and begin noticing the people around you—their energy, their habits, the way they deal with stress or celebrate small wins. You realize that teamwork isn't just about the work itself; it's about the relationships that build around it. What stays with you later isn't the spreadsheets or the deadlines. It's the long conversations that went off-topic but helped everyone connect. It's the laughter that broke through the tension when things got difficult. It's even the quiet moments that taught you how to listen instead of always trying to speak.

You remember the small jokes that made long days bearable, the collective sighs when things didn't go as planned, and how, over time, everyone started to truly understand one another—not just how they worked, but who they were and what mattered to them. That's the real beauty of teamwork: when people stop seeing each other as job titles or labels and start seeing each other as individuals.

Every person brings something unique. Some are bold and confident, ready to lead. Others are quieter, thoughtful, waiting for the right time to share what they've been thinking. Some thrive in the spotlight, while others prefer to guide things from behind the scenes. But every voice matters. Every perspective adds something valuable. Even disagreements have purpose—especially when they're handled with respect. Because when people challenge one another with kindness, that's where real progress happens.

Of course, there are rough moments. There always are. Times when communication slips, when frustration builds, or when progress feels slow. But those moments are where the growth hides. You figure out how to talk things through, how to pause before reacting, how to give space when it's needed. You learn that asking for help isn't weakness—it's trust. And sometimes, admitting "I don't know" opens the door for someone else to shine.

Then there are the smaller, quieter things that make a team truly feel like one. The check-ins that aren't about work. The "Hey, are you okay?" messages that come at the right moment. The way someone notices when another person is struggling and quietly steps in to help. That's when you realize what it really means to belong somewhere. Not just as coworkers or classmates, but as people who genuinely care about each other.

It's never perfect. No team is. But that's what makes it real. It's messy, unpredictable, full of mistakes and laughter and learning.

Looking back, they'd be proud of what they accomplished, but even prouder of how they grew together. Because teamwork isn't just about results—it's about showing up, listening, learning, and finding a rhythm that feels like your own.

That's what teamwork really means: people growing side by side, becoming something greater together.



Importance of Teamwork

Teamwork can bring a sense of unity, creativity, collaboration and motivation to whatever you're doing.

- Teamwork cultivates effective communication.
- Teamwork improves brainstorming.
- Teamwork encourages a common goal.
- Teamwork in the workplace improves problem solving skills.
- Teamwork helps build trust.
- Teamwork helps being more confident
- You can also split work between you guys

It helps being more open and honest and also makes learning/ working more fun and enjoyable Personally I really like to work with a team because I have a better understanding of how people think and show my ideas and learn more.

Like me in the beginning I was a very shy person and wouldn't talk to anyone unless they came to me first but over time when I got to know people more and do projects with them I became more confident.

In Sport

Teamwork is very important in sport because it helps players work together to achieve a common goal. When team members communicate well, trust each other, and use their different strengths, the team performs better. Good teamwork also builds confidence and keeps everyone motivated, especially during difficult times. It teaches valuable life skills such as cooperation, leadership, and respect for others, which are useful both on and off the field.

In Ramadan

Teamwork plays a very important role in a Muslim home during **Ramadan**, the month of fasting, prayer, and reflection. It helps families stay organised, peaceful, and spiritually connected. When everyone works together, daily life becomes easier and more meaningful. Family members share responsibilities such as preparing **suhoor** and **iftar**, cleaning the home, and reminding one another to pray and read the Qur'an. This cooperation reduces stress, teaches patience, and strengthens love between family members.

Ramadan is also a time for **charity, volunteering, and helping others**. Many Muslim families work as a team to cook and share food with neighbours, collect donations for those in need, or assist at the mosque. Some families also take part in **organising community events**, such as iftar gatherings, Qur'an recitation programmes, or Eid charity drives. These experiences bring joy, build unity, and teach children the value of service and generosity.

Teamwork in Ramadan also helps families grow closer to Allah. They pray **taraweeh** together, make **du'a**, and encourage one another to stay kind, patient, and grateful. The Qur'an beautifully reminds us:

“And cooperate in righteousness and piety, but do not cooperate in sin and aggression.”(Surah Al-Maidah 5:2)

By following this guidance, families learn that teamwork is not just about sharing tasks, but also about supporting each other in doing good deeds. In this way, teamwork in a Muslim home during Ramadan brings blessings, unity, and happiness, helping everyone grow stronger in faith and love. Teamwork is used everywhere at home, school, mosque, events, matches and sports.



Maryam Amear, 13 yrs

How To Make Your Everyday Muslim Life Better?

Being a muslim is not just about praying and fasting during Ramadan. Islam teaches us how to live life the right way like our Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) lived it. Islam teaches us so many different things such as good habits and manners. There are small things we can do every single day to make our lives better and make us closer to Allah (swt).

Salah

First and one of the most important Salah. Salah is a very important part of islam and it is one of the 5 pillars of islam Shahada(faith), **Salah(prayer)**, Zakat(charity), Swam(fasting),Hajj(Pilgrimage). Salah is 5 times a day , Sometimes it's hard to pray all 5 prayer with school, homework, work and what ever you are doing but try to make your best effort. To help you with this when it's time to pray think it is what I am doing more important than Allah . You can also set reminders, alarm and if anyone from your family is praying you can pray with them . This will make it easier to get used to it and it would become like a habit .

Quran

Second important thing is Quran. We should try to read and understand the quran. If you go madrasah (Arabic class or Quran class) you should always remember that you are not reading for your teacher you are reading for Allah (swt). If you have end of year exams when you are practising it should be for Allah (swt) not because if I fail I am going to get in trouble or it's only for exams . It should only and always be for Allah(swt). Reading the quran can make you feel peaceful and relaxed. You should try your best to read the quran daily.

Manners

Another important part of improving our daily life is showing manners. We should show good manners to everyone (younger or older). The Prophet Muhammed (pbuh) said that the best amongst us are those with the best character. So we should smile, speak politely and respect our parents, teacher, family and friends . Even saying "Thank you" and "Sorry" can make our world kinder and peaceful.

Helping others

As a muslim we should always help one another. By helping I do not mean giving money . I mean sharing food , Making sure you include everyone, cleaning your area there is so much you can do. Be grateful for what you have not think about what u dont have. Giving charity is not only for rich people its for anyone who can.

Thankful

Always be thankful think of all the things you are thankful for. Every night make dua to Allah (swt) of how thankful you are for everything. Instead of complaining for things you don't have. Be grateful for everything you have.

Electronics

Be very careful using electronics . Many young muslims , including me use a lot of time on electronics and social media . We should minimise our time on electronics and do other things that are useful.

Conclusion

As a muslim we should always believe in Allah (swt) and everything Allah (swt) said. We don't have to make big changes in our everyday life but small changes to make us closer to Allah (swt) and have a better life. We should try our best to make small changes in our daily life to make it the best islamic life you can .

Sara Ameer, 13 yrs

How to Improve Life as a Muslim

Problems I see in Ireland Currently:

I stay near to ICCI Masjid, the closing of ICCI has caused below problems as per my view:

- Parents parking everywhere to get their children to school.
- People don't have a place to pray their 5 times Fard Salah.
- People missing their meeting point.

Closing of the ICCI made parking a problem. As when it wasn't closed parking problems weren't as bad.

- Blocking off gates for the school buses. It causes more traffic than there ever was.

Other problems Muslim facing in Ireland :

- Interest from banks.
- Racism by thoughts.

Solutions:

- Stop the closing of mosques.
Closing mosques cause problems for Muslims for places to pray.
- Try getting the facts right before letting criticism go on.
Make sure facts are right before you criticise someone.

Entrepreneurship & Finance:

- Getting rid of Riba (interest)
Interest is haram and we should influence the government and banks to have halal products for Muslims. Muslim should be active in leadership.

Discrimination:

- know the truth and not make the false statements.

What we can do ourselves:

- Get people to know the truth.
Many people are Islam phobic because they don't know the truth.
- Follow the law at minimum to stop the government closing mosques.
When you follow the law other people (that want to have mosques closed) won't have a good reason to close the mosque.
- Don't disturb other people
Disturbing others delivers the wrong message about Islam.

What we can do to unite Muslims again:

- Call your friends, family, and relatives to go to religious gatherings or to the mosque.
- Go to mashurah (talks about Islam)
- Follow your own set of religious rules (rules that Allah S.A.W.T. gave us) and no other religious rules from other religions.

Promoting Mindfulness and Self-Awareness:

- To at least have a halal section in shops and supermarkets
- To keep halal products separated from non-halal products.
- To properly label halal products.
- Be honest with what you put in the products.
- Being honest not only helps Muslims, but it also helps people with allergies or other problems.



Innovative Ideas To Improve Everyday Muslim Life

If you want to improve your daily life as a young Muslim, start small. After every salah, take one minute to just sit, breathe, and make a quick dua for something you really want. It helps you slow down and feel more connected to Allah instead of rushing away.

Try to make your phone help your deen instead of distracting you. Keep an adhan app, follow a couple of good Islamic pages, and challenge yourself by deleting one distracting app for a week. You'll feel way more in control of your time.

Read just one ayah a day with meaning so you actually understand it. It's easier to stick with, and you'll remember it longer. On Fridays, make Jum'ah feel special by reading Surah Al-Kahf, dressing nicely, and giving even a tiny bit of charity.

Choose friends who bring you up, not down, and try to be that good friend yourself. Each week, pick one sunnah to focus on like saying "Bismillah," smiling more, or giving salam first. Small habits really do add up. Spend just 10 minutes a day doing something good for your future self, like journaling, reading, or learning a dua. And do one secret good deed that only Allah knows about to keep your heart sincere.

Finally, end your nights by reading the 3 Quls and letting go of any grudges. You don't have to be perfect just try to grow a little every day. What matters most is consistency, not perfection and never give up Allah has a plan for you it's never too late to start



Iqra Hussain, 14 yrs

Innovative Ideas To Improve Everyday Muslim Life

Every day we try our best to be good Muslims. Being a good Muslim means doing things Allah likes and staying away from haram things or things that aren't right. Such as disrespecting your parents, backbiting and lying. Even little things count if we do them sincerely and with the intention to improve ourselves. Small efforts can make a big difference in how we live and how we grow closer to Allah.

One of the most important things is listening and obeying our parents. Allah tells us in the holy Quran to respect, listen and be kind to them. When our parents ask us to do something we should try to do it right away even if we are busy, feel lazy or distracted. Parents do so much for us such as buying us new clothes, feeding us, taking care of us, taking us to school and teaching us what's right and what's wrong. We should always help out our parents. By doing small actions like cleaning your room, help setting the table for dinner, help make dinner or doing chores around the house by doing all of this can play a big part in becoming more helpful and obedient and a better Muslim. Showing respect, love, kindness and gratitude towards our parents is a way to earn Allah's blessings.

Praying salah five times a day is another big part of being a Muslim. It can be hard sometimes especially at school, training or when you are tired. But praying salah is very important as it is mandatory and plays a big role in our life. During prayer we can ask for forgiveness, mercy, make dua and reflect on our actions and try to be better Muslims. Praying salah on time keeps us connected to Allah, reminds us of our faith and strengthens our patience and discipline. Even if we are busy and we still make the effort of praying salah is a true sign of commitment into being a better Muslim.

Doing good deeds is something we should always try to do even if it is something simple. Such as smiling at a random stranger, saying "As-salamu alaykum" to a Muslim brother or sister, helping someone in need or showing kindness to animals by giving food all count. Every small act of kindness increases our good deeds, creates a good image on you and can make someone's day. In conclusion, being a good Muslim is about trying your best every day. No Muslim is perfect but if we keep trying to become a better Muslim, Allah will be happy with us. Every little effort makes us better, kinder and more helpful people. If we keep learning and practicing good habits we can grow into Muslims who truly live by our faith every day. By being consistent in our salahs, respectful to our parents and kind to others we can improve our lives and become stronger, more faithful Muslims.

Sarah Mohammed

Innovative Ideas To Improve Everyday Muslim Life

Introduction

In this modern time the days go by very fast and its not always easy for Muslims to keep up while trying to stay close to faith. Between school work family and daily stuff its hard to keep the teachings of Islam in touch but I really belive that new ideas and technology could help with that. Innovation doesn't mean changing islam it just means finding easier ways to live by it every day. Especially here in Ireland where there aren't many mosques around and Muslim communities aren't too large small changes can make a big difference.

Reminder apps

One thing that will help is a prayer reminder app which fortunately exists and there are plenty but most aren't great and some are just loaded with ads. It would be nice to have one that actually fits around your day or calendar and knows where you are and shows nearby mosques or quiet places to pray. That would be handy especially in Ireland because it can be hard to find mosques or masalas unless your in a big city like Dublin. Having something that makes salah easier to manage would help people stay consistent. It would also be good if these apps gave daily reminders of Quran verses which would be very cool.



Halal barcode app

Another useful idea is something to check if food or products are halal. It's a hassle sometimes to figure out if its halal or not like standing in a store like Dunnes and reading the labels because your not sure what's in it. There could be an app where you just scan a barcode and it tells you straight away if its halal. That'll be amazing. It could even show halal butchers or restaurants near you. That would make shopping easier especially here in Ireland.



Community

Community and staying together is another big thing in Islam but here in Ireland it can be hard to feel that sense of connection. It'll be nice to have another online platform just for Muslims living in a certain place somewhere to share events, organise meetups or help each other with things like finding jobs or studying. It'd be kind of a local community space online so if a Muslim lives far from a mosque they can still feel connected and updated on what's going on.



The Enviroment

Another idea that might be important is the environment. Islam teaches us to take care of the earth and not to waste anything but sometimes we forget that. Mosques could start recycling projects or have days where people come together and help the environment like planting trees or picking up litter. Even using solar Pannels in mosques could be a step towards that. It's a small thing but it helps the planet and reminds us that looking after nature is part of being a good Muslim too.



Conclusion

In the end innovation isn't about changing the religion its about making it easier to live by it. With better apps, stronger communities and care for the environment Muslims in Ireland can hold to they faith and still manage everyday life.

Innovative Ideas To Improve Everyday Muslim Life

There are many innovative ideas to improve everyday Muslim life. I will be stating some now.

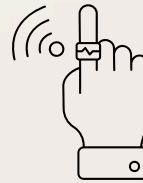
Idea1

Firstly, Islamic digital education. Develop learning platforms for young people to learn all about reading the Quran and praying. During Quran classes these apps can have a point system. For every Ayat of a Surah that is read correct that student receives a point. The student with the most points will receive a small prize. This encourages young Muslims to read properly and nicely.



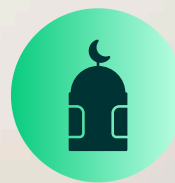
Idea2

Secondly advanced technology. Have a smart tasbeeh ring which tracks dhikr count and vibrates gently to encourage consistency throughout the day. Have a mood-based Dua recommender. This can be an app that suggests duas from the Quran based on the user's mood.



Idea3

My Third idea is to add more private prayer rooms in schools, airports and big shops to encourage Muslims to pray when they are out and see other Muslims praying. This room can have a small section for making wudu as well



Zayan Shaik, 14 yrs

Importance of Teamwork

Teamwork:

Teamwork means working together with other people to reach a goal. It helps everyone to share ideas, solve problems faster and achieve better results. When people work as a team the job becomes easier, and everyone feels included and valued.

There are a few key points we should talk about before we go onto the importance of teamwork.

No: 1 Trust

In teamwork you must have a lot of trust in your teammates. If you and your teammates don't have trust, then you cannot be a good team player, and your team might not trust you which would make it worse.

No: 2 Communication

You and your team are going to need really good communication skills. If you want to be a good teammate and if you don't like communicating with people, you could start slow. But you will need to communicate a lot with your team.

No: 3 Time Management

Someone in your team/group must be keeping track of the time or else you could spend all the time working on one thing when there is more to do.

No: 4 Active Listening

You must be a good active listener and listen to all team members' ideas. If you and your team are presenting the project to a group of people and you are next in line to read, you should be ready to read. Also, when your team is preparing to read you should be listening.

No: 5 Respect

This is the final topic because it is the most important topic. You should always respect everyone in your group. Even people who aren't in your group. Even if the people who are in your group are people who you don't want to be in a group with, you should still respect them even if it is someone you don't get along with at all.



Teamwork means working together in a group or a community. Teamwork can be used in different aspects of life. Some examples are:

Teamwork in school:

Teamwork in school is very common. We can do group projects, class discussions, sports etc together as a team. For example, a student might write, another might draw, and another might present. So, teamwork in school is very important.

Teamwork in workplace:

When we grow up and start working, teamwork becomes even more important. In different industries and workplaces, people must work together as a team to keep things running smoothly.

Teamwork in sports:

Sports are one of the best examples of teamwork. A football team cannot win if one player tries to do everything alone. Every player needs to defend, pass and support each other. Teamwork in sports teaches trust, communications and leadership.

Teamwork in Deccan Club of Ireland:

Teamwork in the Deccan club of Ireland [otherwise known as DCI] In DCI everyone contributes to the event. All uncles organise the event. Some of the uncles make the food. Other uncles set the chairs and come early to help set up the event. And other uncles set up football tournaments for the boys, and finally some uncles stay back and clean the hall.

Conclusion:

Teamwork is important in every part of life school, sports, DCI and home. It helps us learn, grow and achieve more together. When people support each other, anything is possible.

TEAM WORK

- Teamwork is one of the most vital skills you could learn. It will 100% help you throughout your entire lifetime because teamwork is all about working together.
- Teamwork applies nearly everywhere, school, work, projects and even with friends. Teamwork is also essential for survival – without it we wouldn't have the houses we live in, the jobs we work in or even governments. Without it, we wouldn't even have life as it is now!
- Humans have cooperated and collaborated with each other since the early dawn of civilization, throughout thousands of years teamwork has adapted and has now become necessity, a need.

HOW TO BUILD TEAMWORK

- Teamwork is a must need skill. It has helped me in school so many times including for my CBAS, class projects and it especially helped me for my transition between 6th class and 1st year.
- A big thing to help grow your teamwork is that if you are in a team, you should outline your clear goals and expectations, outline a common goal everyone in the team has so you can all work together to complete it.
- You should also make sure that everyone's voice is heard, especially if you are a captain or have a lead role in leadership, teambuilding is very important, especially teambuilding exercises that everyone enjoys.

What is teamwork made of?



TEAMWORK IN MY LIFE

- Teamwork has helped me so much in my life. It has been essential for me ever since I was 3. It helped me make friends, helped me to socialize and most important of all, thought me the value of teamwork.
- The transition through 6th class to 1st year was quite easy since I was thought how to socialize through teamwork at a young age. Teamwork didn't just help me, it shaped me, showed me its importance and helped me throughout my entire life.
- For me it is probably one of my most valuable and helpful skills. Teamwork and Teambuilding is a perfect help for any situation, especially new ones.



FORÓIGE

- Foróige is a youth club that I have been going to for nearly a year now, it is also another prime example of teamwork.
- My experience in Foróige has been great, it thought me the values of friendship and teamwork and overtime helped me boost my social skills as I have met numerous new people and been to many different locations.
- Foróige means 'For' and the 'Óige' means youth – for youth. There are nearly 600 Foróige locations and there's likely one near you and I definitely recommend it.
- Foróige is a place that I will never forget as it has thought me many lessons about teamwork.



BENEFITS OF TEAMWORK

- Lastly teamwork will help you at any age, time or place. No matter if it's at work, school, or outside in public there is always a place for socializing, team building and teamwork.
- It's a skill everyone possesses but all you must do is unlock it. It helped me many times before and it's something that builds trust and strong relationships within a team.
- There are tons of benefits to teamwork – better decision making, increased productivity and enhanced problem-solving capabilities.
- Finally, teamwork isn't just about perfections, it's about the fun you had along the way.



Rehan Siddiqui, 13 yrs

secondary CATEGORY 2



How Do I Define Success?

The way I define success,
Is growing stronger through each test.
It's more than excess gold
and stories of which the world has told.

Success to me begins with prayer,
A humble heart both sincere yet bare.
Each sin, each reward must testify to our lord,
Seeking forgiveness and staying true,
That is what we all must do.

To achieve success in our worldly affairs,
To open up books and share our cares.

To reach heights that few have known,
To reach the light where knowledge's grown.

Surrounded by hearts that remain sincere,
Whose love is shown and always clear.
To earn acceptance, to stride with pride,
To walk life's path with purpose inside.

To earn with honor, wealth made fair,
With plenty enough, made to share.
For blessings grow when shared in deed,
To those who are in so much need.

But most importantly, it's pleasing him,
staying true though life may brim.
We seek his guidance, never jest,
by trusting that Allah always knows best.

So let the world define success,
Through power's rule or gold excess,
Because mine is found in my own heart,
Where faith and effort never part.

So success to me is this clear blend,
Faith, wisdom and love - a path that can never end.
To please our Lord, to do my best,
That is how my heart defines success.



Aribah Tariq Khan, 15 yrs

How Long Will It Take?

How long will it take?
For me to finally fit in,
Without any laughing
When I finally win
How long will it take?
Until they see me for who I am
And let me shine for as long as I can

How long will it take?
For me to feel like I belong
And to sing and dance with no wrong
How long will it take?
For me to act like whatever I choose
And for everyone to stop wishing I lose

How long will it take
For me to sit at the table
Without any stares
Or any whispers around me
How long will it take?
For those to see that I am just like them
Not some alien but like them a gem

How long will it take?
For me to stand up on the stage
An glow in everyone's gaze
How long will it take?
For me to finally impress everyone
When I am trying to get everything done

Maybe there'll be one day
When we can all laugh and dance together
Under the bright sunny weather.
How long will it take?
For me to finally fit in the 'perfect' c

Delisha Usman, 15 yrs

Delisha Usman, 15 yrs

How I Define Success in Life?

Everyone dreams of being successful, but if you asked people what that means, you'd get a hundred different answers. Today, many people see success as fame, wealth or power. Society tells us to compete rather than cooperate, to put ourselves first and to chase goals even if it hurts others. The world measures worth by possessions instead of values. As Imam al-Ghazali once said, "The disease of the heart is loving this world." Modern life has made people believe success lies in what they own, not who they are.

But in Islam, success has a deeper, more peaceful meaning. It's not about money or status, it's about pleasing Allah, finding peace within yourself and doing good for others. Allah reminds us in the Qur'an:

"The successful are those who purify themselves, remember the name of their Lord, and pray" (Surah Al-A'la, 87:14-15).

In Islam, success is like a chain of circles: the individual, the family, the community, and society, all linked together. The first circle is yourself. Real success starts from within: improving your character, building your faith and purifying your heart. The Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) said, "Actions are judged by intentions, and every person will be rewarded according to their intention" (Bukhari & Muslim). So, success isn't about how big your achievements look on the outside, it's about sincerity, doing everything for Allah's sake.

The next circle is family. In Islam, family is the foundation of life. Allah commands, "And be good to parents" (Surah Al-Isra, 17:23).

A person could be successful in their career, but if they neglect their family, they have failed in a greater way. The Prophet (peace be upon him) said, "The best of you are those who are best to their families" (Tirmidhi). A loving home is a sign of true success.

Then comes the community. Islam teaches us that we are responsible for one another. The Prophet (peace be upon him) said, "The believer is like a building, each part supporting the other" (Bukhari & Muslim). Helping a neighbour, visiting the sick or smiling at someone are all acts of success in Allah's eyes. The final circle is society. A successful society is built on justice, compassion, and mercy - not wealth or power.

The ultimate goal of a Muslim is not just to succeed in this world, but to earn Allah's pleasure and enter paradise. Allah says,

"Whoever obeys Allah and His Messenger has achieved a great success" (Surah Al-Ahzab, 33:71).

Modern life may glorify fame and wealth, but these fade quickly. Spiritual success lasts forever. It brings peace, meaning and hope, even in challenging times.

In the end, success in Islam is not about being better than others; it's about becoming the best version of yourself for the sake of Allah. When your heart is sincere, your family is strong, your community is caring, and your society is just - that is true success, both in this world and in the eternal life to come.

Sajedah Elwardaney, 15 yrs

Local Issues & Community Solutions

Racism and violence amongst the youth has grown recently in Ireland.

There really is no comfortable way to introduce the topics that I will discuss in this essay. The truth is hard to accept, but it needs to be heard.

Racism and violence against the immigrants, Asian and Middle Eastern communities has increased in the past few years. It is obvious, headlines are being repeated, social media is making it known, everyone has heard of situations cruel and crazy. People of the targeted communities are being attacked, online and in-person. Riots are happening, negativity is spreading, and our country's title of safety may be stripped from us following these incidents. People are publicly called out and beaten, attempted murder actually followed through in some places.

The reason though, for such an inhuman approach to immigrants, is not simple, and I'll tell you why. This behaviour is likely being caused by several things. It may be the housing crisis in Ireland, where people may think that immigrants kicked them out of their homes and left the citizens of their country on the streets. People are taking this horrible, bent out of shape accusation, and raging about it, making it a root to the tree. It may also be the rising popularity of being racist on social media, where it has actually become a meme to slander young Indian people due to their "cringe" behaviour in posted videos, which I find not funny at all. It has become more than some joke. It has become real. The line has been crossed and everyone is too blind to see it. These are the two main reasons I have, although all hatred doesn't come from these two things, there are definitely more reasons to this behaviour attached somewhere, but we can't assume more than that.

One thing I've noticed by reading constant news reports, is that it's young people that are inflicting this onto others. The average age group is terribly low, they are around 15-21 years old most of that time. That isn't normal at all. Teenagers my own age are doing these crimes. This makes my point about the racism trend on social media more prominent. It may be a major influence as to why the worst of the attackers are young. Peer pressure can be a factor, where a teenager may do things to save their image amongst other peers who think that racism is "cool", and no big deal. It may be their way of rebelling against the rules. People do bad things to impress others, and I don't even need to make an example, because that is seen in almost every show, movie or book. They may not understand the full story, and maybe this is a cause of their environment. It is very difficult to look from your enemies perspective, and much easier to just hate them. They may not even know the scale of their doings, we should never assume they do.

A small step begins a journey. So I have small solutions that could plant the smallest seed of empathy in the hearts of the misled, the ones who are causing the riots and violence. When they act, they feel anger or obligeance to fit in. Both of them can spiral dangerously, and all you need to do is guide them to step in the shoes of others.

The main reason of violence and racism in Ireland, in my opinion, is miscommunication and assumption. Social media plays a big factor in both, as false news can spread fast, causing outrage and less patience for "hearing the other side". Stereotypes have become something that people joke about on social media, making it a huge sign pointing to the road of assumptions. Better social media monitoring and report systems should be put in place for online platforms. So many teenagers actually disagree with this behaviour, but some are afraid to say it because they will be made fun of, or looked down on by other teenagers. This is caused by two things. A lack of courage is one. People should speak up more, and be less afraid of ruining their image in front of others for a good cause. You might get called "cringe" or "too serious", but it's not great to be a silent bystander. Many people believe in a way of peace, but they won't argue for it against wrongdoings, to -ironically- keep the little bit of peace we still hold onto. That doesn't mean you're wrong for being afraid. The other cause is a lack of empathy from the other side. To fix that, we need something physical, something real.

Something such as public youth groups for teenagers and young adults is a good starting step. I haven't been seeing many of them recently. Youth clubs for that age group that can introduce you to other people from other places of perspective. You can include experience sharing, common interests, and you get to make new friends outside of school and college. Most teenagers and young adults don't make as many friends as children do, and they may surround themselves and be stuck with the wrong company. No matter how closed your mind is, all humans are curious, and they might find themselves wanting to know more about people that they hear talking. The youth groups for older teenagers and young adults can encourage topics of positivity and empathy, while also keeping the interests of the youth spoken. They should be open to all ethnicities, so that a sense of variety and inclusion is understood by everyone attending. The more people you know, and the more stories you hear, the more likely you are to listen to all parties before forming an opinion. This could be the first step to that goal, the goal of having constructive debates rather than destructive ones. Strong emotions and general opinions should be expressed and then understood (or if not, respected), to avoid violence in disagreements. People should have conversations and not confrontations. Certified club runners can make sure of that.

There is no courage without fear, and there is no understanding without a concept to understand. That's why we should speak.

There are no arguments without contrasting opinions, but contrasting opinions are often formed without listening. That's why we should listen.

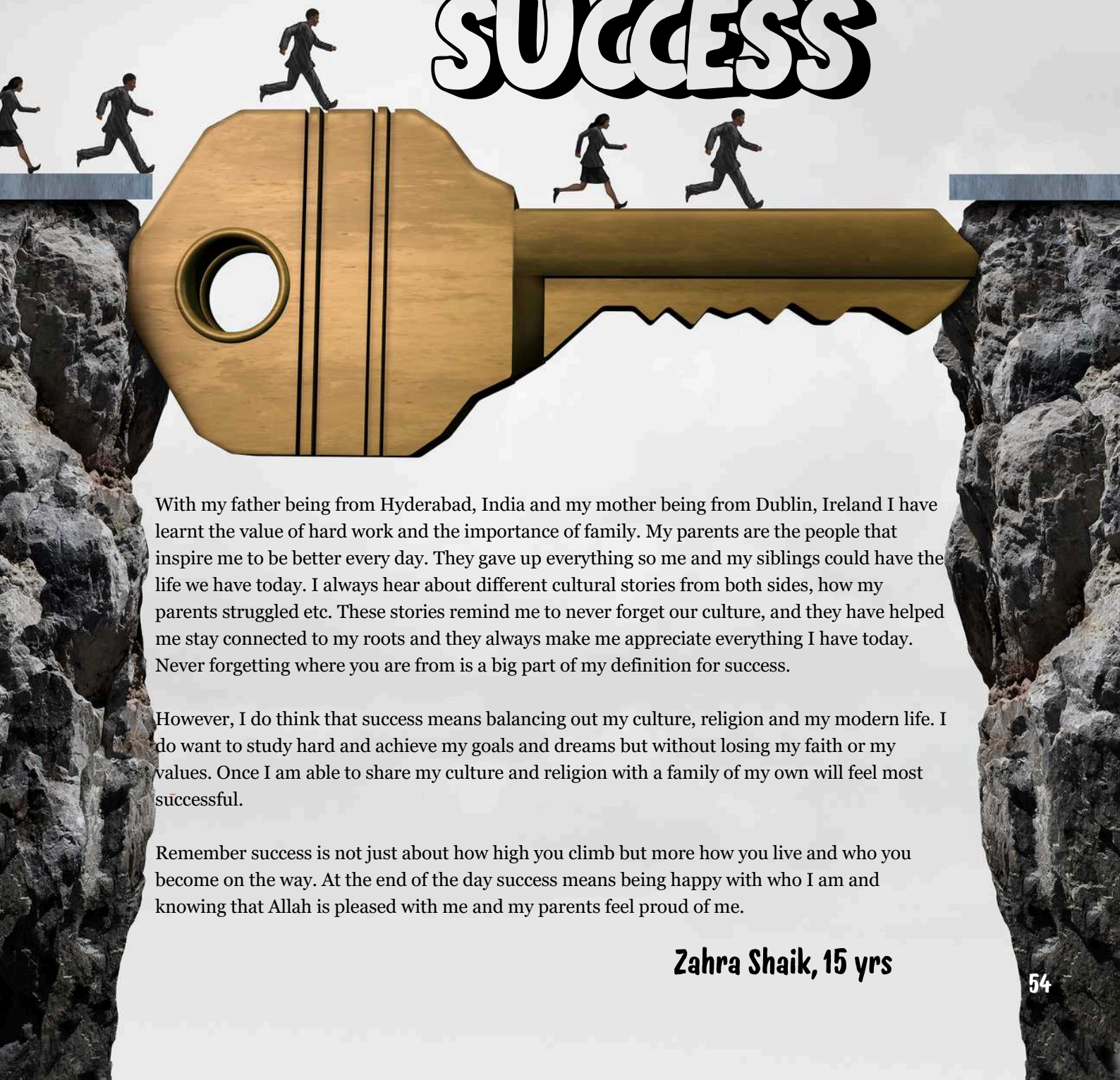
How I Define Success in Life?

My definition of success is living a good happy, meaningful life that makes my parents proud and brings me closer to Allah.

As a Muslim girl I will always believe success is not just in this world but in the afterlife too. Through Islam I have learnt that success comes from being kind, honest and following the path that Allah has chosen for me in this life.

I feel successful now as a teenager is when I pray namaz regularly, respect my parents and do as many good deeds as I can. Our Prophet Mohammed (peace be upon him) stated that the best of us are those that have a good character and that they inspire me to be a better person.

SUCCESS



With my father being from Hyderabad, India and my mother being from Dublin, Ireland I have learnt the value of hard work and the importance of family. My parents are the people that inspire me to be better every day. They gave up everything so me and my siblings could have the life we have today. I always hear about different cultural stories from both sides, how my parents struggled etc. These stories remind me to never forget our culture, and they have helped me stay connected to my roots and they always make me appreciate everything I have today. Never forgetting where you are from is a big part of my definition for success.

However, I do think that success means balancing out my culture, religion and my modern life. I do want to study hard and achieve my goals and dreams but without losing my faith or my values. Once I am able to share my culture and religion with a family of my own will feel most successful.

Remember success is not just about how high you climb but more how you live and who you become on the way. At the end of the day success means being happy with who I am and knowing that Allah is pleased with me and my parents feel proud of me.

Zahra Shaik, 15 yrs

How I Define Success in Life?

Everyone sees success in different ways. For others, success means being rich, famous, or having a really good job. Some people think it's about being the best at everything. For me, success isn't about money or awards, but success means being happy, doing your best, being disciplined, productive and being proud of yourself.

When I work hard for something and finally achieve it, I feel successful. It could be doing well on a test, improving at a sport, or finishing something I started. Even if I don't win or do well, I feel a bit happy because I put time and effort, and I know I gave it my all. To me, trying and not giving up is a big part of success because to achieve success, it doesn't happen overnight, you need to fail, learn from it and overcome bigger obstacles.

I also think success is making a difference in the world by contributing positively to your community, such as being kind, helping others and treating others with respect, which are really important. If you make someone smile or help a friend who's struggling, that's another kind of success. It's not only about what you achieve for yourself, but it can also be how you make others feel in a good way.

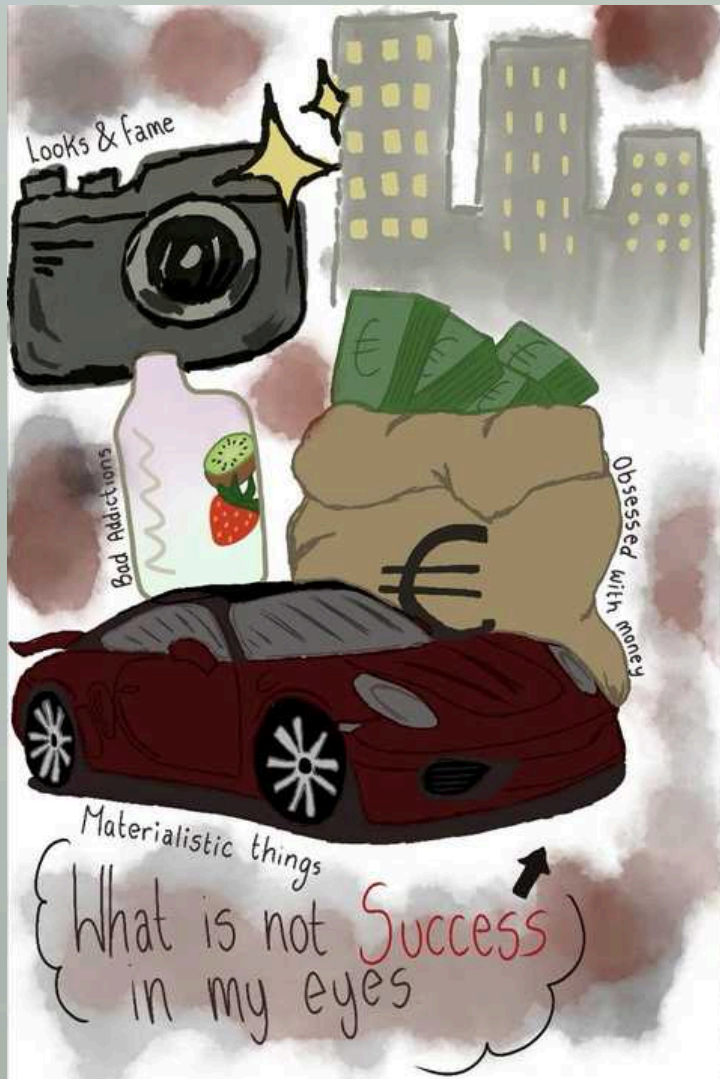
Being disciplined is part of success because it helps you move closer to your goals, even when you might not feel like it. It helps you set and achieve long-term goals without getting distracted along the way because it teaches you to be focused and committed to the task you are given.

DON'T QUIT

Being successful for me has been a long road, last year in boxing, I've lost 3 fights in a row and my confidence was really bad but I never gave up I kept training harder than ever and a year later I won a tournament and won my first fight and I have many more wins ahead of my career which I am sure of due to the time and effort I put in. I didn't achieve this overnight; I've been through failure, and I learnt from my mistakes to achieve success. I'm trying to say failure is part of life to achieve success, and if you fail non-stop, don't give up, keep pushing yourself, and believe in yourself; this is a process to become successful.

In conclusion, I believe success is living a happy and honest life. It's about learning from your mistakes, never giving up and being proud of who you are. If you are kind, hard-working and happy with your life, that's already successful.

How I Define Success in Life?



Juwariyah Ghazanfar, 16 yrs

How I Define Success in Life?

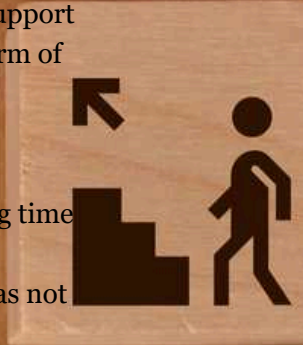
What is Success? Every individual has a different understanding of the word "success". Some people see it as having lots of money, a distinguished career, or achieving good grades. Others think success is about being happy, healthy, and surrounded by people who care about them. For me, Success is not about what you own or how impressive your life looks from the outside but about feeling proud of who you are and the effort you put in every day.

Success starts with doing your best. It is easy to compare yourself to others and feel like you are not doing enough, but real success is personal. It is about setting goals, working hard, and pushing through even when things get difficult. The satisfaction of knowing you did not give up is worth more than any prize or title.



Success also begins with supporting good relationships. No matter how much you achieve, it means little if you have no one to share it with. Friends and family make our lives meaningful. They support us, challenge us, and help us grow. Being kind, loyal, and understanding towards others is a form of success, because strong relationships make life richer and more fulfilling. To put it simply, understanding success starts by supporting relationships.

Another part of success is finding balance. Life is not meant to be all work and no joy. Spending time with loved ones, enjoying simple moments, and looking after your mental health are just as important as achieving big goals. A person who reaches the top but feels lonely or exhausted has not really succeeded.



Finally, success means learning from failure. Everyone stumbles at some point, but success is about getting back up, growing, and trying again. Every setback teaches us something valuable.

In the end, success is about living a life that feels meaningful and genuine. It is not measured by wealth, popularity, or achievements, but by the kind of person you become along the way. To me, success means being kind when it is not easy, staying honest even when it is tempting not to, and choosing a path that brings real fulfillment. It is about waking up each day with a sense of purpose and going to sleep knowing you gave your best. If I can look back one day and see that I lived with courage, compassion, and stayed true to myself, then I will know I have found my own version of success.



Masmah Mahafiz Mohammed, 17 yrs

How I Define Success in Life?

Everyone has their own definition of success. You'll often hear people say, "May God give you success," but what does that really mean?

I used to think that success was measured by the number of cars in your driveway or the certificates on your wall. But as I grow older, I realise that these material items hold little real value when it comes to success.

Many people believe that if they work hard, they'll be successful, and while that could be true, I've come to realise that it's not the goal but the journey that shapes a successful person. To me, the greatest signs of success are happiness, peace, and serenity. As Albert Schweitzer once said, "Success is not the key to happiness. Happiness is the key to success."

So now the question remains, how do we find happiness? If we spend our whole lives waiting for happiness to arrive, it never will, because happiness is not something that happens to us. It's a choice we make every single day. It's found in the small moments, the quiet morning sunlight, laughter with friends, or pride after doing your best.

We've been taught (often) by society that success is about comparison, being richer, faster, or more talented than others but now I believe that a successful person is someone who appreciates everything they have.

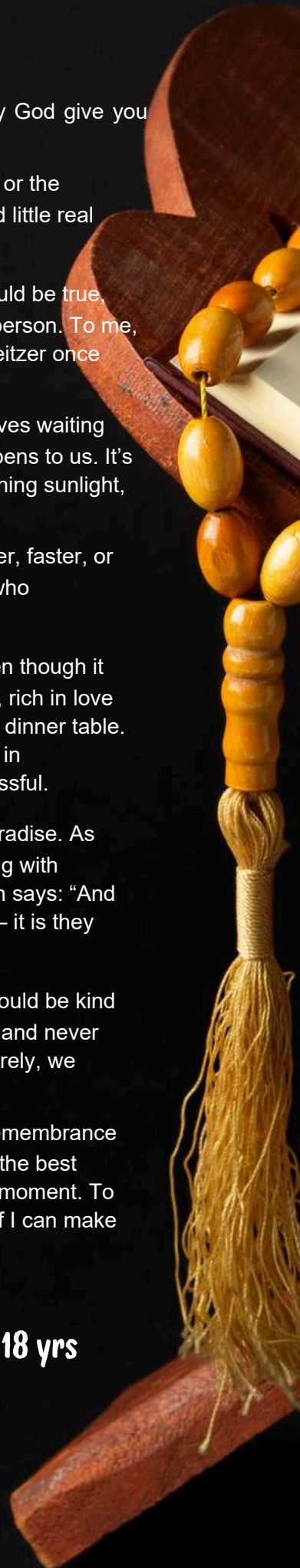
I used to read stories about wealthy people who were unhappy with their lives, even though it seemed they had everything. I've realised that I, too, am rich but in a different way, rich in love and compassion, rich in friendship, and rich when my family laughs together at the dinner table. These moments fill my heart with gratitude and remind me that true wealth lies not in possessions, but in peace and connection. In that sense, I am both rich and successful.

However, there is one ultimate goal we must strive for to achieve true success, Paradise. As Muslims, our purpose in life is to worship and obey Allah (SWT). This includes living with honesty, humility, patience, justice, compassion, and care for others. As the Qur'an says: "And whoever obeys Allah and His Messenger and fears Allah and is conscious of Him – it is they who are the successful." (24:52)

We must always remember that Allah is the All-Seeing and the All-Hearing. We should be kind and gentle in our interactions with others, supporting them through their hardships and never being the cause of someone's pain. I firmly believe that when we help others sincerely, we achieve success, both in this world and in the Hereafter.

So, As I see it, success is not measured by wealth, fame, power but through the remembrance of Allah SWT and the peace & goodness you leave behind. It's striving to become the best version of yourself, one who is grateful, kind and conscious of Allah SWT in every moment. To live purposefully, compassionately and faithfully is success. And through that life, If I can make even one person's world brighter, then I will have truly succeeded.

Shaheera Khubaib, 18 yrs



How I Define Success in Life as a Muslim Youth

When people talk about success, many think about money, big houses, fancy cars, or having lots of followers online, but for me, as a young Muslim, success means something deeper. It's not just about what you have, but who you are, how you live, and how close you are to Allah.

To me, true success in life means living in a way that pleases Allah (SWT), being kind to others, and always trying to improve myself. I believe that if I keep my faith strong, work hard, and treat people well, then I am on the right path to success.

First, my connection with Allah is the most important part of my life. I try my best to pray five times a day, read the Qur'an, and follow the teachings of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH). I know I'm not perfect, and I make mistakes, but I always ask for forgiveness and try to do better. For me, success means staying strong in my religion, even when it's hard.

Second, I think being a good person is also a big part of success. That means being honest, helping others, respecting my parents, and being a good friend. The Prophet (PBUH) said, "The best among you are those who have the best manners." This is a quote that I always tend to keep in mind, so I'm able to surround myself with people who have the best intentions. So, if I want to be successful, I need to have good character, not just good grades or a good job.

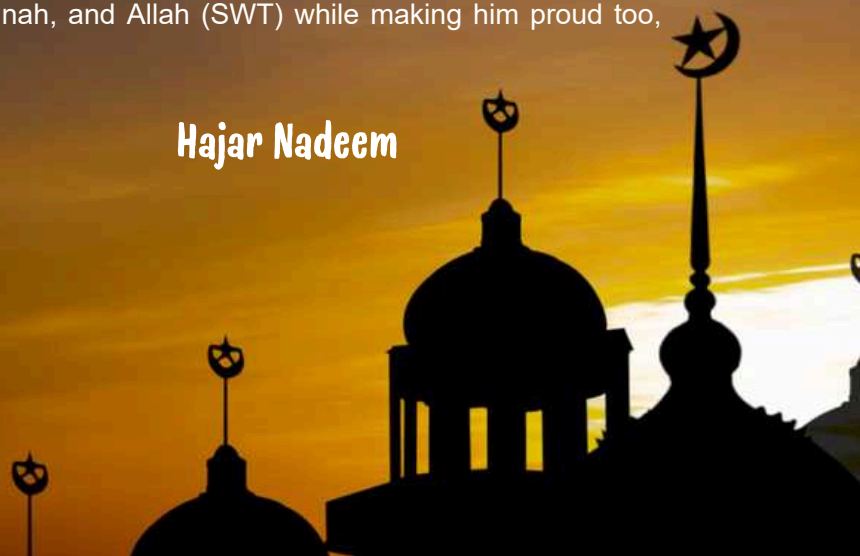
Of course, school and work are important too. I study hard because I want to build a good future, help my family and hope to make them all proud one day. I want to be someone who gives back to the community, but I also know that success in school means nothing if I forget my values. That's why I try to balance my studies with my deen.

In today's world, being a Muslim youth isn't always easy. There is pressure to follow trends, to fit in, or to do things that go against our faith, but I think real success is being strong enough to say no when something is wrong and being proud of who I am. I can say to myself as a Muslim I go through many hard challenges like putting on my hijab in school for the first time wasn't easy, I was afraid of being left out and not having many friends, but I had to remind myself who I'm doing this for not for others but for Allah (SWT) and those who are true friends would not leave. I want to live in a way that makes Allah proud of me.

At the end of the day, I believe success is not just what you do in this life, but what you prepare for the next. If I live a life full of kindness, prayer, and good deeds, then I believe Allah will reward me in the hereafter, and that is the greatest success of all.

So, when I think about success, I don't picture money or fame. I picture peace in my heart, strong faith, and a life that brings me closer to Jannah, and Allah (SWT) while making him proud too, inshaAllah.

Hajar Nadeem



Redefining Success at 17!

At 17, I think success is more about figuring out who I am than having everything planned out. A lot of people think success means being at the top of your class, getting into a top university, or having your life mapped out already. But for me, it's not about that.

Right now, I see success as being able to make my own choices. It's about learning to think for myself instead of just doing what people expect. It takes courage to say, "This is what I want," especially when it's different from what others are doing. That feels like real success to me knowing what I stand for.

I also think success is learning how to deal with failure. At this age, there's so much pressure to be perfect, but no one talks enough about how failing is part of growing. If I mess up and still keep going, that's a win.

Success means setting goals that matter to me whether it's doing well in school, being there for my friends, or just staying mentally strong when things get tough.

I don't think success is one big moment. It's the little wins, like staying motivated, improving at something I care about, or simply getting through a hard day. As long as I'm moving forward and trying my best, I feel like I'm on the right track.

Right now, I'm still figuring things out, and that's okay. What I've come to realize is that success isn't a final destination, it's a journey that looks different for everyone. For me, it's about personal growth, staying true to myself, and finding purpose in the things I do each day. It's in the quiet moments of progress, the lessons I learn from failure, and the effort I put in even when no one is watching. I know I'll keep changing, and so will my definition of success. But right now, if I'm growing, learning, and becoming someone I'm proud of, that's what success looks like to me.

Local Issues & Community Solutions

Even though people say Ireland has strong communities and friendly neighbourhoods, there are still some problems that affect people in their everyday lives. And adults just ignore or get used to them. It's not just on the news, it's things that are happening in front of our own eyes. Housing, mental health, the environment, and the cost of living are issues people talk about quietly, but they affect everyone loudly.

Housing is one of the biggest worries I hear people talking about. Young adults and families are stressed because finding a decent place to live is becoming harder and harder as the years go by. It feels unfair and ironic that in a country with great amounts of land and development, ordinary people struggle to have a home. Instead of building luxury apartments that most locals can't afford, the government should focus on real and practical homes for normal people. Communities should have a say in what gets built not just big companies.



Healthcare access is another serious issue especially in Ireland. In some areas, people wait weeks or even months just to see a doctor or specialist. Smaller towns may only have one GP, making it difficult to get an appointment. Pharmacies often face shortages of medication, and hospitals are always full. For example, just to get a simple x-ray, I had to wait 3 whole hours waiting in line. When people can't access care quickly, small less serious health problems can turn into bigger problems. Local solutions could include better- more efficient healthcare services, mobile health services, and better funding for less developed towns' healthcare. Health shouldn't depend on where you live or how long you can wait.



The environment is also suffering all around the world. Litter on streets, rubbish near rivers, and illegal dumping make places look neglected. It's frustrating because most people care, but are too lazy to do anything about it. Instead of just complaining, communities could organise regular clean ups, add more bins at places where people tend to throw their trash at or start local recycling drives. Schools and youth groups could be involved too. Cleaning the environment shouldn't be a punishment - it should be something we're proud to do for our home.

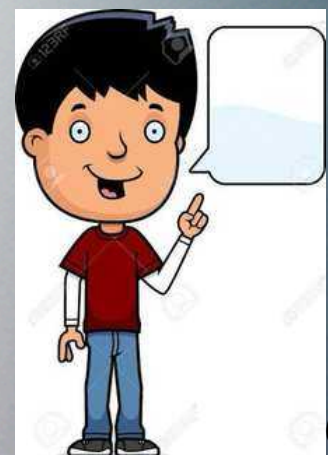


Another issue people often talk about is the rising cost of living. Groceries, electricity, school supplies, everything is getting more expensive. Families are forced to make difficult choices, and even young people feel the pressure. Some schools and communities have started food banks or breakfast clubs, which genuinely help. Local non profit organisations like The Deccan Club Of Ireland help raise funds for less fortunate families to make their lives a little easier. These are some great initiatives taken by people who really care about their fellow brothers and sisters. No one should feel embarrassed for needing help.



One thing that needs to change is how little the younger people are heard. We see these problems. We live through them too. If local councils included teenagers and young blood in discussions, we could share fresh ideas that adults might not think of.

In the end, housing, health care, the environment, and the cost of living won't be solved overnight. But with small steps taken by each and every one of us, young and old. Our communities can become stronger and more hopeful places to live.



Mohammed Mahd Uddin, 16 yrs

university CATEGORY



Is Our Data Truly Safe?

In today's digital age, almost every aspect of our lives - from shopping, socialising, and even banking - is conducted online, leaving behind a trail of data and personal information. Our data is constantly being collected, stored, and analysed. However, despite assurances from companies and governments about security, major data breaches and widespread cyberattacks raise the question: is our data truly safe? This essay will explore the issue of corporate exploitation of data, government surveillance, cybersecurity and methods of protecting one's data.

Many companies and organisations collect and use our personal data in ways we may not even realise. Companies like Amazon, Google, and Meta track and analyse data about social media activity and online shopping habits in order to target advertisements and increase their own profits, with little consideration for the users. Furthermore, data is sold to third parties without user consent, which raises questions about user privacy and transparency, souring the relationship between consumer and company. This corporate exploitation of our data shows that the companies' goal is profit rather than the safety of their users'.

Apart from collecting data, governments worldwide also keep an eye on citizens' activity for the purpose of "national security". Systems that monitor phone conversations, emails, and internet activity provide authorities with an immense amount of personal data, usually without the peoples' knowledge or consent. This is a major problem as the government is responsible for ensuring the safety and privacy of its people, but in fact it leaves the citizen's data vulnerable to misuse.

Maintaining the security of our personal information requires cybersecurity, which is constantly threatened by malware and hackers. No system is totally safe, and we know this due to the countless data breaches and hackings that have affected even the biggest of corporations in recent times. To avoid the risks, it is advised to create strong passwords, turn on two-factor authentication, and be cautious when clicking on links and emails. These scams and hackings have become even more believable and therefore more dangerous with the arrival of powerful AI systems.

In conclusion, there is a cost to the convenience of the digital age: our personal information is always in danger, from government monitoring and corporate exploitation to constant cyber threats. Although laws and technology provide some protection, it is a small stepping stone to ridding this problem for good, as true digital security is woefully distant and possibly impossible to ever achieve in such an age.

Nabeel Salahuddin, 17 yrs

The Ethical Dilemma of Artificial Intelligence: Progress Without Principles?

Introduction

Much like many online essays about AI ethics, this piece starts with the familiar warning: AI is no longer science fiction; it shapes our phones, workplaces, and even schools. Essays such as “Ethics of Artificial Intelligence” on academic sites emphasize this same tension AI brings efficiency and innovation, and it forces us to wrestle with difficult ethical questions. As machines take over tasks once considered uniquely human, the boundary between technology and responsibility becomes ever more blurred.

The Problem

A recurring theme in sample essays (for example, those on Papers Owl or Essays) is how AI transforms industries, displacing work and challenging our concepts of labour. You will often find them describing how jobs that involved human judgement are now automated. Here, I echo those points: Businesses automate, workers are displaced, societies shift from labour economies to data-economies. But those essays often stop there. I push further asking: can machines make moral choices? For instance, essays on Ethical Concern on Artificial Intelligence cite issues like algorithmic discrimination and accidents involving autonomous cars. I align with them but stress that accountability is often vague in these discussions.

The Ethical Void

Many existing essays explore how AI is only as unbiased as the data that teaches it a point raised in samples from Edu Birdie and Papers Owl. They mention how human prejudice seeps into AI through biased datasets. I build on that: the ethical failure arises less from what AI can do and more from what we do not prevent it from doing. Like those essays, I mention how privacy is eroded, and stereotypes are reinforced. But fewer essays emphasize the human responsibility to intervene before these harms occur; I place stronger weight on pre-emptive ethical oversight.

The Human Responsibility

Almost every online essay agrees that regulation, fairness, transparency, and accountability must play a role. For instance, Essays on AI and moral challenges (Atlantis Press) stress philosophical perspectives about ethics and responsibility. I similarly note that government, academia, and developers are adopting guidelines for “ethical AI.” Yet, I also stress that regulation alone is not sufficient each individual user, programmer, policymaker has a moral duty. Many essays mention ethical frameworks, but fewer tie it so personally: aligning technology with human dignity, asking whether our use of technology reflects our values.

Conclusion

Where many essays conclude with optimism tempered by caution, I mirror a similar tone. I see AI as holding up both the best and worst of humanity our creativity, ambition, and our potential for negligence. Like essays such as those on the IELTS sample essays on AI ethics, which argue that ethical intention must match innovation, I conclude: the future of AI depends not just on what we build, but how and why we build it. If we automate our world, we must be careful not to automate away our humanity.

Abdur Razzaq Mohammed, 19 yrs

A Critical Analysis of Climate Change

Climate change stands as one of the most pressing problems faced by the modern world. Although the climate has changed naturally in the past, the recent surge in global warming is no doubt due to human activities, as natural causes alone cannot explain it. Human activities such as the burning of fossil fuels, deforestation are the main driving forces. This leads to rising global warming and other environmental, economic, and social impacts that are becoming increasingly harmful to the planet.



The main driver of climate change is the greenhouse effect caused by human activities. The greenhouse effect refers to the greenhouse gases absorbing and re-radiating heat, which warms up the lower atmosphere of Earth's surface. The effect is affected by the number of greenhouse gases, and human activities cause a surge in them. Activities such as burning of fossil fuels, deforestation, which involves the burning of trees and the decay process of those trees, all release carbon dioxide and nitrous oxide into the atmosphere, which acts like a blanket trapping energy and causes the planet to heat up. This is proven as since the start of the Industrial Revolution the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere has risen by more than 50%.

One of the most distressing consequences of climate change is the increase in extreme weather events. Floods, droughts, wildfires, and hurricanes are becoming more intense and frequent for example, the Los Angeles fires of January 2025 had cost more than \$100 billion. The main reason behind the fire was due to the hot and dry weather caused by climate change. Moreover, the precipitation level in many areas is expected to increase; however, rainfall for an extended duration of time will lead to flooding. River flooding is a common natural disaster in Europe alongside storms, which have affected many people and incurred huge economic losses over the last few years.

Furthermore, the higher temperatures have caused the rapid melting of glaciers, contributing to the sea-level rise. Furthermore, it is predicted that Europe's Sea level will rise by 60-80 cm by the end of the century. However, close to a third of the EU's inhabitants live in coastal areas and economic assets within 500m of the sea come up to EUR 1000 billion. Thus, an increase in sea level will create significant consequences for the people, businesses, and infrastructure in those areas.

The main ways to stop climate change is to persuade the government and businesses to stop fossil fuel emissions and invest in renewable energy, which is cleaner such as technologies like solar, wind and geothermal. Furthermore, individuals can also play their part by switching to electric vehicles instead of petrol and diesel cars and minimize plane travel. Moreover, recently public awareness has grown, especially among youth movements and environmental organizations, and these groups play a vital role in pressuring corporations and government. However, urgent, coordinated, and sustained action is needed to address the root causes of climate change to ensure a livable future for us all.

Benefits of Planning and Goal Setting in Project Management

The Hekluskogor project in Iceland is one of Europe's largest ecosystem restoration efforts, the project's main aim was to restore birch woodlands, strengthen the land around mount Hekla which is an active volcano known for its eruptions. Building on this, the planning and goal setting played a crucial part of ensuring the success of the Hekluskogor project. The act of realistic, smart goal setting has many benefits such as better resource allocation. If a project manager states a vision and goal, it can provide beneficial insights of what is needed in terms of resources, capital, materials, labour in order to achieve that goal.

The Hekluskogor project began with clear goals such as “aiming to increase the strength and resilience of the ecosystem to tephra fall from eruptions” which is volcanic ash and debris. And to restore the natural vegetation such as the native birch and willow woodlands around mount Hekla. Doing so, they state “would reduce the risk of damage from redistribution of tephra” and prevent soil erosion.

These goal settings allowed the project team to create a detailed structured step by step plan which will result in making the right suitable decisions. They used the phased approach, splitting the massive project (over 90 thousands hectares around mount Hekla) into smaller phases starting small and later expanding such as planting woodland clusters that could naturally expand over time.



The benefits of this phased approach make it less of a strain to allocate resources and makes it less difficult and tedious to track and log progress. The team cooperated with land owners, volunteers, and the government to make sure they had support. This can be seen as contingency planning in case of funding uncertainty. Overall, adaptive planning and setting clear goals is key for success in the field of project management.

Mohammed Abdur Rahman Hussain, 19 yrs

Foróige: Empowering Young People

01.

Foróige is Ireland's leading youth organisation, empowering young people to believe in themselves and shape the world around them.



Foróige's History:

Foróige was established in 1952 as the youth branch of Macra na Feirme. Formerly known as Macra na Tualthe, the organisation evolved over the decades, expanding beyond its rural roots to support young people in communities across Ireland.

In 1981, it took on a new name – Foróige – inspired by the Irish *forbairt na hóige*, meaning “development of youth.” This name reflects the essence of Foróige's work: creating opportunities, building confidence, and ensuring that every young person, no matter where they are or what their life story is, has the chance to thrive.



The Foróige Philosophy



Everyone is unique

Every person has unique qualities and attributes



Everyone is creative

Creativity applies to many aspects of life: solving problems, organising, the arts, communicating, caring for others



Everyone can take responsibility

We always have a choice in what we think, do and become



Everyone is interdependent with others

We develop through interactions with other people. We achieve more by working together.



Everyone can make a difference to the world

Everyone has something important to contribute to making the world a better place.



Everyone can have an influence

Reality is not fixed. It can be changed by our actions. Everyone can influence what's going on. Each person can influence what they become in life.



Everyone can learn from every situation

Learning does not stop at school. It is part of every day living. It is a lifelong process.

Foroige.ie

Facebook Twitter Instagram @Foroige

What does Foróige Do?

Foróige helps young people develop skills, confidence, and leadership through programmes, clubs, projects, and unique opportunities.

Opportunities:

Foróige members can take part in community projects, social action campaigns, and youth leadership events.

Opportunities to represent your club nationally - on the **Reference Panel**, **National Council**, or even as a **Youth Observer on the Board**.

There are also exchanges, conferences, and volunteering chances across Ireland and abroad.

Every opportunity helps young people step outside their comfort zone and make an impact.

Programmes:

Designed to help young people grow personally and socially:

Examples include:

Leadership for Life: builds communication, confidence, and teamwork.

NFTE: Entrepreneurship competition for young people.

Citizenship Programme: empowers young people to take action in their communities.

These programmes encourage us to think, reflect, and take initiative - skills that stay with us for life.



I joined Foróige almost **9 years ago at the age of 9**, not realising just how much it would shape who I am today. What started as a local club quickly became a place where I found my voice, confidence, and purpose.



Through Foróige, I took part in the **NFTE (Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship) Programme**, where I became a **national finalist** in the competition at **12 years old**. That experience opened my eyes to creativity, problem-solving, and the power of believing in an idea - and in myself.



Today, I'm proud to serve as a **Director on Foróige's Board**. Sitting among those who shape the future of the organisation that changed my life - and the lives of **50,000+ young people** - its surreal, but it perfectly reflects Foróige's mission: **giving young people real opportunities to lead**.



Ashraf Siddiqui
Youth Observer, Reference Panel, Computer Clubhouse
Blanchardstown, Dublin

Ashraf Siddiqui

DANGERS OF AI

Sunday
October, 19th
2025

Issue
#10

The effects of new AI and how they could affect the modern world

Raiyan Ahmed

AI Today The Benefits

With the launch of multiple new Artificial Intelligence software's such as Chat GPT and Gemini the way the world functions is changing rapidly with automation on the rise. Low level tasks are being automated while these are simple tasks AI does not rest and is trained to do tasks with exceptional precision and will not make mistakes.

This in itself causes a huge impact to everyone as with the growing use of Chat GPT the world's population is slowly introducing its use to their daily lives, for modern tasks such as general questions with a quick response or to answer more difficult questions with solid solutions.

As an third level student AI can definitely impact my career positively with helping with research and cutting work time but as AI is slowly integrated in college life colleges have been finding it difficult to keep up as hard punishments are in place for AI generated work, this in itself is an issue.



AI Generated video of Jake Paul dressed like a female doing makeup

Where AI has a negative effect

What does this mean?

It means that anyone has the power to negatively use AI to cause irreversible damage to someone or society, at this stage how do we not know it will be used to wrongfully imprison someone or to feed a population a false reality or to create videos that show under age people doing inappropriate acts even though they might not be a real person, how do we decide who has access to such a tool and how can we be sure that its regulated efficiently. Its dangerous and irreversible, even Chat GPT has had its safety feature breached giving people what they want dangerous or not, releasing AI with this kind of power is like opening pandoras box, no one is safe a simple picture is all someone needs to cause serious damage.

With the new Sora 2 software AI showing us its chaotic effect, Sora 2 is only available to a certain number of people who have the premium version of Chat GPT and we can already see the deadly impact it imposes. As many of the population have witnessed AI generated videos that are extremely difficult to distinguish between real life or AI made, this can cause a serious issue going fourth as elements such as propaganda, evidence, defamation, TV advertisements and the whole internet is going to become extremely dangerous, resulting in most things becoming hard to trust. It's extremely dangerous to give the public such power as it can bring anyone's imagination to real life through hyper realistic videos that may be intended to cause harm, it also gives power for people to produce videos with ill-intentions.

With the power to make AI generated videos, propaganda and the populations opinion on something will be effected with just such as a simple picture of someone resulting in a big negative impact on their career a big example of this is Jake Paul, as many videos of him surfaced of him doing make-up and behaving in a feminine manner, this is only the beginning, videos have emerged as well of him acting inappropriate manner towards children, while he made a public video telling his viewers "I've had it with the AI stuff. It's affecting my relationships, business. People are hitting me up saying like 'yo, did you say this? What did you do this for? Uh, this was you? I can't believe you did this"

Raiyan Ahmed, 22 yrs

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From the DCI Team



Editor's note

Assalamu alaykum everyone,

My name is **Faria Arif**, and I am **13 years old**. I am the **editor of the DCI Youth Magazine, 3rd edition**. I just want to say **thank you all for your amazing work**. I really enjoyed putting all those **beautiful masterpieces together** and turning them into one large piece of artwork. Each **drawing, poem, essay, painting, and article** shows the **hard work, effort, and creativity** you've put into making this a true work of art.

I also learned so much about **different topics and ideas** along the way. I'm sure you'll have as much fun **reading this magazine** as I had **editing it**.
Enjoy!

Message from the DCI Management

On behalf of Deccan Club Ireland, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to all the amazing young participants — from primary school to university — who took part in the **3rd Edition of the Youth Magazine Competition**. Your creativity, passion, and imagination have truly brought this edition to life. Each story, poem, artwork, and idea reflects the boundless potential and brilliance of our youth community.

A special word of thanks to our **judges**, whose time, insight, and thoughtful evaluations made this event possible.

We would also like to express our sincere appreciation to our **sponsors** for their generous support and encouragement.

Together, we continue to **celebrate young voices and creative minds** — the true heartbeat of our community.

With appreciation and best wishes,

Management Team

Deccan Club Ireland