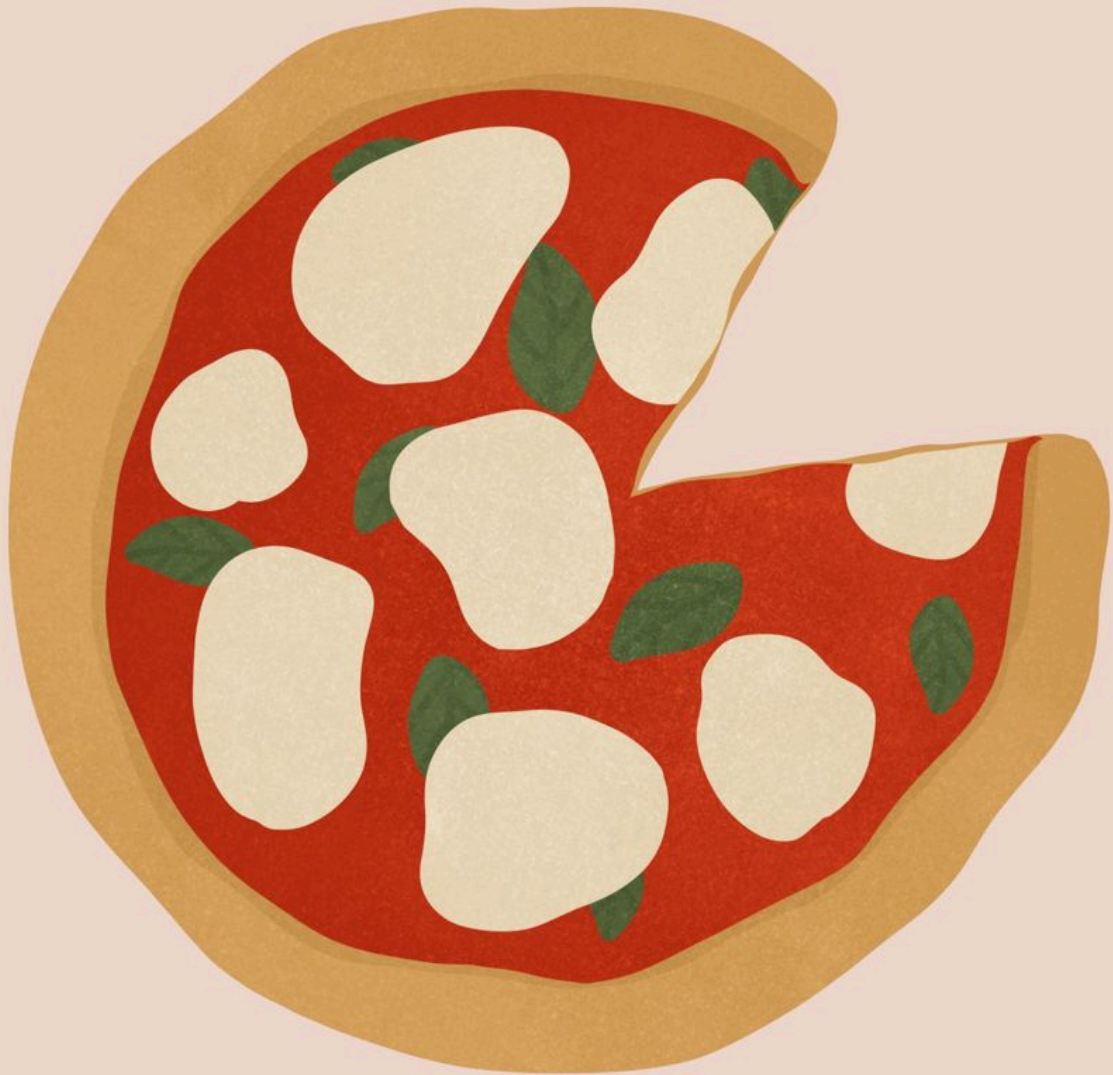


EDITION
7/5/26

57

closer



**“FAILED” SOMETHING RECENTLY?
CONGRATULATIONS!!!**

*Most people don't even try, but you did,
and that's worth celebrating!*

7 May 2026



Closer

by aa

your curated weekly spiritual booster delivered straight to your Inbox

Congratulations
on your recent **failure**
- most people don't even try,
but you did, and that's
worth **celebrating**.

Assalamualaikum my Champions,

Recently, I wanted to try to make my own pizza from scratch. I watched a bunch of YouTube videos, but I know that 20 hours of "researching" will never get me a pizza. So I told myself, "You just gotta start!"

Was there a lot of pushback? YES.

Was there a lot of procrastination? YES.

Was there a lot of self-doubt? YES.

But off I went, by Allah's Mighty Grace, to the kitchen to make the dough for my pizza. I told myself, "It's just flour. Don't overthink it."

Did I overthink? YES.

Anyway, I did my best to measure out all the ingredients, and after kneading as best I could, I patiently waited while the dough rested. It was supposed to rise after a few hours. I left it for 5...

But did it rise?

NO.

By this time, not only was my dough flat and deflated, but so was my already paper-thin confidence. **I had failed.**

I was now faced with a choice - to beat myself up in shame and wallow in self-pity, or say "Congratulations! You failed, but let's try all over again!", only this time round, we should give it more time (I learned that it's best to leave the dough overnight), and making sure we have the proper temperature for the dough to rise.

And so I tried again.

I felt more comfortable with the mess in the kitchen, my hands were more in sync when kneading the dough, and it definitely wasn't as scary as the first time! With a Bismillah and many, many Du'as, I left the dough overnight to rest.

The next day, I excitedly went to the kitchen to check on my baby dough. And sure enough, it has risen. #lifelesson: **sometimes, all you need is to give it time :P**



Alhamdulillah, I truly believed that because of my first "failure", the pizza that we got to eat for lunch that day tasted even more delicious!

So Champs, when was the last time you "failed" at something? Because a mighty congratulations is in order - you are a Champ just for TRYING!!!!

event notes

(+ live replay sessions 🎉🎉🎉!)



Alhamdulillah Alhamdulillah Alhamdulillah for another heartwarming session last Sunday! ❤️ Missed it? Don't worry, these Event Notes were written with you in mind! They are filled with our favourite moments from the gathering, including all of the gems shared by Ustazah Zahratur. May reading them bring the same warmth to your heart, In Sha Allah!

[View the Event Notes Here \(A 5 mins Read\)](#)

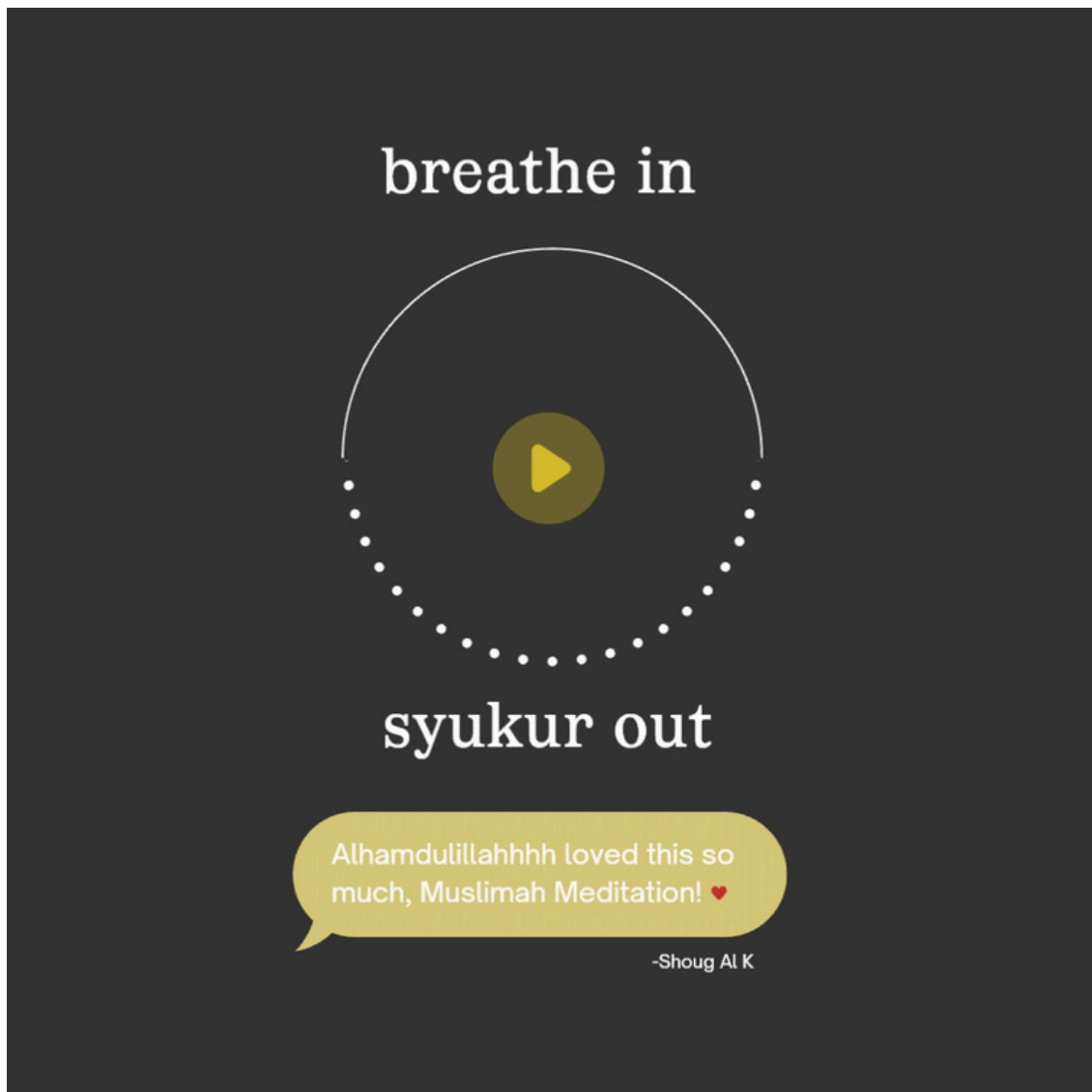
The graphic features a light beige background with a subtle grid pattern. At the top left is a circular arrow icon, and at the top right is a teal diamond. The main title 'GRATITUDE AS A CONSCIOUS DAILY PRACTICE' is in large, bold, pink capital letters. Below it, '(LIVE REPLAY SESSIONS)' is in smaller, black capital letters. There are four session boxes arranged in a 2x2 grid. Each box has a colored border and a date box on the right. The sessions are: Session 1 (purple border, orange date box), Session 2 (green border, yellow date box), Session 3 (orange border, light blue date box), and Session 4 (teal border, purple date box).

Session	Day	Time
REPLAY SESSION 1:	THU 7/5	9PM SG / MY 2PM UK 9AM ET
REPLAY SESSION 2:	THU 7/5	8PM UK 11PM UAE 3PM ET
REPLAY SESSION 3:	FRI 8/5	9AM SG / MY 11AM MEL 9PM ET (-1DAY)
REPLAY SESSION 4:	FRI 8/5	4PM SG / MY 9AM UK 12PM UAE

We will also be hosting Live Replay Sessions on these different timings - so if you missed the Event or want to come back to re-listen to the Class, we would love to have you! PS: If you missed my previous announcements on Closer, we will no longer be uploading replays on our Website to minimise digital clutter. Having these live replay Sessions also aligns with us being a more suhbah/community-centred platform, In Sha Allah!

[Join Live Replay Sessions Here](#)

take a pause



We took a pause during the last Session to do this gentle activity, where we focused on our breathing and acknowledged our gratitude, guided by the prompts shared on screen. I warmly invite you to try it for yourself. You might notice your shoulders softening and your heart becoming calmer. :)

Try Breathe In, Syukur Out (A 3 Mins Activity)

a beautiful du'a

Ya Allah, please
remind me that
steadfastness can
still look like tears,
and gratitude can
still sound like a
trembling voice.

aaplus.co

#abeautifuldua

Sitting in Ustazah Zahratur's class last Sunday made me realise that Allah SWT never asked us to be a "perfect" believer, but a "striving" believer. I learned that [**grief and gratitude can co-exist**](#), that tears can be a proof of strength, and that even in our brokenness, we can still say Alhamdulillah.

champs challenge



Champs, your challenge for this week (if you haven't already) is to set a bedtime and actually stick to it! This might sound like a very basic idea, and we actually enforce this upon our kids, but us adults need this discipline just as much - if not more! **Setting a consistent bedtime is one of the kindest and most powerful things you can do for your (ageing LOL) self.** When you honour a regular bedtime, you make a commitment towards your self-care, your rest, and your health. Small as it seems, a steady bedtime is one of the things that has quietly invited so much barakah into my time! So share with me, what time are you committing to wind down and sleep this week?

the art of noticing



No matter how many other clothes, ceramics, prayer mats, or Qur'ans I own, I always find myself reaching for the same few well-loved pieces over and over again. There's a special kind of comfort and quiet sense of "home" that these familiar items bring, one that's hard to explain in words. What makes them even more beautiful is that they often carry the loveliest backstories: a heartfelt gift from someone special, memories from a meaningful season of life, or simply the gentle warmth of years spent together. **This week, I gently invite you to notice and honour your own well-loved items.** Take a moment to truly appreciate them, use them with intention and gratitude, and let them remind you of the abundance of blessings that are already present in your life. ❤️ PS: I'm curious, which item do you keep going back to, and why is it special?

FIN.

x

a