

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

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نِ الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ... نَحْمَدُهُ وَنَسْتَعِينُهُ وَنَسْتَغْفِرُهُ وَ
نَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنْ شُرُورِ أَنْفُسِنَا وَ مِنْ سَيِّئَاتِ
أَعْمَالِنَا. مَنْ يَهْدِهِ اللَّهُ فَلَا مُضِلَّ لَهُ، وَ مَنْ يُضِلِّ
فَلَا هَادِيَ لَهُ. وَ أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ، وَحْدَهُ لَا
شَرِيكَ لَهُ. وَ أَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَ رَسُولُهُ.
رَبِّ اشْرَحْ لِي صَدْرِي وَيَسِّرْ لِي أَمْرِي وَ اخْلُ
عُقْدَةً مِنْ لِسَانِي يَفْقَهُوا قَوْلِي



Strengthening Self-
Identity for Leadership
& Civic Engagement

by Building Communication
Confidence through Islamic
Education

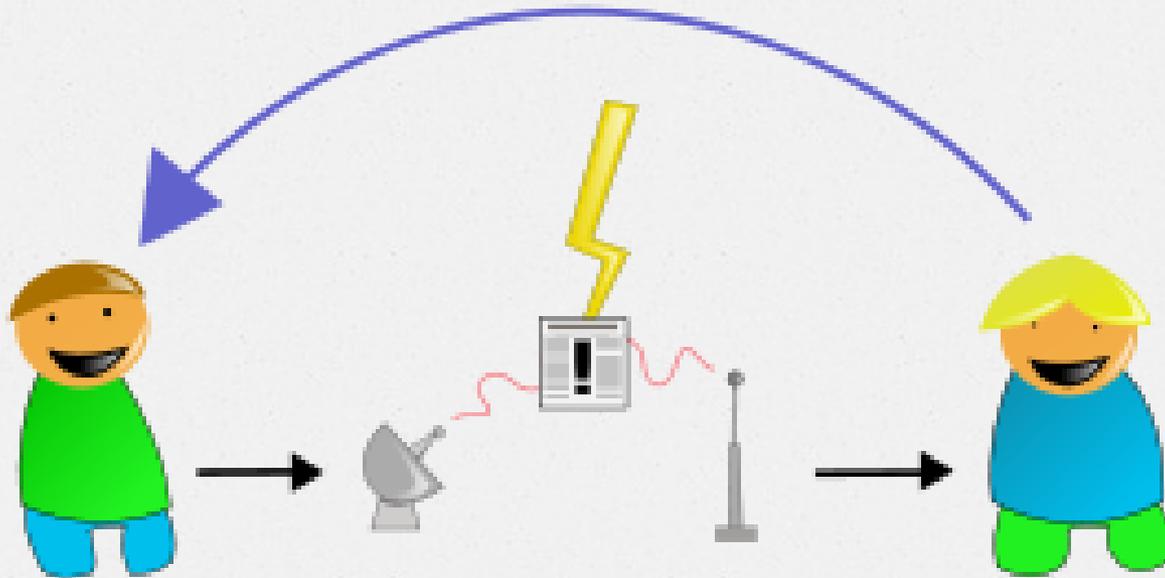
Spiritual Leadership & Understanding the “I” in Identity

- Seek Knowledge: 96:1 {Al-'Alaq}
 - Iqra/ bi-ismi rabbika allathee khalaq
- Seek Spiritual Connection: 73:1-2 {Al-Muzzamil}
 - O you who wraps himself [in clothing],
 - Arise [to pray] the night, except for a little
- Actively Give Dawah: 74:1-2 {Al-Muddathir}
 - O you who covers himself {with a garment},
 - Arise and warn

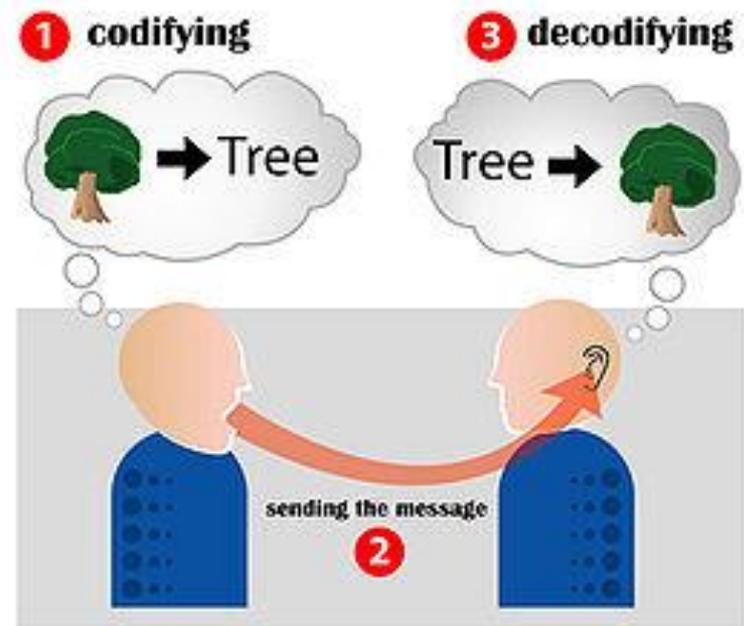
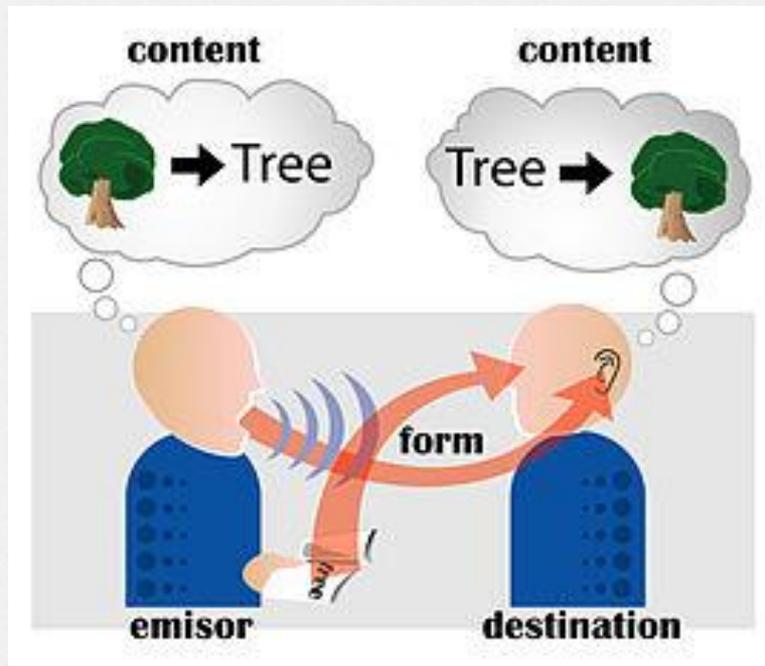


Avoiding narcissism, ego, arrogance & the nafs

Communication: Common Strategy or Common Sense?



Communication is Complicated



S

Communication
Skills

Attitude

Knowledge

Social System

Culture

M

Content

Elements

Treatment

Structure

Codes

C

Hearing

Seeing

Touching

Tasting

Feeling

R

Communication
Skills

Attitude

Knowledge

Social System

Culture

The Curse of Othering

Nacirema

<https://msu.edu/~jdowell/miner.html>

Ethnocentrism

Wodobe Tribe

Brown Eyed/Blue Eyed Experiment

Speaking the Same Tongue



Surat Ar-Rum

وَمِنْ آيَاتِهِ أَنْ خَلَقَ لَكُمْ مِنْ أَنْفُسِكُمْ أَزْوَاجًا لِتَسْكُنُوا إِلَيْهَا

وَجَعَلَ بَيْنَكُمْ مَوَدَّةً وَرَحْمَةً إِنَّ فِي ذَلِكَ لَآيَاتٍ لِقَوْمٍ

يَتَفَكَّرُونَ ﴿٢١﴾

وَمِنْ آيَاتِهِ خَلْقُ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ وَأَخْتِلَافُ أَسْمَائِكُمْ

وَالْوَنَائِكُمْ إِنَّ فِي ذَلِكَ لَآيَاتٍ لِّلْعَالَمِينَ ﴿٢٢﴾

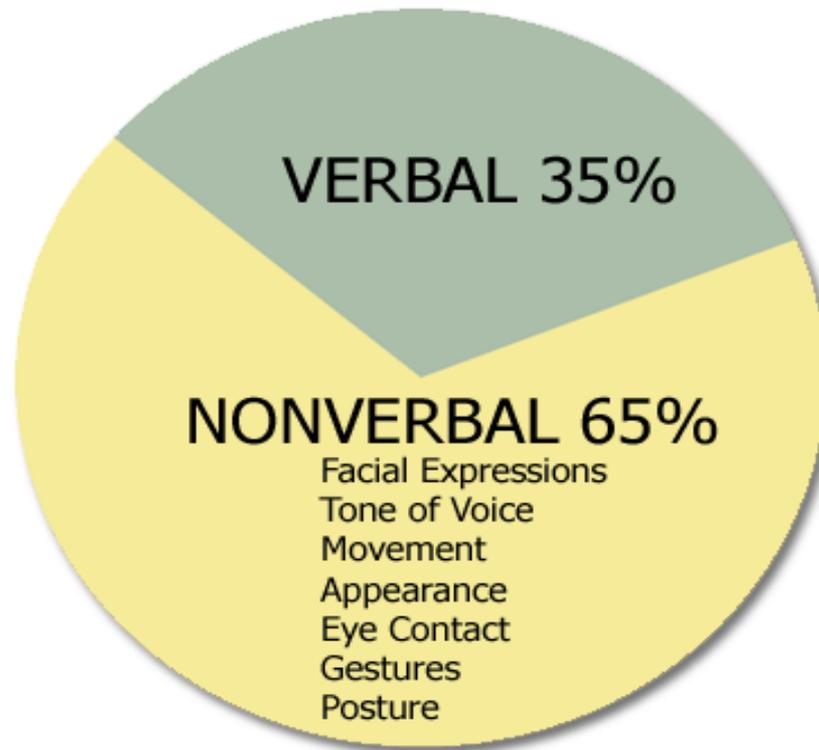
Changing Our World View

- o And of His signs is that He created for you from yourselves mates that you may find tranquility in them; and He placed between you affection and mercy. Indeed in that are signs for a people who give thought.
- o And of His signs is the creation of the heavens and the earth and the diversity of your tongues and your colors. Indeed in that are signs for those of knowledge. (30:21-22)



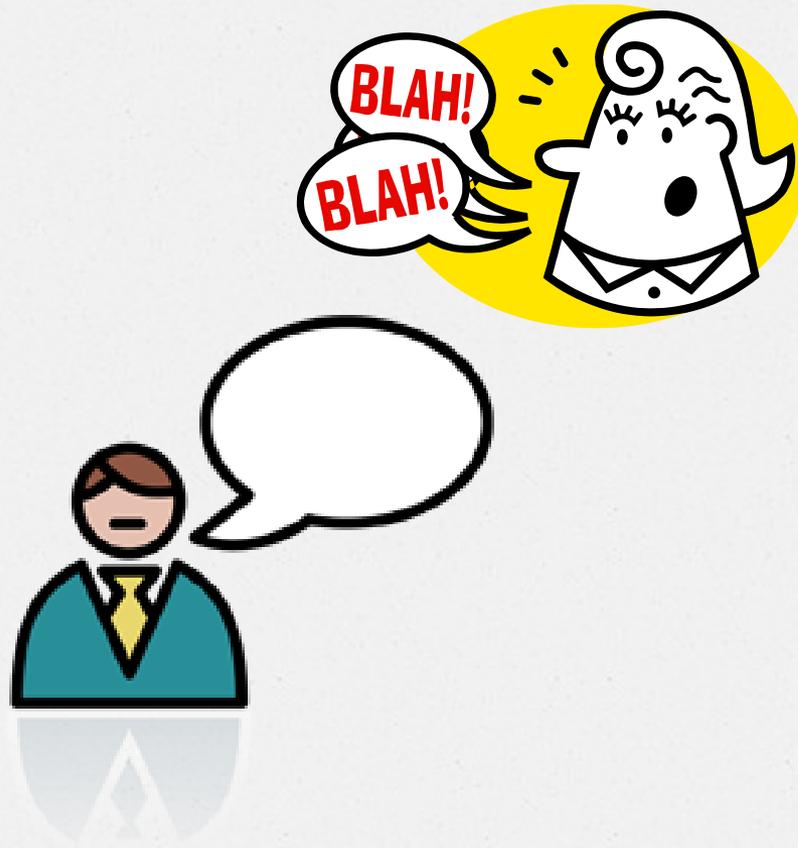
Perception

Verbal and Nonverbal Messages



Vocal Variety

- o Tone
- o Pitch
- o Volume
- o Rate
- o Inflection
- o Enunciation
- o Articulation
- o Pronunciation



Body Language & Movement

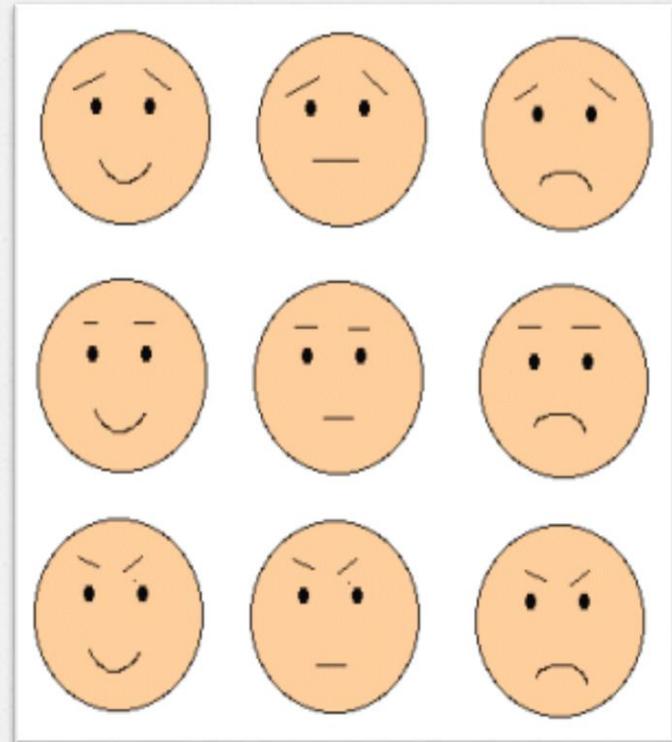
- o Proxemics
 - o Power distance
- o Kinesics
 - o Walk the Walk
- o Haptics
 - o Power of Touch
- o Posture
 - o Wishbone or Backbone





Facial Expressions

- o Eye Contact
- o Muscle Movement
- o Paralanguage
- o Cognitive Restructuring





Credibility

- o Initial
- o Derived
- o Terminal
- o Avoiding Logical Fallacies
 - o Red Herring
 - o Slippery Slope
 - o Bandwagon
 - o Either/Or

True



False



Unrealistic Expectations of Roles



Respecting the Gender Divide

- o Modesty in Action and Activism
- o Empathic versus Action-Oriented
- o Emotion versus Analysis
- o Finding the Balance
- o Personality Differences
- o Issues of Sexual Identity



Surat Al-Ahzab [33:35]

إِنَّ الْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ
وَالْقَانِتِينَ وَالْقَانِتَاتِ وَالصَّادِقِينَ وَالصَّادِقَاتِ وَالصَّابِرِينَ
وَالصَّابِرَاتِ وَالْخَاشِعِينَ وَالْخَاشِعَاتِ وَالْمُتَصَدِّقِينَ
وَالْمُتَصَدِّقَاتِ وَالصَّالِحِينَ وَالصَّالِحَاتِ وَالْحَافِظِينَ
فُرُوجَهُمْ وَالْحَافِظَاتِ وَالذَّاكِرِينَ اللَّهَ كَثِيرًا
وَالذَّاكِرَاتِ أَعَدَّ اللَّهُ لَهُمْ مَغْفِرَةً وَأَجْرًا عَظِيمًا ﴿٣٥﴾

o “INDEED, THE MUSLIM MEN AND MUSLIM WOMEN, THE BELIEVING MEN AND BELIEVING WOMEN, THE OBEDIENT MEN AND OBEDIENT WOMEN, THE TRUTHFUL MEN AND TRUTHFUL WOMEN, THE PATIENT MEN AND PATIENT WOMEN, THE HUMBLE MEN AND HUMBLE WOMEN, THE CHARITABLE MEN AND CHARITABLE WOMEN, THE FASTING MEN AND FASTING WOMEN, THE MEN WHO GUARD THEIR CHASTITY AND THE WOMEN WHO DO SO, AND THE MEN WHO REMEMBER ALLAH OFTEN AND THE WOMEN WHO DO SO - FOR THEM ALLAH HAS PREPARED FORGIVENESS AND A GREAT REWARD.”
[33:35]

قُلْ لِلْمُؤْمِنِينَ يَغُضُّوا مِنْ أَبْصَارِهِمْ وَيَحْفَظُوا فُرُوجَهُمْ ذَٰلِكَ

أَزْكَىٰ لَهُمْ إِنَّ اللَّهَ خَيْرٌ بِمَا يَصْنَعُونَ ﴿٣٠﴾

وَقُلْ لِلْمُؤْمِنَاتِ يَغْضُضْنَ مِنْ أَبْصَارِهِنَّ وَيَحْفَظْنَ فُرُوجَهُنَّ وَلَا

يُبْدِينَ زِينَتَهُنَّ إِلَّا مَا ظَهَرَ مِنْهَا وَلْيَضْرِبْنَ بِخُمُرِهِنَّ عَلَىٰ

جُجُوبِهِنَّ وَلَا يُبْدِينَ زِينَتَهُنَّ إِلَّا لِبُعُولَتِهِنَّ أَوْ آبَائِهِنَّ

أَوْ آبَاءَ بُعُولَتِهِنَّ أَوْ أَبْنَاءَهُنَّ أَوْ أَبْنَاءَ بُعُولَتِهِنَّ أَوْ

إِخْوَانِهِنَّ أَوْ بَنِي إِخْوَانِهِنَّ أَوْ بَنَاتِهِنَّ أَوْ نِسَائِهِنَّ أَوْ مَا

مَلَكَتْ أَيْمَانُهُنَّ أَوِ التَّابِعِينَ غَيْرِ أُولِي الْإِرْبَةِ مِنَ الرِّجَالِ أَوْ

الطِّفْلِ الَّذِينَ لَمْ يَظْهَرُوا عَلَىٰ عَوْرَاتِ النِّسَاءِ وَلَا يَضْرِبْنَ

بِأَرْجُلِهِنَّ لِيُعْلَمَ مَا يُخْفِينَ مِنْ زِينَتِهِنَّ وَتُوبُوا إِلَى اللَّهِ جَمِيعًا

أَيُّهُ الْمُؤْمِنُونَ لَعَلَّكُمْ تُفْلِحُونَ ﴿٣١﴾

Commandments of Modesty

- Tell the believing men to reduce [some] of their vision and guard their private parts. That is purer for them. Indeed, Allah is Acquainted with what they do. [24:30]
- And tell the believing women to reduce [some] of their vision and guard their private parts and not expose their adornment except that which [necessarily] appears thereof and to wrap [a portion of] their headcovers over their chests and not expose their adornment except to their husbands, their fathers, their husbands' fathers, their sons, their husbands' sons, their brothers, their brothers' sons, their sisters' sons, their women, that which their right hands possess, or those male attendants having no physical desire, or children who are not yet aware of the private aspects of women. And let them not stamp their feet to make known what they conceal of their adornment. And turn to Allah in repentance, all of you, O believers, that you might succeed. [24:31]

The Pearl, the Flower, the Candy



Internal or External Definition

FIRST GLANCE :

LOOKS WELL-MAINTAINED ?

CLEAN ?

EVENLY -
MATCHED
SEAMS

NO
RUST



DEFINE YOURSELF

If we stoop to the level of accepting the definitions that are handed to us or any other negative definitions that we have internalized, then like an unmoored ship, we are bound to float aimlessly without anchoring our actions to a greater ideal. Whether it is the expectations of society, family, or self, we all have a lot on our plates. But this is where we need to revive our sense of *ummah*. And we can start here and now, within the very ranks of our own broken brotherhood & sisterhood.

**If You Don't Define Yourself, Others
Will Do It for You!!!!**

Personality Tests

- o Know yourself before trying to know anyone else
- o Meyer's Briggs & Carl Jung-
www.humanmetrics.com/cgi-win/JTypes2.asp



Extraverted

Introverted

Sensing

Thinking

Judging

Feeling

Intuitive

Perceiving

ISTJ

Doing what
should be done

ISFJ

A high sense of
duty

INFJ

An inspiration to
others

INTJ

Everything has
room for
improvement

ISTP

Ready to try
anything once

ISFP

Sees much but
shares little

INFP

Performing
noble service to
aid society

INTP

A love of
problem solving

ESTP

The ultimate
realists

ESFP

You only go
around once in
life

ENFP

Giving life an
extra squeeze

ENTP

One exciting
challenge after
another

ESTJ

Life's
administrators

ESFJ

Hosts and
hostesses of the
world

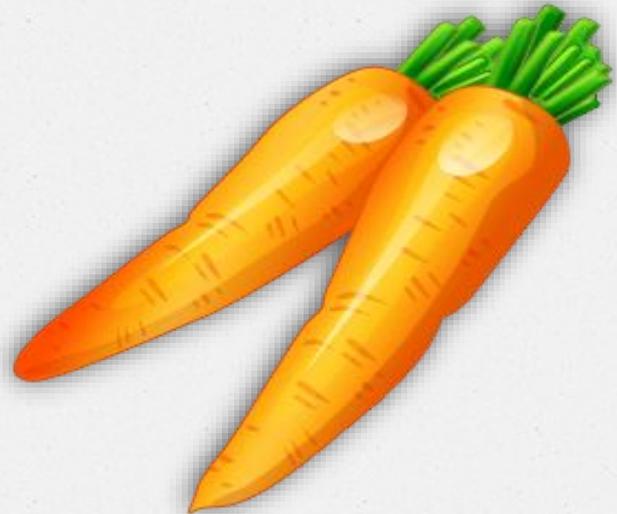
ENFJ

Smooth talking
persuaders

ENTJ

Life's natural
leaders

Which One Are You?



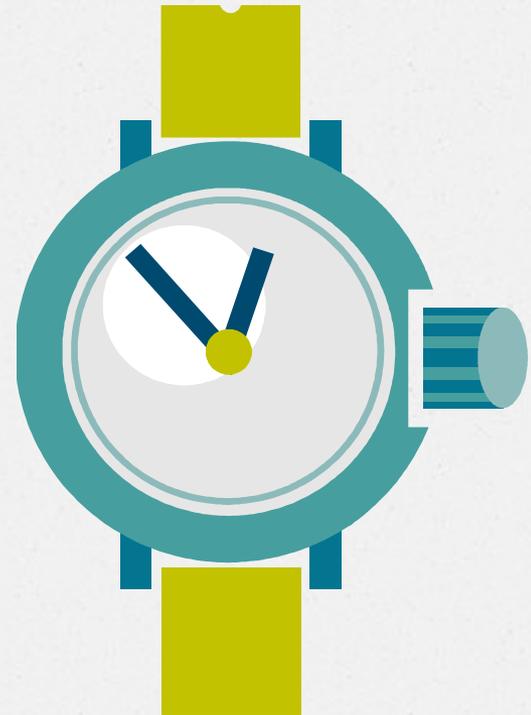
How Can Our Youth Find Time for Civic Engagement?

- o The Prophet Ibrahim prayed “O my Lord, make this city one of peace and security and preserve me and my children from idol worship.” (14:35)
- o We need to eliminate “idle” worship.



The Big Time Wasters

- o Procrastination
- o Social Media/Technology
- o Excessive Talk
- o Life Clutter



Choosing Friends Wisely

The Prophet (SAW) said "Man is influenced by the faith of his friends. Therefore, be careful of whom you associate with."

Once the Prophet Mohammad (pbuh) was asked, "What person can be the best friend?" "He who helps you remember Allah (SWT), and reminds you when you forget Him."



Three Jars and a Cylinder



سورة البقرة - Surat Al-Baqarah

لَا يُكَلِّفُ اللَّهُ نَفْسًا إِلَّا وُسْعَهَا لَهَا مَا كَسَبَتْ وَعَلَيْهَا مَا
اَكْتَسَبَتْ رَبَّنَا لَا تُؤَاخِذْنَا إِنْ نَسِينَا أَوْ أَخْطَأْنَا رَبَّنَا وَلَا تَحْمِلْ
عَلَيْنَا إِصْرًا كَمَا حَمَلْتَهُ عَلَى الَّذِينَ مِنْ قَبْلِنَا رَبَّنَا وَلَا تُحَمِّلْنَا
مَا لَا طَاقَةَ لَنَا بِهِ ۗ وَاعْفُ عَنَّا وَارْحَمْنَا أَنْتَ مَوْلَانَا



فَأَنْصُرْنَا عَلَى الْقَوْمِ الْكَافِرِينَ

Balancing Identity, Leadership, Life, & Learning

“On no soul doth Allah place a burden greater than it can bear. It gets every good that it earns, and it suffers every ill that it earns.

(Pray “Our Lord! Condemn us not if we forget or fall into error; our Lord! Lay not on us a burden like that which Thou didst lay on those before us; Our Lord! Lay not on us a burden greater than we have strength to bear....”

(2:286)



Additional Sources

- o <http://almadinainstitute.org/blog/a-different-kind-of-fear-growing-up-muslim-in-the-age-of-trump/>
- o <http://messageinternational.org/protecting-our-muslim-youth-in-a-gender-fluid-and-hyper-sexual-society/>
- o Articles & Slides by Suzy Ismail
- o www.suzyismail.webs.com
- o www.cornercounseling.com
- o Suzy.Ismail@gmail.com

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

وَعَلَى آلِ مُحَمَّدٍ كَمَا صَلَّيْتَ

عَلَى إِبْرَاهِيمَ وَعَلَى آلِ إِبْرَاهِيمَ

إِنَّكَ حَمِيدٌ مُجِيدٌ

اللَّهُمَّ بَارِكْ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى

آلِ مُحَمَّدٍ كَمَا بَارَكْتَ عَلَى

إِبْرَاهِيمَ وَعَلَى آلِ إِبْرَاهِيمَ

إِنَّكَ حَمِيدٌ مُجِيدٌ