

A Collection of
Delightful
Stories for Children
(BASED ON ISLAMIC THOUGHT)



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PREFACE

Ever since the Universe was created man has been interested in telling and listening to tales. Even Allah has narrated stories in His scriptures about various prophets with a view to guiding humanity to the right path. Keeping this view in mind Mr. Arif Kisana has also written some stories for children so that their lives can take the right direction.

In order to make a story with a moral interesting it's important that the plot of the story be so gripping that it attracts the attention of the reader but at the same time the style of narration should be simple and easily understandable. Mr. Kisana has tried to incorporate this in his writing.

Unfortunately, most Islamic scholars these days are not writing enough books for our youth living in the West. If we want our youth to stay in touch with our literary traditions then we'll have to make concerted efforts to establish this connection so that they can be beacons of light for the future generations.

It's gratifying to see Mr. Kisana coming up with a book specifically designed to counsel our youth along Islamic lines. The stories are short and interesting and it is hoped that they will serve the purpose for which they were written.

Muhammad Sharif Baqa
President Majlis e Iqbal, London

FOREWORD

Creating stories for children is a challenging feat because the author must not only keep the perspective of children in mind but also make the stories interesting and informative. It's a challenge because in the modern age books have to compete with internet that offers a far greater range of entertainment and distraction.

One can feel a need for high quality yet fascinating literature for children living in the West so that they are able to comprehend the meaning of their existence in a way that doesn't seem forced. Mr. Kisana, who has been living in Sweden for over 20 years, has sensed this need and has created some very engaging stories with the idea of making the Muslim youth familiar with the Islamic traditions.

I hope Mr. Kisana's creation will be the catalyst in binding our youth with our Islamic heritage.

Tariq Zameer

Ambassador of Pakistan to Sweden & Finland

RELIGIOUS TRAINING AND COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT OF CHILDREN

Our dilemma, while living in Europe, is that our children become disconnected with their Islamic heritage. What they are taught in schools often conflicts with what they are taught at homes and as a result of that there is confusion in their minds about what's right and what's wrong. They have questions to which there are no satisfactory answers. In situations like these sometimes even the parents are unable to fully explain the reasons for a certain belief that they are following.

Not just in Europe but also for parents living in Pakistan it's a cause for concern on how to bring up their children in a way that they can be a positive influence on the society they are living in.

We are fortunate that Mr. Kisana has been perceptive to this need and has written stories for children based on Islamic thought that will answer some, if not most, of the questions arising in their young and impressionable minds.

It's not easy to write ethical stories for children but Mr. Kisana has successfully managed to do so. The stories have been written in simple yet interesting style that is sure to get the reader's attention and to keep them involved.

I hope the children will enjoy reading these stories and if they're too young to read then the parents will read them out for them. I also hope that the morals of these stories will be instrumental in making the readers a better Muslim.

Nasr Malik

Former Editor Urdu Service, Danish National broadcasting Corporation,
Denmark

A sample Story

WHAT IS FAITH?

One day Alisha's father was sitting home and sipping tea when Alisha's mom rushed into the room in panic and said, "Can you please go and fetch Alisha from school as I just got a call from the school saying she has a severe stomach ache."

Alisha's dad immediately got up forgetting his tea and picked up the car keys.

"On the way back can you, please also take her to the doctor?" asked Alisha's mom.

"Of course. Don't worry," assured Alisha's dad.

In school, Alisha's dad found Alisha doubled over in pain and crying. The school nurse was trying to soothe her. He immediately picked her up and took her to the doctor.

The doctor examined Alisha and asked her the usual questions about what she had eaten etc. and prescribed her some medicines.

Alisha asked the doctor if she'll be feeling better by the evening if she took the medicines.

"Of course, you will be fine if you take the medicine according to my instructions.....one now and the other after 4 hours," assured the doctor.

By evening Alisha was indeed feeling much better after just two doses of the medicine taken as per the doctor's instructions.

"Dad, the doctor is really good as I'm feeling much better now ...the medicines he gave me have worked their magic on me. Isn't it wonderful that we have doctors and there are medicines that take can make the pain go away. Can I go to school tomorrow?"

Alisha's dad said that she could if the pain didn't come back again.

“Dad, if I hadn't taken the medicine that the doctor asked me to, and in the way that he told me to, would I still be in pain?”

“Yes, whenever somebody is in pain or has an illness he/she must go to a doctor and then follow the doctor's instructions and take any medicines that are necessary. This is also a rule, we believe that doing certain things in a certain way will stop the pain or cure the illness. People have discovered these things by the knowledge Allah has given to them and we have faith in this knowledge,” explained Alisha's dad.

“Faith? What's that?” asked Alisha.

“There you go again! You ask too many questions,” ... teased Alisha's father. “But I appreciate that because asking questions is a sign of intelligence and one can learn a lot of things by being curious about them.”

“Let me illustrate what Faith is by giving you an example. Imagine someone who hasn't had anything to eat in days...he's extremely hungry and weak andsuddenly someone offers him his favourite dish...what will he do?”

“He'll devour it!” said Alisha.

“But before he has even taken a bite of it, the cook comes rushing in and tells him that he had accidentally put poison in the dish instead of salt. Would he still eat it?” asked Alisha's dad.

“No, he will not because if he does he'll die,” said Alisha.

“Exactly! No person, no matter how hungry he is, will never eat food that has been poisoned because he believes that if he does he'll surely die. Similarly it's our 'belief' that if we break the laws of nature or the rules made by Allah we'll be in loss. This belief in the laws of Allah is called Faith and whosoever believes in them and acts according to them is called a Momin. A Momin never harms himself or others because he follows the rules made by Allah.”

“So it’s important to have Faith?” asked Alisha.

“Absolutely! Believing in Allah’s laws and following them means not harming ourselves or others. People, whether Muslims or not, should feel safe and secure in the company of a Momin. A Momin or a follower of Allah’s laws is a source of blessing and happiness for others. Believing in Allah’s laws is the basis of Faith. Just as we have faith that medicines will relieve us of our pain, we should have faith that following Allah’s laws will bring us safety and happiness. It is so important that Allah calls Himself Al Momin...granter of security.”

“That means we should believe in the laws of Allah and follow them so that we don’t harm ourselves and others?” asked Alisha.

“Exactly! It means that you’ve understood what Faith is. I know you’re an intelligent girl. Now I can see you’re feeling drowsy...it must be the medicines. I can tell you more about Faith some other day but right now you need some rest and sleep if you don’t want to miss school tomorrow.”

“Thank you dad for picking me up from school today and taking me to the doctor.” said Alisha yawning.

Alisha’s dad gave her a kiss and tucked her in bed and Alisha slowly drifted off to a deep and peaceful sleep.

This Book is available at Amazon

To get this book at your home, Order now by visiting this link

<https://goo.gl/0sNvKW>

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Arif Mahmud Kisana has very effectively addressed the questions arising in young minds about Islam in this book. The stories are short and interesting enough for both the young and the old. He is living in Sweden for a long time. He is a writer, journalist, columnist and blogger. He has been writing on social issues for a long time and now he has compiled all his writings and published them in the form of a book. This book is a novel approach by which the children can get the knowledge of Islamic history and religious education. It is hoped that that whoever reads these books will not only benefit from the information given in them but also enjoy the process of reading them.


KISANA BOOKS, SWEDEN