

Najma: Salaamun Alaykum Sabira. How are you?

Sabira: *“Salaamun Alaykum – Kataba rabbukum ‘alaa nafsibi rrahma”, Alhamdulillah I am blessed - My Lord has made mercy incumbent upon Himself (6:54) and we are all such fortunate recipients of His unending Mercy.*

Najma: Can you believe it? It’s been a whole year since we went to the mosque! It’s really starting to get to me, honestly I don’t know what God has in plan for us

Sabira: *I will never be struck except by what Allah has decreed for me; He is my protector.’ And upon Allah do I rely. (9:51)*

Najma: Yeah pan ANOTHER Maahe Ramadan with no mosque chai, no samosa, no biryani?? and I mean sitting in the mosque and eating with everyone!

Sabira: Come on Najma, it saves us from that social unhealthy eating... *I eat of that which is lawful and good on the earth (2:168)* ...like tell me would you be able to resist someone offering you that delicious looking deep fried, oily cutlets or bateta champ?

Najma: Absolutely not, those were blessings from Allah that I would accept as *maidatan minassama..heavenly food which was an Eid - an ever recurring happiness (5:114)*. But then in all fairness remember we brought our salads to mosque. I guess now we have to make our own chai, speaking of chai, Have you heard of this virtual program running for over a year it’s called chai and chat but you still have to make your own chai! Do you attend those? Oh and the Zainabiya program on Monday is sooo good. And the Quran Tafsir over the weekend - just phenomenal. Just sooo much available MashaAllah. *I like to take lead in all good works - fastabiqul khairaat! And it is bringing us all together globally (2:148)*. So tell me which ones do you attend?

Sabira: Hardly any...*my children are an adornment of the life of this world but I am investing in them to make them my baqiyatus salibaat - my lasting righteous deeds (18:46)*

Najma: But we are also encouraged to be aware of others’ affairs which we sometimes get to find out when we attend these programs... then in addition to *being good and doing good to our near kin, we are also doing good to the orphans, the needy, the near neighbor and the distant neighbor (4:36)*

Sabira: I totally agree with you but I just feel like we a year later we are so zoomed out, there is an information overload and perhaps my take personally, little to no action. I strongly believe *Allah enhances in guidance those who are rightly guided (and again)*

*baqiyyatus salibaat - lasting righteous deeds are better with my Lord in reward and better when I return to Him. (19:76)*

Najma: Hmm true... *Allah gave us a Trust and we human beings undertook it (33:72)* - how are we fulfilling that responsibility?

Sabira: EXACTLY my point, phew at least now you are starting to make sense Najma! We have to have some action plans to fulfill the responsibility given to us through the teachings of the Quran.

Najma: Yes Miss Philosopher now you need to *help me in goodness and piety (5:2)*

Sabira: Ohh there are so many things that you probably already do, maybe just extend it a little so for instance instead of just making your usual donations to charity, you could *encourage others to feed the poor (89:18)* you know by also being a part of these fundraising initiatives.

Another active step to take would be participating in programs like Darul Quran Memorization program.. After all *Allah has made the Quran easy for remembrance and we should pay heed to it (54:17,22,32,40)*

Have you heard of this other initiative of planting...organic ..*Allah has made us grow from the earth with a (progressive) growth (71:17)*. Eating natural foods is healthy not just for our bodies but also for our minds and souls.

Najma: What would I do without you Sabira? Thank you sooo much..those are all amazing ideas which inshaAllah we can try to implement one by one. BUT for now let's attend just ONE MORE program...there is this amazing sounding course on affirmations from Quranic concept that the ALI is offering, it will iA be a means of getting closer to Allah by learning how to respond to His words...we are actually late for it Sabira.

Sabira: Yeah man...let's do it! What is the course code I should quickly register and log in

Najma: ALI 601

Sabira: Eee khobhar where are you running, wait for me

Najma: Sabira is *on my track...a'jiltu ilaa rabbi litardha I am hastening towards my Lord that He may be pleased! 20:84*

**THE END**