



**AL SIRAAT
COLLEGE**

THE MURABBI

NURTURING THROUGH PROPHETIC PARENTING

Volume 1, Edition 1 • November 2025

Tawheed @ Home: The Father's Presence

*The Father's Role in
Nurturing Faith and
Belonging*



Revive a Sunnah Together

- *Sunnahs of Eating and Drinking*
- *Sunnahs of Entering & Leaving Home*



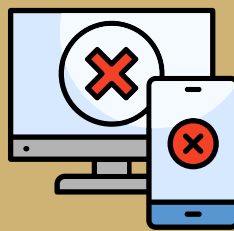
Family Challenge & Quizzes - Prizes Await!

- *Bond through this month's fun family challenge!*



Prophetic Parenting Series

*The Gentleness of the
Prophet ﷺ with
Children*



The Blessings of Screen-Free Family Time

*Setting Boundaries in a
Digital World*

**Welcome to the
Inaugural Edition
of The Murabbi**

**Celebrating Parents as
the First Murabbis - a
Cornerstone of the
Al Siraat Way.**



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Who is a Murabbi?

The word Murabbi comes from the Arabic root **rabb**, meaning to **nurture, raise, and cultivate**. A Murabbi is more than a teacher or parent — they are a nurturer of hearts, helping others grow in:

- Faith (iman)
- Character (akhlaq)
- Intention (niyyah)

At Al Siraat College, we recognise **parents as the First Murabbis** — the primary nurturers who shape their children's earliest experiences of love, faith, and discipline. **Teachers serve as co-Murabbis**, partnering with families to nurture students intellectually, emotionally, and spiritually.

To be a Murabbi is to lead by example — with gentleness, justice, and sincerity — **reflecting the noble character of our beloved Prophet Muhammad ﷺ, the greatest Murabbi of all.**

Share Your Voice

The Murabbi grows through your feedback — helping us bring more meaningful content to our families and community.

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Editorial: *The Rights of a Child*

Welcome to the inaugural edition of *The Murabbi*!

In our communities, much has been said about the rights of parents — and rightly so. Islam teaches us to honour them, to serve them, and to hold them in the highest regard. But perhaps not enough has been said about the sacred rights of a child.

What does it truly mean to fulfil a child's rights? **Beyond material provision and education, what about their right to be loved unconditionally?** To be listened to without fear? To be corrected with gentleness and raised with compassion? Every child has a right to feel safe in our presence, to grow up believing that home is a place of mercy, and that love is not something they have to earn.

At Al Siraat College, **we believe that parents are our first Murabbis, and teachers are co-Murabbis** — working hand-in-hand to nurture the faith of our children. When school and home walk in harmony, our children develop with hearts connected to Allah, confident in faith and character. This magazine, *The Murabbi*, **exists to strengthen the partnership between home and school by reviving Prophetic parenting**, nurturing faith, character and love within our families through guidance, reflection and practical action.

At *The Murabbi*, we believe that **knowledge is only meaningful when it is tied to action**. That's why, at the end of most articles, you'll find key takeaways and practical steps for parents to apply at home — small, intentional actions that bring faith to life within the family.

This first issue introduces our three main recurring series:

- Tawheed at Home – centring Allah in family life.
- Revive a Sunnah – bringing Prophetic habits back into daily routines.
- Family Quiz & Challenge – inspiring families to learn, bond, and grow together.

As we continue this journey together, we welcome your feedback and ideas. **Share with us what you wish to read, what topics you want explored, or share your family's experiences.** This magazine is as much yours as it is ours — a space for the community to learn, reflect, and raise the next generation of believers together, in sha'Allah.





Principal's Message: It Starts With Me

*by Mr Fazeel Arain
Principal, Al Siraat College*

It Starts With Me

Prior to Al Siraat being founded, Ms Rahat and I — as the co-founders — thought long and hard about why we wanted to establish a school. What is the purpose? Why should we try to set up a school?

We came up with the 'Learning Together' model. **The essence of this model is that no matter who I am — whether a parent, teacher, staff member, or student — It Starts With Me.** I must make an effort on myself. I need to be the change that I want to see, radiating out ripples like a pebble in a pond.

How quickly time passes! Fast forward 16 years, and now we have a reasonably large school community with over 1,500 students and more than 200 staff. **The aspiration of this vision remains as strong as ever: we strive to become a community that enacts adaab and akhlaaq, displaying the best of behaviours inspired by our beloved Prophet ﷺ.**

Even though his salaah, his worship, and his sadaqah were the best, Allah did not praise them. Instead, Allah — swearing by the Qalam (pen) — praised his character:

**“And surely you are indeed of a magnificent character.”
(Surah Al-Qalam 68:4)**

If I were to ask any of our parents, “Why do you send your children to Al Siraat?” I doubt any would say, “So they can have the best salaah, or the best hajj, or the best worship, or to get the best ATAR.” **Rather, what we hear again and again is that our children attend Al Siraat to learn their Deen, and in particular, to gain Islamic values and morals.**



“

We strive to become a community that enacts adaab and akhlaaq, displaying the best of behaviours inspired by our beloved Prophet

ﷺ.





In learning these values and morals, we have the best example to follow. Allah mentions:

“Indeed, in the Messenger of Allah you have an excellent example for whoever has hope in Allah and the Last Day, and remembers Allah often.” (Surah Al-Ahzab 33:21)

We have the treasure. Our tradition is rich with wisdom on how to learn together, how to nurture the best tarbiyah, and how to become a community of adaab and akhlaaq.

So when some of our teachers proposed the idea of starting a publication called “The Murabbi”, I was very excited. This goes back to the core of our foundational vision of Learning Together.

This publication, The Murabbi, is intended to provide inspiration, advice, and guidance on how we can become more effective murabbis. **We are living in a time when, more than ever, there is a strong calling for renewed effort and guidance in raising our children. It is not an easy task — and as always, It Starts With Me.**

With gratitude, I present to you the first edition of The Murabbi. May Allah make this effort a source of learning for us all, and allow us to become true murabbis.

Note: I have used a number of rich Arabic terms — adaab, akhlaaq, tarbiyah, and murabbi. These words are too profound to translate simply into English. As part of our journey, we look forward to unpacking these beautiful terms and exploring their meanings together.

“
This publication, The Murabbi, is intended to provide inspiration, advice, and guidance on how we can become more effective murabbis.



Tawheed @ Home: The Father's Presence

Simple ways fathers can anchor tawheed in everyday moments.

by Ms Rahat Arain
Deputy Principal, Al Siraat College

“Be mindful of Allah and treat your children equally.” - Prophet Muhammad ﷺ (Sahih Bukhari)

Growing Up with Faith and Simplicity

When asked to write on the topic of “Tawheed @ Home,” my thoughts immediately raced to my own childhood memories and what faith meant for me **growing up in 1980s Sydney, a time before the easy availability of Muslim schools, with very few Muslim neighbourhoods, and when Muslims featured little on the world stage.**

Language is an amazing tool for conveying our message, but our choice of words carries weight. So of course, I wanted to reflect in my all-time favourite place, the great outdoors amongst Allah’s beautiful Blue Mountains (see photo). To choose words from the heart, on this topic that is close to my heart.



My parents always taught me that we were different from others because we are Muslim. I didn’t question too much what that meant because my school friends lived lives so different from mine. So I adopted this as my simple, stored response whenever something contradicted my beliefs:

“Sorry, I can’t eat that, I’m Muslim. Sorry, I can’t wear that, I’m Muslim. Sorry, I can’t do that, I’m Muslim.”

It became my unintentional mission, simple enough for me to understand, and strong enough to hold me grounded. **When I would return home, there was a peaceful rhythm to our evenings, no internet, no mobile phones, just family. We would catch up, talk, and my parents would remind us to guard our salah.** I often wonder if it is that simple anymore for children growing up today in a world of constant noise and distraction.

“

When I would return home, there was a peaceful rhythm to our evenings, no internet, no mobile phones, just family.

The Quiet Impact of Fathers

Without getting into a debate about who is the most critical member of the family, I want to focus my message on the important role of fathers.

Notwithstanding the complexities of modern family life, our children are in as much need now of the loving, guiding influence of their fathers as they were in the past.

“Children whose fathers read, play, and spend time with them have fewer behavioural problems, and girls who were read to by their fathers at seven showed lower rates of depression a decade later.”
(Lee Gettler & Christopher Kuzawa, Northwestern University)

Allah created the family unit as a sacred trust...only one mother and one father. How confused the world has become on this very foundation! And the best example of fatherhood is none other than our beloved Prophet Muhammad ﷺ.

Despite his immense responsibilities, he never made anyone feel unseen. **He ﷺ would kiss his daughters and grandsons and remind fathers to show equal affection to both sons and daughters.** He ﷺ was careful when rising from sujood (prostration in salah), knowing his grandchildren were on his back. He ﷺ wept silently at sad news whether personal or concerning others. He ﷺ helped with household chores, never lost his temper, forgave his aggressors, and taught by example that true strength lies in gentleness.



“

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The Visible Language of Love

In a course I recently attended on The Role of Fathers in Islam, the Sheikh described how children are left vulnerable when the visible and clear language of love is missing. Love, he said, must be both seen and felt. **Every child understands love differently. Some through hugs, others through words of affirmation, time together, or even small gifts to say I love you.**

Your way of showing love may not be the same way your child receives it. Your influence as a father is dependent on your relationship, and your relationship depends on love.

Even ten mindful minutes a day, reading Quran and related stories together, playing Lego, or sharing a bedtime story, can leave a profound imprint on a child's heart. **Studies from McGill University (Richard Koestner) found that quality time with fathers was the single most significant predictor of empathy in adulthood.**

A Personal Reflection

So with such a powerful Prophetic model of fatherhood, how did we end up where we are now? How did our children come to prefer the counsel of their peers over their parents?

The endless portrayals of fathers on screens as lazy, forgetful, or irrelevant have done much harm. When children constantly absorb these images, it's no surprise they drift toward friends who mirror their emotions rather than parents who anchor their souls.



“

Even ten mindful minutes a day, reading Quran and related stories together, playing Lego, or sharing a bedtime story, can leave a profound imprint on a child's heart.



When I think of my own father (may Allah bless him always and continue to give me the comfort of his company), I am reminded of patient persistence. **His gentle knock on my door for fajr prayer when all I wanted was five more minutes and to bury myself deeper under my blanket.**



His quiet guidance through frustrating (and tearful) maths homework and the sweet surprise of my favourite chocolates for no reason at all. His weekend breakfast experiments, his careful paintbrush turning my bedroom the perfect shade of pink, **and his calm silence when we made foolish mistakes.** All this, while working double shifts, subhan Allah!

Alhamdulillah, through my dad, I discovered that building lasting relationships doesn't require wealth or grand gestures. Only a loving heart, presence, and time.

Fathers as Nurturers of Faith

Allah ﷻ reminds us through the story of Luqman (عليه السلام) how a father's wisdom, patience, and guidance can plant the seeds of faith within a child's heart: **“O my son! Establish prayer, enjoin what is right, forbid what is wrong, and be patient over what befalls you...” (Quran 31:17)**

In a world that pulls families in many directions, fathers who nurture iman (faith) through presence, love, and gentle counsel help their children anchor their hearts to Allah ﷻ.

Forgive me for my ramblings, but I hope you'll spare a few more minutes to reflect on the following takeaways...small reminders that may nurture our Tawheed at home and the sacred bond between fathers and their children.

“
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Takeaway Reflections



1. **Love** is a basic need of every child - it is the foundation of emotional and spiritual growth.



2. A child who **lacks visible love** may act out their vulnerabilities in other ways.



3. **Love comes in many languages:** touch, words, time, gifts, service. Learn your child's dialect.



4. **Influence flows from relationships**, and relationships are built on love.



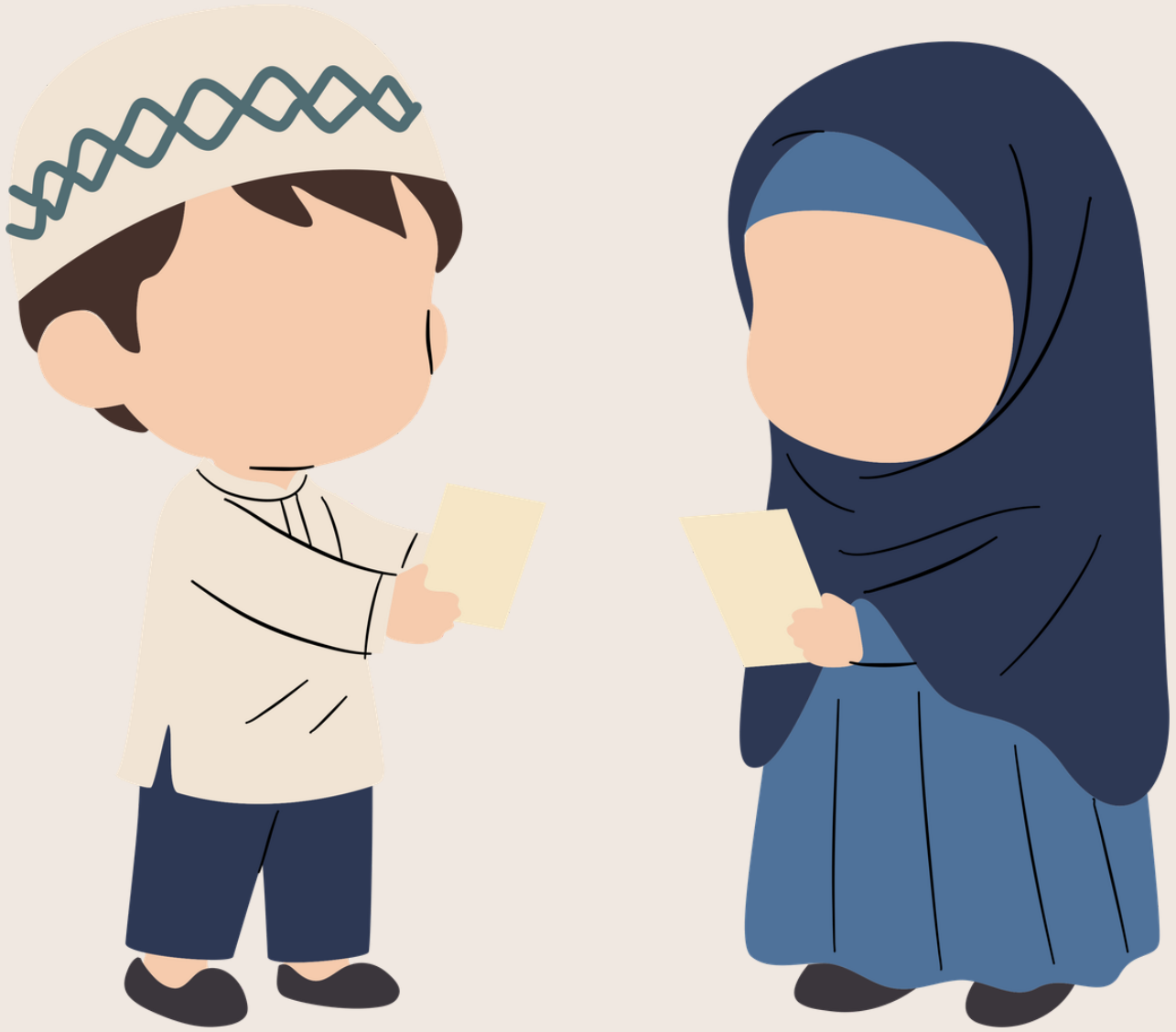
5. **Ten minutes of presence** a day can nurture iman, confidence, and connection.



6. The love of a father, or the father figure, is a form of rahmah (mercy) that **anchors a child's heart in faith**.

May Allah ﷻ bless every father with the strength to lead with gentleness, the wisdom to guide with love, and the humility to keep learning and growing alongside his children. May He soften hearts that have become distant, heal relationships that have weakened, and open doors to new beginnings where hope still lives.

And for every father who feels he could have done more, remind him that it is never too late to begin again. While life remains, so too does the chance to nurture hearts, repair bonds, and build love that leads the family back to You...Ameen.



Prophetic Parenting Series

The Gentleness of the Prophet ﷺ
with Children

The Story of The Man with 10 Children

Abu Huraira r.a. reported that al-Aqra' bin Habis saw Allah's Messenger ﷺ kissing Al-Hasan (the Prophet's grandson). He (al-Aqra') said: "I have ten children, but I have never kissed any of them."



Whereupon Allah's Messenger ﷺ replied:

إِنَّهُ مَنْ لَا يَرْحَمُ لَا يُرْحَمُ

"He who does not show mercy (towards his children), no mercy would be shown to him." (Sahih Muslim)

This beautiful hadith reminds us that showing affection is not a weakness — it is an expression of mercy that brings hearts together. The Prophet ﷺ demonstrated that genuine love, kindness, and physical affection are essential parts of nurturing a child's emotional and spiritual well-being.

“

He who does not show mercy (towards his children), no mercy would be shown to him.

The Story of The Boy & His Sparrow

Even in moments of busyness, the Prophet ﷺ showed care and attention to children. When the pet bird of a young boy, Abu Umair, died, the Prophet ﷺ personally went to comfort him.

Anas bin Malik r.a. said: "The Messenger of Allah ﷺ used to come to visit us. I had a younger brother who was called Abu 'Umair by nickname (kunya). He had a sparrow which he played with, but it died. So one day the Prophet ﷺ came to see him and saw him grieving. He asked: 'What is the matter with him?' The people replied: 'His sparrow has died.' He (the Prophet ﷺ) then said: **'Oh Abu 'Umair! What has happened to the little sparrow?'**" (Sunan Abi Daud)



This incident may seem small, but it reveals a profound truth — that even a child's sadness matters. By acknowledging Abu Umair's feelings, the Prophet ﷺ validated the child's emotions and taught us that empathy and attention are forms of mercy.

When we combine loving attention with meaningful conversation and playful connection, we give our children what they need most: emotional security and the warmth of unconditional love. Let us revive this Sunnah of gentleness — for in showing mercy to our children, we invite Allah's mercy into our homes.

5 Actionable Steps from These Stories



1. Show affection openly.

Kiss, hug, and express love to your children regularly. The Prophet ﷺ showed us that tenderness is **NOT** a weakness.



2. Acknowledge their feelings.

When your child feels sad or upset, take notice and comfort them — just as the Prophet ﷺ did with Abu Umair.



3. Be present in their world.

Ask about their day, their friends, their interests. The Prophet ﷺ took time to engage with children despite his immense responsibilities.



4. Model mercy at home.

Avoid harsh words or actions. Speak with gentleness, even when correcting mistakes, so your home becomes a place of safety and love.



5. Prioritise quality moments together.

A few minutes of undistracted, joyful time — playing, reading, going to the masjid or simply talking — can build trust and connection.



Disconnect to Reconnect: Guidance on Screen Time

Australia has become the first country to ban social media for children under 16, with the law set to take effect in December 2025. The move is a response to growing evidence that social media is harming children's mental health — increasing anxiety, distraction, and dependence.

For us as Muslim parents, this serves as a timely reminder to pause and ask: **how can we better protect the hearts of our children in a digital world?**

The Crisis of Connection

Screens are everywhere — at the dinner table, in bedrooms, even during family time. While technology brings ease and information, it also brings disconnection.

Addiction to screens dulls reflection, disrupts sleep, and weakens relationships. More importantly, it steals the barakah of presence — the quiet moments where love, guidance, and faith take root.

Setting Boundaries and Being a Role Model

The Prophet Muhammad ﷺ guided us to live with balance and awareness — to use time purposefully before it slips away.

“Take advantage of five before five: your youth before your old age, your health before your illness, your wealth before your poverty, your free time before your busyness, and your life before your death.”

(Hakim)

“

Addiction to screens dulls reflection, disrupts sleep, and weakens relationships.



This profound reminder urges us to value our moments before they are consumed by distractions. Setting boundaries means drawing clear limits around when and how screens are used. Parents can:

- Define “no-screen” times (like mealtimes, after Maghrib, or one hour before bed).
- Restrict devices in private spaces, such as bedrooms or prayer areas.
- Replace passive scrolling with family activities that bring hearts together.

But these boundaries only work if we, as parents, live by them. Children imitate what they see, not what they hear. When they see us putting the phone aside, they learn that people come before screens.

5 Actionable Steps to Disconnect



1. Set Clear Screen Boundaries.

Choose specific times and spaces where screens are not allowed — such as family meals or before bedtime.



2. Lead by Example.

Keep your own device aside during family time. Presence starts with parents — It Starts With Me.



3. Go Outdoors and to the Masjid.

Replace screen time with walks, park visits, or attending prayers together at the masjid.



4. Establish Tech-Free Zones.

Keep devices out of bedrooms, prayer areas, and dining spaces.



5. Reclaim Family Conversations.

Each day, set aside time to simply talk — about school, hopes, or what you’re grateful for.



Revive a Sunnah Together Series

Simple Sunnahs to practise as a family and nurture hearts together.



Eating & Drinking



It was narrated from Ibn ‘Umar (may Allah be pleased with him) that the Prophet ﷺ said:

“No one among you should eat with his left hand, or drink with it, for the Shaytan eats with his left hand and drinks with it.” (Narrated by Muslim, 2020)

‘Umar ibn Abi Salamah said:
I was a young boy in the care of the Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), and my hand used to wander all over the platter (of food). The Messenger of Allah ﷺ said to me, **“O young boy, say Bismillah, eat with your right hand, and eat from what is directly in front of you.”**

(Narrated by al-Bukhari, 5376; Muslim, 2022).

“

Say Bismillah, eat with your right hand, and eat from what is directly in front of you.



Entering & Leaving The Home

Anas ibn Maalik narrated that the Prophet ﷺ said, "When a man goes out of his house and says, **'Bismillaahi tawakkaltu 'ala Allah wala hawla wala quwwata illa billaah,'** (In the name of Allah, I place my trust in Allaah; there is no power and no strength save in Allah.) then the following is said to him, 'You are guided, defended and protected.' So the devils will move out of his way, and another devil will say, 'How can you deal with a man who has been guided, defended, and protected (by Allaah)?'" [Abu Daawood]



In the name of Allah, I place my trust in Allah; there is no power and no strength save in Allah.



Abu Maalik Al-Ash'ari narrated that the Prophet ﷺ said: "When a man enters his house, he should say: **'Allaahumma inni as'aluka khayra al-mawlaji wa khayra al-makhraji; bismillaahi walajna wa bismillaahi kharajna wa 'ala Allaahi rabbina tawakkalna** (which means: O Allah! I ask You for the good of entering and the good of exiting; in the name of Allah we enter, and in the name of Allah we exit, and in Allah our Lord we trust). He should then give the greeting of peace to his family." [Abu Dawood]



Family Quiz Corner



Gather your family, test your knowledge and have fun learning together! Find the answers in the next edition of *The Murabbi* in sha Allah!

1. How many times is the city of Madinah mentioned in the Qur'an?

- (a) Two
- (b) Three
- (c) Four

2. The Prophet ﷺ said that every nation was subjected to a trial. What trial did he mention for his followers?

- (a) Power
- (b) Poverty
- (c) Wealth

3. *Manna* and *Salwa* were special foods from Allah given to the people of which Prophet AS?

- (a) Prophet Musa AS
- (b) Prophet Yaqub AS
- (c) Prophet Yunus AS

The Murabbi Family Cooking Challenge – Prizes Await!



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

وَالَّتَيْنِ وَالزَّيْتُونَ

“By the fig and the olive.”
— Surah At-Tin (95:1)

وَإِنَّ لَكُمْ فِي الْأَنْعَامِ لَعِبْرَةً
نُسْقِيكُمْ مِمَّا فِي بُطُونِهَا وَلَكُمْ
فِيهَا مَنَافِعُ كَثِيرَةٌ

“And indeed, in the cattle
there is a lesson for you:
We give you to drink of that
which is in their bellies,
and for you in them are
many benefits.”
— Surah Al-Mu’minun
(23:21)

يَخْرُجُ مِنْ بُطُونِهَا شَرَابٌ
مُخْتَلِفٌ أَلْوَانُهُ فِيهِ شِفَاءٌ
لِلنَّاسِ

“From their bellies comes
a drink of varying colours,
wherein is healing for
mankind.”
— Surah An-Nahl (16:69)

Cooking together brings families closer — it’s a time to share laughter, stories, and the blessings of food.

Challenge:

As a family, choose one food mentioned in the Qur’an or Sunnah — such as **dates, honey, milk, olives, or bread** — and prepare a dish featuring it. Be innovative with your recipe and presentation, and enjoy the process of cooking and eating together.

Submission:

Send us a photo of your completed dish along with a short description of what you made and which Sunnah food it includes.

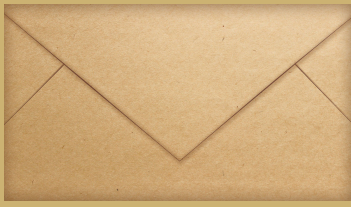
Email:

themurabbi@alsiraat.vic.edu.au

Prize:

The winning family will receive a **Prophetic Foods Hamper filled with Sunnah items like dates, honey, and olive oil, along with a certificate of recognition** for your family’s ingenuity and teamwork.

Deadline for Submission: 5 December 2025



Letters to *The Murabbi*

Your Voice, Your Questions, Your Reflections

Have a question about Islamic parenting or family challenges? Want to share feedback or suggest a topic for our next issue? We'd love to hear from you!



Email: themurabbi@alsiraat.vic.edu.au

All letters are handled confidentially. Names and personal details will not be published.

Selected questions will be featured with responses from The Murabbi Panel in sha Allah—offering faith-based and practical guidance for parents.

“Whoever travels a path in search of knowledge, Allah will make easy for him a path to Paradise.”

— Prophet Muhammad ﷺ (Muslim)





ISLAMIC PARENTING SEMINAR WITH PROFESSOR MOHAMAD ABDALLA

**TUESDAY,
18 NOVEMBER 2025**

Register here:



PROF MOHAMAD ABDALLA
Speaker

VENUE:

AL SIRAAT COLLEGE
AUDITORIUM
(45 HARVEST HOME RD, EPPING VIC
3076)

CHOOSE **ONE** SESSION:

- 2.00 – 3.00PM (AFTERNOON)
- 6.30 – 7.30PM (EVENING)

Key Insights:

- *Prophetic principles of parenting with love and wisdom*
- *Balancing discipline, compassion, and spiritual growth*
- *Building resilience and identity in our children*



Date
18 NOVEMBER 2025



Time
2pm (First Session)
6.30pm (Second Session)

All are welcome
Free admission
Registration Required



AL SIRAAT
COLLEGE

THE MURABBI

NURTURING THROUGH PROPHETIC PARENTING

“The best of you are the best to their families, and I am the best to my family.”

- Prophet Muhammad ﷺ

(Sunan al-Tirmidhī 3895)