

I Did Salaam First!





Aleezah was 5 years old and just started Madressa.

She loved coming to Madressa, sitting with her friends, and pretending to be animals.



A kangaroo – boing boing!

A horse – neighhh!

But best of all...

A lion – ROAR!



Then they would all shout:

“Allahu Khaliqu Kulli Shay!”

(Allah is the Creator of everything!)



السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكُمْ

ASSALAMU'ALAIKUM



One day, Aunty Almas said something interesting.



“Oh children! Did you know if you say Salam first, you get 69 thawab? And the one who replies must reply, but they get only one thawab!”

Then she said:



“Let’s do a competition! Who can collect the most thawab points?”



Aleezah sat up straight.

“I’m very good at this game,” she whispered to herself.

“I’m going to win!”





**The next week, during circle time,
Aunty Almas quietly tiptoed behind the
children...**

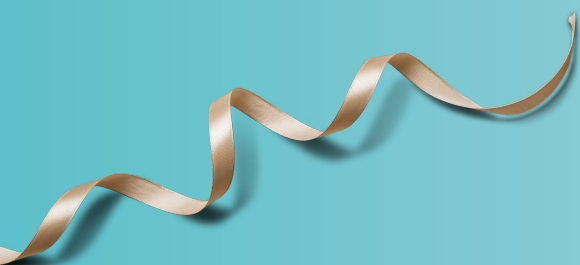


**And then suddenly shouted:
“Assalamu alaykum!”**

**Aleezah quickly replied,
“Wa alaykum assalam!”**

But then she sighed...

**“Oh no! I missed the 69 points. But
Alhamdulillah... I got one!”**







**The week after, Aunty Almas came in
dressed like a lion –
ROAR!**

**Then she growled:
“Assalamu alaykum!”**



Everyone laughed.



Aleezah was getting worried.

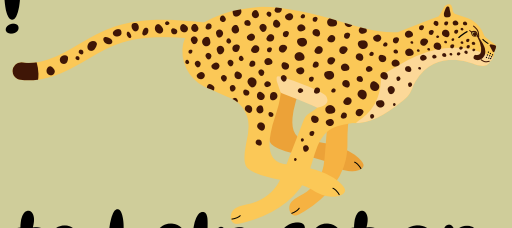
**“How am I supposed to win if she keeps
tricking us?”**





That night, Aleeza made a secret plan.

“I need to be clever like a lion and fast like a cheetah!”



She asked her big brother to help set an alarm 10 minutes early.

The next morning, she got to Madressa before everyone else.

She hid behind the door... waiting.

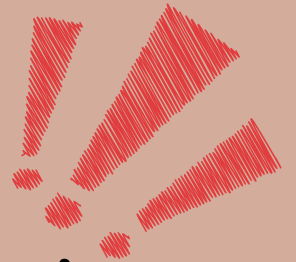






**As soon as Aunty Almas opened the door,
Aleezah jumped out and shouted:**

“Assalamu alaykum!”



**Aunty gasped, then laughed,
“You clever girl! You got me!”**



السلام عليكم
Assalamu alaykum!



السلام عليكم
Assalamu alaykum!

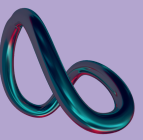


السلام عليكم
Assalamu alaykum!



$69 + 69 = 138$
 $138 + 69 = 207$
MashaAllah!





From that day on, Aleezah was ready all

69

the time.

At snack time: “Assalamu alaykum!”

When she saw her friends: “Assalamu
alaykum!”

138

Even when she spotted someone far
away!

69

276

Her imaginary scoreboard was filling up
with 69's.

$69 + 69 + 69 = \text{MashaAllah!}$

207

345



السلام عليكم



The next week, Aunty Almas wore an elephant costume and tried to sneak behind again.

**But before she could say anything...
Aleezah spun around and said:**

“Assalamu alaykum, O elephant Aunty Almas!”

Everyone laughed so much!





**Now, no matter how hard Aunty Almas
tries –**

**In a giraffe costume, behind
bookshelves, or tiptoeing quietly –**

**Aleezah always says Salam first.
She's the thawab champion!**

**Although... every now and then...
Aunty Almas does manage a cheeky
surprise.**

Wink wink!

