

Local

Ramadan Kareem

Supplications for Ramadan

By Dr Teresa Leshar

Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) said, "Three supplications will not be rejected (by Almighty God), the supplication of the parent for his child, the supplication of the one who is fasting, and the supplication of the traveler. [at-Tirmidhi]. Because Ramadan is the month of fasting, it is one of the best times to supplicate to our Creator for whatever our hearts desire. Allah says in the Quran, "When My servants ask you concerning Me, I am indeed close: I respond to the dua of every suppliant when they call on Me" (2:186). We should take care to ask our Creator for things that are really important and valuable, not things that may eventually lead us to wrongdoing. God has given us some good suggestions of what to pray for, such as the following ones taken from the Quran.

1. Our Lord! Grant us good in this world and good in the life to come and keep us safe from the torment of the Fire (2:201)

2. Our Lord! Bestow on us endurance and make our foothold sure and give us help against those who reject faith. (2:250)

3. Our Lord! Take us not to task if we forget or fall into error. (2:286)

4. Our Lord! Lay not upon us such a burden as You did lay upon those before us. (2:286)

5. Our Lord! Impose not on us that which we have not the strength to bear, grant us forgiveness and have mercy on us. You are our Protector. Help us against those who deny the truth. (2:286)

6. Our Lord! Let not our hearts deviate from the truth after You have guided us, and bestow upon us mercy from Your grace. Verily You are the Giver of bounties without measure. (3:8)

7. Our Lord! Forgive us our sins and the lack of moderation in our doings, and make firm our steps and succor us against those who deny the truth. (3:147)

8. Our Lord! Forgive us our sins and efface our bad deeds and take our souls in the company of the righteous. (3:193)

9. Our Lord! Place us not among the people who have been guilty of evildoing. (7:47)

10. Our Lord! Pour out on us patience and constancy, and make us die as those who have surrendered themselves unto You. (7:126)

11. Our Lord! Make us not a trial for the evildoing folk, and save us by Your mercy from people who deny the truth (10:85-86)

12. Our Lord! Bestow on us mercy from Your presence and dispose of our affairs for us in the right way. (18:10)

13. Our Lord! Grant that our spouses and our offspring be a comfort to our eyes, and give us the grace to lead those who are conscious of You. (25:74)

14. Our Lord! Forgive us our sins as well as those of our brethren who preceded us in faith and let not our hearts entertain any unworthy thoughts or feelings against [any of] those who have believed. Our Lord! You are indeed full of kindness and Most Merciful (59:10)

15. Our Lord! In You we have placed our trust, and to You do we turn in repentance, for unto You is the end of all journeys. (60:4)

16. Our Lord! Perfect our light for us and forgive us our sins, for verily You have power over all things. (66:8)

17. Our Lord! Accept this from us. Indeed, you are the Hearing, the Knowing. (2:127) Our Lord, and make us Muslims, [in submission] to you, and from our descendants a Muslim nation to you. And show us our rites [of hajj and umra] and accept our repentance. Indeed, you are the accepting of repentance, the Merciful. (2:128)

18. You are our Protector, so forgive us and have mercy upon us; and You are the best of forgivers. (7:155)

19. And decree for us in this world [that which is] good and in the Hereafter; indeed we have turned back to you. (7:156)

20. Creator of the heavens and earth, you are my protector in this world and the Hereafter. Cause me to die a Muslim and join me with the righteous. (12:101)

21. My Lord, make me an establisher of prayer, and [many] from my descendants. Our Lord, and accept my supplication. (14:40)

22. Our Lord, forgive me and my parents and the believers the day the account is established. (14:41)

23. My Lord, have mercy upon [my parents] as they brought me up [when I was] small. (17:24)

24. My Lord, increase me in knowledge. (20:114)

25. My Lord, I seek refuge in You from the incitements of the devils and I seek refuge in You my Lord, lest they be present with me. (23:97-98)

26. Our Lord, we have believed, so forgive us and have mercy upon us, and You are the Best of the merciful. (23:109)

27. Our Lord, avert from us the punishment of Hell. Indeed, its punishment is ever adhering. Indeed, it is evil as a settlement and residence. (25:65-66)

28. My Lord, grant me authority and join me with the righteous. And grant me a mention [reputation] of honor among later generations. And place me among the inheritors of the Garden of Pleasure. (25:83-85)

29. And do not disgrace me on the day they are [all] resurrected, the day when there will not benefit [anyone] wealth or children, but only one who comes to Allah with a sound heart. 26:87-89

30. My Lord, inspire me to be grateful for your favor which you have bestowed upon me and upon my parents and to do righteousness of which you approve. And admit me by Your mercy into [the ranks of] your righteous servants. (27:19)

31. My Lord, enable me to be grateful for your favor which you have bestowed upon me and my parents and to work righteousness of which you will approve and make righteous for me my offspring. Indeed, I have repented to You, and indeed, I am of the Muslims. (46:15)

Courtesy of TIES: TIES is among the projects funded and managed by Kuwaiti Society for Cultural Dialogue. TIES aims at empowering Kuwait's expats through social and educational services that promote a positive and productive role in society, and to facilitate opportunities for intra- and inter-faith interactions that promote social solidarity. For more information, please call 25231015/6 or 94079426 or e-mail: info@tiescenter.net.

PHOTO OF THE DAY



KUWAIT: This picture taken on Sunday shows a view of the Kuwait City skyline at sunset. — Photo by Yasser Al-Zayyat

Info ministry, KJA sign agreement

KUWAIT: The information ministry signed a joint cooperation protocol with Kuwait Journalists Association in a bid to strengthen cooperation with NGOs and the private sector for the benefit of both sides. Information Ministry Undersecretary Munira Suleiman Al-Huwaidi said the cooperation protocol is part of the ministry's keenness to develop, train and boost employees' technical and professional skills in the media field, adding that the two parties agreed to exchange expertise and hold training courses and workshops.

Meanwhile, KJA Secretary Adnan Khalifa Al-Rashid lauded the role of the Information and Culture Minister, State Minister for Youth Affairs

Abdulrahman Al-Mutairi and ministry officials in signing the protocol, which will keep up with latest developments in various media, both locally and internationally.

The signing was attended by Information Ministry Assistant for Legal Affairs Khalid Al-Rasheedi, Assistant Undersecretary for Radio Affairs Saad Al-Findi, Assistant Undersecretary for TV Affairs Turki Al-Mutairi and Director of Strategy Management at the undersecretary's office Basel Al-Zamanan. KJA Treasurer Jassem Kamal and board members Dhairan Aba Al-Khail, Rabaah Hussein Makki Jumaa and Abd Al-Rahman Yousuf Al-Alyan attended from KJA.



KUWAIT: KJA Secretary Adnan Khalifa Al-Rashid (left) and Information Ministry Undersecretary Munira Al-Huwaidi shake hands after signing the agreement.

stc extends its #today_we_can campaign to social media

KUWAIT: Kuwait Telecommunications Company - stc, a world-class digital leader providing innovative services and platforms to customers, enabling the digital transformation in Kuwait, revealed the continuation of its #today_we_can campaign through its dedicated social media platforms. The Company launched a series of awareness initiatives that included the participation of several social media influencers, covering several topics during the holy month of Ramadan.

stc released a statement mentioning that the events organized under its Ramadan campaign this year included a variety of humanitarian and community-based initiatives. To raise awareness on the importance of acting today for a better tomorrow, stc utilized various media platforms to spread its message in hopes of reaching the largest number of followers. The concept behind this initiative stems from the Company's corporate social responsibility framework, which in this case, focuses on giving back to the community and empowering the Kuwaiti society.

As part of its social media focused campaign, stc collaborated with radio host and social media influencer, Abdulmotaleb Nathar, also known as 6aloob. Engaging with followers, 6aloob covered several interesting topics that showcased and encouraged



Danah Al-Jasem



Fahad Al-Bishara

the importance of adopting an optimistic view on life, as well as positive habits that can be beneficial to both the individual and society.

Fahad Al-Bishara also participated in the initiative by sharing valuable life lessons to followers, as well as motivational words on success under the segment, '#today_we_can be successful'. Under the '#today_we_can adopt a healthier lifestyle', Mohammad Al Dulaimi and Abdullah Al Mutawa from Force Gym presented a set of exercises for all age groups that can aid in achieving a healthier and well-balanced lifestyle, especially during the holy month.

Also falling under stc's social media campaign, '#today_we_can enjoy Ramadan during iftar', a segment featuring local chef, Bader Alshayji, who shared with followers a few recipes and dishes that are suitable for the holy month. Aside from the guest hosts, stc organized contests and raffles on its social media platforms in celebration of girgian that will continue until Eid Al-Fitr. stc followers that win in one of the activities will be presented with a valuable gift on behalf of the company, especially followers participating in one of the activities on

stc's Instagram account.

On this occasion, Danah Al-Jasem, General Manager of Corporate Communications at stc commented, "At stc, we truly believe that every member of our society serves a critical role in building a sustainable future for the younger generation. Through our multilayered initiatives dedicated to driving the community, protecting the environment, and accomplishing our goals, we are collectively working together to achieve a wider goal in making this earth a better place. Opportunities are presented to us every day, and it is our choice as to whether we take advantage of what is in front of us, which is the message we are trying to deliver through #today_we_can."

The #today_we_can campaign represents some of the core values stc believes that also focus on attaining sustainable results, especially during the month of Ramadan. The objective of the campaign was to spread awareness on the importance of acting today for a better tomorrow, whether it is supporting the community or taking advantage of a given opportunity.

Through its region wide campaign, stc focused on highlighting the importance of acting at a given moment, whether it is an act to stop hunger, end the pandemic, educate those who are in need, or capitalize on an opportunity that can ultimately change the lives of others.

Jasem concluded, "stc consistently participates in initiatives that support and empower the community. This comes as an ongoing commitment that stc upholds towards its customers and the people of Kuwait. Despite the circumstances we face today, we will continue to build on our CSR framework by focusing on causes that affect societies both worldwide and in our community."

Syria's Assad to face two 'rivals' in May vote

DAMASCUS: A Syrian former minister and a member of the Damascus-tolerated opposition will face Bashar Al-Assad in this month's presidential election, the constitutional court said yesterday. The Assad-appointed body approved only three out of 51 applications to stand in the May 26 ballot, among them the 55-year-old president himself, widely expected to win a fourth mandate.

The court's president said in a press conference broadcast on state TV that Abdallah Salloum Abdallah, a state minister from 2016 to 2020, had been approved to run for president. The third candidate was named as Mahmood Marei, a member of the so-called "tolerated opposition" long described by exiled opposition leaders as an extension of the regime. All 48 other applications were ruled out for "failing to meet constitutional and legal requirements", the court president said without elaborating.

They have until May 7 to appeal. Applicants needed to garner support from at least 35 members of parliament, each of whom is only allowed



A handout picture released by the official Syrian Arab News Agency (SANA) yesterday shows Syrian President Bashar Al-Assad being escorted by local workers at the industrial area of Syria's west-central town of Hisya. — AFP

to back one candidate.

Exiled opposition members are de facto ruled out by an electoral law that stipulates candidates must have lived in Syria continuously for at least the past decade. The election will be the second since the start of a decade-long conflict that has killed over 388,000 people and forced more than half of Syria's pre-war population from their homes.

Damascus has invited lawmakers from allied countries such Russia, Iran, China, Venezuela and

Cuba to observe the electoral process. In New York, Western members of the UN Security Council, led by the United States, France and Britain, on Wednesday rejected the outcome of the May 26 poll in advance, a position denounced by Russia as "unacceptable". Assad, who has already been in power for 21 years, was elected by referendum in 2000 and 2007. For the first multi-candidate poll in 2014, only two candidates besides Assad, out of 24 applicants, were allowed to run. — AFP