

EDITION
24/4/25 12

closer



**HEART WORK IS
HONOURABLE WORK**

*Heart work is hard work.
But it is honourable, and it is holy.*

24 April 2025



Closer

by aa

your curated weekly spiritual booster delivered straight to your Inbox

*Heart work is
hard work.
But it is also
honourable,
hopeful, & holy.*

Assalamualaikum my Champions,

Oh, how I have missed all of you! I pray you have all been well and have had a blessed and full Syawal. During our three-week break, I spent quite a lot of time looking through, reading up, and organising the full archive of our AA Plus Vault, and Ma Sha Allah, the amount of classes, lessons, and materials Allah SWT has allowed us to learn, share and reflect on together these past 5 years have been nothing but short of amazing!

Alhamdulillah, Ma Sha Allah. ❤️❤️❤️

As I was cataloguing my past Closer emails, I realised that one of the terms I keep writing on is heart work.

In [one of my Closer emails in 2023](#), I wrote, "**Sometimes a breakthrough requires a breakdown. Heart work is hard work.**"

Two years on, I still think the **jihad** of the heart is a lot of hard work. I don't just think it, **I know it**. And I know **you** know it too. :)

We know that to purify the heart of envy, of anger, of love of this world requires hard work.

We know that to fill the heart with only the remembrance of Allah SWT and nothing else also requires hard work.

We know that to fight against our Nafs is also hard work.

However...

I have recently come to no longer sigh and despair over this hard work.

Because I have learned that this heart work is honourable.

And it is hopeful. And it is definitely holy. ❤️❤️❤️

So Champs, if you are feeling a Post-Ramadhan slump, or dip, or if I can be brutally honest with all of you, a Post-Ramadhan CRASH 😂, then let us all huddle together and remind one another to continue our heart work.

Because it is honourable.

Because it is hopeful.

Because it is holy.

the 114 club



Back in 2020 (I told you I've been doing some serious archiving :P), we did plenty of Collective Quran Khatam together, and I wondered, "Why did we stop doing it?" If you, like me, have been missing our nightly Tadarus Calls in Ramadhan, then I hope this collective Khatam will help soothe your heart slightly! Joining is easy - simply click on the link below, put your full name down for any of the pages you intend to recite, and then once you are done, simply indicate that you've read!

You would recite your pages at your own time and pace, just make sure to do it before the deadline. (All other instructions are on the link too!)

Champs, I intend to do this Collective Khatam at least once a month,
In Sha Allah. I truly hope you will join me, fellow Quran Queens!

[Join Collective Quran Khatam Here](#)

a beautiful dua

Ya Allah, expand my
heart, and fill it
with the Love of You,
Your Quran, Your
Messenger, and
everything & everyone
that You Love.

aaplus.co

#abeautifuldua

Amin. Amin. Aminnnnnnnnnnn!

gratitude garden



BE GRATEFUL FOR THE STALL

I want to build a "Gratitude Garden" in my heart where I take stock of certain things in life that I may sometimes miss. Today, I am grateful for the stall. Sometimes Allah SWT holds us back temporarily, only until the roads are safe and clear enough for us to continue on. May we always be grateful for every purposeful pause, delay and "obstruction" and have full trust in His Plans for us, for they are always flawlessly timely and perfect!

What can you add to your Gratitude Garden today?

a blessed language

1/6

a very familiar word:

شُكْرًا

[Shukran]

2/6

boring translation:

"Thanks!"

deeper translation:

"I accept this help/ gift with full gratitude to you and to Allah SWT, and with this gratitude, I am inviting even more blessings to come into our lives!"

3/6

Part of thanking Allah SWT is to thank *the people* whom Allah has sent our way.

The Messenger of Allah ﷺ said:

"مَنْ لَا يَشْكُرُ النَّاسَ لَا يَشْكُرُ اللَّهَ"

"Whoever is not grateful to the people, he is not grateful to Allah."

Timidhi

4/6

And when we show our gratitude, Allah SWT will give us *even more*.

Allah SWT says:

لَئِنْ شَكَرْتُمْ لَأَزِيدَنَّكُمْ

"If you are grateful, I will certainly give you more."

Quran 14:7

5/6

the positive ripple effect of



never ends!

6/6

So when you say



You are:

- thanking the person
- thanking Allah SWT
- understanding that with this one proclamation of Syukran, you are inviting even more blessings into your life!

When Ustazah Maghfirah explained the deeper meaning of '**Shukran**' to me over the phone today, I couldn't help but feel so much love for this beautiful language and exclaimed "Shukran" to her with all my heart for peeling the layers of this commonly used expression! As you will read in the slides above, the word Shukran is not just "thanks", it is so, so much more!!

visual reminder



A little something to help us visualise how necessary it is to do our daily pruning, sunning, and rooting of our hearts. 🌱

[Download Phone Wallpaper Here](#)

[Download Desktop Wallpaper Here](#)

to ponder



I remember one of my loved ones asking me rather matter-of-factly, "Aida, which group do you belong to? The ones who wake up, distracted, checking only their Dunia? Or the ones who are grateful to their Lord, with their hearts focused on their Akhirah?". What we do during the first hour of our day matters. For our day is like a camel. If we hold it by its front, the rest (of its body) will follow. Similarly, if we take control of our mornings and filled it with the remembrance of Him, the rest of the day will also follow suit! So Champs, how did your first hour today looked like? How can you make it better?

fin
x
a.

Copyright © 2025 The AA Team, All rights reserved. .