



# Parenting Advice for Muslim Mothers

## Connecting with Allah ﷻ Through *Dua* During Ramadan (Part 1)

Ramadan is the best opportunity for ourselves and our children to form a deep connection with Allah ﷻ, and dua is the best way to form and strengthen this relationship. For indeed, Allah ﷻ is attentive towards us this month, listening to our duas, and showering us with His Mercy. In our series of posts for this Ramadan, we will share suggestions for you to help your child connect with Allah ﷻ through dua. May Allah ﷻ accept our efforts and yours, and make this Ramadan an occasion for us and our families to attract His Blessings and Mercy. Ameen.

### How to Explain: Why do we Ask Allah?

Allah ﷻ has made EVERYTHING in the universe, from the tiniest specks of dust hiding in our drawers and the invisible bacteria living deep inside our gut, to the sun and the moon and the stars shining down at us from high up in the sky.

And because Allah ﷻ made everything, He also owns everything in the Universe. However, even though it is ALL His, He doesn't keep everything for himself. Rather because He is the Most Generous and the Most Kind, He gives us whatever we need or want when we ask Him for it, and many times even without us asking, just because He knows that we need or want it.

Allah ﷻ is also the Master of everything in the Universe. This means that everything obeys Him. So when He tells the fire to burn something, it will burn but when He tells the fire not to burn something, even a raging fire will not cause any harm, just like it didn't harm Ibrahim (as). Allah ﷻ is also the Master of all animals and humans, so if He puts it in your mother's heart to give you some candy, she will surely give it to you, and if He puts love in your friends heart for you, he or she will become your best friend ever.

Even if it seems like many things are made by other people, like the cake our mama bakes in her kitchen, or our toys that are made in a factory, or the clothes that the tailor has stitched for us, it is actually Allah ﷻ who has made the flour and eggs that go in the cake, or the wood or metal that is

used to make the toys, or the cotton that is turned into the clothes we wear. **(Here you can talk to your children about the raw materials that go into making things they commonly use. You could even hold certain things and ask them to guess what they are made of to turn it into a game!)**

Also, it is Allah ﷻ that has given our mama and the toy-maker and the tailor and everyone else who makes things the *tawfeeq* to make them.



**What is *tawfeeq* you ask? *Tawfeeq* includes:**

**That Allah ﷻ makes everything in nature work for us, and makes it possible for us to use it,** for if He wanted the chickens would stop laying eggs, or the sun would stop shining and the trees would stop growing and we would have no wood. Or the cake would burn in the oven before we got to eat it, or the toy would break before we got to play with it. Allah ﷻ tells us Himself in the Qur'an:

أَلَمْ تَرَ أَنَّ اللَّهَ سَخَّرَ لَكُم مَّا فِي الْأَرْضِ وَالْفُلْكَ تَجْرِي فِي الْبَحْرِ بِأَمْرِهِ وَيُمْسِكُ السَّمَاءَ أَنْ تَقَعَ عَلَى الْأَرْضِ إِلَّا بِإِذْنِهِ  
إِنَّ اللَّهَ بِالنَّاسِ لَرَؤُوفٌ رَحِيمٌ

*Do you not see that Allah has put to work for you everything that is in the earth, and the ships sail in the sea by His command and He has held up the sky so it does not fall on us, indeed Allah is most Gentle, most Kind to His people (Al Hajj: 65)*

**That Allah ﷻ gives everyone the ideas and knowledge for making things.** Allah ﷻ put the idea and taught the way to make something in the heart and mind of the person who first made it. Then whoever made improvements in it later, Allah ﷻ guided their hearts and minds towards making those improvements. Allah ﷻ tells us about this in the Qur'an:

قَالُوا سُبْحَانَكَ لَا عِلْمَ لَنَا إِلَّا مَا عَلَّمْتَنَا إِنَّكَ أَنْتَ الْعَلِيمُ الْحَكِيمُ

*They say, Glory be to You (O Allah), we do not know anything except that which You have taught us, indeed You know everything and are the Most Wise (Al-Baqarah: 32)*

**Allah ﷻ gives us the ability to make things- all the talents and skills and strength that we have is a gift from Allah ﷻ.**

The example of this is like that of a factory. Even though the toys in the factory are made by machines and factory-workers, it is the owner of the factory who owns everything, and because the factory owner has provided all the raw materials and the equipment and training and payment for the workers, we say that he has made the final product, e.g. we say that the Lego company made these blocks, or that the Pepsi company made this drink. Similarly, because Allah ﷻ is the Maker and Owner and Master of the factory of the Universe, even if in it He has enabled people to make some things, He alone is the ultimate Maker, and all things belong to Him. This is why we say *Alhamdulillah*, which means that ALL praise is for Allah ﷻ, because anyone in the world who deserves praise is because Allah ﷻ has made him or her like that. Because Allah ﷻ has given him or her the beauty or intelligence or knowledge or the abilities or resources to do what has made him or her praise-worthy.

*(To be continued...)*