Qaswa visits Al Qalam 068





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Qaswa's journey through Qur'an City is a series of books about a camel called Qaswa and his best friend Safiya who wants to learn about the Qur'an. Depicting the Qur'an as a city, Qaswa explores each building (Sura) with the help of Hizqeel and Habeeb who are the Qur'an City guides.

A little bit about Qur'an City...

With 114 buildings, Qur'an City is divided into 19 suburbs which circle Muhammad City Centre and has a road network called M14* that links all the suburbs with each other. The heights of the buildings represent the number of ayaat of the suwer and can be distinguished as a Makki or Madani through their roof tops Yellow for Makki and Green for Madani. There are 86 Makki building and 28 Madani buildings.

*Representing the 14 Ma'sumeen who are the necessary guidance to navigate Qur'an City.

JOIN QASWA AND SAFIYA IN THEIR QUEST TO DISCOVER THE AWESOMENESS OF THE QUR'AN THROUGH QUR'AN CITY.





Qaswa had just come back from Workshop and was excited to tell everyone at home about the story of Prophet Yunus (pbuh) who was swallowed by a whale.

Safiya's grandma was excited about the twins who were just born and guess what – One of them was called Yunus.

After lunch, everyone sat down in a circle around Qaswa. Safiya, Salima, Salman, Ishaaq, Ilyaas, Maryam, Janna, Safina and Yunus.





Qaswa began: The people of Ninevah just would not listen. Allah had sent Prophet Yunus (pbuh) to them to tell them to believe in Him and to be good Muslims. Prophet Yunus (pbuh) tried very hard, but the people would laugh at him and just not listen.





Prophet Yunus (pbuh) got so fed up that he decided to leave the town of Ninevah. He went to the seashore and when he saw a boat leaving, he boarded it and sailed away. Soon the sea became rough, and the waves rose high as a storm hit them. The wind was blowing hard, and the boat was being tossed from side to side.





The people on the boat decided to throw one man out to make the boat lighter. They drew lots and the name of Prophet Yunus (pbuh) came. He was thrown into the sea.

Allah sent a big fish which swallowed Prophet Yunus (pbuh) He found himself in the darkness of the tummy of the big fish. Prophet Yunus (pbuh) realised his mistake of leaving the people of Ninevah.





He prayed to Allah asking for forgiveness. He said:

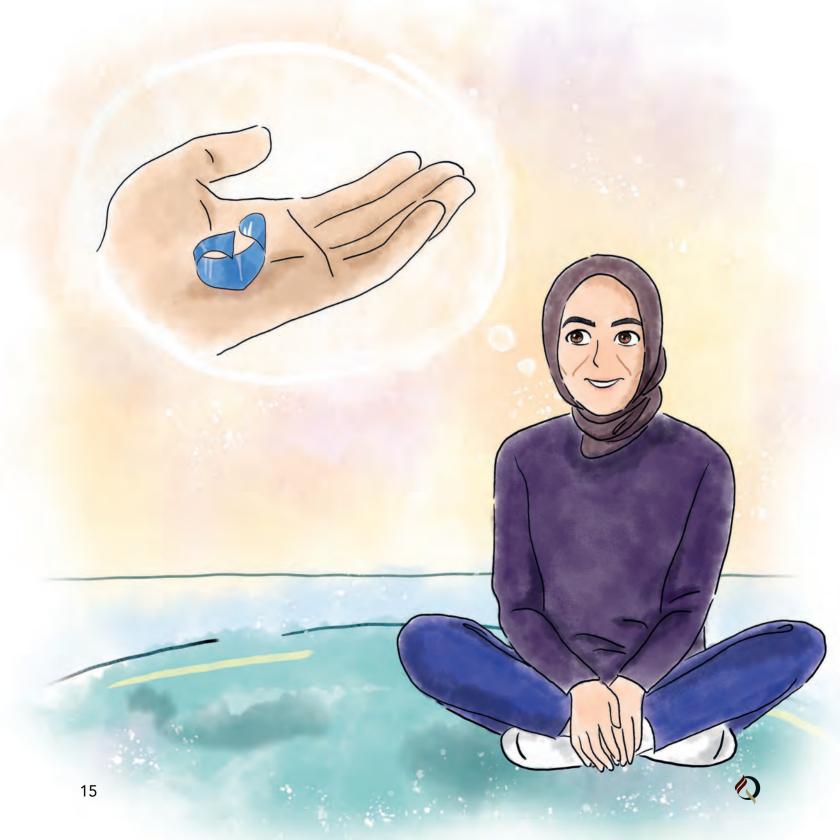
.... There is no god except You; Glory be to You; Indeed, I have done wrong. Suratul Ambiya 21:87





Allah accepted his dua and told the big fish to drop Prophet Yunus (pbuh) on the seashore. Prophet Yunus (pbuh) was feeling very sick. Allah made special plants to grow around him and give him shade until he was better.

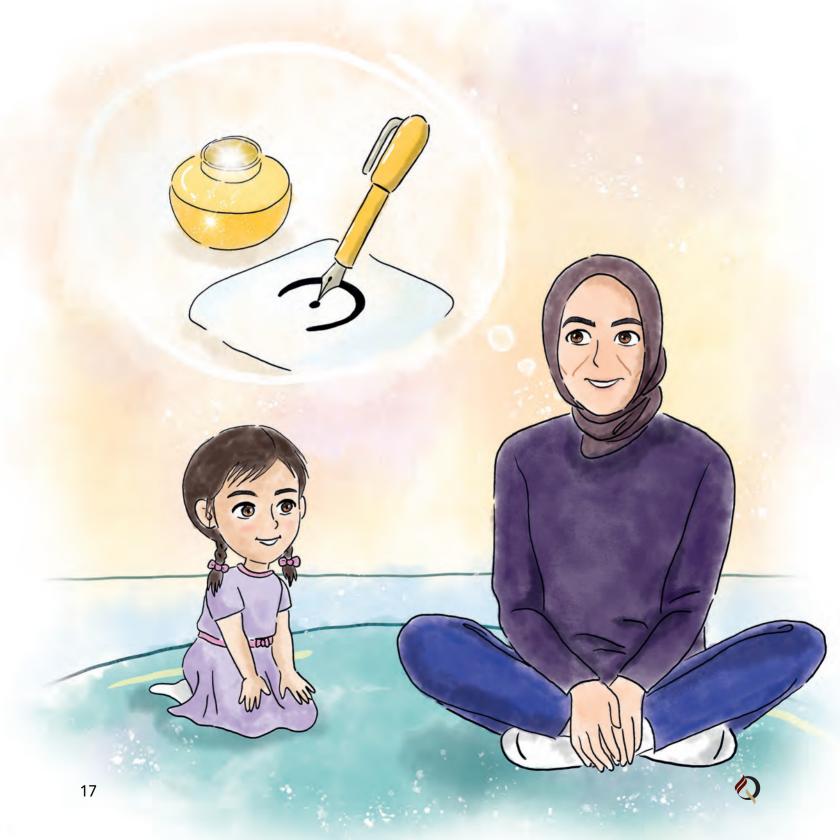




When he was better, he went back to the people of Ninevah and started telling them about Allah. Finally, they believed in Allah.

Safiya's grandma told them that a fish was called Nun because it curls up like the letter Nun and thus Prophet Yunus (pbuh) was called Dhun Nun.





"I know which sura begins with Nun!" said Salima "Its Suratul Qalam – the sura of the Pen – Sura 68"

Safiya's grandma explained that the Nun in Suratul Qalam could also be the pot of energy and light from Allah which everyone was given to become whatever they wanted to be.







Qaswa walked home and all he could think about was the letter, Nun. He even saw a nun made by the clouds in the sky. He kept on thinking about the pot of energy and light from Allah that he could write with about all the things he wanted to be.

Most of all he wanted to be the kindest and most helpful camel in the world.





When he went to sleep that night all he thought about was Nun. He started reciting Ayatul Kursi and the 4 Quls and suddenly he found himself at the door of Qur'an City.





He knocked on the big brown doors which had IQRA' carved on them. A young man opened the door and said "Assalamu 'alaykum Qaswa" "My name is Habeeb" "Welcome to Qur'an City"





Qaswa did wudhoo at the special camel bathroom and said Bismillahirrahmaanirraheem before he entered.





Habeeb showed him the city map and said, "Which building would you like to visit?"
"Nun please!" said Qaswa.
"You mean Suratul Qalam – 68 Singles Place in Huruful Muqatta'aat area"
'Yes! That's the one"



Hurutul Muqatta'aat Area Victory Circle M14 Nidaa Street Beginning with a direct address to the Prophet M'IL Square Beginning with Musabbihaat Crescent entre Tawaseen Place Beginning with Taa Seen verything He is the Ra'aat Place Beginning with Alif Laam Rac Qul Corner 5 Chapters beginning Chapters beginning with declaration of His perfection with the order of "SAY"

M14

"Follow me" Habeeb said
They entered Huruful Muqatta'aat area and Habeeb
explained that there were 29 buildings here. All of
them started with special secret letters of the Arabic
Alphabet. They came to Singles place and Qaswa could



see 3 buildings.



He read the signs on the buildings – Saad, Qaaf & Nun. "I know these letters" he told Habeeb Habeeb smiled. "Do you know the sura numbers?" "No" said Qaswa looking down. "It's all right" said Habeeb. The numbers are written on the buildings: Saad (38) Qaaf (50) and Nun (68)





Qaswa walked with Habeeb to building No 68. He needed sunglasses – there was so much light coming from the nun on the building. He remembered what Safiya's grandma had told him about Allah's energy and light.

Habeeb gave him some sunglasses to wear and said "I hope you're good at climbing stairs, Qaswa" "The Qalam building has 6 floors"

Qaswa walked 10,000 steps every day – he showed his smart watch to Habeeb





First Floor

They walked through the front door which had the lighted nun on it and it was awesome. A big neon sign said:

"Wa innaka la'alaa khuluqin azheem" 68:4 AND YOU (O PROPHET) HAVE THE BEST MANNERS





There were pens writing TTC magically on all the walls. "What does TTC stand for?" Qaswa asked Habeeb said "Truthful, Trustworthy and Compassionate" "Compassionate?" asked Qaswa "That means incredibly kind' said Habeeb "This floor is all about the Prophet who had the perfect manners and was the kindest of human beings" Everywhere Qaswa looked, the pens were writing stories about the Prophet's kindness. Qaswa wanted to be like him.





Second Floor

"Time to go to the second floor" said Habeeb
The second floor looked dark and dingy.
When they entered the dark black door, it was like something from Halloween.

The walls had pictures of people who looked normal, but Qaswa could see their black hearts.

Each of the hearts had something written on them:

- I swear all the time
- I make people feel small
- I do lots of bad things and I don't care
- I am mean
- I hurt people
- I have lots of money so I can do whatever I want
- I am proud
- I am the best and everyone else is rubbish
- All these stories in the Qur'an are just old stories



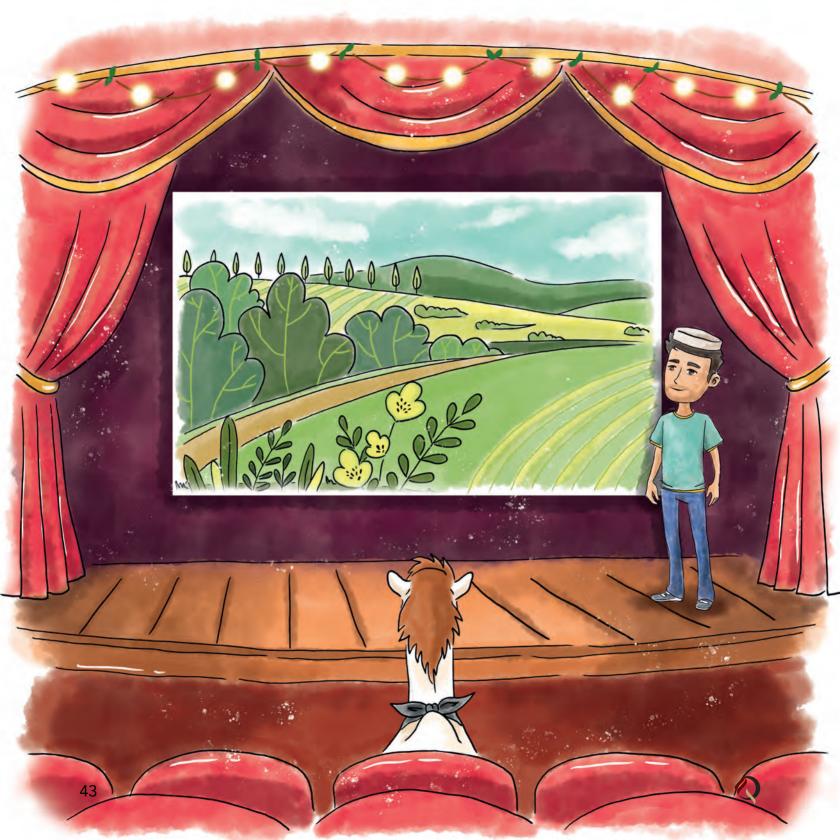


Qaswa was shaking with fright.

Habeeb quickly brought him out "These were the people who wanted to make the Prophet look bad but no one can take your manners from you"

Qaswa took a deep breath and thought "I never want to be like these hearts"





Third Floor

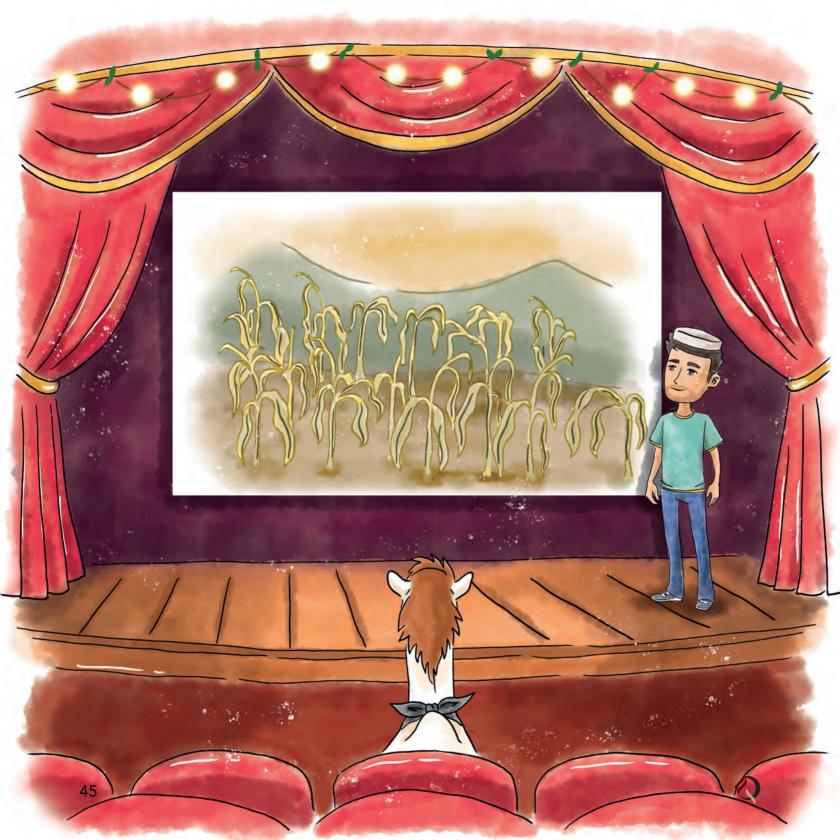
Habeeb took him to the third floor which looked like a movie theatre with a stage and comfortable seats. "This is the first story Allah tells in the Qur'an" Habeeb told him. "Tell me at the end what lessons you learn from it" Habeeb went on the stage and started telling the story.

Images of a farm came up on the screen.

There was a very good man who owned a large farm. At harvest time he would share the fruit and grain with all the poor people in the town.

When he died, his children took over the farm but did not want to share the fruit like their father did.

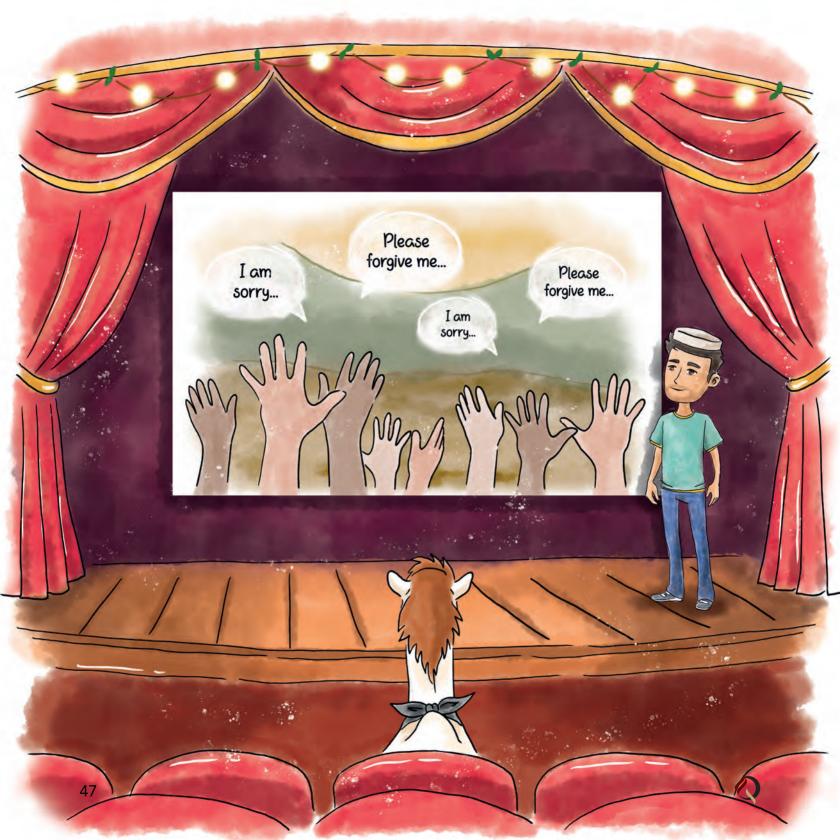




At harvest time, they woke up early and, in the dark, went to the farm wanting to collect all the fruit before everyone woke up.

As soon as they got to their farm, they didn't recognise it as it was destroyed. There was nothing.





They started arguing among themselves blaming each other.

Soon they realised that Allah was teaching them a lesson of not being greedy and selfish. They said they were really sorry and asked for forgiveness

Qaswa said "The lesson I learnt is always to share and not be selfish and greedy"

"You are an awesome camel" said Habeeb It was time to go to the fourth floor. Qaswa was tired but Habeeb said it was the best floor.





Fourth Floor

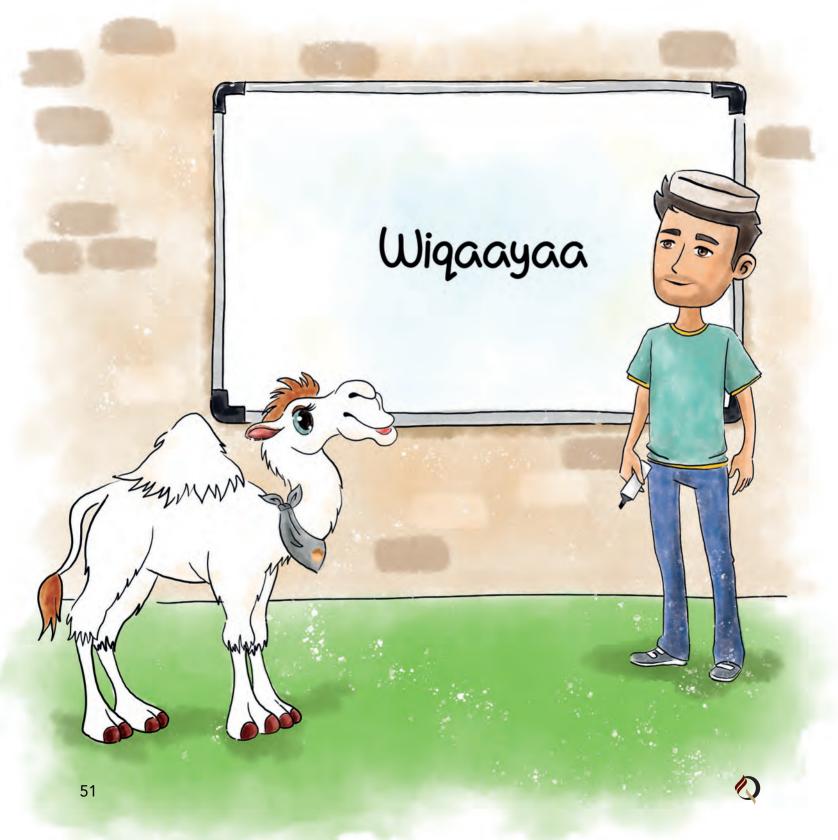
The door had a big number 34 on it
That's Aya 34 of Suratul Qalam
Sure enough as the door opened Qaswa saw the most
beautiful courtyard he had ever seen. A beautiful river
was in the middle and there were streams, beautiful
flowers, grape vines, pomegranates, and lots of
comfortable settees with green cushions.

"This is Janna" he said

"It actually is" said Habeeb "and it's for those who have taqwa

"But what is taqwa?" Qaswa thought to himself.



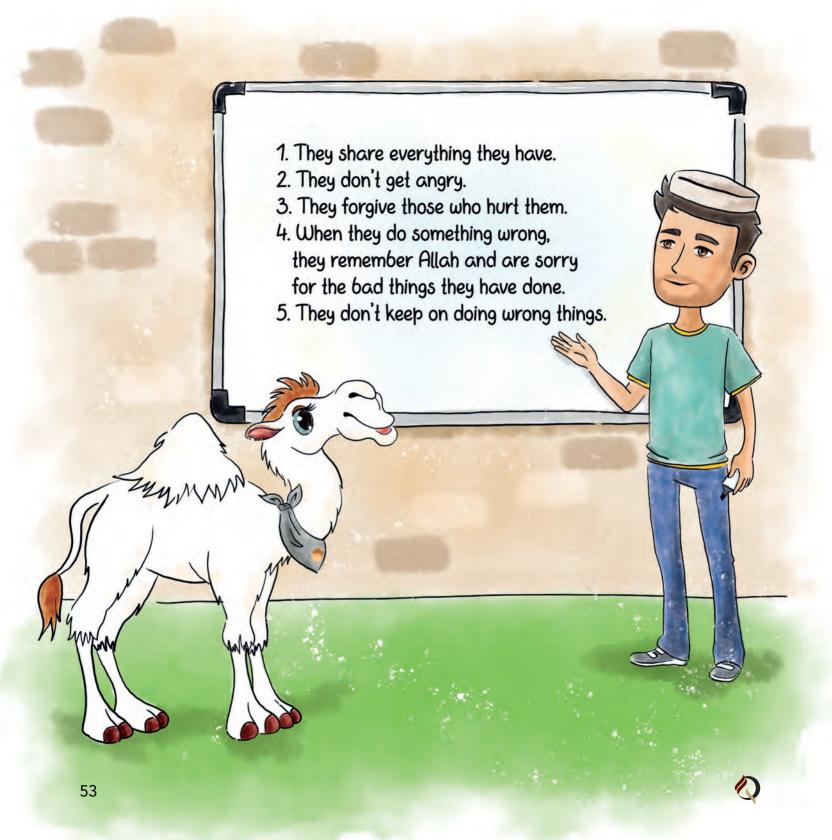


It was as though Habeeb had heard his thoughts and said, "Qaswa, let's talk about taqwa!" Qaswa turned round to look at Habeeb, and a large white board appeared on the wall.

"Taqwa comes from the word WIQAAYAA". Habeeb said, writing the letters, and on the board.

"It means to protect. When you lock the outside door in your home, you are protecting yourself. Taqwa means protecting ourselves from the things that will hurt us."

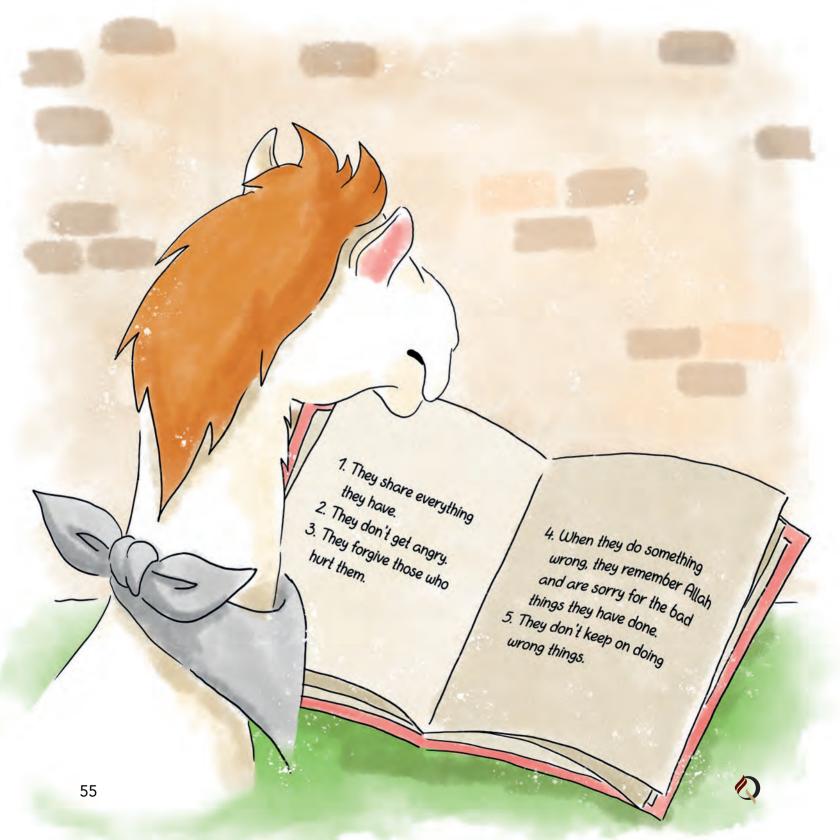




On the board he wrote some of the things people with taqwa do:

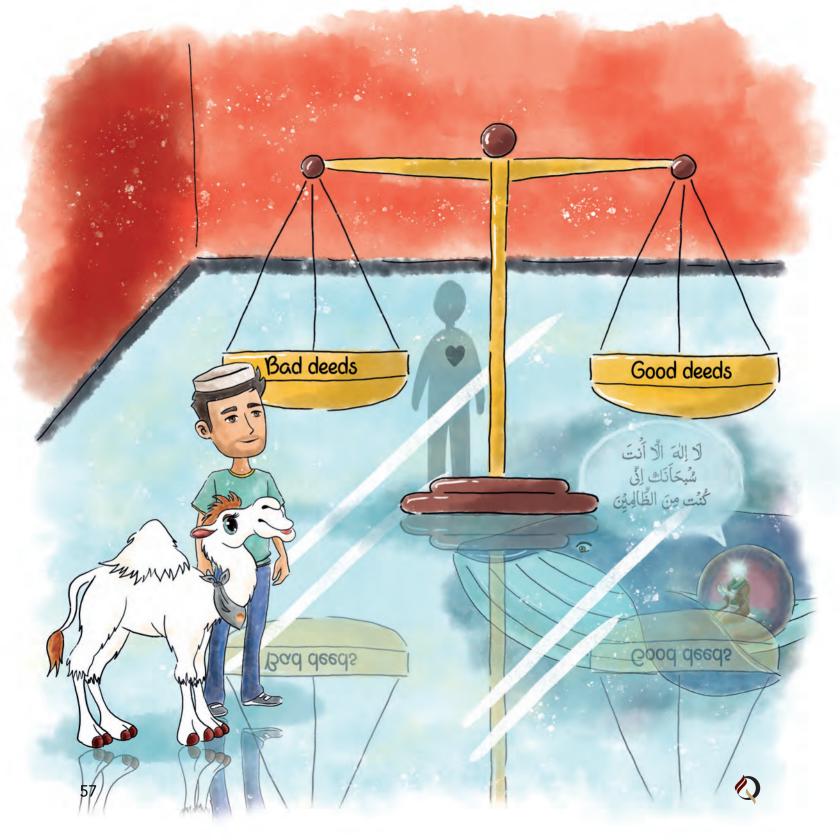
- 1. They share everything they have.
- 2. They don't get angry.
- 3. They forgive those who hurt them.
- 4. When they do something wrong, they remember allah and are sorry for the bad things they have done.
- 5. They don't keep on doing wrong things.





Qaswa wrote all this down in his notebook. He decided that his new goal was to be a MUTTAQI (someone who has Taqwa).





Fifth Floor

other bad deeds

The next floor was made of glass and there were some large scales in the middle of the room

On one side of the scales, it said good deeds and on the

"That's what the day of judgement will be like" said Habeeb

"Like glass you will be able to see through everything anyone does" "All their good and bad deeds"

Qaswa heard a noise from the other side and he saw a large whale who was curled up like a nun. He remembered the story of Prophet Yunus (pbuh) that he had learned in Workshop.





Sixth Floor

Qaswa was exhausted but he had to go to the 6th floor which was the flat roof of the building. He saw a massive, beautiful Qur'an.

As he looked at it, it was just like the first floor. Pens were magically writing the awesomeness of the Prophet and the Qur'an.





Suddenly Qaswa heard the Adhaan from the clock, signalling it was time for Fajr.

He prayed his salaa and thought about No 68 Quran City, praying in his qunoot to become a Muttaqee and never to be greedy or selfish.







