

CRESCENT MOON

APRIL/MAY ISSUE | YOUNG SUFI NEWSLETTER



WELCOME !!!!!

Dear Friends young, and old,

Welcome to the first edition of the young peoples news letter. As you see we have gone for a very simple format, as this is our first go, I ask you to be patient with us, as we get to know this rather complicated computer programme, and insh'allah with your help these news letters should get better and better. Hopefully we will look back on this issue and laugh at ourselves

At the moment Tariq, and I have come up with most of the material ourselves, we wanted to give everyone one an idea of what is possible, and hopefully inspire others (Adults and young people) to contribute. Also I think that this page should be for all the young people in the greater community, not just those living in England, so we are happy to hear from anyone with ideas, and suggestions.

We have tried to, and hopefully will even more in the future have something for all age groups, so that no one is left out. I would like everyone to feel free to contribute, and have the space to tackle all topics that effect and inspire our young people. But this means that parents of younger children will need to go through the news letter, and decided what is appropriate for the age group of their particular family members.

We have registered a new e-mail address for our news letter which is: ourcrescentmoon@yahoo.com

You can use this to give us ideas of what you might like to see included, questions, any contributions, response to competitions, and to communicate in general with us.

It would be great if you could print this section each month, as we are hoping to have puzzles, and other activities that could be done in pencil, and perhaps they could be saved, and read again.

O.k. enough of the boring stuff we hope you enjoy, and we are very excited to see where this goes!

In peace,

Tariq, and Bushra



IN THIS EDITION

- ◆ INTRODUCTION
- ◆ STORY
- ◆ POETRY
- ◆ BOOK REVIEW
- ◆ PERSONAL GLIMPS
- ◆ JOKES
- ◆ SCIENCE
- ◆ WWW

WHAT
CAN
YOU
ADD

?

UMAIR'S LOVE FOR ISLAM

Umais ibn waqqas wanted to join the Muslims fight their enemies. He was not really old enough, but when he saw his older brother Saad preparing his camels and armour he could not resist the urge to go along and help defend Islam.

The unbelievers in Makka did not want a strong community which obeyed the one and only God Allah. They were determined to destroy the new faith of Islam which was growing stronger every day. The unbelievers in Makka were always looking for an excuse to attack the new Muslim community in Medina. They found just the excuse they wanted when Abu Sufyan chief of the Quraish was leading a caravan of 1,000 camels, bringing valuable goods back to Makka from Syria.

Abu Sufyan sent a message to Makka saying that they were under attack, and needed help. The Makkans quickly mustered 1,000 men and marched on to Medina. Although the people of Medina could only raise 313 poorly armed Muslims, they decided to set off towards Makka to face the Makkkan army before it reached Medina.

Saad was one of that small group of believers. And hidden among the marchers was his younger brother Umair. Umair knew fully well the prophet did not allow young boys to fight with the Muslim army. But praying that he would not be spotted before the battle began he took his sword and slipped in quietly amongst the soldiers.

When the Army halted it was Saad, who noticed the anxious looking Umair. "What are you doing here? Why are you hiding like this?" He asked. "I want to fight for Allah",

explained Umair. "I love Allah and his blessed prophet so much, that I am quite willing to die for Islam, but if the blessed prophet catches sight of me, I know he will send me back home. He will say I am too young. I have to fight without him knowing I am here." Saad left Umair where he was.

Just as Umair had feared the blessed prophet noticed him as he was lining up his soldiers. He told Umair that he was too young to fight and that he would be sent back home to safety.

When the blessed prophet had walked away Umair bursted into tears. He was heartbroken. His sobs attracted the attention of some soldiers who were standing nearby. They went to the prophet, and upon hearing how distressed Umair had been because of his decision, the Blessed Prophet remained silent for a few minutes, then with a smile he granted Umair permission to join the Muslim army.

The Muslim army advanced on the Makkans chanting "God is one, God is one!" Umair was only armed with a single sword, where as the Makkkan army was well armed with both swords and shields. Many of the Makkkans were mounted on horses and camels during the fight, which made them much harder to fight. Umair was not frightened of the army, and his desire to fight for Allah kept him fighting till his last breath. He inflicted many deadly blows to the enemy.

He was wounded in the battle, but kept on fighting until his life was taken. The battle ended with the victory of the Muslim army over the Makkkans. Only 14 Muslims died fighting for the cause of Islam, which means that they died Shaheed, or Martyrs. This means that Allah promises that they will go to the Garden, and Umair was amongst them.

Questions?

How do you feel about what Umair did?

Do you think that he should have been allowed to fight?

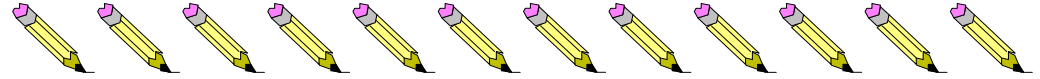
What do you think we you can do to support Islam in our lives?

Can you think of any other people who have died fighting to protect Islam?



THE CRESENT MOON ?

- ◆ The adoption of the crescent moon (with or without a star) is a relatively modern tradition. In Mohammad's time, Muslims did not have a collective symbol as such, usually carrying either the flags of their tribe, or a simple coloured flag.
- ◆ It is thought that the crescent may have been adopted by Muslims after they secured Istanbul (Constantinople) in the 1400's. The city used the crescent moon as their flag, and this was then taken by the invading Muslim force as a token of Allah's approval.
- ◆ Since then, the symbol has been used in the flags of many nations that are either officially Muslim (e.g. Turkey and Pakistan) or have a large Muslim population.
- ◆ The use of the star has been explained as a representation of the five pillars of Islam; however, not every country uses a star in its flag, and not all stars used are five-pointed.
- ◆ The first sight of a crescent moon is used as the traditional start point for many celebrations and holidays in Islam, such as the official start of Ramadan. It may be that this has reinforced its use as a symbol for all Islam.
- ◆ The symbol (above) that is generally used to represent Islam is called the Chand Sitara.
- ◆ If you know any more about this symbol then we would love to hear about it. For more information about [Islamic symbols](#)

POETRY**Brother Believer**

Brother let us hold hands,
 for we are of the same blood and body

Brother let us pray,
 for we have the same fear and awe of the lord

Brother let us walk,
 for we have the same legs and feet

Brother let us eat,
 and thank the same lord for our bounty

Brother let us sleep,
 for our souls are taken by the same lord

Brother let us talk,
 for the same praise for the lord rolls off our tongues

Brother let us live, and the mercy and strength of God befall us

For we are the same, only different in some ways , in our belief in one God.

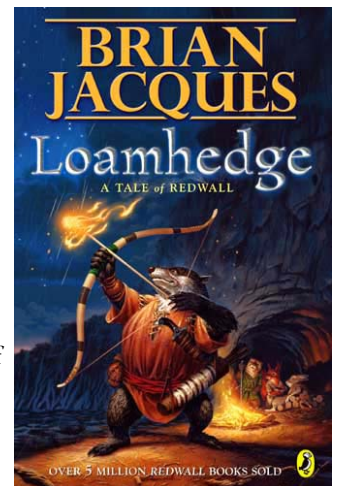
By: Hakima Muhammad

**BATTLE BETWEEN
GOOD AND EVIL**

*Wandering through wintry
 snow
 I took My little golden bow
 And raised it high
 To the sky
 Then thrust it into evil's eye
 Next he took his poison dart
 And aimed It at my heart
 The battle rages on and on
 With evil blindly coming on*

By:

Tariq Winter

**BOOK REVIEW**

My favourite series at the moment is "The tales of Redwall books" by Brian Jacques. All of the characters in these books are animals who are often at war trying to protect the good animals of Redwall against the bad guys who are always trying to destroy it.

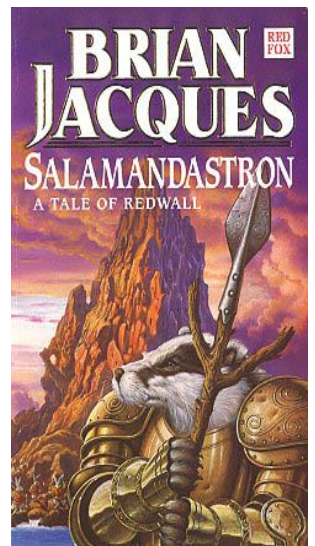
A few of my favourite titles in the series are:

Salamandastron: Which is the story of Martin the Warrior who's sword was made from a fallen star and when he died his sword was kept at the abbey of Redwall and still his spirit guides the animals of Redwall when in great danger.

Loamhedge, is a startling adventures of trust bravery and determination. A young hare maid came to Redwall from the ancient abbey Loamhedge. They had to flee Loamhedge because sickness was spreading fast, and they were attacked by a band of vermin and she and her grandma were the only survivors. But as soon as her grandma walks through the gates of Redwall she collapses and dies of exhausting from that day on the hare maid can't walk.

Brian Jacques who is the author of the books once was an actor, a playwright, and a BBC presenter before becoming an author his life was as full of adventure as the story he creates- at the age of fifteen he sailed the world returning to his house in Liverpool where he still lives. To find out more information go to this website :

www.redwall.org Click on the link!!!!!!!





1. Why did the scientist find bones on the moon?
2. Who made King Arthur's round table?
3. Why did the traffic light turn red?
4. Why don't skeletons like to do Dhikir?
5. What do baseball players do if there hot?
6. Why shouldn't you pray at sunrise and sunset?
7. Which is faster heat or cold?

Get to know U 2

MEET TARIQ WINTER

Where were you born?
sweden

How old are you? **9**

Do you have siblings?
yes, 2

What is your favourite book/ author? **Herge, the Author of Tintin**

What is your favourite movie? **Johnny English, Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon**

What do you enjoy doing most? **Reading**

What year are you in school? **Year 4**

What is your best/ favourite subject in school? **History**

What type of music do

you like? **Lots of different kinds**

What do you like the most about being a Muslim? **Going to Dhikrs**

What kind of career would you like to have? **Space scientist, or Doctor.**

What languages do you speak? **Swedish and English**

What is your favourite food? **sushi**

What kind of sports or hobbies do you have? **Football, Playing Music**

What countries/ cities have you lived in or visited? **U.S. Sweden,**

Tell Us More about U??

Interview with Bushra Winter

1. Where and when were you born? *London Sept 18, 1976*
2. How did you come to Islam?
I was born into it
3. What is your favourite Surah, and Diwan? *Surah Rahman, and Nahnufee*
4. Which of the five is your favourite prayer? *Fajir, because if you do it well the rest of the day is great*
5. Do you have any siblings? *5 from my mom, 6 from my dad*
6. What did you study in school?
English, Infant massage, etc.
7. What is your favourite book/ author? *A.A. Milne, The Chronicles of Narnia*
8. What kind of music do you listen to? *I love Music, everything from Greek folk, to punk*
9. What is your favourite movie?

The Princess Bride, The Messenger, Meet Joe Black

10. What are your hobbies?
Creative things, and Ebay
11. What job do you have? *A full time hard working mom!!!!1*
12. What countries have you lived in/ Visited? *U.S. Sweden Denmark, Germany, Spain, S.A.*
13. Which was your favourite?
Spain, California, and S.A.
14. What languages do you speak? *Swedish, English*
15. What is your favourite kind of food? *Mediterranean, or anything with milk cheese butter, or cream*
16. Have you been on hajj/ umrah, what was it like? *Not yet*
17. What are some of the things that you would like to see or do before you die? *Hajj, travel, play with my grandchildren,*

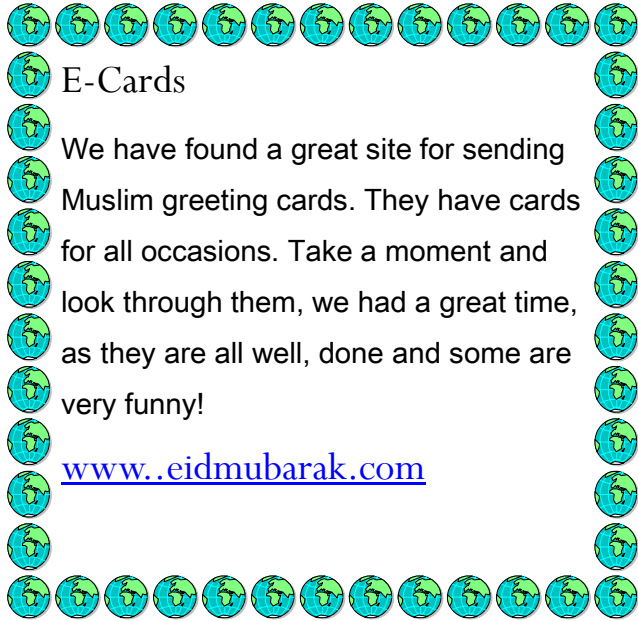
Note: Each month we will interview one adult, and one young person. So we get to know each other a little bit better.

Jokes

Answers

1. Because the cow did not make it
2. Sir-cumference
3. Because it had to change in the middle of the street
4. Because they have no soul
5. They stay close to the fans
6. Because the day breaks, and the night falls
7. Heat, because it is easy to catch a cold

W.W.W. World wide Web



E-Cards

We have found a great site for sending Muslim greeting cards. They have cards for all occasions. Take a moment and look through them, we had a great time, as they are all well, done and some are very funny!

www.eidmubarak.com

“Tigers have been known to eat up to 27 kilos of meat in one night”

Credits and other Boring Stuff

Page 2,

Umair' Love for Islam was adapted from: The Courageous Children

By: Ayesha Abdullah Scott

Published by: The Islamic Foundation



TIGER

Text by Catherine D. Hughes

Easily recognized by its coat of reddish-orange with dark stripes, the tiger is the largest wild cat in the world. The big cat weighs up to 800 pounds (363 kilograms), stretches 6 feet (2 meters) long, and has a 3-foot- (1-meter-) long tail. The powerful predator generally hunts alone, able to bring down prey such as deer and antelope.

Tigers wait until dark to hunt. Once a tiger has spotted its prey, it sneaks as close as possible to its victim. Then the tiger sprints to the unsuspecting animal, usually pulling it off its feet with its teeth and claws. If the prey animal is large, the tiger bites its throat to kill it; smaller prey is usually killed when the tiger breaks its neck.

Tigers have been known to eat up to 60 pounds (27 kilograms) of meat in one night, but more often they consume about 12 pounds (5 kilograms) during a meal. It may take days for a tiger to finish eating its kill. The cat eats until it's full, and then covers the carcass with leaves and dirt. When it's hungry again, the tiger comes back to feed some more, until the meat is gone.

Unlike most members of the cat family, tigers seem to enjoy water. They swim well and often soak in streams or pools of water to cool off.

Some tigers live where it gets very cold—in parts of North Korea, eastern Russia, and China. Other tigers live where the climate is generally warmer—in India and parts of southeast Asia. The whole species is endangered throughout its range. Tigers have been over hunted for their fur as well as for other body parts that many people use in traditional medicines. Tigers' habitat has also dwindled seriously as humans have developed land for uses such as farming and logging.

- *National Geographic.com*

Check out cool facts about other animals at National Geographic for Kids! Click on link!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!