The Case of the Abnormal Bacteria

By: Class 2A

***Based on the hadith regarding the 6 rights of Muslims… “When he sneezes and praises Allah, say to him: ‘May Allah have mercy on you’”.***

Ahmad was a young boy that was born in the small city of Canton, Michigan. He loved to visit the C:\Documents and Settings\ralmadrahi\Local Settings\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\PDF492TV\MC900052966[1].wmfC:\Documents and Settings\ralmadrahi\Local Settings\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\PDF492TV\MC900052966[1].wmfevery weekend. Ahmad’s mother was aware of her son’s love for animals, and she decided to buy him a pet. They decided to go to the local Petco one day after swimming practice. “What type of animal would you like?” asked the new storekeeper Mr. Mohammed. Ahmad loved all types of animals, and he replied, “I would love to have a cat!” “Have you ever taken care of a cat before?” asked Mr. Mohammed. “I have never taken care of a cat, but I really look forward to having one,” replied Ahmad. “Okay, Ahmad we will give it a try. It will be an amanah*,*” said Ahmad’s mother Yusra. “Insha’Allah, I will do my very best, and I will not let you down mother.” Mr. Mohammed began putting the cat pet into its cage and said, “Mabrook!” Ahmad was very excited as they began heading back to their car. Ahmad carefully put his cat in the back seat of his mother’s van. He even fastened the seatbelt around its cage. Also, he smiled and exclaimed, “I’m going to name him Kareem!” His mother said, “That’s a wonderful name!”

Ahmad and his mother finally their home and pulled into their driveway. Ahmad began to “Dad, come and see what mom bought for me!” Ahmad’s father Rayyan came outside and smiled. He began walking to the van and helped Ahmad unload his new pet. Ahmad’s father said, “Wow, this is a big amanah. Are you sure you are prepared to take care of a cat my son?” “Insha’Allah, I will do my best!” replied Ahmad.

Ahmad and his father carried the cage into his bedroom. They placed the cage next to Ahmad’s bed and opened the window so that Kareem can have fresh air. Ahmad took a shower (performed ablution) and then joined his family for prayer and dinner. The family prayed Maghrib together, and then headed towards the dinner table. Ahmad’s mother said, “The food should be ready now.” The family had **shawarma, humus**, and **tabouli** for dinner. “**Bismillah!**” It was Ahmad’s favorite meal, and he finished it within minutes. “**Alhamdulilah**!” exclaimed Ahmad. Afterwards, Ahmad began putting shawarma into a bowl. He then asked his mother, “May I please be excused to go feed Kareem?” “You may be excused my son.” Ahmad went but something was terribly wrong...Ahmad noticed that it was very cold inside his bedroom. He noticed that the window was still open and a draft of cold air entered the room. Poor Kareem was lying in his cage shivering with tears in his eyes. Kareem “Alhamdulilah,” said Kareem. “Yarhamuk Allah,” replied Ahmad in amazement. “Yahdekum Allahu wa yuslahu balakum,” said Kareem. Ahmad asked, “How did you learn to speak?” “Allah (SWT) has blessed me with the ability to communicate with humans as well as other animals. However; I’m afraid that I might’ve caught a cold. My chest is in extreme pain. I just recently recovered from pneumonia. The old storekeeper at Petco left the window open one night, and 3 feet of C:\Documents and Settings\ralmadrahi\Local Settings\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\PDF492TV\MC900037679[1].wmfC:\Documents and Settings\ralmadrahi\Local Settings\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\PDF492TV\MC900037679[1].wmf entered the store. Please take me to a veterinarian immediately! Actually, my doctor’s name is Dr. Shermeen Shahzad, and she works at Crescent Animal Hospital.” Ahmad immediately called for his father, “Dad, Kareem is sick and in great danger, can we please take him to the hospital?” “Yes, my son!” replied Ahmad’s father. Mr. Rayyan drove Ahmad and Kareem to Crescent Animal Hospital.

Dr. Shermeen was getting ready to leave the hospital when she noticed Ahmad running in with Kareem. “Asalamu Alaikum,” said Ahmad. “Please help my cat!” Dr. Shermeen admitted Ahmad and Kareem into the emergency room immediately. Dr. Shermeen began to examine Kareem. “He sounds like he has an awful cough,” said Dr. Shermeen. Dr. Shermeen ordered for an immediate chest x-ray to be performed on Kareem. Kareem was admitted into the x-ray room where he stood with his paws up. “Bismillah,” said Kareem. “What does that mean?” asked the x-ray technician. Kareem said, “In the name of Allah.” Kareem was then taken to a room while he was waiting for his test results.

Mr. Rayyan and Ahmad waited in the room with Kareem. Ahmad said, “I’m so sorry Kareem, but I didn’t mean to leave the window open that long. Please forgive me and I pray that you will recover very soon.” Kareem said, “Alhamdulilah, everything that happens to me is qadr**.** I forgive you Ahmad.” Dr. Shermeen came back into the room with the results of the x-ray. Dr. Shermeen said, “It appears that an abnormal bacteria has formed on Kareem’s right lung. I’m sorry, but there is no treatment for this bacteria as it is unknown to mankind. Please perform prayer for Kareem!” Mr. Rayyan and Ahmad looked very sad; however, Ahmad remembered that Allah (SWT) offers healing for those who believe. Ahmad said, “We can perform ruqya for Kareem. If we recite Quran with faith that Allah (SWT) will help us, Allah (SWT) may remove this abnormal bacteria from Kareem’s chest.

Mr. Rayyan, Ahmad, and Dr. Shermeen began to recite Quran as Ahmad placed his hands on Kareem’s chest. Kareem began to recite, “Ameen!” Kareem began to sit up on his bed. Kareem said, “I no longer feel any pain in my chest. Alhamdulilah, I think Allah (SWT) has answered our prayers.” In order to be safe, Dr. Shermeen called for another chest x-ray to be performed on Kareem’s chest. Sure enough, the chest x-ray came back negative. Mr. Rayyan, Ahmad, and Kareem were released from the hospital. They thanked Dr. Shermeen for all of her help and said, “Jazke Illahu Khairan!” The family began to drive home as they continued reciting verses from the Quran.

**Glossary:**

Alhamdulilah (All praise is for Allah)

Amanah (Trust)

Ameen (Allah, please answer my call)

Bismillah (In the name of Allah)

Hadith (A narration from Prophet Mohammed (PBUH))

Humus (Chickpeas)

Insha’Allah (God Willing)

Jazake Illahu Khairan (May Allah (SWT) reward you greatly)

Mabrook (Congratulations)

Qadr (Destiny)

Ruqya (Quranic Healing)

Shawarma (Chicken or Beef)

Tabouli (Mid-Eastern salad)

Yahdekum Allahu wa yuslahu balakum (May Allah guide you and rectify your affairs)

Yarhamuk Allah (May Allah have mercy on you)