

# A Day with Friday



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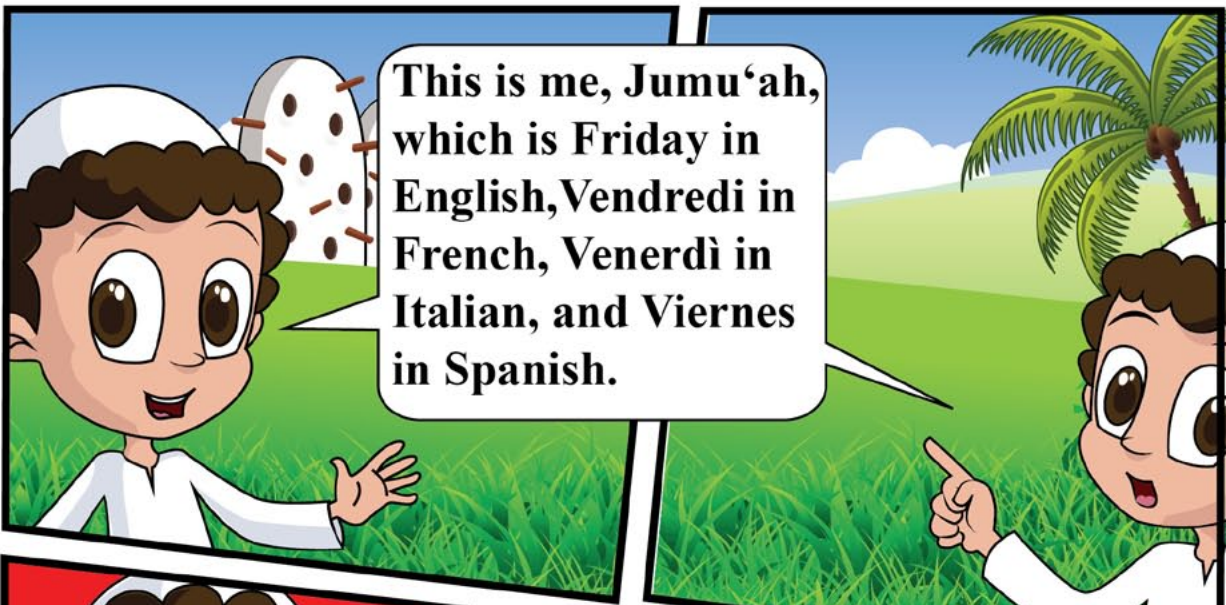
**Edited by : Emily Richardson**

**The drawing are of  
the Egyptian countryside.**


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**AHLAN**  
TIME TO EXPLORE





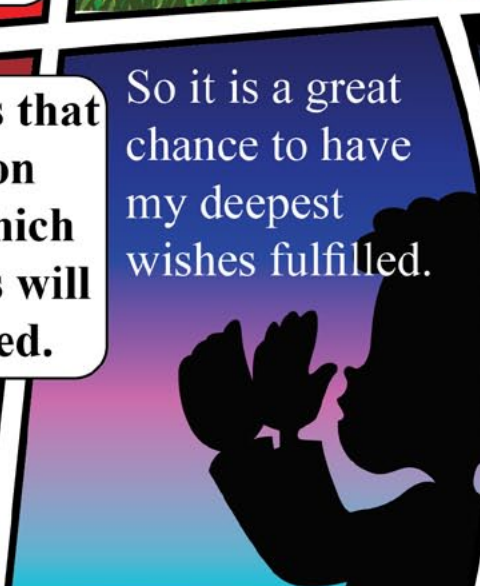
This is me, Jumu'ah, which is Friday in English, Vendredi in French, Venerdì in Italian, and Viernes in Spanish.



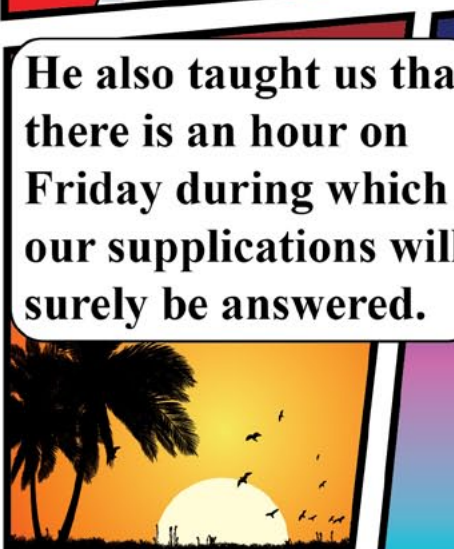
It is the best day the sun rises over, as my Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) taught us.




I really love my name.



So it is a great chance to have my deepest wishes fulfilled.



He also taught us that there is an hour on Friday during which our supplications will surely be answered.



In Arabic, Jumu'ah means to gather.

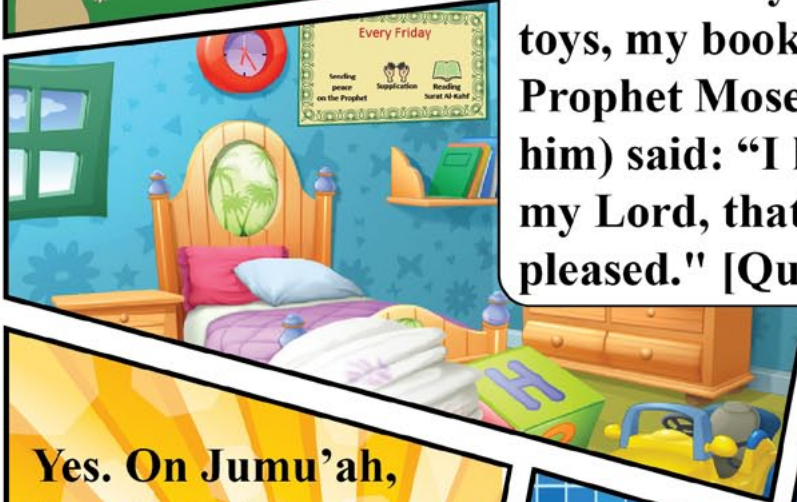


Every week, Muslims around the world gather at the mosques on this special day, obeying the Command of God Who ordered the believers to gather for His worship:



“O believers! When the call is proclaimed to prayer on Friday, hasten to the Remembrance of God and leave off all business. That is better for you, if you only knew.” [Qur’an 62: 9]

So I leave my cozy bed, my toys, my books, and I say as Prophet Moses (peace be upon him) said: “I hastened to You, my Lord, that You be pleased.” [Qur’an 20: 84]



Are there special preparations that we should make for Jumu‘ah?

Yes. On Jumu‘ah, Prophet Muhammad recommended that we...



1. Take a bath.





**2. Wear our best clothes.**



**3. Apply perfume.**



**5. Leave the house early.**



**4. Use miswak (tooth-cleansing stick).**



**During the sermon I try my best to keep quiet, but I am not very good at it.**

**And there is a big poster over my bed of other special good deeds for Jumu'ah.**

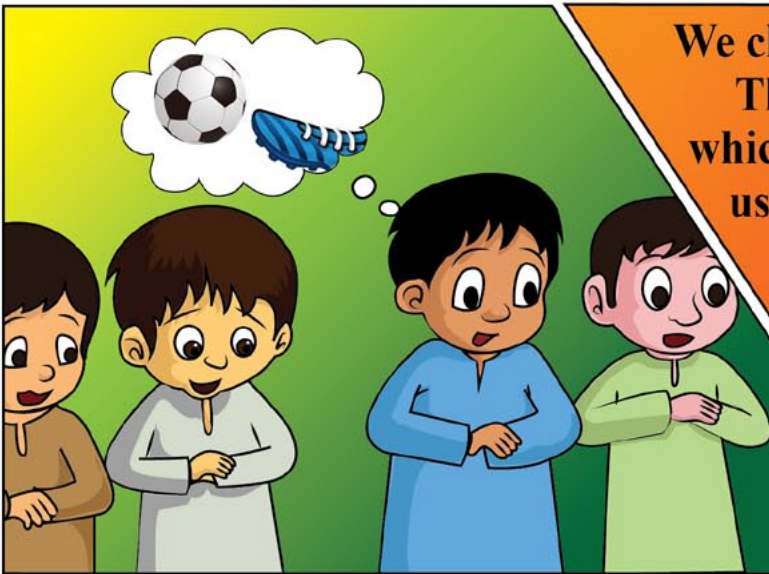




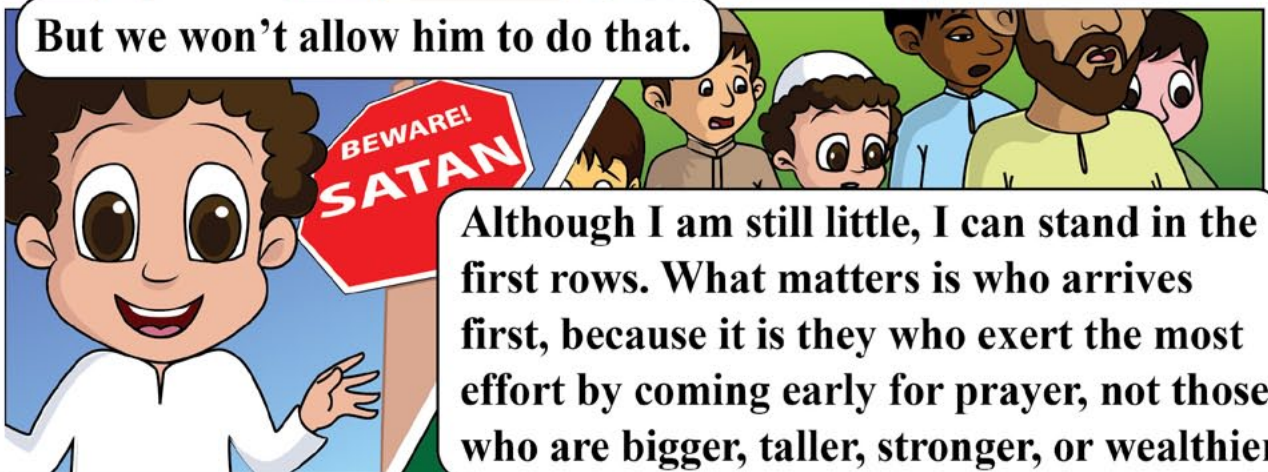
The interesting part for me starts when I jump to my feet and arrange myself with the other worshippers in straight and compact rows for prayer.



We close any gaps between us. This is the defense strategy which our Prophet instructed us to employ against Satan, who tries to fill any gaps in order to break our concentration and push us towards useless thoughts and feelings.



But we won't allow him to do that.



Although I am still little, I can stand in the first rows. What matters is who arrives first, because it is they who exert the most effort by coming early for prayer, not those who are bigger, taller, stronger, or wealthier



It is beautiful to look at us during prayer.



The rich shoulder-to-shoulder with the poor,



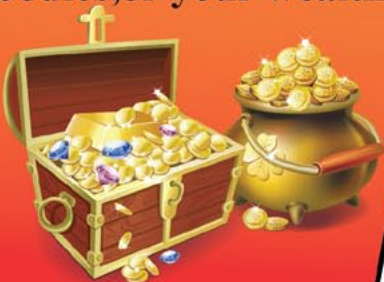
the old shoulder-to-shoulder with the young, and so on.



We are all equal before God.



As Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) said, "God does not look at your high descent, your lineage, your bodies, or your wealth,



**But** He looks at your **hearts.**"

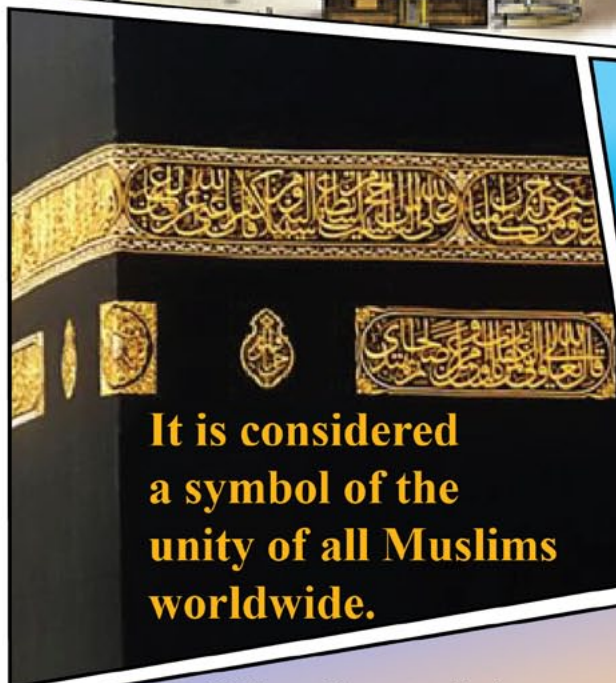
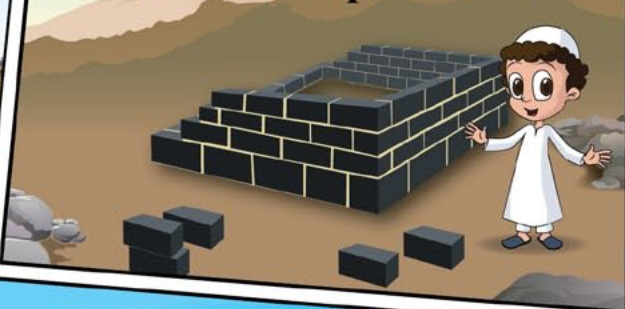




The *Ka'bah* in Mecca is our *Qiblah* (direction faced in prayer).

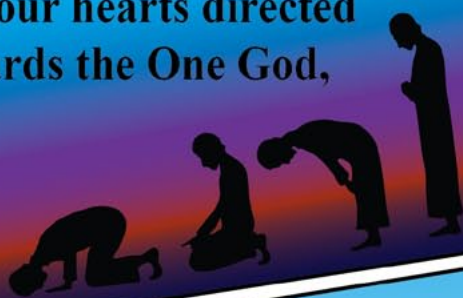


It was the first House built on earth for the worship of God.



It is considered a symbol of the unity of all Muslims worldwide.

So we stand with our bodies directed towards the *Ka'bah* and our hearts directed towards the One God,



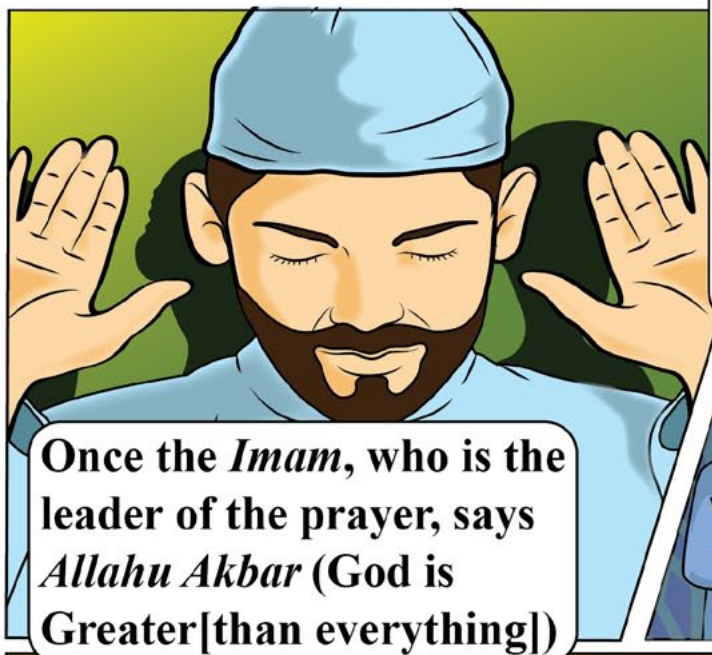
Who Created the heavens and the earth, and controls everything without a partner or associate.



For a ship cannot have more than one captain.







I can no longer talk, laugh, jump, or eat.  
I am in prayer now.  
It is time to stop doing what pleases me and do what pleases God.

Once the *Imam*, who is the leader of the prayer, says *Allahu Akbar* (God is Greater[than everything])



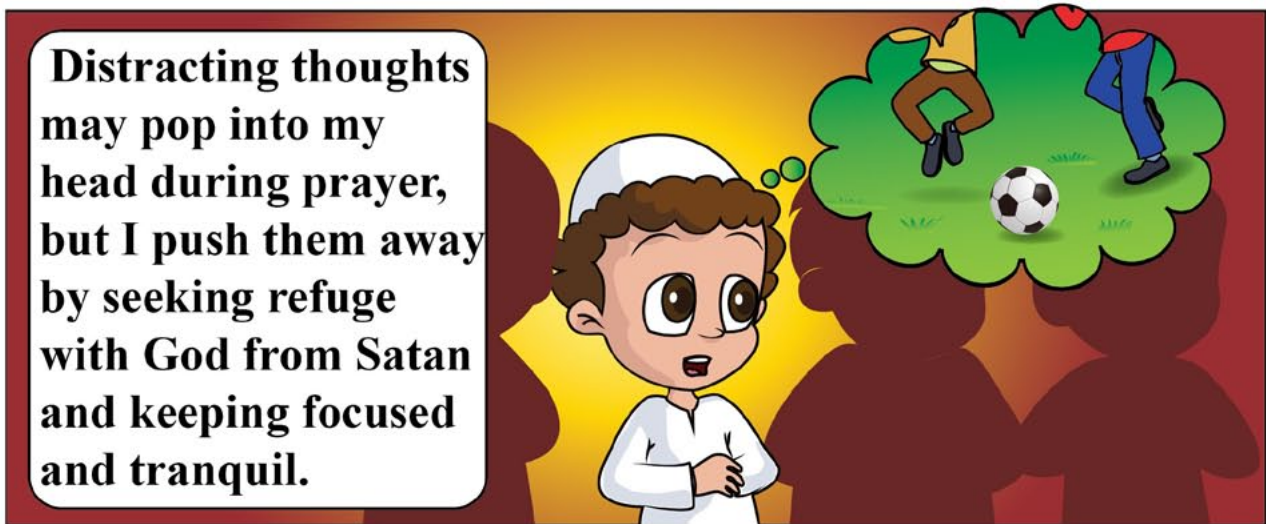
*The Imam then recites the Chapter of Al-Fatihah:*  
*“All praise and thanks be to Allah, the Lord of existence. The All-Merciful, the Ever-Merciful.*

*The Owner (Master) of the Day of Judgment. You (Alone) we worship, and You (Alone) we ask for help (for each and everything). Guide us to the Straight Path, the Path of those on whom You have bestowed Your Grace, not the path of those who have incurred Your Anger, nor of those who have gone astray.”[Qur’an 1:1-7]*

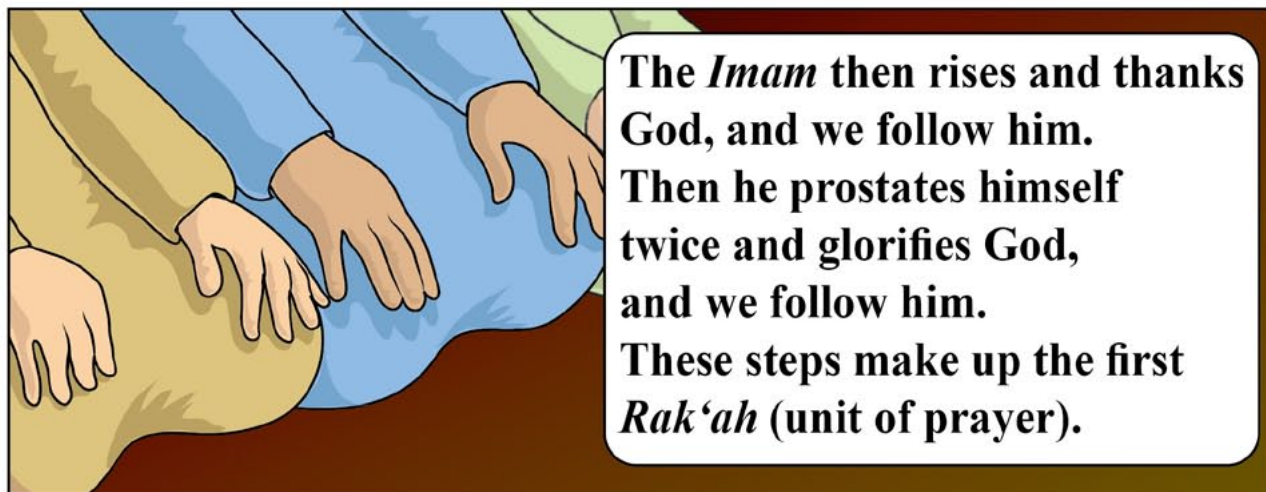




The *Imam* then bows and glorifies God and we follow him.

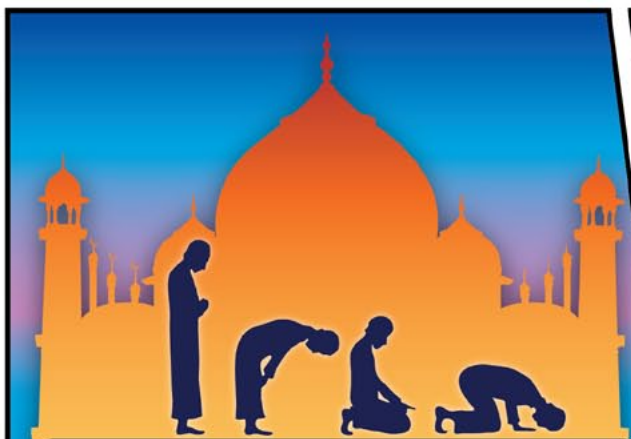


Distracting thoughts may pop into my head during prayer, but I push them away by seeking refuge with God from Satan and keeping focused and tranquil.



The *Imam* then rises and thanks God, and we follow him. Then he prostrates himself twice and glorifies God, and we follow him. These steps make up the first *Rak'ah* (unit of prayer).





The *Imam* repeats the same steps in the second *Rak'ah*.

He adds *Tashahhud* (testification to the Oneness of God and the prophethood of Muhammad),

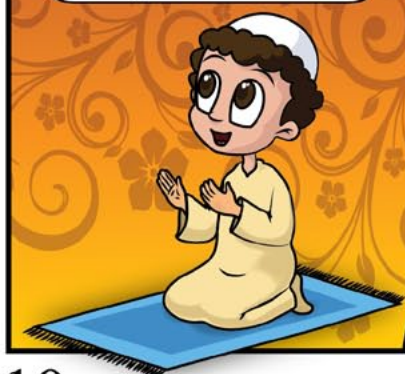


and then offers *Taslim* (salutation of peace ending the prayer).



I turn to my right and say after him, "Peace and Mercy of God be upon you," and to my left, "Peace and Mercy of God be upon you."

I then stretch my little hands and ask God for all the beautiful things I need.



Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) taught me, "When you ask, ask God. When you seek help, seek it from God." This fills me with dependence on God and independence from anyone other than Him. This gives me courage.

**I can now look around and search for my friends among the rows.**



**There is my dear friend 'Umar and my cheerful neighbor Abu Bakr.**



**Having prayed and supplicated for ourselves and families, we hurry out of the mosque to buy sweets and play.**



**And we wait for another Jumu'ah to gather together and pray.**





Jumu'ah (Friday)  
is the brightest day of the week in a Muslim's life.  
It comes from the Arabic word for 'gathering.'

It is my name too.  
So rise and shine and come join me on Friday.

We will wake up early,  
prepare ourselves, go to the mosque,  
arrange ourselves in rows, pray together, and then come out to play.

